

22 June 2006

**Murgitroyd Group PLC**  
**("Murgitroyd" or "the Group")**

**Acquisition of Fitzpatrick's Group Limited**

Murgitroyd, the European Patent and Trade Mark Attorney practice, is pleased to announce that, further to the announcement made on 19 April 2006, the Group has entered into a Share Purchase Agreement for the entire issued share capital of Fitzpatrick's Group Limited for a consideration of £1.3 million, in addition to approximately £240,000 of net assets. The acquisition follows a period of extensive due diligence and is expected to complete on 30 June 2006.

Under the terms of the agreement, £700,000 will be paid in cash upon completion, with the remainder being deferred over two years, payable as a combination of cash and guaranteed loan notes. The transaction will be funded through facilities arranged with Clydesdale Bank PLC.

**Fitzpatrick's**

Fitzpatrick's Group Limited is the parent company of Fitzpatrick's Limited ("Fitzpatrick's"), one of the UK's longest established and leading providers of Patent and Trade Mark services. Based in Glasgow, the original firm was founded by Hugh D Fitzpatrick in 1887. The practice was owned and managed by successive generations of the Fitzpatrick's family, having had operations in Dublin, Belfast, London and Monaco. In 2000, Hugh D Fitzpatrick's grandson, Alan Fitzpatrick, sold the business to its management in a MBO.

For the year to 31 December 2004, Fitzpatrick's turnover amounted to £3.9 million, with EBITA totalling £32,000 and net assets amounting to £113,000. Current estimated net assets are £240,000. Three of Fitzpatrick's' four directors, all of whom are either Patent or Trade Mark Attorneys, will remain with the company following the acquisition. Former Managing Director Alasdair Hume will leave the company upon completion. A further five qualified Attorneys, as well as experienced support staff, will join the group as part of the transaction. In addition to Mr Hume's departure, Chairman Ian Steven, Chief Operating Officer Alistair Orr and Finance Director Peter Lewis will each leave at completion.

**Effects of the Transaction**

The acquisition of Fitzpatrick's will further enhance the scope of Murgitroyd's existing Patent and Trade Mark practices. The integration of Fitzpatrick's into the core Murgitroyd business will provide the Group with a number of notable corporate clients. The acquisition is expected to be both earnings enhancing as a result of administrative economies of scale and cash flow positive immediately. Fitzpatrick's will trade under the Murgitroyd brand with immediate effect. The enlarged Group's Glasgow operations will all be located in the Group's principal offices in Scotland Street.

Ian Murgitroyd, Group Chairman, commented:

"We are delighted to announce that at the end of June, Fitzpatricks will become part of Murgitroyd Group. We believe that Fitzpatricks represents an excellent fit and the coming together of the two firms will add strength and depth to the service offerings of both practices. The provision of a level of service which exceeds expectations will remain the cornerstone of the enlarged group and the economies of scale will provide benefits to our clients, employees and investors alike. I look forward to welcoming Fitzpatricks' staff to Murgitroyd which will take our total staff to 200 across nine European offices. This represents a further extension to our offering of fully rounded pan-European Intellectual Property services."

Ian Steven, Chairman of Fitzpatricks Group Limited, said:

"The Board and shareholders of Fitzpatricks Group have accepted the offer from Murgitroyd Group because they believe it delivers immediate benefits to the shareholders, staff and clients of both groups and we look forward to sharing the benefits and opportunities which come from being part of a bigger group"

**For further information, please contact:**

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## **Notes to Editors**

Murgitroyd Group PLC, the holding company of Murgitroyd & Company Limited ("Murgitroyd & Company"), a European Patent and Trade Mark Attorney practice, was floated on the Alternative Investment Market of the London Stock Exchange ("AIM") on 30 November 2001. The practice has offices in Aberdeen, Belfast, Dublin, Glasgow, London, Muenster, Munich, Nice and York.

Murgitroyd Group PLC specialises in the provision of Intellectual Property services, including filing, prosecuting, litigating, licensing, assigning and renewing Patents, Trade Marks and Designs, advising on Copyright and generally assisting clients with the management of their Intellectual Property. Patent services span the major sectors of the global economy including technology, engineering, electronics, chemistry and biotechnology with clients ranging from large multi-national corporations to individual inventors and both in-house and external Patent Attorneys. The practice services major Trade Mark clients from the personal care, clothing, food and drinks, tobacco, pharmaceuticals, chemicals and oil industries together with service sector, sport and entertainment and retail industry clients. Trade Mark services are also provided to other private practice Trade Mark Attorneys.