For the year ended 31st December 2000

1. **GENERAL**

The Company is a public limited company incorporated in Hong Kong and its shares are listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

The principal activities of the Group are the manufacture and trading of electrical and electronic products.

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong. The principal accounting policies adopted are as follows:

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries made up to 31st December each year. All significant intercompany transactions and balances within the Group are eliminated on consolidation.

The results of subsidiaries and associates acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated income statement from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate.

Goodwill arising on consolidation

Goodwill arising on consolidation, which represents the excess of the purchase consideration over the fair value ascribed to the Group's share of the separable net assets at the date of acquisition of a subsidiary or an associate, is written off to reserves immediately on acquisition.

On disposal of a subsidiary or an associate, the attributable amount of goodwill previously eliminated against reserves is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal of the subsidiary or associate.



For the year ended 31st December 2000

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

Investments in subsidiaries

A subsidiary is an enterprise in which the Company holds, directly or indirectly, more than half of the issued share capital, or controls more than half of the voting power, or where the Company controls the composition of its board of directors or equivalent governing body.

Investments in subsidiaries are included in the Company's balance sheet at cost, as reduced by any decline in the value of the subsidiary that is other than temporary. The results of subsidiaries are accounted for by the Company on the basis of dividends received and receivable.

Interests in associates

An associate is an enterprise over which the Group is in a position to exercise significant influence, including participation in financial and operating policy decisions.

The consolidated income statement includes the Group's share of the post-acquisition results of its associates for the year. In the consolidated balance sheet, interests in associates are stated at the Group's share of the net assets of the associates.

When the Group transacts with its associates, unrealised profits and losses are eliminated to the extent of the Group's interest in the relevant associates, except where unrealised losses provide evidence of an impairment of the asset transferred.

In the Company's balance sheet, investments in associates are stated at cost, as reduced by any decline in value of the associate that is other than temporary. The results of associates are accounted for by the Company on the basis of dividends received and receivable during the year.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

Revenue recognition

Sales of goods are recognized when goods are delivered and title has passed.

Service income is recognized when services are provided.

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the interest rates applicable.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment, other than construction in progress, are stated at cost less depreciation or amortization. The cost of an asset comprises its purchase price and any directly attributable costs of bringing the asset to working condition for its intended use. Any subsequent expenditure on improvements which result in an increase in future economic benefits derived from the asset is capitalized and added to the carrying amount of the asset. All other subsequent expenditure, such as repairs and maintenance, is recognized as an expense in the year in which it is incurred.

The gain or loss arising from disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds, if any, and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognized in the income statement.

Where the recoverable amount of an asset has declined below its carrying amount, the carrying amount is reduced to reflect the decline in value. In determining the recoverable amount of assets, expected future cash flows are not discounted to their present values.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

Property, plant and equipment (Cont'd)

Depreciation and amortisation is provided to write off the cost of property, plant and equipment other than contribution in progress over their estimated useful lives, using the straight line method, at the following rates per annum:

| Freehold land | Nil |
|--|---|
| Leasehold land and land use rights | 2% or over the term of the relevant lease, if shorter |
| Buildings | 4% |
| Leasehold improvements | 25% |
| Office equipment, furniture and fixtures | 16 ² / ₃ % – 25% |
| Plant and machinery | 25% |
| Motor vehicles | 16 ² / ₃ % – 25% |
| Moulds and tooling | 20% – 33 ¹ / ₃ % |
| Vessel | 20% |

Depreciation is not provided on construction in progress. When construction in progress is ready for their intended use, they will be reclassified into the appropriate classes of property, plant and equipment and depreciation will be provided accordingly.

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated over their expected useful lives on the same basis as owned assets or, where shorter, the term of the relevant lease.

Assets held under hire purchase contracts are depreciated over their expected useful lives on the same basis as owned assets.



For the year ended 31st December 2000

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

Investments in securities

Investments other than held-to-maturity debt securities are classified as investment securities and other investments.

Investment securities, which are securities held for an identified long-term strategic purpose, are measured at subsequent reporting dates at cost, as reduced by any impairment loss that is other than temporary.

Other investments are measured at fair value, with unrealized gains and losses included in the income statement for the period.

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts

Leases are classified as finance leases when the terms of the lease transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the assets concerned to the Group. Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts are capitalized at their fair values at the date of acquisition. The corresponding liability to the lessor or hirer, net of interest charges, is included in the balance sheet as an obligation under finance leases or hire purchase contracts. Finance costs, which represent the difference between the total leasing commitments and the fair value of the assets acquired, are charged to the income statement over the period of the relevant lease and hire purchase contract so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the remaining balance of the obligations for each accounting period.

All other leases are classified as operating leases and the rentals are charged to the income statement on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

Foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies are translated at the rates ruling on the dates of the transactions or at the contracted settlement rate. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are re-translated at the rates ruling on the balance sheet date. Profits and losses arising on exchange are dealt with in the income statement.

On consolidation, the financial statements of overseas operations which are denominated in currencies other than Hong Kong dollars are translated at the rates ruling on the balance sheet date. All exchange differences arising on consolidation are dealt with in reserves.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value. Cost, which comprises all costs of purchase and, where applicable, costs of conversion and other costs that have been incurred in bringing the inventories to their present location and condition, is calculated using the first-in, first-out cost method. Net realizable value represents the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less the estimated costs of completion and the estimated cost necessary to make the sale.

Research and development costs

Expenditure on research and development is charged to the income statement in the year in which it is incurred except where a major project is undertaken and it is reasonably anticipated that development costs will be recovered through future commercial activity. Such development costs are deferred and written off over the life of the project from the date of commencement of commercial operation.

Patents and trademarks

Costs incurred in the acquisition of patents and trademarks are capitalized and amortized on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

2. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Cont'd)

Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the results for the year as adjusted for items which are non-assessable or disallowed. Timing differences arise from the recognition for tax purposes of certain items of income and expense in a different accounting period from that in which they are recognized in the financial statements. The tax effect of timing differences, computed under the liability method, is recognized as deferred taxation in the financial statements to the extent that it is probable that a liability or asset will crystallize in the foreseeable future.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, which are assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use or sale, are capitalized as part of the cost of those assets. Capitalization of such borrowing costs ceases when the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale. Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs capitalized.

All other borrowing costs are recognized as an expense in the period in which they are incurred.

Cash equivalents

Cash equivalents represent short-term, highly liquid investments which are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which were within three months of maturity when acquired; less advances from banks repayable within three months from the date of the advances.

