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.

8 Exceptional items (continued)

(e) In the year to 31 March 2008, the overall net loss on disposal of the European starch plants in France, Belgium, Italy, Spain and the UK was £38 million, comprising £30 million of redundancy and other restructuring costs within continuing operations, and a net loss of £8 million in discontinued operations. The restructuring costs resulted from the significant reduction in central support functions required by the retained Food & Industrial Ingredients, Europe business.

(f) In the year to 31 March 2008 the Group disposed of its shareholding of Tate & Lyle Canada Limited (Redpath) and its Mexican cane sugar business, Occidente, resulting in profits on disposal of £60 million and £8 million respectively. Both businesses were previously reported in the Sugars segment.

The tax impact on continuing net exceptional items is a £44 million credit (2008 – £5 million credit) and on total net exceptional items is a £44 million credit (2008 – £3 million charge). Tax credits on exceptional items are only recognised to the extent that losses incurred will result in tax recoverable in the future.

9 Staff costs

Staff costs for the Group during the year were as follows:

	Year to 31 March 2009		Year to 31 March 2008	
	Continuing operations £m	**Discontinued operations £m**	Continuing operations £m	Discontinued operations £m
Wages and salaries	**215**	**4**	191	27
Social security costs	**22**	**–**	17	7
Other pension costs:				
– defined benefit schemes	**12**	**–**	13	1
– defined contribution schemes	**1**	**–**	1	–
– retirement healthcare benefits	**2**	**–**	2	(1)
Share-based payments	**5**	**–**	7	(2)
Total	**257**	**4**	231	32

The average number of people employed by the Group, excluding associates' employees and including a proportionate share of people employed by joint ventures, is set out below. As required by the Companies Act 1985, this includes part-time employees:

	Year to 31 March	
By business segment	**2009**	2008
Food & Industrial Ingredients, Americas	**2 512**	2 390
Food & Industrial Ingredients, Europe	**1 998**	2 822
Sugars	**1 359**	2 126
Sucralose	**262**	256
Central	**278**	270
Total	**6 409**	7 864

Included in the above numbers are 52 (2008 – 1,531) employees relating to discontinued operations, where 52 (2008 – 856) were employed by Sugars and nil (2008 – 675) by Food & Industrial Ingredients, Europe.

The number of people employed by the Group at 31 March 2009 was 5,718 (2008 – 6,488).

Key management compensation

	Year to 31 March	
	2009 £m	2008 £m
Salaries and short-term employee benefits	**3**	4
Post-employment benefits	**1**	1
Share-based payments	**1**	2
Share option gains	**–**	2
Termination benefits	**2**	–
Total	**7**	9

Key management are represented by the Group Executive Committee, which was formed on 1 July 2008 replacing the Group Management Committee. The Group Executive Committee as detailed on page 62 consists of the Company's executive directors, details of whose remuneration are given in the directors' remuneration report on pages 84 to 96, the Company Secretary and General Counsel, the Presidents of the four business divisions and the President, Global R&D.

The aggregate emoluments of directors in respect of qualifying services to the Company were £4 million (2008 – £4 million).