

Financial Highlights

Note	2000 HK\$M	1999 HK\$M	Change %
	15,050	16,862	-10.7
	3,845	3,884	-1.0
	3,889	4,435	-12.3
	4,684	5,635	-16.9
	81,267	72,789	+11.6
	16,815	16,882	-0.4
	HK¢	HK¢	
1	Earnings per share		
	'A' shares	285.8) -12.3
	'B' shares	57.2)
	250.6		
	50.1		
	HK¢	HK¢	
	Dividends per share		
	'A' shares	110.0) +1.8
	'B' shares	22.0)
	112.0		
	22.4		
	HK\$	HK\$	
	Shareholders' funds per share		
	'A' shares	44.14) +11.0
	'B' shares	8.83)
	49.01		
	9.80		
2	Gearing ratio	0.23/1	
	0.21/1		
3	Interest cover – times	8.01	
	8.90		
4	Cash interest cover – times	2.93	
	2.87		
5	Dividend cover – times	2.60	
	2.24		

Notes

- Earnings per share have been calculated by dividing the profit attributable to shareholders by the weighted average number of shares in issue during each year.
- Gearing represents the ratio of net borrowings to shareholders' funds and minority interests.
- Interest cover is calculated by dividing operating profit by net finance charges.
- Cash interest cover is calculated by dividing operating profit by net finance charges and capitalised interest.
- Dividend cover is calculated by dividing profit attributable to shareholders by total dividends paid and proposed for the year.