Retirement benefits schemes

Retirement benefit arrangements are made in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations. Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit schemes are charged as expenses as they fall due. For defined benefit schemes, the projected future cost of providing retirement benefits is recognized as employees render services instead of when claims are incurred.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

3. TURNOVER

Turnover represents the net amounts received and receivable for goods sold, less returns and allowances, to outside customers during the year.

4. SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

| | | Turnover | to re ordina | tribution sults from try activities re taxation |
|---------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | НК\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| By principal activity: | | | | |
| Manufacture and trading of: | | | | |
| Power tools products | 3,076,822,291 | 1,576,912,884 | 244,324,837 | 123,313,937 |
| Floor care appliance products | 1,083,796,753 | 861,643,540 | 43,885,489 | 47,776,342 |
| Solar powered and electronic products | 173,495,306 | 140,974,860 | 11,302,626 | 3,292,443 |
| Other products | 217,368,005 | 119,806,226 | (1,411,616) | 18,583,913 |
| | 4,551,482,355 | 2,699,337,510 | 298,101,336 | 192,966,635 |
| Finance costs | | | (75,631,701) | (26,001,649) |
| Contribution from associates | | | (1,221,250) | 227,612 |
| Profit before taxation | | | 221,248,385 | 167,192,598 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

4. SEGMENTAL INFORMATION (Cont'd)

| | | Turnover | to re ordina | ntribution sults from ary activities re taxation |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| By geographical market location: | | | | |
| North America | 3,838,282,830 | 2,135,405,123 | 252,696,930 | 169,088,455 |
| Europe | 410,363,362 | 459,407,862 | 18,417,773 | 16,524,431 |
| Other countries | 302,836,163 | 104,524,525 | 26,986,633 | 7,353,749 |
| | 4,551,482,355 | 2,699,337,510 | 298,101,336 | 192,966,635 |
| Finance costs | | | (75,631,701) | (26,001,649) |
| Contribution from associates | | | (1,221,250) | 227,612 |
| Profit before taxation | | | 221,248,385 | 167,192,598 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

5. OTHER REVENUE

| | 2000 НК\$ | 1999 <i>НК\$</i> |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Included in other revenue is interest income analysed as follows: | | |
| Interest earned on bank deposits Interest earned on amounts due from associates | 8,505,136 442,017 | 5,288,124 1,016,314 |
| Interest income for the year | 8,947,153 | 6,304,438 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

6. PROFIT FROM OPERATIONS

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| | | |
| Profit from operations has been arrived | | |
| at after charging (crediting): | | |
| Amortization and write-off on intangible assets | 865,779 | 4,511,826 |
| Auditors' remuneration | 4,807,485 | 1,467,276 |
| Depreciation and amortisation on property, plant and | | |
| equipment | | |
| Owned assets | 174,816,371 | 122,869,297 |
| Assets held under finance leases and hire | | |
| purchase contracts | 7,670,799 | 6,978,818 |
| Operating lease charges: | | |
| Premises | 25,038,689 | 15,402,327 |
| Motor vehicles | 3,077,434 | 342,090 |
| Retirement benefits scheme contributions | 1,765,012 | 404,207 |
| Research and development costs | 21,723,164 | 7,695,780 |
| Less: amounts capitalized | (1,199,533) | (2,163,124) |
| | 20,523,631 | 5,532,656 |
| | | |
| Staff costs: | | |
| Directors' remuneration: | | |
| Fees | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| Other emoluments | 19,958,542 | 14,353,976 |
| Others | 168,400,399 | 118,160,383 |
| | | - <u></u> |

Staff costs disclosed above do not include an amount of HK\$13,534,020 *(1999: Nil)* relating to research and development activities, which is included under research and development costs.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

7. FINANCE COSTS

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|--|------------|------------|
| | HK\$ | НК\$ |
| Interest on: | | |
| Bank loans and overdrafts wholly repayable | | |
| within five years | 74,246,694 | 23,142,242 |
| Obligations under finance leases and hire | | |
| purchase contracts | 1,385,007 | 2,859,407 |
| | | |
| | 75,631,701 | 26,001,649 |

8. DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|--|------------|------------|
| | НК\$ | HK\$ |
| | | |
| Directors' fees: | | |
| Executive | 40,000 | 40,000 |
| Non-executive | 10,000 | 10,000 |
| Independent non-executive | | |
| | | |
| Other emoluments: | | |
| Directors' salaries and other benefits | | |
| Executive | 18,727,456 | 14,353,976 |
| Non-executive | 1,231,086 | _ |
| | | |
| Total emoluments | 20,008,542 | 14,403,976 |
| | | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

8. DIRECTORS' EMOLUMENTS (Cont'd)

The emoluments of the directors were within the following bands:

| | 2000 No. of | 1999 No. of |
|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | Directors | Directors |
| Nil to HK\$1,000,000 | 6 | 6 |
| HK\$1,000,001 to HK\$1,500,000 | 1 | _ |
| HK\$2,000,001 to HK\$2,500,000 | _ | 2 |
| HK\$4,000,001 to HK\$4,500,000 | 3 | 1 |
| HK\$5,000,001 to HK\$5,500,000 | _ | 1 |
| HK\$5,500,001 to HK\$6,000,000 | 1 | |

9. EMPLOYEES' EMOLUMENTS

Of the five individuals with the highest emoluments in the Group, four (1999: four) were directors of the Company whose emoluments are included in the disclosures in note 8 above. The emoluments of the remaining one (1999: one) individual are as follows:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| | НК\$ | НК\$ |
| Salaries and other benefits | 1,860,504 | 1,838,976 |

During each of the two years ended 31st December 2000 and 1999, no emoluments had been paid by the Group to the five highest paid individuals, including directors, as an inducement to join or upon joining the Group or as compensation for loss of office. No director had waived any emoluments during those years.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

10. TAXATION

| | 2000 HK\$ | 1999 НК\$ |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| The total taxation charge comprises: | | |
| Hong Kong Profits Tax calculated at 16% | | |
| of the estimated assessable profit for the year | 15,000,000 | 9,329,045 |
| Under(over) provision in prior years | 2,025,297 | (972,067) |
| Tax refund | — | (682,169) |
| Deferred taxation charge | 1,394,545 | |
| | | |
| | 18,419,842 | 7,674,809 |
| | | |
| Overseas taxation on profit for the year | 28,833,237 | 914,995 |
| Under(over) provision in prior years | 35,047 | (51,846) |
| Deferred taxation credit | (16,066,913) | |
| | | |
| | 12,801,371 | 863,149 |
| | | |
| | 31,221,213 | 8,537,958 |

In accordance with the Hong Kong Inland Revenue Departmental Interpretation and Practice Note No. 21, certain Group companies with manufacturing operations carried out in the PRC are subject to apportionment of chargeable profits. Accordingly, in providing Hong Kong Profits Tax for the year, 50% of the profits for the year in respect of those companies have been apportioned as not subject to Hong Kong Profits Tax.

