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## Preliminary Results for the year ended 30 June 2008

Helphire Group plc (“Helphire” or the “Group”), the accident management assistance company, today announces its preliminary results for the year ended 30 June 2008.

### Highlights

- Adjusted\* profit before tax of £46.8m (2007: £45.0m; +3.9%)
- Statutory profit before tax of £43.0m (2007: £40.3m; +6.9%)
- Revenue of £404.9m (2007: £290.3m; +39.5%)
- Recommended final dividend of 5.8p – full year 12.3p (2007: 11.0p; +11.8%)
- Replacement vehicle cases 191,763 (2007: 148,340; +29%)
- Delivered 4.7m car hire days (2007: 3.4m; +37%)
- Weighted average age of outstanding claims reduced by 14%
- Package of measures introduced to significantly reduce debtors including:
  - significant enhancement of litigation capacity
  - imposition of interest on claims after 90 days
  - operational improvements
- Successful placing and open offer to raise £42.7m (net of expenses) completed in September

Commenting on the Group’s results and prospects Rodney Baker-Bates, Chairman, said:

*“Helphire has been able to report a respectable result for the year to 30 June 2008, despite upward pressure on costs and the slowdown in motoring activity. Owing to the generally difficult economic environment, trading conditions in the early part of the new financial year have remained challenging. A range of measures has been implemented to improve the Group’s cash flow and we are confident that we will see substantial benefits in the year ahead.”*

*\* Adjusted results are presented to provide a better indication of overall financial performance of the continuing operations and to reflect how the business is managed and measured on a day-to-day basis. The adjusted profit before tax excludes intangible assets amortisation of £1.5m (2007: £2.3m), share option costs of £2.3m (2007: £1.3m), and in the case of 2007 impairment of intangible assets of £0.4m and abortive acquisition costs of £0.8m.*



**Notes to editors:**

Helphire Group plc is the market leader in the provision of accident management assistance to drivers involved in road accidents that were not their fault. Working with the UK's top insurance companies, its services include provision of like for like replacement vehicles, financing of vehicle repairs, legal expenses and the management of personal accident claims.

Helphire was founded in 1992 and floated on the London Stock Exchange in 1997. With a staff of over 3,000 and a fleet of over 17,000 vehicles to meet its customer requirements, the award winning Group is headquartered in Bath. Operating under three divisions, UK Accident Management, Legal Services, Helphire International, the company has six call centre sites and a national network of 31 branches.

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