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24 December 1998



The Rt. Hon. Stephen Byers MP
Secretary of State
The Department of Trade & Industry
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

TO: Mr Sibbick CGBPS	
PTA ADVICE (AND WANT REPLY IF APPROPRIATE) PLEASE BY: 12.01.99 IF DEADLINE CANNOT BE MET PLEASE PHONE DAVID CHILDS ON GRO	COPIES TO Mr McCartney Mr Scholar Mr Macdonald Mr Baker Mr Britton Ms. Anderson

By fax: **GRO**



Secretary of State,

Congratulations on your move to the DTI, albeit that it was triggered by unfortunate circumstances.

I am grateful for the efforts which you have made in the Treasury with regard to the BA/POCL/Horizon project. You will, no doubt, be briefed about ICL's involvement in a number of DTI activities, including the UK Competitiveness White Paper, Information Society initiatives and – very importantly – as the IT partner for the next ten years.

I look forward to the opportunity to meet to brief you on ICL and our co-operation early in the New Year and to discussing how we can further assist you and your Department in improving UK Competitiveness.

In the meantime, I hope that you will continue to press for an early and positive resolution of the Horizon issues. This is a project which means so much to the Post Office, ICL and, indeed, has huge potential for HMG.

Kind regards.

Yours sincerely

Keith Todd
Chief Executive



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