

Terms and Conditions of Sale



The buyer's attention is in particular drawn to the provisions of condition 14.4.

1. INTERPRETATION

1.1 The definitions and rules of interpretation in this condition apply in these conditions.

Buyer: the person, firm or company who purchases the Goods from the Company.

Company: Vessco Limited, Kingsway Buildings, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Bridgend. CF31 3YH. Registered Office: 12 Laleston Close, Porthcawl. CF36 3HW. Co. Reg. No. 6007820

Confidential Information: any information, technical data or know-how in whatever form, including, but not limited to, documented information, machine readable or interpreted information, information contained in physical components, and drawings, which the Company considers proprietary or confidential.

Contract: any contract between the Company and the Buyer for the sale and purchase of the Goods, incorporating these conditions.

Delivery Point: the place where delivery of the Goods is to take place under condition 4.

Goods: any goods and/or services agreed in the Contract to be supplied to the Buyer by the Company (including any part or parts of them).

1.2 A reference to a particular law is a reference to it as it is in force for the time being taking account of any amendment, extension, application or re-enactment and includes any subordinate legislation for the time being in force made under it.

1.3 Words in the singular include the plural and in the plural include the singular.

1.4 A reference to one gender includes a reference to the other gender.

1.5 Condition headings do not affect the interpretation of these conditions.

2. APPLICATION OF TERMS

2.1 Subject to any variation under condition 2.3 the Contract shall be on these conditions to the exclusion of all other terms and conditions (including any terms or conditions which the Buyer purports to apply under any purchase order, confirmation of order, specification or other document).

2.2 No terms or conditions endorsed on, delivered with or contained in the Buyer's purchase order, confirmation of order, specification or other document shall form part of the Contract simply as a result of such document being referred to in the Contract.

2.3 These conditions apply to all the Company's sales and any variation to these conditions and any representations about the Goods shall have no effect unless expressly agreed in writing and signed by the Managing Director or the Commercial Director of the Company. The Buyer acknowledges that it has not relied on any statement, promise or representation made or given by or on behalf of the Company, which is not set out in the contract. Nothing in this condition shall exclude or limit the Company's liability for fraudulent misrepresentation.

2.4 Each order or acceptance of a quotation for Goods by the Buyer from the Company shall be deemed to be an offer by the Buyer to buy Goods subject to these conditions.

2.5 No order placed by the Buyer shall be deemed to be accepted by the Company until a written acknowledgement of order is issued by the Company or (if earlier) the Company delivers the Goods to the Buyer.

2.6 The Buyer shall ensure that the terms of its order and any applicable specification are complete and accurate.

2.7 Any quotation is given on the basis that no Contract shall come into existence until the Company despatches an acknowledgement of order to the Buyer. Any quotation is valid for the period set out in the quotation, but if no period is set out, a period of 30 days only from its date, provided that the Company has not previously withdrawn it.

3. DESCRIPTION

3.1 The quantity and description of the Goods shall be as set out in the Company's quotation or acknowledgement of order.

3.2 All samples, drawings, descriptive matter, specifications and advertising issued by the Company and any descriptions or illustrations contained in the Company's catalogues or brochures are issued or published for the sole purpose of giving an approximate idea of the Goods described in them. They shall not form part of the Contract and this is not a sale by sample.

3.3 If the Goods are to be manufactured or any process is to be applied to the Goods by the Company in accordance with a specification submitted by the Buyer, the Buyer shall indemnify the Company against all loss, damages, costs and expenses awarded against or incurred by the Company in connection with or paid or agreed to be paid by the Company in settlement of any claim for infringement of any patent, copyright, design, trade mark or other industrial or intellectual property rights of any other person which results from the Company's use of the Buyer's specification.

4. DELIVERY

4.1 Unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Company, delivery of the Goods shall take place at the Company's place of business.

4.2 The Buyer shall take delivery of the Goods within 14 days of the Company giving it notice that the Goods are ready for delivery.

4.3 Any dates specified by the Company for delivery of the Goods are intended to be an estimate and time for delivery shall not be made of the essence by notice. If no dates are so specified, delivery shall be within a reasonable time.

4.4 Subject to the other provisions of these conditions the Company shall not be liable for any direct, indirect or consequential loss (all three of which terms include, without

limitation, pure economic loss, loss of profits, loss of business, depletion of goodwill and similar loss), costs, damages, charges or expenses caused directly or indirectly by any delay in the delivery of the Goods (even if caused by the Company's negligence), nor shall any delay entitle the Buyer to terminate or rescind the Contract unless such delay exceeds 180 days.

