



## **Groundforce further strengthen Surveying market position with acquisition from Sokkia Ltd**

### **PRESS RELEASE**

**DATE: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2005.**

Groundforce today announced the acquisition of the business and assets of Crewe based company Sokkia Ltd, a leading supplier of surveying instruments. The business will trade as Sokkia UK and become exclusive distributor of Sokkia and Triax products to the trade.

The move further strengthens Groundforce's position in the UK survey instrumentation market, adding to their existing portfolio of businesses which includes the nationally based Survey Technology who specialise in equipment rental. Survey Technology and Sokkia UK are to be operated as separate business units with the latter focussing on developing the brand and sales through the dealer network.

Groundforce Managing Director David Williams stated his delight with the acquisition.

"The acquisition addresses our recognition that the face of Surveying in the UK is changing and represents a positive move towards consolidating our position in the market place". Mr Williams added "By acquiring this business our key objectives will be the strengthening of the dealer network, increasing brand profile and stimulating a significant growth in market share for survey instrumentation. All of these objectives demonstrate a strong commitment to the Sokkia brand".

The remaining employees of Sokkia Ltd will transfer with acquisition and will continue to operate from the existing Crewe premises.

Ends.

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