

Company registration number: 78978

GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING SHARE CAPITAL)

ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING SHARE CAPITAL)

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**GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
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**DIRECTORS RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT**

These abridged financial statements have been extracted, pursuant to section 353 of the Companies Act 2014, from the statutory financial statements prepared under section 290 of that Act. The following is the Directors Responsibilities Statement accompanying those financial statements.

The councillors are responsible for preparing the directors report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the councillors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law, the councillors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the councillors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the profit or loss of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.

In preparing these financial statements, the councillors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The councillors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and directors report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S SPECIAL REPORT TO  
GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 356 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2014**

We have examined:

- (i) the abridged financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 on pages 7 to 14, which the councillors of German - Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce propose to annex to the annual return of the company; and
- (ii) the financial statements to be laid before the Annual General Meeting, which form the basis for those abridged financial statements.

**Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors**

It is your responsibility to prepare abridged financial statements which comply with the Companies Act 2014. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion that the councillors are entitled under section 352 of the Companies Act 2014 to annex abridged financial statements to the annual return of the company and that those abridged financial statements have been properly prepared pursuant to section 353 of that Act and to report our opinion to you.

This report is made solely to the company's directors as a body, in accordance with section 356 of the Companies Act 2014. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's directors those matters we are required to state to them under section 356 of the Companies Act 2014 and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's councillors as a body, for our work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

**Basis of opinion**

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to confirm, by reference to the financial statements, that the company is entitled to annex abridged financial statements to the annual return of the company and that the abridged financial statements are properly prepared. The scope of our work for the purpose of this report does not include examining or dealing with events after the date of our report on the full financial statements.

**Opinion**

In our opinion, the directors are entitled under section 352 of the Companies Act 2014 to annex to the annual return of the company, abridged financial statements and those abridged financial statements have been properly prepared pursuant to the provisions of section 353 of that Act.

**Other information**

On 27 March 2024 we reported, as auditor of German - Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce, to the members on the company's financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 and our report was as follows:

**"Independent auditor's report to the members of German - Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce**

**Report on the audit of the financial statements**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S SPECIAL REPORT TO  
GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 356 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2014 (CONTINUED)**

***Opinion***

We have audited the financial statements of German - Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce (the 'company') for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 which comprise the profit and loss account, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 1. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish law and FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2023 and of its profit for the financial year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

***Basis for opinion***

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and the provisions available for small entities, in the circumstances set out in note 8 to the financial statements, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

***Conclusions relating to going concern***

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which ISAs (Ireland) require us to report to you where:

- the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the councillors have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S SPECIAL REPORT TO  
GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 356 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2014 (CONTINUED)**

***Other Information***

The councillors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

***Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014***

Based solely on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that:

- in our opinion, the information given in the directors' report is consistent with the financial statements; and
- in our opinion, the directors' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, and financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

***Matters on which we are required to report by exception***

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions required by sections 305 to 312 of the Act are not made. We have nothing to report in this regard.

***Respective responsibilities***

***Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements***

As explained more fully in the directors' responsibilities statement, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S SPECIAL REPORT TO  
GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 356 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2014 (CONTINUED)**

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

***Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

***The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities***

Our report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S SPECIAL REPORT TO  
GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE  
PURSUANT TO SECTION 356 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2014 (CONTINUED)



Stephen Brown

For and on behalf of  
Hayden Brown  
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Audit Firm  
Grafton Buildings  
34 Grafton Street  
Dublin 2

27 March 2024



**GERMAN - IRISH CHAMBER OF INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE**  
**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING SHARE CAPITAL)**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	Note	2023 €	€	2022 €	€
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5	22,994		21,000	
			22,994		21,000
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	6	469,915		335,550	
Cash at bank and in hand		605,069		754,705	
		1,074,984		1,090,255	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	7	(633,294)		(662,974)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			441,690		427,281
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			464,684		448,281
<b>Net assets</b>			464,684		448,281
<b>Capital and reserves</b>					
Profit and loss account			464,684		448,281
<b>Members funds</b>			464,684		448,281

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

We, as councillors of German - Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce state that the company has relied on the specified exemption contained in section 352 of the Companies Act 2014; the company has done so on the grounds that it is entitled to the benefit of that exemption as a small company and confirm that the abridged financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance with section 353 of the Companies Act 2014.

