Comments on behalf of The Association of Corporate Treasurers

in response to UITF Information Sheet 59,

Proposed Abstract on accounting for treasury shares

(The Urgent Issues Task Force, Accounting Standards Board, 08 May 2003)

The following was submitted by e-mail

The proposals are acceptable and consistent for the accounting of treasury shares ('ts').

However, we do not consider that they satisfactorily meet sensible disclosure requirements.

The buying-in and re-issue of ts and ESOP shares ('es') does create a gain or loss for shareholders, but not the entity.

Companies should thus be required to disclose their 'stock' of ts and es, the price at which the stock was bought and the prices and quantities at which any transactions have taken place during the year, on a FIFO basis. This would allow shareholders to see if the ts and es activity was creating or destroying shareholder wealth.

John Grout Technical Director The Association of Corporate Treasurers Ocean House, Little Trinity Lane London EC4V 2DJ

Tel: 020 7213 9728 Fax: 020 7428 2591

e-mail: technical@treasurers.co.uk