

# Reputational Risk – the investor's perspective

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#### agenda

- 1. background to the research
- 2. overall reputational risk approach
- 3. are markets really that efficient?
- 4. how do investor relationships work?
- 5. what is market sentiment and how does it affect market expectations?
- 6. where does corporate governance stand after Enron et al?
- 7. what is the special role of non Executive Directors in managing reputational risk?
- 8. what are the pressure points for shareholder activism?
- 9. responsible shareholding and long term fiduciary duty
- 10. mainstream interest in socially responsible investment



#### FINANCIAL TIMES

Executive Briefings

#### BUILDING BLOCKS

#### Reputational Risk

How to manage for value creation

ARIF ZAMAN



- 1. Why reputation management is not enough
- 2. Reputation
- 3. Risk
- 4. **Reputational risk** and customers
- 5. ...and employees
- 6. ...and shareholders
- 7. International relationships and responsibilities

NB Based on international research with corporates, investors and policy-makers at Henley Management College 2001-4 with a foreword by the late Professor Keith MacMillan, Founding Director, The John Madejski Centre for Reputation

Published in 2004 (price £120) and now an FT bestseller and being translated into Russian



### background to the research

- Supervisor: Professor Keith MacMillan
- 7 companies British Airways, British Telecom, Barclays, Reuters, Marks & Spencer, Dell and FedEx
- Investors CalPERS, HSBC, Henderson and Insight Investment + Japan investors (Nomura, Daiwa, Asahi Life, UFJ) + a top 10 UK pension fund
- 2 Nobel Prize Laureates for Economics (Klein, Sen)
- Action learning networks ICAEW, Strategic Planning Society and Henley Learning Partnership
- Chatham House / Toyota
- Commonwealth Business Council
- British Airways 2004-2005

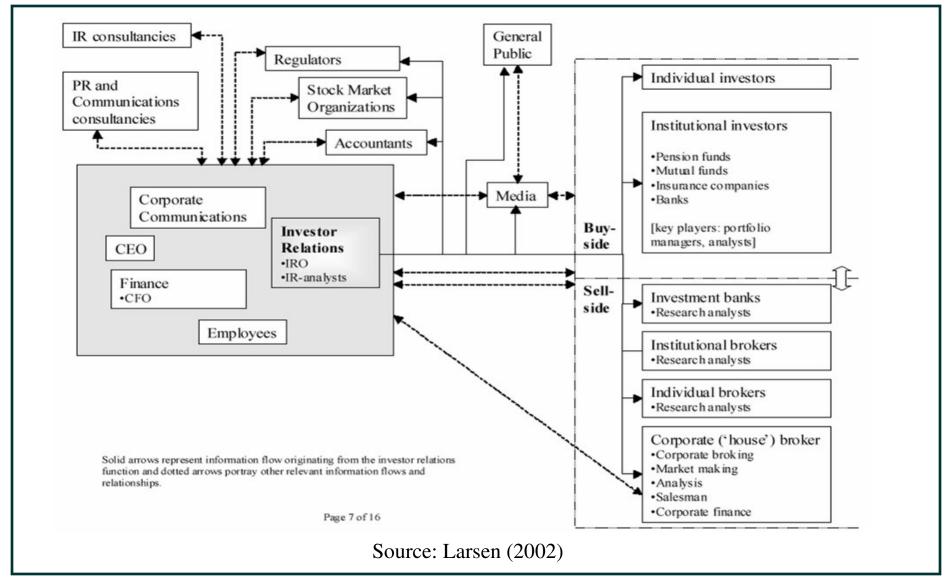


### are markets really that efficient?

- Managers' financial reporting behaviour
- Overreliance on unreliable data
- Aggressive trading by less-informed investors
- Inappropriate information collection



### investor relationships





## what investors really want (sell-side analysts)

OVERALL	ATTRIBUTES
RANK	
1.	country / industry knowledge
2.	trustworthiness
3.	accessibility / responsiveness
4.	independence from corporate finance
5.	useful / timely calls
6.	written reports
7.	management access
8.	stock selection
9.	special services
	(sector-based conferences organised by broking firms where buy-siders
	can listen to presentations from companies and analysts)
10.	earnings estimates
11.	communication skills
12.	quality of sales force
13.	marketing pricing / execution
14.	primary market services

Source: All-Europe Research Team Survey (2002)



#### market sentiment

- The sun glasses or life jacket analogy
- 'Whisper numbers'
- risk and expectations
- Management responses
- GSK in 2003
- BA in 2005?



## At its core corporate governance is about creating value from the quality of decision-making

- 1. value: creation and maintenance
- 2. accountability: decisions for whom?
- 3. **consensus**: something that is agreed by more than one person
- 4. **action**: corporate governance is about deciding as well as debating and moving forward as well as reflecting on the past and present
- 5. **quality**: acknowledges increasing importance of softer factors



### Role of the Non-Executive Director (NED)

Strategy	Non-executive directors should constructively challenge and contribute to the development of strategy	
Performance	Non-executive directors should scrutinise the performance of management in meeting agreed goals and objectives and monitor the reporting of performance.	
Risk	Non-executive directors should satisfy themselves that financial information is accurate and that financial controls and systems of risk management are robust and defensible.	
People	Non-executive directors are responsible for determining appropriate levels of remuneration of executive directors and have a prime role in appointing, and where necessary removing, senior management and in succession planning.	Source: Higgs Report (DTI, 2003)



#### Shareholder activism – and life after GSK's 2003 AGM



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#### institutional investors - one leading view

'Unfortunately a lot of companies with more introverted cultures are simply unaware of the reputational risks they face going into an AGM with a large number of shareholders opposed to parts of their remuneration packages.'

Alistair Ross Goobey, chairman of the International Corporate Governance Network, 2003



## responsible shareholding and long term fiduciary duty



Source: Robert Monks (2005)



## mainstream interest in socially responsible investment

- Investor relations officers (IROs) believe that good social and environmental performance in the long-term strongly influences company's brand and reputation (69%), economic performance (46%) and market value (36%).
- For 79% of fund managers and analysts, the management of social and environmental risks has a positive impact on a company's long-term market value.
- Both fund managers/analysts (52%) and IROs (47%) believe that social and environmental considerations will become a significant aspect of mainstream investment decisions over the next two years.
- The majority (85%) of IROs are convinced that the next three years will see more legal requirements imposed on companies for social and environmental reporting.

Source: World Economic Forum (2003 and 2005)



#### Key questions

Corporate Reputation

"How does a business know if the relationships it has with its stakeholders are really strong and successful?"

"What is the link from stakeholder relationships to Corporate Reputation, Corporate Governance and Corporate Responsibility?"

#### Stakeholder Relationships

Corporate Governance "How can a business measure and demonstrate its Corporate Responsibility?"

Corporate Responsibility