# **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The Directors present their annual report and the audited financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries for the year ended 30 June 2004.

# **PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The Company is an investment holding company. Its principal subsidiaries are engaged in the design, manufacture, distribution, wholesale and retail of ladies' intimate apparel, principally brassieres.

#### **RESULTS AND DIVIDEND**

The results of the Group for the year ended 30 June 2004 are set out in the consolidated income statement on page 20.

An interim dividend of 2 HK cents per share was paid to shareholders during the year. The directors now recommend the payment of a final dividend of 5 HK cents per share to the shareholders on the register of members on 15 October 2004.

## **FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

A summary of the results and of the assets and liabilities of the Group for the past five financial years is set out on page 68.

# PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the year, the Group incurred expenditure, principally on its production facilities, totalling approximately HK\$40 million. Movements of property, plant and equipment of the Group during the year are set out in note 13 to the financial statements.

### **DIRECTORS**

The Directors during the year and up to the date of this report were:

#### **Executive Directors**

Fung Wai Yiu (Chairman)

Wong Chung Chong, Eddie (Group Managing Director)

#### Non-executive Directors

Lucas A.M. Laureys

Leung Churk Yin, Jeanny

Herman Van de Velde

### **Independent Non-executive Directors**

Marvin Bienenfeld

Chow Yu Chun, Alexander

Lam Ka Chung, William

Lin Sian Zu, John

Tse Koon Hang, Ada

Marvin Bienenfeld, a Non-executive Director of the Company during the year, was redesignated as Independent Non-executive Director on 8 September 2004.

Marvin Bienenfeld and Leung Churk Yin, Jeanny retire in accordance with Bye-law 87(2) of the Company's Bye-laws and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election. All remaining Directors continue in office.

No Director being proposed for re-election at the forthcoming annual general meeting has a service contract with the Company or any of its subsidiaries which is not determinable by the Group within one year without payment of compensation other than statutory compensation.

The Non-executive Directors have been appointed for a period up to their retirement by rotation as required by the Company's Bye-laws.

**BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT** 

**Executive Directors** 

Fung Wai Yiu, 57, the Chairman of the Group, has over 35 years of experience in the apparel industry. He was

formerly a Director of Kellwood Company, an apparel company listed on the New York Stock Exchange.

Wong Chung Chong, Eddie, 59, a co-founder of the Group and the Group Managing Director, is responsible for the

operations of the Group. Mr. Wong has over 30 years of experience in the brassiere trade.

**Non-executive Directors** 

Lucas A.M. Laureys, 59, is the Chairman of Van de Velde N.V. ("VdV"), a listed company in Belgium. Mr. Laureys has

over 30 years of experience in the brassiere trade and specialises in marketing.

Leung Churk Yin, Jeanny, 39, is the Managing Director of Access Capital Limited. She has over 15 years of

investment banking and corporate finance experience in the Greater China region.

Herman Van de Velde, 50, is the Managing Director of VdV. He joined the brassiere industry in 1981 and is well

versed in operating the brassiere business in Europe.

**Independent Non-executive Directors** 

Marvin Bienenfeld, 72, was formerly the Chairman of Bestform, Inc. ("Bestform"), a company of VF Corporation. Mr.

Bienenfeld has over 40 years of experience in the ladies' intimate apparel industry in the United States of America

("USA").

Chow Yu Chun, Alexander, 57, is a Fellow member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants

("HKICPA") and has over 25 years of experience in property development in Hong Kong.

Lam Ka Chung, William, 52, is a Fellow member of the HKICPA, a responsible officer registered with the Hong

Kong Securities and Futures Commission and a member of the Cash Market Consultative Panel of The Stock Exchange

of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). Mr. Lam is the founder and CEO of an investment bank listed on the

Stock Exchange.

Lin Sian Zu, John, 41, is a Managing Director of the Direct Investment Division of AIG Global Investment Corporation

(Asia) Limited ("AIGGIC").

Tse Koon Hang, Ada, 38, is a Managing Director of the Direct Investment Division of AIGGIC.

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### Management and Senior Staff

Michael Austin, 56, is the Chief Financial Officer of the Group and Company Secretary. Mr. Austin is a Fellow member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and an Associate member of the HKICPA. He has over 25 years of diverse senior financial and general management experience in Hong Kong and worldwide.

**Leung Tat Yan**, 47, is the Managing Director of Top Form Brassiere Mfg. Co., Limited ("TFB"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Mr. Leung obtained a diploma in Business Studies from the Business Education Council, Birmingham, the United Kingdom ("UK"). He has over 15 years of experience in the ladies' intimate apparel industry and is the chief executive of the OEM operations.

**Choi Wai Yin**, 57, is a Director of Manufacturing of TFB and joined the Group in 1993. Ms. Choi has over 35 years of experience in apparel manufacturing. She oversees all manufacturing operations within the Group.