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these abridged financial statements.


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**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**  
**AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023**

These abridged financial statements were approved by the board of directors on 27 March 2024 and signed on behalf of the board by:



Werner Schwanberg  
Councillor



Simon Dauber  
Councillor

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these abridged financial statements.

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**NOTES TO THE ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**1. Accounting policies and measurement bases**

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, as modified by the revaluation of certain financial assets and liabilities and investment properties measured at fair value through profit or loss.

The financial statements are prepared in Euro, which is the functional currency of the entity.

**Turnover**

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for goods supplied and services rendered, net of discounts and Value Added Tax.

Revenue from the sale of goods is recognised when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have transferred to the buyer, usually on despatch of the goods; the amount of revenue can be measured reliably; it is probable that the associated economic benefits will flow to the entity and the costs incurred or to be incurred in respect of the transactions can be measured reliably.

**Research and development**

Research expenditure is written off in the financial year in which it is incurred.

Development expenditure incurred is capitalised as an intangible asset only when all of the following criteria are met:

- It is technically feasible to complete the intangible asset so that it will be available for use or sale;
- There is the intention to complete the intangible asset and use or sell it;
- There is the ability to use or sell the intangible asset;
- The use or sale of the intangible asset will generate probable future economic benefits;
- There are adequate technical, financial and other resources available to complete the development and to use or sell the intangible asset; and
- The expenditure attributable to the intangible asset during its development can be measured reliably.

Expenditure that does not meet the above criteria is expensed as incurred.

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**NOTES TO THE ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Tangible assets**

Tangible assets are initially recorded at cost, and are subsequently stated at cost less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Any tangible assets carried at revalued amounts are recorded at the fair value at the date of revaluation less any subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses.

An increase in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of a revaluation, is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in capital and reserves, except to the extent it reverses a revaluation decrease of the same asset previously recognised in profit or loss. A decrease in the carrying amount of an asset as a result of revaluation is recognised in other comprehensive income to the extent of any previously recognised revaluation increase accumulated in capital and reserves in respect of that asset. Where a revaluation decrease exceeds the accumulated revaluation gains accumulated in capital and reserves in respect of that asset, the excess shall be recognised in profit or loss.

**Depreciation**

Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost or valuation of an asset, less its residual value, over the useful economic life of that asset as follows:

Office equipment	- 12.5%	straight line
Fittings fixtures and equipment	- 12.5%	straight line
Motor vehicles	- 20%	straight line
Computer equipment	- 25%	straight line

If there is an indication that there has been a significant change in depreciation rate, useful life or residual value of tangible assets, the depreciation is revised prospectively to reflect the new estimates.

**Impairment**

A review for indicators of impairment is carried out at each reporting date, with the recoverable amount being estimated where such indicators exist. Where the carrying value exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is impaired accordingly. Prior impairments are also reviewed for possible reversal at each reporting date.

When it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset, an estimate is made of the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs. The cash-generating unit is the smallest identifiable group of assets that includes the asset and generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets.

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**NOTES TO THE ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**Financial instruments**

A financial asset or a financial liability is recognised only when the company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at the transaction price, unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, where it is recognised at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Debt instruments are subsequently measured at amortised cost.

Where investments in non-convertible preference shares and non-puttable ordinary shares or preference shares are publicly traded or their fair value can otherwise be measured reliably, the investment is subsequently measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss. All other such investments are subsequently measured at cost less impairment.

Other financial instruments, including derivatives, are initially recognised at fair value, unless payment for an asset is deferred beyond normal business terms or financed at a rate of interest that is not a market rate, in which case the asset is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Other financial instruments are subsequently measured at fair value, with any changes recognised in profit or loss, with the exception of hedging instruments in a designated hedging relationship.

