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 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> % – 25%
Plant and machinery	25%
Motor vehicles	16 <sup>2</sup> / <sub>3</sub> % – 25%
Moulds and tooling	20% – 33 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>3</sub> %
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

	<b>2000</b> НК\$	<b>1999</b> <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**

	<b>2000</b> HK\$	<b>1999</b> 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**

	<b>2000</b> НК\$	<b>1999</b> 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	

For the year ended 31st December 2000

### **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.

For the year ended 31st December 2000

## **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

For the year ended 31st December 2000

# 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

45

For the year ended 31st December 2000

#### 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.

46

For the year ended 31st December 2000

## **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