

Regulatory Announcement

Go to market news section



Company	Group NBT PLC
TIDM	NBT
Headline	Acquisition
Released	07:00 29-Aug-06
Number	1535I

RNS Number:1535I
Group NBT PLC
25 August 2006

For Immediate Release

Group NBT plc to accelerate growth with the acquisition of Exalia Ltd

Group NBT, the UK's leading web hosting and domain name management company, is pleased to announce that it has acquired the entire share capital of Exalia Ltd, a provider of managed hosting services, for a maximum consideration of £3.2 million.

Exalia, which is based in London, provides high-end managed hosting services to agencies and technical intermediaries. This acquisition will accelerate Group NBT's growing managed hosting business and enhances our ability to meet the requirement of larger companies for more complex solutions.

The acquisition of Exalia, which will operate under the NetBenefit brand, will be earnings enhancing in the current half-year. NetBenefit is Group NBT's managed hosting brand.

The consideration will be satisfied in three tranches, an initial payment of £2 million in cash, then two further payments of up to £600,000 payable if certain revenue targets are achieved in the twelve month periods ending 31 January 2007 and 31 January 2008. The first deferred payment is payable in cash and the second deferred payment will be satisfied by the issue of Group NBT shares to the Exalia vendors.

For the year ended 31 January 2006 Exalia generated revenue of £530,000 with profit before tax of £70,000. As at 31 July 2006 unaudited net assets of the company were £309,000. The company is growing quickly, it had an annualised revenue base of £1 million at the end of July this year and is targeting to have an annualised revenue base of over £2 million by 31 January 2008 in order to meet the maximum earn-out criteria.

Geoff Wicks, Chief Executive of Group NBT, said, "We are delighted to have acquired Exalia Ltd, it will strengthen our NetBenefit brand and accelerate our growth in the managed hosting market. This acquisition is immediately earnings enhancing and will improve margins and build scale for us in the managed hosting market. I look forward to updating shareholders with further news of our progress on 14 September when we announce our preliminary results."

For further information contact:

Geoff Wicks, CEO	Group NBT plc	+ 44 (0)20 7015 9265
Shane Dolan	Biddicks	+ 44 (0)20 7448 1000

About Group NBT plc

Group NBT plc (LSE:NBT) is Europe's leading specialist domain name management company and one of the UK's largest providers of website hosting services. Through its three brands, NetNames, NetBenefit and Easily, the company is responsible for managing and protecting online brands and domain names for international companies and hosting websites for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs). NetNames is an ICANN accredited registrar for generic top-level domains and has the ability to register names in all of the 240-plus country suffixes around the world. Within the NetNames product range there are a number of domain management services aimed at companies and Intellectual Property professionals. NetBenefit provides the SME market with managed hosting services. Easily is a leading provider of domain names, web hosting and email services. Group NBT plc is headquartered in London, with offices in New York, Nice, Frankfurt and Madrid. For further information, visit www.GroupNBT.com

This information is provided by RNS
The company news service from the London Stock Exchange

END

Close

London Stock Exchange plc is not responsible for and does not check content on this Website. Website users are responsible for checking content. Any news item (including any prospectus) which is addressed solely to the persons and countries specified therein should not be relied upon other than by such persons and/or outside the specified countries. Terms and conditions, including restrictions on use and distribution apply.

©2007 London Stock Exchange plc. All rights reserved