Financial assets that are measured at cost or amortised cost are reviewed for objective evidence of impairment at the end of each reporting date. If there is objective evidence of impairment, an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

For all equity instruments regardless of significance, and other financial assets that are individually significant, these are assessed individually for impairment. Other financial assets are either assessed individually or grouped on the basis of similar credit risk characteristics.

Any reversals of impairment are recognised in profit or loss immediately, to the extent that the reversal does not result in a carrying amount of the financial asset that exceeds what the carrying amount would have been had the impairment not previously been recognised.

**Defined contribution plans**

Contributions to defined contribution plans are recognised as an expense in the period in which the related service is provided. Prepaid contributions are recognised as an asset to the extent that the prepayment will lead to a reduction in future payments or a cash refund.

When contributions are not expected to be settled wholly within 12 months of the end of the reporting date in which the employees render the related service, the liability is measured on a discounted present value basis. The unwinding of the discount is recognised in finance costs in profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

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**NOTES TO THE ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**2. Limited by guarantee**

The liability of the members is limited. In the event of the Company being wound up each member undertakes to contribute towards the payment of any debts and liabilities of the Company.

At 31 December 2023 there were 95 German members (2022:81) and 108 Irish members (2022:100) whose guarantee is limited to €6.35 each.

**3. Staff costs**

The average number of persons employed by the company during the financial year, including the directors was 10 (2022: 10).

The aggregate payroll costs incurred during the financial year were:

	2023	2022
	€	€
Wages and salaries	856,494	818,686
Social insurance costs	68,955	64,180
Other retirement benefit costs	19,700	18,762
	<u>945,149</u>	<u>901,628</u>

Remuneration included salaries, employer PRSI and pension contributions. Certain key management personnel are paid directly by the German Chamber of Commerce and Industry (DIHK) and are not employees of the company.

**4. Appropriations of profit and loss account**

	2023	2022
	€	€
At the start of the financial year	448,281	434,672
Profit for the financial year	16,403	13,609
<b>At the end of the financial year</b>	<u><b>464,684</b></u>	<u><b>448,281</b></u>

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**NOTES TO THE ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**5. Tangible assets**

	Plant and machinery	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	User defined asset	Total
	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Cost</b>					
At 1 January 2023	12,562	16,536	39,900	108,972	177,970
Additions	229	8,494	-	7,193	15,916
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<u>12,791</u>	<u>25,030</u>	<u>39,900</u>	<u>116,165</u>	<u>193,886</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 January 2023	9,063	15,497	37,905	94,505	156,970
Charge for the financial year	664	1,149	1,995	10,114	13,922
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<u>9,727</u>	<u>16,646</u>	<u>39,900</u>	<u>104,619</u>	<u>170,892</u>
<b>Carrying amount</b>					
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	<u>3,064</u>	<u>8,384</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,546</u>	<u>22,994</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>3,499</u>	<u>1,039</u>	<u>1,995</u>	<u>14,467</u>	<u>21,000</u>

**6. Debtors**

	2023	2022
	€	€
Trade debtors	352,209	282,370
Other debtors	25,650	25,650
Prepayments	36,256	27,530
Accrued income	55,800	-
	<u>469,915</u>	<u>335,550</u>

**7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2023	2022
	€	€
Payments received on account	43,150	63,021
Trade creditors	132,302	108,842
Other creditors including tax and social insurance	84,874	95,122
Accruals	101,454	101,360
Deferred income	271,514	294,629
	<u>633,294</u>	<u>662,974</u>

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**NOTES TO THE ABRIDGED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)  
FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

**8. Ethical standards**

In common with many other businesses of our size and nature we use our auditors to prepare and submit returns to the tax authorities and assist with the preparation of the financial statements. We also use our auditors to provide tax advice and to represent us, as necessary, at tax tribunals.

**9. Contingent Liability**

The German Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce received funding of €106,366 from the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Climate Action (BMWK) a number of years ago. This receipt comprises part of the reserves of the company.

It is repayable to the Ministry if the German Irish Chamber of Industry and Commerce should leave the Network of German Chambers of Commerce. The board of directors considers the possibility of leaving the Network to be very unlikely.

**10. Approval of financial statements**

The board of directors approved these abridged financial statements for issue on 27 March 2024.