

LERADO GROUP (HOLDING) COMPANY LIMITED (陸成集團(控股)有限公司)



2001 Interim Report

FINANCIAL RESULTS

The Board of Directors of Lerado Group (Holding) Company Limited (the "Company") is pleased to present the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Group") for the six months ended 30th June, 2001.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

For the six months ended 30th June, 2001

		Six months ended		
	Notes	30th June, 2001 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	30th June, 2000 HK\$'000 (unaudited) (As restated)	
Turnover Cost of sales	3	574,913 (412,806)	641,740 (456,035)	
Gross profit Investment income Other revenue Marketing and distribution costs Research and development expenses Administrative expenses Other operating expenses		162,107 3,043 9,875 (49,291) (10,283) (46,865) (5,968)	185,705 5,383 6,462 (45,355) (13,549) (45,031) (3,020)	
Profit from operations Finance costs Share of results of an associate	4	62,618 (348) (1)	90,595 (983) —	
Profit from ordinary activities before taxation Taxation	5	62,269 3,388	89,612 4,357	
Profit before minority interests Minority interests		58,881 493	85,255 897	
Profit attributable to shareholders		59,374	86,152	
Dividends	6	57,977	43,605	
Earnings per share — Basic	7	8.19 cents	11.86 cents	
— Diluted		8.19 cents	11.83 cents	

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET At 30th June, 2001

va company, 200.	Notes	30th June, 2001 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	31st December, 2000 HK\$'000 (audited) (As restated)
Non-Current Assets Investment properties Property, plant and equipment Intellectual property rights Interests in an associate Interests in a jointly controlled entity Other investments Long-term receivable	8 8 9 10	12,400 284,033 65,189 4,680 53,182 24,298 15,867	12,400 222,985 71,039 — 3,163 15,867
Current Assets		459,649	325,454
Inventories Trade and other receivables Bank balances and cash	11	76,494 158,046 107,601	102,605 248,841 150,507
		342,141	501,953
Current Liabilities Trade and other payables Taxation Bank borrowings — due within one year	12 13	164,743 7,166 37,811	221,423 5,001 5,845
		209,720	232,269
Net Current Assets		132,421	269,684
		592,070	595,138
Capital and Reserves Share capital Reserves	14 15	72,471 515,207	72,691 517,952
		587,678	590,643
Minority Interests		(2,327)	(1,834)
Non-Current Liabilities Deferred taxation Loans from minority shareholders		260 6,459	260 6,069
		6,719	6,329
		592,070	595,138

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

For the six months ended 30th June, 2001

	Six month 30th June, 2001 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	30th June, 2000 HK\$'000
Exchange differences arising on translation of operations outside Hong Kong and (loss) gain not recognised in the consolidated income statement Profit attributable to shareholders	(2,345) 59,374	468 86,152
Total recognised gains Goodwill arising on acquisition of additional interest in a subsidiary	57,029 	86,620 <u>(88</u>)
	57,029	86,532
Prior period adjustment for the effect of a change in accounting policy (note 2) — increase in accumulated profits at 1st January, 2000		43,605

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the six months ended 30th June, 2001

	Six months ended 30th June, 2001 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	103,040
Net cash outflow from returns on investments and servicing of finance	(54,413)
Tax paid	(1,223)
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(119,193)
Net cash outflow before financing	(71,789)
Net cash inflow from financing	30,340
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(41,449)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1st January, 2001	150,315
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes	(1,265)
Cash and cash equivalents at 30th June, 2001, representing bank balances and cash	107,601

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the six months ended 30th June, 2001

BASIS OF PREPARATION

The condensed financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice ("SSAP") 25 Interim Financial Reporting, except that, in this first year of implementation of the standard, as permitted by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "SEHK"), no comparative amounts have been presented for the condensed consolidated cash flow statement.

PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The condensed financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified for the revaluation of properties and certain investments in securities.

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31st December, 2000, except as described below.

In the current period, the Group has adopted, for the first time, a number of new and revised SSAPs issued by the Hong Kong Society of Accountants:

Dividends proposed or declared after the balance sheet date

In accordance with SSAP 9 (Revised) Events after the Balance Sheet Date, dividends proposed or declared after the balance sheet date are not recognised as a liability at the balance sheet date, but are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. This change in accounting policy has been applied retrospectively, resulting in a prior period adjustment which increases the accumulated profits as at 1st January, 2000 by HK\$43,605,000 and as at 1st January, 2001 by HK\$57,977,000.

Goodwill

In the current period, the Group has adopted SSAP 30 Business Combinations and has elected not to restate goodwill (negative goodwill) previously eliminated against (credited to) reserves. Accordingly, goodwill arising on acquisitions prior to 1st January, 2001 is held in reserves and will be charged to the income statement at the time of disposal of the relevant subsidiary, or at such time as the goodwill is determined to be impaired. Negative goodwill arising on acquisitions prior to 1st January, 2001 will be credited to income at the time of disposal of the relevant subsidiary.

