

Notes to the consolidated financial statements

7 Auditors' remuneration

During the year the Group (including its overseas subsidiaries) obtained the following services from the Company's auditors as detailed below:

	Year to 31 March	
	2009 £m	2008 £m
Fees payable to the Company's auditors for the audit of the Company's annual financial statements	0.7	0.7
Fees payable to the Company's auditors and its associates for other services: – the audit of the Company's subsidiaries, pursuant to legislation	1.5	1.3
Total audit fees	2.2	2.0
Other services pursuant to legislation	0.1	0.3
Other services relating to corporate finance transactions entered into or proposed to enter into	–	0.3
All other services	0.1	0.1
Total	2.4	2.7

In addition to the above, fees totalling £0.1 million (2008 – £0.1 million) were paid to the Company's auditors in respect of certain of the audit of Group pension schemes.

8 Exceptional items

Exceptional items are as follows:

	Year to 31 March	
	2009 £m	2008 £m
Continuing operations		
Write-down of assets (note a)	(24)	–
Settlement with Mexican government (note b)	11	–
Impairment charges (note c)	(106)	(29)
Restructuring costs (note e)	–	(30)
Total	(119)	(59)
Discontinued operations		
Loss on disposal – International Sugar Trading (note d)	(22)	–
Loss on disposal – European starch plants (note e)	–	(8)
Gain on disposal – Redpath (note f)	–	60
Gain on disposal – Occidente (note f)	–	8
Total	(22)	60

- (a) The Group wrote off £24 million in relation to a dispute with a supplier over the performance and suitability of certain equipment. Of the £24 million, £6 million had previously been reported within property, plant and equipment and £18 million within prepayments. These assets relate to operations reported in the Food & Industrial Ingredients, Americas segment.
- (b) As a result of a settlement of a dispute with the Mexican government over tax on soft drinks containing HFCS, Almidones Mexicanos SA, the Group's joint venture in Mexico, received £22 million, of which the Group's share is £11 million, as compensation for lost revenue. The business is reported in the Food & Industrial Ingredients, Americas segment.
- (c) The decision to mothball the Sucralose manufacturing facilities at McIntosh resulted in an impairment charge of £97 million being recognised in the year ended 31 March 2009.

Following a review of its sugar refining business in Israel, an impairment charge of £9 million relating to property, plant and equipment was recognised in the year ended 31 March 2009. The sugar refining business in Israel is reported in the Sugars segment.

The Group also recognised an impairment charge of £17 million on its monosodium glutamate business in China in the year ended 31 March 2008. £10 million of this impairment related to minority interests. The impairment was reported in the Food & Industrial Ingredients, Europe segment.

Following a review of the global citric acid business in the year to 31 March 2008, an impairment charge of £12 million relating to property, plant and equipment was recognised. The citric acid business is reported in the Food & Industrial Ingredients, Americas segment.

- (d) During the year the Group recorded a loss of £22 million in relation to the disposal of its International Sugar Trading business (Note 38). The loss is net of a gain of £4 million arising from the disposal of an available-for-sale investment held in connection with the business. This business was previously reported in the Sugars segment.