Overseas taxation is calculated at the rates prevailing in the relevant jurisdictions.



For the year ended 31st December 2000

10. TAXATION (Cont'd)

The deferred taxation credit represents the amount of deferred tax asset on timing differences arising overseas from the use of the receipts and payments basis for tax purposes and the accruals basis for the financial statements. The deferred tax asset has been recognized to the extent that the timing differences will be realized in the near future.

Details of the potential deferred tax credit provided for the year are set out in note 26.

11. PROFIT FOR THE YEAR

Of the Group's profit for the year, a profit of HK\$187,059,461 (1999: HK\$145,091,522) has been dealt with in the financial statements of the Company.

12. DIVIDENDS

| | 2000 НК\$ | 1999 HK\$ |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Interim paid: | | |
| 4.0 cents (1999: 3.8 cents) per share | 22,547,923 | 21,396,939 |
| Final proposed: | | |
| 6.0 cents (1999: 5.5 cents) per share | 33,679,010 | 30,743,175 |
| | | |
| | 56,226,933 | 52,140,114 |
| | | |

The final dividend of 6.0 cents (1999: 5.5 cents) per share has been proposed by the directors and is subject to approval by the shareholders in the annual general meeting. This has been calculated by reference to 561,316,826 shares in issue at the date of these financial statements.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

13. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share is based on the following data:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Earnings for the purposes of basic and diluted earnings per share: | | |
| Profit for the year | HK\$190,530,708 | HK\$156,880,827 |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of basic earnings per share | 560,015,593 | 557,376,167 |
| Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares: Options | 3,652,395 | 1,753,961 |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of diluted earnings per share | 563,667,988 | 559,130,128 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

14. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

| | Land and land use | | Office equipment, | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|-------------|------------|---------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|
| | rights and | | furniture | | | Moulds | | | |
| | buildings outside | Leasehold | and | Plant and | Motor | and | | Construction | |
| | Hong Kong in | nprovements | fixtures | machinery | vehicles | tooling | Vessel | in progress | Total |
| | HK\$ | НК\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| THE GROUP | | | | | | | | | |
| COST | | | | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 72,393,500 | 55,970,422 | 91,748,529 | 190,141,085 | 10,332,369 | 523,526,368 | 3,278,797 | _ | 947,391,070 |
| Currency realignment | 24,720 | (1,023,609) | (2,182,336) | (2,196,277) | (317,745) | (4,856,774) | — | 582 | (10,551,439) |
| Additions Acquisition of business | _ | 8,988,362 | 20,278,579 | 36,008,340 | _ | 73,122,645 | 43,000 | 152,439 | 138,593,365 |
| and subsidiaries | 192,786,998 | _ | 44,604,287 | 67,915,923 | 1,145,200 | 95,579,549 | _ | 4,484,430 | 406,516,387 |
| Disposals | | (153,320) | (10,195,996) | (1,874,273) | | (117,821,359) | | | (130,044,948) |
| At 31st December 2000 | 265,205,218 | 63,781,855 | 144,253,063 | 289,994,798 | 11,159,824 | 569,550,429 | 3,321,797 | 4,637,451 | 1,351,904,435 |
| DEPRECIATION AND | | | | | | | | | |
| AMORTIZATION | | | | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 8,601,691 | 40,933,266 | 64,405,946 | 122,826,733 | 7,846,850 | 390,451,994 | 2,903,782 | _ | 637,970,262 |
| Currency realignment | 405 | (766,946) | (1,881,186) | (2,173,054) | (203,475) | (4,378,711) | _ | _ | (9,402,967) |
| Provided for the year | 9,093,517 | 7,873,749 | 19,154,152 | 43,918,346 | 1,115,313 | 101,124,356 | 207,737 | _ | 182,487,170 |
| Acquisition of subsidiaries | _ | _ | 163,313 | 10,272 | 369,682 | _ | _ | _ | 543,267 |
| Eliminated on disposals | | (46,164) | (10,100,679) | (1,491,147) | | (113,375,421) | | | (125,013,411) |
| At 31st December 2000 | 17,695,613 | 47,993,905 | 71,741,546 | 163,091,150 | 9,128,370 | 373,822,218 | 3,111,519 | | 686,584,321 |
| NET BOOK VALUES | | | | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 247,509,605 | 15,787,950 | 72,511,517 | 126,903,648 | 2,031,454 | 195,728,211 | 210,278 | 4,637,451 | 665,320,114 |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 1999 | 63,791,809 | 15,037,156 | 27,342,583 | 67,314,352 | 2,485,519 | 133,074,374 | 375,015 | | 309,420,808 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

14. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Cont'd)

| | Leasehold | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------------|------------|-------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| | land and | | Office | | | | |
| | land use | | equipment, | | | | |
| | rights and | | furniture | | | Moulds | |
| | buildings outside | Leasehold | and | Plant and | Motor | and | |
| | Hong Kong | improvements | fixtures | machinery | vehicles | tooling | Total |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| THE COMPANY | | | | | | | |
| COST | | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 72,393,500 | 52,594,207 | 45,832,833 | 117,268,697 | 7,674,665 | 381,297,095 | 677,060,997 |
| Additions | _ | 8,892,241 | 12,551,287 | 16,138,295 | _ | 68,499,132 | 106,080,955 |
| Disposals | _ | (73,201) | (121,403) | _ | _ | _ | (194,604) |
| | | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 72,393,500 | 61,413,247 | 58,262,717 | 133,406,992 | 7,674,665 | 449,796,227 | 782,947,348 |
| DEPRECIATION AND | | | | | | | |
| AMORTIZATION | | | | | | | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 8,601,691 | 38,918,315 | 29,201,557 | 76,817,401 | 6,576,412 | 255,293,672 | 415,409,048 |
| Provided for the year | 2,766,773 | 7,137,890 | 8,642,210 | 20,564,563 | 621,412 | 79,096,958 | 118,829,806 |
| Eliminated on disposals | | (6,100) | (45,566) | | | | (51,666) |
| At 31st December 2000 | 11,368,464 | 46,050,105 | 37,798,201 | 97,381,964 | 7,197,824 | 334,390,630 | 534,187,188 |
| NET BOOK VALUES | | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 61,025,036 | 15,363,142 | 20,464,516 | 36,025,028 | 476,841 | 115,405,597 | 248,760,160 |
| | | | | | | | |
| At 31st December 1999 | 63,791,809 | 13,675,892 | 16,631,276 | 40,451,296 | 1,098,253 | 126,003,423 | 261,651,949 |
| | | | | | | | |