4.5 If for any reason the Buyer fails to accept delivery of any of the Goods when they are ready for delivery, or the Company is unable to deliver the Goods on time because the Buyer has not provided appropriate instructions, documents, licences or authorisations:

4.5.1 risk in the Goods shall pass to the Buyer (including for loss or damage caused by the Company's negligence);

4.5.2 the Goods shall be deemed to have been delivered; and

4.5.3 the Company may store the Goods until delivery, whereupon the Buyer shall be liable for all related costs and expenses (including, without limitation, storage and insurance).

4.6 The Buyer shall provide at the Delivery Point and at its expense adequate and appropriate equipment and manual labour for loading the Goods.

4.7 The Company may deliver the Goods by separate instalments. Each separate instalment shall be invoiced and paid for in accordance with the provisions of the Contract.

4.8 Each instalment shall be a separate Contract and no cancellation or termination of any one Contract relating to an instalment shall entitle the Buyer to repudiate or cancel any other Contract or instalment.

5. NON-DELIVERY

5.1 The quantity of any consignment of Goods as recorded by the Company upon despatch from the Company's place of business shall be conclusive evidence of the quantity received by the Buyer on delivery unless the Buyer can provide conclusive evidence proving the contrary.

5.2 The Company shall not be liable for any non-delivery of Goods (even if caused by the Company's negligence) unless the Buyer gives written notice to the Company of the non-delivery within 7 days of the date when the Goods would in the ordinary course of events have been received.

5.3 Any liability of the Company for non-delivery of the Goods shall be limited to replacing the Goods within a reasonable time or issuing a credit note at the pro rata Contract rate against any invoice raised for such Goods.

6. RISK/TITLE

6.1 The Goods are at the risk of the Buyer from the time of delivery.

6.2 Ownership of the Goods shall not pass to the Buyer until the Company has received in full (in cash or cleared funds) all sums due to it in respect of:

6.2.1 the Goods; and

6.2.2 all other sums which are or which become due to the Company from the Buyer on any account.

6.3 Until ownership of the Goods has passed to the Buyer, the Buyer shall:

6.3.1 hold the Goods on a fiduciary basis as the Company's bailee;

6.3.2 store the Goods (at no cost to the Company) separately from all other goods of the Buyer or any third party in such a way that they remain readily identifiable as the Company's property;

6.3.3 not destroy, deface or obscure any identifying mark or packaging on or relating to the Goods; and

6.3.4 maintain the Goods in satisfactory condition and keep them insured on the Company's behalf for their full price against all risks to the reasonable satisfaction of the Company. On request the Buyer shall produce the policy of insurance to the Company.

6.4 The Buyer may resell the Goods before ownership has passed to it solely on the following conditions:

6.4.1 any sale shall be effected in the ordinary course of the Buyer's business at full market value; and

6.4.2 any such sale shall be a sale of the Company's property on the Buyer's own behalf and the Buyer shall deal as principal when making such a sale.

6.5 The Buyer's right to possession of the Goods shall terminate immediately if:

6.5.1 the Buyer has a bankruptcy order made against him or makes an arrangement or composition with his creditors, or otherwise takes the benefit of any statutory provision for the time being in force for the relief of insolvent debtors, or (being a body corporate) convenes a meeting of creditors (whether formal or informal), or enters into liquidation (whether voluntary or compulsory) except a solvent voluntary liquidation for the purpose only of reconstruction or amalgamation, or has a receiver and/or manager, administrator or administrative receiver appointed of its undertaking or any part thereof, or documents are filed with the court for the appointment of an administrator of the Buyer or notice of intention to appoint an administrator is given by the Buyer or its directors or by a qualifying floating charge holder (as defined in paragraph 14 of Schedule B1 to the Insolvency Act 1986), or a resolution is passed or a petition presented to any court for the winding-up of the Buyer or for the granting of an administration order in respect of the Buyer, or any proceedings are commenced relating to the insolvency or possible insolvency of the Buyer; or

6.5.2 the Buyer suffers or allows any execution, whether legal or equitable, to be levied on his/its property or obtained against him/it, or fails to observe or perform any of his/its obligations under the Contract or any other contract between the Company and the Buyer, or is unable to pay its debts within the meaning of section 123 of the Insolvency Act 1986 or the Buyer ceases to trade; or

6.5.3 the Buyer encumbers or in any way charges any of the Goods.

