



News release

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DECREES AGAINST SCOTTISH BUSINESSES SOAR IN Q2 2009

The number of decrees against Scottish businesses nearly doubled in Q2 2009, according to figures released today (July 31 2009) by Registry Trust Ltd, the non-profit company which maintains judgment and decree information in the British Isles and Ireland.

In the second quarter of 2009, 2511 commercial decrees were registered. This is a record total for any quarter.

The value of these decrees rose by 11.5 percent year-on-year to £2,007,000.

Decrees against consumers rose, although the increase in number was smaller, by 25 percent year-on-year to 8,775.

This matches the increase in public interest in the register, with more people using the website, Trustonline, than ever before. Searches almost doubled, reaching 1,348, with internet searches making up 79 percent of searches.

According to the chairman of Registry Trust, Malcolm Hurlston, the figures are indicative of the state of the economy. "With businesses and consumers struggling to pay their debts, it seems that creditors are increasingly turning to the courts to get their money back, and for smaller amounts. Our website, trustonline.org.uk gives people and businesses the opportunity to check others before doing business with them. In the current economic climate, this would be wise."

Table 1: Scottish decree numbers

Quarter	Consumer	Commercial		Total	Quarter Change (%)
		Corporate	Non-Corporate		
Q2 2008	7,002	628	659	8,289	31.4%
Q3 2008	7,806	781	692	9,279	11.9%
Q4 2008	8,294	802	803	9,899	6.7%
Q1 2009	7,708	780	818	9,306	-6.0%
Q2 2009	8,775	1,311	1,200	11,286	21.3%

Table 2: Scottish decree values

Quarter	Consumer (£000)	Commercial		Total (£000)	Quarter Change (%)
		Corporate (£000)	Non-Corporate (£000)		
Q2 2008	9,864	910	890	11,665	98.8%
Q3 2008	10,791	988	984	12,762	9.4%
Q4 2008	9,365	959	964	11,288	-11.6%
Q1 2009	6,973	892	835	8,699	-22.9%
Q2 2009	6,564	1,048	959	8,571	-1.5%

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Notes to editors:

Registry Trust is a non-profit company established in 1986. It maintains public records of judgment and decree information for nearly all jurisdictions in the British Isles and Ireland. These records are an important factor in avoiding debt and in supporting responsible lending decisions, which in turn underpin a modern and stable economy.

Anyone may search for entries against a named person or business at a stated address or a corporate body in the United Kingdom or Ireland by submitting a request either via Registry Trust's website www.trustonline.org.uk or by post to Registry Trust, 173-175 Cleveland Street, London W1T 6QR.