

Halfords Group PLC

Pre Close Trading Statement

30 September 2004

Halfords Group, the UK's leading (by turnover) car maintenance, car enhancement, cycle and travel solutions retailer, is today announcing a trading update for the 25 weeks to 24 September 2004 in advance of publishing its maiden interim results on the 25 November 2004 for the 26 weeks to 1 October 2004.

Sales performance for the 25 weeks to 24 September 2004 has seen a 13.0% increase over the equivalent period in the 2004 financial year with like for like sales up 11.0%. Excluding stores, which have had a mezzanine added in the last 12 months, the underlying like for like growth was 10.8%. The sales for the 26 weeks to 26 September 2003 were £286.3 million. The gross margin percentage was slightly below the equivalent 25 week period a year ago partly attributable to sales mix.

The strong sales performance in the second half of last year should be taken into account when sales for the second half of this year are being considered.

For further information:

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