Yue-Chin Chai Ting, 43, is a Director of Unique Form Manufacturing Company Limited and Marguerite Lee Limited. Mrs. Yue holds a bachelor degree in Economics from the University of Lancaster, UK. Prior to joining the Group, she had over 10 years of experience in retail and wholesale management in Hong Kong. Mrs. Yue is the chief executive of the Group's retail and wholesale operations.

**Chen Fu Mei**, 57, is a Director and the Deputy General Manager of Shenzhen Top Form Underwear Co., Limited. Ms. Chen joined the Group in 1988 and is responsible for the administration of all the Group's companies in the People's Republic of China ("PRC").

**Fung Sau Keung, Andy**, 50, is the General Manager of Long Nan Country Top Form Underwear Co. Ltd. Mr. Fung also has the executive responsibility for the operations in the Philippines Region. He joined the Group in 1975 and has over 25 years of experience in intimate apparel manufacturing operations.

Wong Kai Chi, Kenneth, 30, is the Managing Director of Top Form Brassiere Co., Limited, Thailand. He is the son of Mr. Wong Chung Chong, Eddie. Mr. Wong holds a bachelor degree in Marketing and Operation Management from Boston University, USA. He joined the Group in 1997 and is responsible for the Group's manufacturing operations in Thailand.

Wong Hei Yin, Henry, 41, is the General Manager of Charming Elastic Fabric Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Company, producing elastic tapes. Mr. Wong holds a bachelor degree in Accounting from Lamer University, USA.

Wan Ho Yau, David, 47, is the Managing Director of Grand Gain Industrial Limited, a subsidiary of the Company, producing foam pads and accessories for brassiere manufacturing. Mr. Wan joined the Group in 1994. He holds degrees in Computer Science and Business Administration from York University, Toronto, Canada.

### **CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS**

The Group has from time to time conducted transactions with VdV, its subsidiaries and/or affiliates, which are "connected persons" for the purposes of the Rules Governing the Listing of the Securities (the "Listing Rules") on the Stock Exchange. The Stock Exchange granted a waiver on 11 November 2002 to the Company from strict compliance with the requirements as stipulated in Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules on connected transactions.

Pursuant to the waiver, details of the following connected transactions which have been entered into between VdV and the Group in the ordinary and usual course of business are not required to be disclosed by press notice and/or by circular nor is the Company required to obtain prior independent shareholders' approval on each occasion:

 Name of connected person
 Nature of transactions
 HK\$'000

 VdV and its affiliates
 Sales of finished products
 26,882

The Independent Non-executive Directors confirm that the aforesaid connected transactions conducted by the Group during the year ended 30 June 2004 were:

- a) in the ordinary and usual course of the Group's businesses;
- b) on normal commercial terms or on terms that are fair and reasonable so far as the shareholders of the Company are concerned;
- c) entered into in accordance with the terms of the agreements governing the transactions or on terms no less favourable than those available to or from independent third parties; and
- d) within the relevant amounts as stipulated under the relevant waivers.

# **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN CONTRACTS**

During the year, the Group sold finished goods of HK\$26,882,000 to VdV, a company in which Mr. Herman Van de Velde and Mr. Lucas A.M. Laureys have beneficial interests.

In the opinion of those directors not having an interest in the above transaction, the transaction was carried out in the usual and ordinary course of business of the Group and on normal commercial terms. Save as disclosed above, there were no contracts of significance to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was a party and in which any one of the Directors of the Company had a material interest, whether directly or indirectly, subsisting at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

# **DIRECTORS' INTEREST IN COMPETING BUSINESS**

None of the Directors had an interest in any business constituting a competing business to the Group during the year.

# **SHARE OPTIONS**

Particulars of the Company's share option scheme are set out in note 25 to the financial statements.

The following table discloses details of the Company's outstanding share options:

		Number of share
		options outstanding
		at I July 2003
Name of Director	Date of grant	and 30 June 2004
Fung Wai Yiu	9 September 2002	770,521
Wong Chung Chong, Eddie	9 September 2002	770,521
Marvin Bienenfeld	9 September 2002	770,521
Chow Yu Chun, Alexander	9 September 2002	770,521
Lam Ka Chung, William	9 September 2002	770,521
Leung Churk Yin, Jeanny	9 September 2002	770,521
Lin Sian Zu, John	9 September 2002	770,521
Tse Koon Hang, Ada	9 September 2002	770,521
Total		6,164,168

Details of options are as follows:

Date of grant	Vesting period	Exercise period	Exercise Price
			HK\$
9 September 2002	9 September 2002 to	9 September 2004 to	0.343
	8 September 2004	8 September 2012	

No option was granted, exercised or cancelled during the year.