The net book values of the Group's and the Company's property, plant and equipment include amounts of HK\$19,534,428 (1999: HK\$20,332,037) and HK\$7,935,849 (1999: HK\$10,443,030), respectively, in respect of assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

14. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Cont'd)

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|--|-------------|------------|
| | НК\$ | HK\$ |
| The net book value of land and land use rights and buildings are situated outside Hong Kong and are analyzed as follows: | | |
| Freehold | 186,484,569 | _ |
| Long lease | 28,379,160 | 29,626,596 |
| Medium-term lease | 32,645,876 | 34,165,213 |
| | 247,509,605 | 63,791,809 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

15. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

| | Deferred | Patents | |
|-------------------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| | development | and | |
| | cost | trademarks | Total |
| | HK\$ | НК\$ | HK\$ |
| THE GROUP | | | |
| COST | | | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 23,481,019 | 10,647,282 | 34,128,301 |
| Currency realignment | (1,048,353) | | (1,048,353) |
| Additions | 1,199,533 | 449,764 | 1,649,297 |
| Write-off | (18,078,375) | (620,940) | (18,699,315) |
| At 31st December 2000 | 5,553,824 | 10,476,106 | 16,029,930 |
| AMORTIZATION | | | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 21,124,948 | 6,727,284 | 27,852,232 |
| Currency realignment | (836,078) | | (836,078) |
| Provided for the year | _ | 865,779 | 865,779 |
| Eliminated on write-off | (18,078,375) | (620,940) | (18,699,315) |
| At 31st December 2000 | 2,210,495 | 6,972,123 | 9,182,618 |
| NET BOOK VALUES | | | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 3,343,329 | 3,503,983 | 6,847,312 |
| At 31st December 1999 | 2,356,071 | 3,919,998 | 6,276,069 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

15. INTANGIBLE ASSETS (Cont'd)

| | Patents |
|--|-----------|
| | HK\$ |
| | |
| THE COMPANY | |
| COST | |
| At 1st January 2000 and 31st December 2000 | 1,037,010 |
| | |
| AMORTIZATION | |
| At 1st January 2000 | 697,957 |
| Provided for the year | 103,701 |
| | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 801,658 |
| | |
| NET BOOK VALUES | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 235,352 |
| | |
| At 31st December 1999 | 339,053 |
| | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

16. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| | НК\$ | HK\$ |
| | | |
| Investment in unlisted shares, at cost | 343,502,057 | 109,441,150 |

Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company at 31st December 2000 are set out in note 36.

17. INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES

| | THE | GROUP | THE COMPANY | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | НК\$ | НК\$ | HK\$ | НК\$ | |
| Unlisted shares, at cost | _ | _ | 46,268,248 | 46,268,248 | |
| Share of net assets | 2,267,061 | 3,488,311 | _ | — | |
| Amounts due from associates | 77,565,993 | 46,312,813 | 38,430,034 | 30,037,585 | |
| | 79,833,054 | 49,801,124 | 84,698,282 | 76,305,833 | |

Particulars of the associates at 31st December 2000 are set out in note 37.

The amounts due from associates are unsecured, non-interest bearing and have no fixed repayment terms. In the opinion of directors, no part of the amounts will be repaid within the next twelve months and the amounts are therefore presented as non-current.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

18. INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES

| | THE | GROUP | THE COMPANY | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | |
| Non-current assets | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| Unlisted investment securities | | | | | |
| (equity), at cost less provision | 54,520,278 | 6,306,053 | 21,707,720 | 800,000 | |
| | | | | | |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Unlisted other investments | | | | | |
| (equity securities) | 7,891,827 | 44,480,060 | | 36,588,233 | |

The Group's investments above included investments in Nack Products USA Limited ("Nack") and in America Direct, Inc. ("ADI"), with the carrying values of HK\$20,907,720 and HK\$11,006,839, respectively. The Company's investments included its investment in Nack of the same amount. Both companies are incorporated in the United States of America ("U.S.A."). Nack has the exclusive rights to market and distribute a registered product in the U.S.A. Its principal activity is the marketing and distribution of the registered product and other related products in the U.S.A. ADI is engaged in the development of innovative houseware and personal care products, which it markets through a combination of direct response television and retail distribution in the U.S.A. and selected international markets.

The shares in ADI are restricted in terms of transferability. In addition, certain of such shares held are subject to a right granted to ADI or its assignee to enable ADI or its assignee to repurchase such shares from the Group at the original subscription price.

The Group's investment represents approximately 25% of Nack's issued shares held directly by the Company and 26% of ADI's common stocks in issue held by a 51% subsidiary of the Company. Both Nack and ADI are not regarded as associates of the Group because the Group has no significant influence over their affairs.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

19. INVENTORIES

| | тні | E GROUP | THE COMPANY | | |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$ | НК\$ | HK\$ | НК\$ | |
| Raw materials | 244,177,366 | 211,102,758 | 155,141,333 | 140,466,472 | |
| Work in progress | 47,238,102 | 24,095,242 | 36,636,245 | 18,897,635 | |
| Finished goods | 565,534,984 | 88,998,626 | 25,701,231 | 53,926,705 | |
| | 856,950,452 | 324,196,626 | 217,478,809 | 213,290,812 | |

The value of inventories carried at net realisable value at the balance sheet date was insignificant.