6.6 The Company shall be entitled to recover payment for the Goods notwithstanding that ownership of any of the Goods has not passed from the Company.

6.7 The Buyer grants the Company, its agents and employees an irrevocable licence at any time to enter any premises where the Goods are or may be stored in order to inspect them, or, where

the Buyer's right to possession has terminated, to recover them.

6.8 Where the Company is unable to determine whether any Goods are the goods in respect of which the Buyer's right to possession has terminated, the Buyer shall be deemed to have sold all goods of the kind sold by the Company to the Buyer in the order in which they were invoiced to the Buyer.

6.9 On termination of the Contract, howsoever caused, the Company's (but not the Buyer's) rights contained in this condition 6 shall remain in effect.

7. PRICE

7.1 Unless otherwise agreed by the Company in writing, the price for the Goods shall be the price set out in the Company's quotation (unless withdrawn) or if no valid quotation exists, the Company's price list published on the date of delivery or deemed delivery.

7.2 The price for the Goods shall be exclusive of any value added tax and all costs or charges in relation to packaging, loading, unloading, carriage and insurance, all of which amounts the Buyer shall pay in addition when it is due to pay for the Goods.

8. PAYMENT

8.1 Subject to condition 8.4, payment of the price for the Goods is due in pounds sterling on the last working day of the month following the month in which the Goods are delivered or deemed to be delivered.

8.2 Time for payment shall be of the essence.

8.3 No payment shall be deemed to have been received until the Company has received cleared funds.

8.4 All payments payable to the Company under the Contract shall become due immediately on its termination despite any other provision.

8.5 The Buyer shall make all payments due under the Contract in full without any deduction whether by way of set-off, counterclaim, discount, abatement or otherwise unless the Buyer has a valid court order requiring an amount equal to such deduction to be paid by the Company to the Buyer.

8.6 If the Buyer fails to pay the Company any sum due pursuant to the Contract, the Buyer shall be liable to pay interest to the Company on such sum from the due date for payment at the annual rate of 2.5% above the base lending rate from time to time of Royal Bank of Scotland Plc, accruing on a daily basis until payment is made, whether before or after any judgment. The Company reserves the right to claim interest under the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.

9. INDEMNITY

9.1 If any claim is made against the Buyer that the Goods infringe or that their use or resale infringes the patent, copyright, design, trade mark or other industrial or intellectual property rights of any other person, then unless the claim arises from the use of any drawing, design or specification supplied by the Buyer, the Company shall indemnify the Buyer against all loss, damage, costs and expenses awarded against or incurred by the Buyer in connection with the claim, or paid or agreed to be paid by the Buyer in settlement of the claim, PROVIDED THAT:

9.1.1 the Company is given full control of any proceedings or negotiations in connection with the claim;

9.1.2 the Buyer shall give the Company all reasonable assistance for the purposes of any such proceedings or negotiations;

9.1.3 except pursuant to a final award, the Buyer shall not pay or accept the claim, or compromise any such proceedings without the consent of the Company (which shall not be unreasonably withheld);

9.1.4 the Buyer shall do nothing which would or might vitiate any policy of insurance or insurance cover which the Buyer may have in relation to such infringement, and this indemnity shall not apply to the extent that the Buyer recovers any sums under any such policy or cover (which the Buyer shall use its best endeavours to do);

9.1.5 the Company shall be entitled to the benefit of, and the Buyer shall accordingly account to the Company for, all damages and costs (if any) awarded in favour of the Buyer which are payable by, or agreed with the consent of the Buyer (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld) to be paid by, any other party in respect of any such claim; and

9.1.6 without prejudice to any duty of the Buyer at common law, the Company shall be entitled to require the Buyer to take such steps as the Company may reasonably require to mitigate or reduce any such loss, damages, costs or expenses for which the Company is liable to indemnify the Buyer under this clause.

