Hastie Group Limited and 43 other subsidiaries went into administration on 28 May 2012. The companies in the Hastie Group carried on a diverse engineering business with a focus on mechanical, electrical, plumbing, refrigeration and ventilation services. The Group is reported to have revenue of approximately $1.9 billion.


“"The Hastie Group is a large and complex group. At the time of the appointment of the Administrators, it had approximately, 1600 projects underway throughout Australia, and was engaged on approximately 1,000 sites. It had approximately 6,100 employees, and operated from premises at up to 40 different locations in each state and territory of Australia. The Administrators estimate that the Hastie Group operated approximately 1,000 vehicles, of which approximately 50 are under their control. The Hastie Group appears to be in possession of thousands of items of property, including machinery, plant and equipment belonging to third parties. The Hastie Group has no available cash.

The Hastie Group operated on a largely decentralised basis, in that each entity within the Hastie Group managed a large part of its own affairs. This, asset registers were held by each individual entity, contracts were held by each individual entity, and day-to-day operational decisions appear to have been made by each individual entity There was no centralisation of general administration functions, and each company had a separate payroll, separate records, separate offices and separate management, although some entities shared premises. The most recent annual report of the Hastie Group indicates that the total annual leasing obligations of the Hastie Group amount to approximately $26 million. That figure does not include operational hire expenses, and it is not clear to the Administrators which particular entity owns which property, or to what arrangements each property is subject.

An inspection of the Personal Property Securities Register discloses that there are approximately 1,000 registered interests in respect of property in the name of the Hastie Group. Further, the Administrators have been approached by numerous persons alleging an interest in property presently in the possession of the Hastie Group.”

In their advice to suppliers the Administrators required details of PPS registrations. Highlighting the fact that although a PPS registration does not guarantee any form of return if your customer experiences financial difficulty but it gives you some chance of salvaging something.

No registration usually guarantees a zero return.

For information on how to complete a PPS registration contact

Murray Colvin Special Counsel +61 8 9216 7143 mcolvin@allionlegal.com

This Update has been prepared to provide general information only and must not be relied upon as legal advice

www.allionlegal.com