20. TRADE RECEIVABLES

The Group has a policy of allowing credit periods ranging from 60 days to 120 days. The aging analysis of trade receivables is as follows:

| | THE | GROUP | THE COMPANY | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | НК\$ | |
| 0 to 60 days | 372,952,987 | 47,440,740 | 48,778,768 | 30,071,697 | |
| 61 to 120 days | 79,400,633 | 71,960,879 | 2,241,851 | 10,245,203 | |
| 121 days or above | 35,503,588 | 23,052,585 | 35,642,205 | 20,383,193 | |
| Total trade receivables | 487,857,208 | 142,454,204 | 86,662,824 | 60,700,093 | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

21. TRADE PAYABLES

The aging analysis of trade payables is as follows:

| | THE | GROUP | THE COMPANY | | |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | |
| | | | | | |
| 0 to 30 days | 192,091,697 | 94,570,657 | 110,295,940 | 78,084,202 | |
| 31 to 60 days | 136,246,220 | 88,574,504 | 84,251,500 | 80,033,235 | |
| 61 to 90 days | 81,057,198 | 23,101,116 | 60,000,151 | 18,501,668 | |
| 91 days or above | 102,497,867 | 52,161,897 | 16,249,890 | 15,531,286 | |
| | | | | | |
| Total trade payables | 511,892,982 | 258,408,174 | 270,797,481 | 192,150,391 | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

22. OBLIGATIONS UNDER FINANCE LEASES AND HIRE PURCHASE CONTRACTS

The maturity of obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts is as follows:

| | THE GROUP | | THE COMPANY | |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| | | | | |
| Within one year | 7,887,525 | 7,677,877 | 3,829,828 | 3,147,220 |
| More than one year but not | | | | |
| exceeding two years | 7,050,298 | 5,970,707 | 2,698,625 | 3,186,989 |
| More than two years but not | | | | |
| exceeding five years | 262,130 | 2,189,751 | 262,130 | 2,060,765 |
| | | | | |
| | 15,199,953 | 15,838,335 | 6,790,583 | 8,394,974 |
| Less: Amount due within one year | | | | |
| shown under current liabilities | 7,887,525 | 7,677,877 | 3,829,828 | 3,147,220 |
| | | | | |
| Amount due after one year | 7,312,428 | 8,160,458 | 2,960,755 | 5,247,754 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

23. BANK BORROWINGS

| | тн | THE GROUP | | THE COMPANY | | |
|---------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|--|
| | 2000 | 2000 1999 | | 1999 | | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | НК\$ | НК\$ | | |
| Trust receipt loans | 88,971,487 | 54,054,209 | 69,575,274 | 21,636,551 | | |
| Bank loans | 864,689,000 | 106,901,384 | 274,859,000 | 94,449,040 | | |
| Bank overdrafts | 54,333,043 | 57,807,385 | | 277,166 | | |
| | 1,007,993,530 | 218,762,978 | 344,434,274 | 116,362,757 | | |

All bank borrowings of the Group and the Company are unsecured and are repayable as follows:

| | THE GROUP | | THE | THE COMPANY | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|--|
| | 2000 1999 | | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | |
| | | | | | |
| On demand or within one year | 155,154,530 | 155,912,978 | 69,575,274 | 53,512,757 | |
| More than one year but not | | | | | |
| exceeding two years | 40,859,000 | — | 40,859,000 | — | |
| Two to five years | 811,980,000 | 62,850,000 | 234,000,000 | 62,850,000 | |
| | | | | | |
| | 1,007,993,530 | 218,762,978 | 344,434,274 | 116,362,757 | |
| Less: Amount due within one year | | | | | |
| shown under current liabilities | 155,154,530 | 155,912,978 | 69,575,274 | 53,512,757 | |
| | | | | | |
| Amount due after one year | 852,839,000 | 62,850,000 | 274,859,000 | 62,850,000 | |
| | | | | | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

24. SHARE CAPITAL

| | Number of shares | | Sha | are capital |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | | | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| Ordinary shares of HK\$0.20 each | | | | |
| Authorized | 800,000,000 | 800,000,000 | 160,000,000 | 160,000,000 |
| Issued and fully paid: | | | | |
| At 1st January | 558,866,826 | 555,666,826 | 111,773,365 | 111,133,365 |
| Issue of shares during the year | 2,350,000 | 3,200,000 | 470,000 | 640,000 |
| | | | | |
| At 31st December | 561,216,826 | 558,866,826 | 112,243,365 | 111,773,365 |

The shares issued during the year rank pari passu in all respects with the existing shares.

Share options

In accordance with the Company's Share Option Scheme for employees, adopted pursuant to a resolution passed on 28th November 1990, the Board of Directors of the Company may grant options to eligible employees, including fulltime executive directors or consultants of the Company and its subsidiaries, at nil consideration, to subscribe for shares in the Company. Any options granted can be exercised within the period commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant of such option and expiring at the close of business on the tenth anniversary thereof. The subscription price is set at not less than the higher of the nominal value of the shares and 80% of the average of the last dealt prices on the five trading days immediately preceding the date of offer of the option. The maximum number of shares in respect of which options may be granted shall not exceed 10% of the issued share capital of the Company from time to time but excluding shares issued pursuant to the share option scheme, and shall not exceed 1% of the issued share capital in any one financial year.

The scheme has expired on 27th November 2000.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

24. SHARE CAPITAL (Cont'd)

Share options (Cont'd)

At 31st December 2000, the Company had 16,800,000 outstanding share options granted to certain directors of the Company and employees of the Group, details of which are as follows:

| Date share | Number of share | |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|
| options granted | options outstanding | Exercise price |
| | | НК\$ |
| | | |
| 4.2.1994 | 500,000 | 1.2800 |
| 24.6.1994 | 3,000,000 | 1.2140 |
| 24.1.1997 | 1,000,000 | 0.9136 |
| 27.10.1997 | 100,000 | 1.1504 |
| 1.4.1998 | 900,000 | 1.7440 |
| 7.4.1998 | 3,800,000 | 1.7360 |
| 7.9.1998 | 100,000 | 1.1664 |
| 28.1.1999 | 1,000,000 | 1.0864 |
| 3.2.1999 | 1,000,000 | 1.0896 |
| 30.3.1999 | 500,000 | 1.0640 |
| 20.9.1999 | 100,000 | 1.1584 |
| 27.11.1999 | 1,100,000 | 1.0800 |
| 30.12.1999 | 100,000 | 0.9776 |
| 4.1.2000 | 1,900,000 | 1.0000 |
| 5.6.2000 | 1,500,000 | 1.0144 |
| 26.6.2000 | 100,000 | 1.4768 |
| 25.9.2000 | 100,000 | 1.4976 |
| | | |