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES AND UNDERLYING SHARES**

As at 30 June 2004, the interests of the Directors in the share capital of the Company as recorded in the register maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 352 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance, or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies, were as follows:

#### Long positions:

(a) Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each of the Company

		Number of	Percentage
		issued	of the issued
		ordinary	share capital
Name of Director	Capacity	shares held	of the Company
Fung Wai Yiu	Held by spouse and trust (note 1)	368,120,142	34.36%
Wong Chung Chong, Eddie	Held by trust (note 2)	367,904,142	34.34%
Chow Yu Chun, Alexander	Beneficial owner	1,930,000	0.18%
Lucas A. M. Laureys	Held by controlled corporation (note 3)	389,331,141	36.34%
Herman Van de Velde	Held by controlled corporation (note 3)	389,331,141	36.34%

#### Notes:

- 1. 216,000 shares are held by the spouse of Mr. Fung Wai Yiu ("Mr. Fung"). 209,191,780 shares are registered in the name of Guliano Pte Limited ("Guliano"). 158,712,362 shares are registered in the name of HKSCC Nominees Limited ("HKSCC") and are beneficially owned by Guliano. Mr. Fung is deemed to be interested in the Company as he has beneficial interest in a family trust which held 9,590 shares of Guliano, representing 9.59% of interest in Guliano.
- 2. 209,191,780 shares are registered in the name of Guliano. 158,712,362 shares are registered in the name of HKSCC and are beneficially owned by Guliano. Wong Chung Chong, Eddie ("Mr. Wong") is deemed to be interested in the Company as he is the founder of a family trust which held 40,411 shares of Guliano, representing 40.41% of interest in Guliano.
- 3. 209,191,780 shares are registered in the name of Guliano. 158,712,362 shares are registered in the name of HKSCC and are beneficially owned by Guliano. 49,999 shares of Guliano are held by VdV, representing 50% of interest in Guliano. 21,426,999 shares are registered in the name of VdV of which Mr. Lucas A. M. Laureys and Mr. Herman Van de Velde are beneficial owners.

# (b) Share options

		Number of	Number of
Name of Director	Capacity	options held	shares underlying
Fung Wai Yiu	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Wong Chung Chong, Eddie	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Marvin Bienenfeld	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Chow Yu Chun, Alexander	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Lam Ka Chung, William	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Leung Churk Yin, Jeanny	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Lin Sian Zu, John	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
Tse Koon Hang, Ada	Beneficial owner	770,521	770,521
		6,164,168	6,164,168

Save as disclosed above, and other than certain nominee shares in subsidiaries held by Directors in trust for the Company's subsidiaries as at 30 June 2004, none of the directors nor their associates had any interests or short positions in any shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations.

# **SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS**

As at 30 June 2004, the register of substantial shareholders maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 336 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance shows that other than the interests disclosed above in respect of certain directors, the following shareholders had notified the Company of relevant interests in the issued share capital of the Company.

### Long positions:

Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each of the Company

		Number of	Percentage
		issued	of the issued
		ordinary	share capital
Name of shareholder	Capacity	shares held	of the Company
Guliano	Beneficial owner	367,904,142	34.34%
VF Intimates	Beneficial owner	106,000,000	9.89%

# PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES

During the year, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

# **PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS**

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights under the Company's Bye-laws although there are no restrictions against such rights under the laws in Bermuda.

# **MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS**

The respective percentages of the Group's purchases from major suppliers and turnover attributable to major customers for the year ended 30 June 2004 were as follows:

Percentage of purchases attributable to the Group's largest supplier	15%
Percentage of purchases attributable to the Group's five largest suppliers	51%
Percentage of turnover attributable to the Group's largest customer	59%
Percentage of turnover attributable to the Group's five largest customers	81%

As at 30 June 2004, VF Intimates, a shareholder owning more than 5% of the Company's share capital, is the Group's largest customer. Apart from this, none of the Directors, their associates or other shareholders (which to the knowledge of the Directors own more than 5% of the Company's issued share capital) were interested at any time in the year in the above major suppliers or customers.

The aggregate purchases of the Group for the year ended 30 June 2004 amounted to HK\$597,674,000.

# **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

During the year, the Group made charitable donations amounting to HK\$262,000.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee has reviewed with management and the external auditors the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed auditing and financial reporting matters including the review of the audited financial statements.

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# **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE**

The compensation committee has reviewed with management the policies and procedures of compensation to the Directors and employees of the Group.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Company has complied throughout the year with the Code of Best Practice as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules.

# **AUDITORS**

A resolution will be proposed to the annual general meeting to re-appoint Messrs. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu as auditors of the Company.

On behalf of the Board

# **FUNG WAI YIU**

Chairman

8 September 2004, Hong Kong