10. TRADEMARKS

The buyer agrees not to remove or alter any identifying marks of manufacturing origin contained on or within the Goods, including without limitation the serial numbers or trademarks on nameplates or cast or machined components

11. NONDISCLOSURE AND NON-USE OF COMPANY'S CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

11.1 The Buyer and its customers, employees and agents shall keep all Confidential Information confidential following the date of disclosure. Neither the Buyer, its customers, employees, or agents shall transfer or disclose the Company's Confidential Information without the Company's prior written consent, and the Buyer agrees that it will not use the Company's Confidential Information for the manufacture or procurement of Goods that are the subject of this Contract or any similar Goods, or cause such Goods to be manufactured by or procured from any other source, or reproduce the Confidential Information or otherwise appropriate it without the Company's prior written consent or in accordance with the order of a court with competent jurisdiction. All Confidential Information obtained from or

through the Company shall remain property of the Company. No right or licence is granted to the Buyer or its customers, employees or agents, expressly or by implication, with respect to the Confidential Information or any patent, patent application or other proprietary right of the Company.

11.2The obligation set out in clause 11.1 shall continue without limitation in time but shall cease to apply to any information coming into the public domain otherwise than by breach by the buyer of its obligations set out in these terms.

12.CHANGES

The Buyer may request changes to the design of Goods that the Buyer has ordered, where the Goods to be furnished by the Company are to be specifically manufactured for the Buyer. If any such change causes an increase in the cost of or in the time required for the Company's performance hereunder, or if such change results in rework or obsolescence charges, an equitable adjustment shall be made and the Contract modified accordingly, provided that the Company in its reasonable discretion first accepts in writing the request for such changes. The Company reserves the right to make changes in design or additions or improvements to any Goods of the same general class as Goods being delivered hereunder, without liability or obligation to incorporate such changes, additions or improvements to Goods ordered by the Buyer unless specifically agreed upon in writing reasonably in advance of such Goods' delivery date.

13.QUALITY

13.1Where the Company is not the manufacturer of the Goods, the Company shall endeavour to transfer to the Buyer the benefit of any warranty or guarantee given to the Company.

13.2The Company warrants that (subject to the other provisions of these conditions) upon delivery, and for a period of 18 months from the date of delivery, or 12 months from the date of installation (whichever expires first) the Goods shall be of satisfactory quality within the meaning of the Sale of Goods Act 1979;

13.3If the Goods include repairs or overhaul services or repaired or overhauled goods, then the only warranty given by the Company in relation to those goods or services is as set out in the Company's quotation;

13.4If the Goods include other services (subject to the other provisions of these conditions) the Company warrants that the services shall be provided using reasonable skill and care, and as far as reasonably possible, in accordance with any specification or timetable set out in the Company's quotation;

13.5The Company shall not be liable for a breach of the warranty in conditions 13.2 and 13.4 unless:

13.5.1the Buyer gives written notice of the defect to the Company, and, if the defect is as a result of damage in transit to the carrier, within 3 days of the time when the Buyer discovers or ought to have discovered the defect; and

13.5.2the Company is given a reasonable opportunity after receiving the notice of examining such Goods and the Buyer (if asked to do so by the Company) returns such Goods to the Company's place of business for the examination to take place there.

13.6The Company shall not be liable for a breach of the warranties in conditions 13.2 to 13.4 if:

13.6.1the Buyer makes any further use of such Goods after giving such notice; or

13.6.2the defect arises because the Buyer failed to follow the Company's oral or written instructions as to the storage, installation, commissioning, use or maintenance of the Goods or (if there are none) good trade practice; or

13.6.3the Buyer alters or repairs such Goods without the written consent of the Company.

13.7Subject to condition 13.5 and condition 13.6, if any of the Goods do not conform with the warranty in conditions 13.2 to 13.4, the Company shall at its option repair or replace such Goods (or the defective part) or repeat the services provided or refund the price of such Goods at the pro rata Contract rate provided that, if the Company so requests, the Buyer shall return the Goods or the part of such Goods which is defective to the Company.

13.8If the Company complies with condition 13.7 it shall have no further liability for a breach of the warranties in conditions 13.2 to 13.4 in respect of such Goods.

13.9Any Goods replaced shall belong to the Company and any repaired or replacement Goods shall be guaranteed on these terms for the unexpired portion of the warranted period.

14.LIMITATION OF LIABILITY

14.1Subject to condition 4, condition 5 and condition 9, the following provisions set out the entire financial liability of the Company (including any liability for the acts or omissions of its employees, agents and sub-contractors) to the Buyer in respect of:

14.1.1any breach of these conditions;

14.1.2any use made or resale by the Buyer of any of the Goods, or of any product incorporating any of the Goods; and

14.1.3any representation, statement or tortious act or omission including negligence arising under or in connection with the Contract.