16,800,000

For the year ended 31st December 2000

25. RESERVES

| | | (Goodwill) | | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | reserve | | | |
| | Share | arising on | Translation | Retained | |
| | premium | consolidation | reserve | profits | Total |
| | НК\$ | НК\$ | НК\$ | НК\$ | НК\$ |
| THE GROUP | | | | | |
| At 1st January 1999 | 223,039,630 | (96,482,330) | (1,591,727) | 402,682,618 | 527,648,191 |
| Exchange differences on | | | | | |
| translation of overseas | | | | | |
| operations | _ | | 3,687,041 | _ | 3,687,041 |
| Premium on shares issued | 2,316,000 | | _ | _ | 2,316,000 |
| Goodwill arising on | | | | | |
| acquisition of subsidiaries | _ | (82,641,369) | _ | _ | (82,641,369) |
| Profit for the year | _ | | _ | 156,880,827 | 156,880,827 |
| Dividends | | | | (52,140,114) | (52,140,114) |
| At 31st December 1999 | 225,355,630 | (179,123,699) | 2,095,314 | 507,423,331 | 555,750,576 |
| Exchange differences on | 225,555,050 | (179,125,099) | 2,095,514 | 507,425,551 | 555,750,570 |
| translation of overseas | | | | | |
| operations | _ | _ | (5,772,006) | _ | (5,772,006) |
| Premium on shares issued | 2,247,599 | | (3,772,000) | | 2,247,599 |
| Reserve arising on | 2,247,333 | | | | 2,247,355 |
| acquisition of subsidiaries | _ | 18,519,651 | _ | _ | 18,519,651 |
| Profit for the year | _ | | _ | 190,530,708 | 190,530,708 |
| Dividends | _ | _ | _ | (56,226,933) | (56,226,933) |
| | | | | | |
| At 31st December 2000 | 227,603,229 | (160,604,048) | (3,676,692) | 641,727,106 | 705,049,595 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

25. RESERVES (Cont'd)

| | | (Goodwill) | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| | | reserve | | | |
| | Share | arising on | Translation | Retained | |
| | premium | consolidation | reserve | profits | Total |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | НК\$ |
| THE COMPANY | | | | | |
| At 1st January 1999 | 223,039,630 | | _ | 388,975,326 | 612,014,956 |
| Premium on shares issued | 2,316,000 | | _ | _ | 2,316,000 |
| Profit for the year (note 11) | _ | | _ | 145,091,522 | 145,091,522 |
| Dividends (note 12) | | | | (52,140,114) | (52,140,114) |
| At 31st December 1999 | 225,355,630 | | _ | 481,926,734 | 707,282,364 |
| Premium on shares issued | 2,247,599 | _ | _ | _ | 2,247,599 |
| Profit for the year (note 11) | _ | _ | _ | 187,059,461 | 187,059,461 |
| Dividends (note 12) | | | | (56,226,933) | (56,226,933) |
| At 31st December 2000 | 227,603,229 | | | 612,759,262 | 840,362,491 |

The Group's retained profits include the Group's share of the post acquisition losses of associates of HK\$12,704,589 (1999: HK\$11,483,339), and the Group's goodwill/reserve arising on consolidation and translation reserve include a debit balance of HK\$26,095,022 (1999: HK\$26,095,022) and a credit balance of HK\$459,857 (1999: HK\$352,170), respectively, in respect of associates.

At 31st December 2000, the Company's reserves available for distribution to shareholders comprised the retained profits of HK\$612,759,262 (1999: HK\$481,926,734).

For the year ended 31st December 2000

26. DEFERRED TAXATION

| | THE GROUP | | THE COMPANY | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|------|
| | 2000 | 2000 1999 | | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| Balance at 1st January | 208,013 | 208,075 | _ | _ |
| Currency realignment | (3,379) | (62) | _ | |
| Charge for the year (note 10) | 1,394,545 | _ | 1,394,545 | |
| Credit for the year (note 10) | (16,066,913) | | | |
| Balance at 31st December | (14,467,734) | 208,013 | 1,394,545 | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

26. DEFERRED TAXATION (Cont'd)

At the balance sheet date, the major components of the net deferred taxation (asset) liability provided were as follows:

| | THE G | ROUP | THE COMPANY | |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------|-------------|------|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| | | | | |
| Tax effect of timing differences | | | | |
| because of: | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Excess of tax allowances over | | | | |
| depreciation | 1,600,687 | 161,175 | 1,394,545 | _ |
| Accruals and provisions | (16,068,421) | 46,838 | — | — |
| | | | | |
| | (14,467,734) | 208,013 | 1,394,545 | _ |
| | | | | |
| Representing: | | | | |
| | | | | |
| Deferred tax liability | 1,600,687 | 208,013 | 1,394,545 | _ |
| Deferred tax asset | (16,068,421) | _ | _ | _ |
| | | | | |
| | (14,467,734) | 208,013 | 1,394,545 | _ |
| | | | | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

26. DEFERRED TAXATION (Cont'd)

At the balance sheet date, the major components of the potential deferred taxation (asset) liability unprovided were as follows:

| | THE GROUP | | THE | COMPANY |
|--|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| Tax effect of timing differences because of: | | | | |
| Excess of tax allowances over | | | | |
| depreciation | 4,911,329 | 8,928,819 | 13,130,073 | 11,093,375 |
| Taxation losses | (91,056,837) | (86,046,698) | — | — |
| Other timing differences | (3,601,437) | (5,973,782) | | |
| | (89,746,945) | (83,091,661) | 13,130,073 | 11,093,375 |

No provision for deferred taxation liability has been recognized in the financial statements in respect of timing differences on the excess of tax allowances over depreciation for certain group companies as it is not expected that the potential deferred taxation liability will crystallise in the foreseeable future, after taking into account the Group's medium-term financial plans and projections on these companies.

Deferred tax assets of certain group companies in respect of tax losses available to offset future profits and other timing differences have not been recognized in the financial statements as it is not certain that the tax losses will be utilized in the foreseeable future.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

26. DEFERRED TAXATION (Cont'd)

The major components of the unprovided deferred tax (credit) charge of the Group for the year were as follows:

| | THE | GROUP |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| Tax effect of timing differences because of: | | |
| Excess of tax allowances over depreciation | (4,017,490) | (1,979,426) |
| Taxation losses | (5,010,139) | (82,696,653) |
| Other timing differences | 2,372,345 | (6,586,035) |
| | (6,655,284) | (91,262,114) |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

27. RECONCILIATION OF PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| | | |
| Profit before taxation | 221,248,385 | 167,192,598 |
| Share of results of associates | 1,221,250 | (227,612) |
| Interest expense | 75,631,701 | 26,001,649 |
| Interest received | (8,947,153) | (6,304,438) |
| Amortization and write-off on intangible assets | 865,779 | 4,511,826 |
| Depreciation and amortisation on property, plant and | | |
| equipment | 182,487,170 | 129,848,115 |
| Provision for impairment loss of investment securities | 1,943,495 | 852,539 |
| (Gain) loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | (2,411,709) | 122,621 |
| Increase in inventories | (183,037,884) | (16,778,608) |
| Increase in trade and other receivables, deposits and prepayments | (483,531,397) | (7,484,347) |
| Increase in bills receivable | (21,871,956) | (67,056,561) |
| Decrease (increase) in trade receivable from an associate | 453,768 | (7,742,149) |
| Decrease in amount due from a related company | _ | 3,888,628 |
| Increase in trade and other payables | 464,564,481 | 29,561,080 |
| | | |
| Net cash inflow from operating activities | 248,615,930 | 256,385,341 |
| | | |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

