FORM SAR 3

Lodge with a RIS or Newstrack, if appropriate, and the Takeover Panel.
A copy must also be sent to the company the shares of which are acquired.

Date of disclosure: **08/11/02**

DISCLOSURE UNDER RULE 3 OF THE RULES GOVERNING SUBSTANTIAL ACQUISITIONS OF SHARES ("SARs")

Date of acquisition: **07/11/02**

Acquisition in: **Oxford Instruments PLC**

(1) (a) Class of voting shares (e.g. ordinary shares):
Ordinary Shares of 5p

(1) (b) Number of shares / rights over shares acquired:
375,000 shares
N/A rights

(1) (c) If rights over shares acquired, as opposed to the shares themselves, specify nature of rights:
N/A

(2) (a) Resultant total holding of voting shares (and % of total voting shares in issue):
9,926,034 (20.71%)

(2) (b) Resultant total holding of rights over shares(and % of total voting shares in issue):
N/A (0.00%)

(2) (c) Total percentage:
20.71%

(3) Party making disclosure:
Aberforth Partners (as Investment Managers)

(4) (a) Name of person acquiring shares or rights over shares:
Aberforth Partners (as Investment Managers)
and, if different, beneficial owner:
N/A

(4) (b) Names of any other persons acting by agreement or understanding see SAR 5):
N/A

Signed, for and on behalf of the party named in (3) above:
N/A – Electronic Submission

(Also print name of signatory):
Angus McCallum, For Aberforth Partners

Telephone and extension number:
0131 220 0733

Note: Under SAR 5, the holdings of and acquisitions by persons acting by agreement or understanding must be aggregated and treated as a holding of or acquisition by one person. Note 3 on SAR 5 requires persons who must aggregate holdings to disclose certain disposals.

For full details of the SARs disclosure requirements, see Rules 3 and 5 of the SARs. If in doubt, contact the Panel on Takeovers and Mergers, Monitoring Section, Tel. No: 020 7638 0129.
(E-mail: monitoring@disclosure.org.uk)