14.2All warranties, conditions and other terms implied by statute or common law (save for the conditions implied by section 12 of the Sale of Goods Act 1979) are, to the fullest extent permitted by law, excluded from the Contract.

14.3Nothing in these conditions excludes or limits the liability of the Company:

14.3.1for death or personal injury caused by the Company's negligence; or

14.3.2under section 2(3), Consumer Protection Act 1987; or

14.3.3for any matter which it would be illegal for the Company to exclude or attempt to exclude its liability; or

14.3.4for fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation.

14.4Subject to condition 14.2 and condition 14.3:

14.4.1the Company's total liability in contract, tort (including negligence or breach of statutory duty), misrepresentation, restitution or otherwise, arising in connection with the performance or contemplated performance of the Contract shall be limited to the Contract price; and

14.4.2the Company shall not be liable to the Buyer for any pure economic loss, loss of profit, loss of business, depletion of goodwill or otherwise, in each case whether direct, indirect or consequential, or any claims for consequential compensation whatsoever (howsoever caused) which arise out of or in connection with the Contract.

15.COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS

The Buyer shall comply with all local laws and regulations applicable to the installation, use, or import of all Goods delivered hereunder. The Buyer shall comply with all applicable export control laws and regulations of the United Kingdom, the European Union and any other country having proper jurisdiction and shall obtain all necessary export licences in connection with any subsequent export, re-export, transfer and use of all Goods and technology delivered hereunder.

16.ASSIGNMENT

16.1The Company may assign the Contract or any part of it to any person, firm or company.

16.2The Buyer shall not be entitled to assign the Contract or any part of it without the prior written consent of the Company.

17.FORCE MAJEURE

The Company reserves the right to defer the date of delivery or to cancel the Contract or reduce the volume of the Goods ordered

by the Buyer (without liability to the Buyer) if it is prevented from or delayed in the carrying on of its business due to circumstances beyond the reasonable control of the Company including, without limitation, acts of God, governmental actions, war or national emergency, acts of terrorism, protests, riot, civil commotion, fire, explosion, flood, epidemic, lock-outs, strikes or other labour disputes (whether or not relating to either party's workforce), or restraints or delays affecting carriers or inability or delay in obtaining supplies of adequate or suitable materials, provided that, if the event in question continues for a continuous period in excess of 180 days, the Buyer shall be entitled to give notice in writing to the Company to terminate the Contract.

18.GENERAL

18.1Each right or remedy of the Company under the Contract is without prejudice to any other right or remedy of the Company whether under the Contract or not.

18.2If any provision of the Contract is found by any court, tribunal or administrative body of competent jurisdiction to be wholly or partly illegal, invalid, void, voidable, unenforceable or unreasonable it shall to the extent of such illegality, invalidity, voidness, voidability, unenforceability or unreasonableness be deemed severable and the remaining provisions of the Contract and the remainder of such provision shall continue in full force and effect.

18.3Failure or delay by the Company in enforcing or partially enforcing any provision of the Contract shall not be construed as a waiver of any of its rights under the Contract.

18.4Any waiver by the Company of any breach of, or any default under, any provision of the Contract by the Buyer shall not be deemed a waiver of any subsequent breach or default and shall in no way affect the other terms of the Contract.

18.5The parties to the Contract do not intend that any term of the Contract shall be enforceable by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999 by any person that is not a party to it.

18.6The formation, existence, construction, performance, validity and all aspects of the Contract shall be governed by English law and the parties submit to the exclusive jurisdiction of the English courts.

19.COMMUNICATIONS

19.1All communications between the parties about the Contract shall be in writing and delivered by hand or sent by pre-paid first class post or sent by fax:

19.1.1(in case of communications to the Company) to its registered office or such changed address as shall be notified to the Buyer by the Company; or

19.1.2(in case of the communications to the Buyer) to the registered office of the addressee (if it is a company) or (in any other case) to any address of the Buyer set out in any document which forms part of the Contract or such other address as shall be notified to the Company by the Buyer.

19.2Communications shall be deemed to have been received:

19.2.1if sent by pre-paid first class post, two days (excluding Saturdays, Sundays and bank and public holidays) after posting (exclusive of the day of posting); or

19.2.2if delivered by hand, on the day of delivery; or

19.2.3if sent by fax on a working day prior to 4.00 pm, at the time of transmission and otherwise on the next working day.

19.3Communications addressed to the Company shall be marked for the attention of the Managing Director or the Commercial Director.