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BSS Group PLC
23 July 2009

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The BSS Group plc
AGM Trading Update / Interim Management Statement

The BSS Group plc ('the Group'), a market leading distributor to specialist trades, is holding its AGM later today at which the following statement will be made. This comprises the Group's Interim Management Statement for the first 16 weeks of the new financial year, covering the period from 1 April 2009 to 17 July 2009.

Market conditions remain challenging. Revenue, as expected, in the first 16 weeks of the new financial year is below last year with total Group revenue of £369.5m, 5.6% below last year on an equivalent trading day basis. We believe all of our businesses are continuing to grow market share but the later cycle Industrial and Specialist Divisions are now being drawn into the downturn whilst the Domestic Division is holding up better against last year. Initiatives across the business are identifying new business opportunities which we are pursuing.

Further progress has been made on reducing the cost base of the Group to achieve optimum resourcing levels for contracting markets. Like for like costs in the period are 7.2% below last year. Further cost savings of £5m (annualised) are being implemented and represent a further 2% reduction in the cost base.

Outlook and Financial Position

The Group continues to anticipate that financial year 2009/10 will be a year of weaker demand with tough trading conditions in the Industrial and Specialist sectors. We continue to pursue new growth opportunities that will partly offset the decline in core revenue and the Board remains confident that the Group can out perform the market. The Group continues to be focussed on protecting earnings and delivering shareholder value.

The Group's financial position remains strong, net debt to EBITDA at 31 March 2009 was 1.2 times, and there have been no material events or transactions affecting the Group in the period, other than the previously announced acquisition of DHS for £5.7m in April 2009.

The Group anticipates being cash positive in financial year 2009/10 and its uncommitted borrowing facilities as at 31 March 2009 were £110m. These facilities have maturity beyond March 2012.

For further enquiries please contact:

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