28. PURCHASE OF BUSINESS AND SUBSIDIARIES

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| NET ASSETS ACQUIRED | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 405,973,120 | 14,133,693 |
| Intangible assets | _ | 2,629,289 |
| Investments in securities | _ | 3,243,580 |
| Inventories | 353,765,263 | 45,344,143 |
| Trade and other receivables, deposits and prepayments | 55,217,612 | 48,944,725 |
| Tax recoverable | 364,445 | _ |
| Bank balances and cash | 7,980,865 | 6,777,378 |
| Trade and other payables | (123,920,315) | (110,120,530) |
| Bank overdrafts | — | (8,028,320) |
| Minority interests | | (2,785,603) |
| | | |
| | 699,380,990 | 138,355 |
| (Reserve) goodwill arising on acquisition | (18,519,651) | 82,641,369 |
| Consideration | 680,861,339 | 82,779,724 |
| SATISFIED BY | | |
| Cash | 680,861,339 | 82,779,724 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

28. PURCHASE OF BUSINESS AND SUBSIDIARIES (Cont'd)

Net cash outflow arising on acquisition:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|---------------|--------------|
| | НК\$ | HK\$ |
| | | |
| Cash consideration | (680,861,339) | (82,779,724) |
| Bank balances and cash acquired | 7,980,865 | 6,777,378 |
| Bank overdrafts acquired | — | (8,028,320) |
| | | |
| Net outflow of cash and cash equivalents in respect | | |
| of the purchase of business and subsidiaries | (672,880,474) | (84,030,666) |
| | | |

The cash flows of the Group attributable to the business and subsidiaries acquired during the year are as follows:

| | НК\$ |
|---|--------------|
| Net cash outflow from operating activities | (9,694,205) |
| Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance | (20,818,230) |
| Tax paid | (14,456,752) |
| Net cash utilised in investing activities | (7,033,126) |
| Net cash inflow from financing | 143,621,109 |

The business and subsidiaries acquired during the year contributed HK\$1,403,869,000 to the Group's turnover, and HK\$32,326,000 to the Group's profit from operations.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

29. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN FINANCING DURING THE YEAR

| | | | Obligations |
|--|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| | | | under finance |
| | Share capital | | leases and |
| | and | Bank | hire purchase |
| | share premium | loans | contracts |
| | НК\$ | HK\$ | НК\$ |
| Balance at 1st January 1999 | 334,172,995 | 71,947,936 | 11,875,598 |
| Proceeds from issue of shares for cash | 2,956,000 | _ | _ |
| Inception of finance leases and hire | | | |
| purchase contracts | _ | — | 13,083,294 |
| New bank loans obtained | — | 62,850,000 | — |
| Repayment | | (27,896,552) | (9,120,557) |
| Balance at 31st December 1999 | 337,128,995 | 106,901,384 | 15,838,335 |
| Proceeds from issue of shares for cash | 2,717,599 | _ | _ |
| Inception of finance leases and hire | | | |
| purchase contracts | _ | _ | 9,405,998 |
| New bank loans obtained | _ | 823,830,000 | _ |
| Repayment | | (66,042,384) | (10,044,380) |
| Balance at 31st December 2000 | 339,846,594 | 864,689,000 | 15,199,953 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

30. MAJOR NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Group entered into finance lease and hire purchase arrangements in respect of assets with a total capital value at the inception of the leases and hire purchase contracts of HK\$9,405,998 (1999: HK\$13,083,294).

31. LEASE COMMITMENTS

At the balance sheet date, there were annual commitments payable under non-cancellable operating leases for rented premises as follows:

| | THE | GROUP | THE C | OMPANY |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|
| | 2000 1999 | | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| Operating leases which expire: | | | | |
| Within one year | 8,648,675 | 4,657,765 | 1,816,623 | 3,220,328 |
| In the second to fifth year inclusive | 20,457,013 | 6,303,507 | 11,616,374 | 3,516,624 |
| Over five years | 6,897,874 | 6,915,851 | 1,049,422 | 645,684 |
| | 36,003,562 | 17,877,123 | 14,482,419 | 7,382,636 |

For the year ended 31st December 2000

32. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

| | THE | GROUP | THE | COMPANY |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| | 2000 1999 | | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| | | | | |
| Guarantees given to banks and an | | | | |
| independent third party in respect | | | | |
| of credit facilities utilised by: | | | | |
| Associates | 10,082,386 | 8,436,127 | 10,082,386 | 8,436,127 |
| Subsidiaries | — | — | 34,075,904 | 14,311,386 |
| Bills discounted with recourse | 370,106,115 | 399,228,854 | 369,767,299 | 395,885,147 |
| | | | | |
| | 380,188,501 | 407,664,981 | 413,925,589 | 418,632,660 |

The extent of guarantees utilised as shown above relates to guarantees given by the Group and the Company to secure bank facilities granted to associates and subsidiaries amounting to HK\$163,500,000 (1999: HK\$156,000,000) and HK\$1,409,205,000 (1999: HK\$648,601,500), respectively, at the balance sheet date.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

33. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEMES

The Company and its subsidiaries operating in Hong Kong have participated in the monetary provident fund schemes ("MPF Schemes") registered under the Monetary Provident Fund Ordinance since December 2000. No contribution was paid or payable for the MPF Schemes for the year.

At 31st December 2000, the Group had a number of employees who have completed the required number of years of services under Hong Kong Employment Ordinance (the "Ordinance") to be eligible for long service payments on termination of their employment. The Group is only liable to make such payments if the termination meets the circumstances which are specified in the Ordinance.

Under the circumstances specified by the Ordinance, had the employment of all eligible employees been terminated on 31st December 2000 the maximum potential exposure would have been approximately HK\$14,741,000 *(1999: HK\$13,029,000)*. No provision has been made in the financial statements in respect of such long service payments.

The Group's overseas subsidiaries operate a number of defined contribution schemes and defined benefit schemes which cover substantially all of their employees. Contributions to the defined contribution schemes applicable to each year are made at a certain percentage of the employees' payroll. Contributions to defined benefit schemes are made in accordance with advice of qualified actuaries based on annual actuarial valuations.

34. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

| | THE | GROUP | THE COMPANY | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|------------|-------------|------------|--|
| | 2000 1999 | | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | HK\$ | |
| | | | | | |
| Capital expenditure contracted for | | | | | |
| but not provided in the financial | | | | | |
| statements in respect of the purchase | | | | | |
| of property, plant and equipment | 36,408,668 | 19,634,183 | 26,352,760 | 18,340,979 | |

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35. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Group entered into the following transactions with related parties:

| | Ass | sociates |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| | 2000 | |
| | HK\$ | HK\$ |
| | | |
| Purchases | 27,215,896 | 37,259,246 |
| Management fee income | 8,340,000 | 2,170,538 |
| Management fee expenses | 1,613,953 | 1,083,749 |
| Modification charges | — | 155,424 |
| Salary charges | _ | 602,000 |
| Interest income received | 442,017 | 1,106,314 |
| Sales income | 18,062,294 | 7,523,116 |
| Subcontracting expenses | 919,291 | |
| Rental income | 562,284 | |
| Equipment charge income | 47,846 | _ |
| Service expenses | 40,000 | _ |
| | | |

The above transactions were carried out based on market price/rate, or where no market price/rate was available, at cost plus a percentage profit markup.

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36. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

Particulars of the principal subsidiaries of the Company at 31st December 2000 are as follows:

| | Percentage | | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|---------------|----------|------------|---|
| | Place of | Issued and | of e | quity | |
| | incorporation | fully paid | intere | est held | |
| Name of subsidiary | and operation | share capital | by the (| Company | Principal activities |
| | | | Directly | Indirectly | |
| | | | % | % | |
| Digiwireless Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | 100 | _ | Investment holding |
| Full Team International Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | 100 | _ | Investment holding |
| Gimelli Industries Company Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$3,000,000 | 51 | _ | Trading of electrical and health care products |
| Marco Polo Industries & Merchandising Company Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$100,000 | 100 | _ | Trading of household electronic and electrical products |
| One World Technologies Limited | Bermuda | US\$12,000 | 100 | _ | Investment holding |
| One World Technologies Inc. | United States of America | US\$10 | _ | 100 | Investment holding |
| OWT Industries, Inc. | United States of America | US\$10 | _ | 100 | Manufacture of electric components and power tools products |
| Ryobi Technologies Canada, Inc. | Canada | C\$600,000 | _ | 100 | Trading of electric power tools products |

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36. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES (Cont'd)

| Name of subsidiary | Place of incorporation and operation | Issued and fully paid share capital | Percentage of equity interest held by the Company | | Principal activities |
|---------------------------------------|--|---|--|------------|---|
| | | | Directly | Indirectly | |
| Ryobi Technologies, Inc. | United States of America | US\$10 | % | % 100 | Trading of electric power tools products |
| Ryobi Taiwan Corporation | Taiwan | NT\$5,000,000 | 100 | _ | Liaison and quality assurance |
| Royal Appliance International GmbH | Germany | DEM2,000,000 | 51 | _ | Trading of household electronic and electrical products |
| Santo Industries Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2,000,000 | 100 | _ | Trading of household electronic and electrical products |
| Sang Tech Industries Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$1,000,000 | 100 | _ | Manufacture of plastic parts |
| Solar Wide Industrial Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2,000,000 | 75.725 | _ | Manufacture of electronic products |
| Solar Wide (Overseas) Limited | The British Virgin Islands/ The PRC | US\$1 | _ | 75.725 | Manufacture of electronic products |
| Techtronic Appliances Co. Pte Ltd. | Republic of Singapore | S\$250,000 | 100 | _ | Liaison office |

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36. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES (Cont'd)

| | | | Perce | entage | |
|---|-------------------------------|---------------|----------|------------|---------------------------|
| | Place of | Issued and | of e | equity | |
| | incorporation | fully paid | intere | est held | |
| Name of subsidiary | and operation | share capital | by the | Company | Principal activities |
| | | | Directly | Indirectly | |
| | | | % | % | |
| Techtronic Appliances | The British Virgin | US\$1 | 100 | _ | Trading of electronic and |
| International Limited | Islands/Republic of Indonesia | | | | electrical products |
| P.T. Techtronic Appliances | Republic of | US\$300,000 | 1 | 99 | Manufacture of electronic |
| | Indonesia | | | | and electrical products |
| Techtronic Appliances Holdings Company Limited | Bermuda | US\$12,000 | 100 | _ | Investment holding |
| Techtronic Appliances | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | 100 | _ | Trading and manufacture |
| (Hong Kong) Limited | | | | | of floor care appliance |
| | | | | | products |
| Vax Limited | The United | £33,000 | 100 | _ | Assembly, procurement |
| | Kingdom | | | | and distribution of floor |
| | | | | | care appliance products |
| Vax Appliances | Australia | A\$1,200,008 | 100 | _ | Assembly and distribution |
| (Australia) Pty. Ltd. | | | | | of floor care appliance |
| | | | | | products |

The above table lists the subsidiaries of the Company which, in the opinion of the directors, principally affected the results or assets of the Group. To give details of other subsidiaries would, in the opinion of the directors, result in particulars of excessive length.

None of the subsidiaries had any loan capital outstanding at the end of the year, or at any time during the year.

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37. PARTICULARS OF ASSOCIATES

Particulars of the associates at 31st December 2000 are as follows:

| | Place of | Issued and | | entage | |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|----------|------------|--|
| | incorporation/ | fully paid | | quity | |
| | registration | share/registered | intere | est held | |
| Name of associate | and operation | capital | - | Company | Principal activities |
| | | | Directly | Indirectly | |
| | | | % | % | |
| Polytron Enterprises Limited (formerly known as "Advanced Component Labs (HK) Limited") | Hong Kong | HK\$1,650,000 | 25.0 | _ | Inactive |
| Gimelli International (Holdings) Limited | The Cayman Islands | US\$6,250 | 40.8 | _ | Investment holding |
| Gimelli Laboratories Company Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$5,000,000 | _ | 40.8 | Manufacture and trading of electrical and dental care products |
| Gimelli Produktions A.G. | Switzerland | SFR930,000 | _ | 40.8 | Marketing and research and development |
| Gimelli Precision Moulding Company Limited | Hong Kong | НК\$2 | _ | 40.8 | Manufacture of plastic parts |
| North (Shenyang) Chinetek Techtronic Industries Ltd. | The PRC | US\$1,200,000 | 50.0 | _ | Inactive |