Goodwill arising on acquisitions after 1st January, 2001 is capitalised and amortised over its estimated useful life. Negative goodwill arising on acquisitions after 1st January, 2001 is presented as a deduction from assets and will be released to income based on an analysis of the circumstances from which the balance resulted.

3. SEGMENT INFORMATION

An analysis of the Group's turnover and contribution to profit from operations by business and geographical segment is as follows:

Business segments

Six months ended 30th June, 2001

	Strollers HK\$′000	Beds HK\$'000	Softs goods HK\$'000		Consolidated HK\$'000
REVENUE External sales and total					
revenue	337,941	96,980	44,353	95,639	574,913
SEGMENT RESULTS	34,410	10,405	4,624	10,136	59,575
Investment income					3,043
Profit from operations					62,618
Six months ended 30th	June, 2000				
	Strollers HK\$'000		•		Consolidated HK\$'000
REVENUE External sales and total revenue	415,458	105,526	60,91 <i>7</i>	59,839	641,740
SEGMENT RESULTS		14,457			85,212
Investment income					5,383
Profit from operations					

Geographical Segments

Six months ended 30th June, 2001

	United States HK\$'000						Consolidated HK\$'000
REVENUE External sales Inter-segment sales		141,996	16,727	20,253	63,581		574,913 —
Total revenue	333,244	141,996	16,727	20,253	63,581	(888)	574,913
SEGMENT RESULTS	33,596	16,049	1,834	2,280	6,100	(284)	59,575
Investment income							3,043
Profit from operations							62,618
Six months ende	d 30th Jur	ne, 2000					
	United States HK\$'000					Eliminations HK\$'000	Consolidated HK\$'000
REVENUE External sales Inter-segment sales		127,616 <u>—</u>	16,283 —	14,746			641,740
Total revenue	450,918	127,616	16,283	14,746	32,647	(470)	641,740
segment results	58,552	19,307	2,813	1,758	2,946	(164)	85,212
Investment income							5,383
Profit from operations							90,595

4. PROFIT FROM OPERATIONS

	Six months ended	
	30th June,	30th June,
	2001	2000
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Profit from operations has been arrived at after charging:		
Amortisation of intellectual property rights Depreciation and amortisation of property, plant and	2,990	2,990
equipment	11,609	7.933
Write off of intellectual property rights	2,860	

5. **TAXATION**

The charge comprises:		
Hong Kong Profits Tax Overseas taxation	2,000 1,388	1,210 3,147
	3,388	4,357

Six months ended 30th June, 30th June,

HK\$'000 HK\$'000

2000

2001

Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at 16% of the estimated assessable profit for the period.

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

DIVIDENDS 6

C:	- 1	1 1
SIX	months	ended

30th June. 30th lune, 2001 2000 HK\$'000 HK\$'000

2000 final dividend of HK8 cents

(1999 final dividend: HK6 cents, with a scrip

dividend option) per share

57,977 43,605

The directors have determined that an interim dividend of HK2 cents (six months ended 30th June, 2000: HK3 cents) per share would be paid to the shareholders of the Company whose names appear in the Register of Members on 18th October, 2001.

7. **EARNINGS PER SHARE**

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

	Six months ended		
	30th June,	30th June,	
	2001	2000	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Profit attributable to shareholders	59,374	86,152	
	Number of shares	Number of shares	
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of basic earnings per share	725,065,244	726,515,157	
Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares in respect of share options	108,931	1,803,990	
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of diluted earnings per share	725,174,175	728,319,147	

8 MOVEMENTS IN INVESTMENT PROPERTIES AND PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the period, the Group spent approximately HK\$40 million on additions of property, plant and equipment for group expansion. The Group also acquired a subsidiary with leasehold land and buildings and construction in progress in an aggregate of approximately HK\$33 million.

At 30th June, 2001, the directors have considered the carrying amount of the Group's leasehold land and buildings and investment properties carried at revalued amounts and have estimated that the carrying amounts do not differ significantly from that which would be determined using fair values at the balance sheet date. Consequently, no revaluation surplus or deficit has been recognised in the current period.

9. INTERESTS IN A JOINTLY CONTROLLED ENTITY

At 30th June, 2001, the Group has a 50% equity interest in an unlisted company incorporated in the Cayman Islands. The jointly controlled entity was inactive during the period and will be engaged in investment projects.

10 OTHER INVESTMENTS

During the period, the Group acquired an approximately 8% interests in an unlisted investment established in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"). In the opinion of the directors, the other investments are stated at their fair values at 30th June, 2001.

11. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

The Group allows credit period up to 60 days. Included in trade and other receivables are trade and bills receivables of HK\$116,141,000 (31st December, HK\$161,815,000) and their aging analysis is as follows:

	30th June,	30th June,
	2001	2000
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within 30 days	56,977	100,692
31 to 90 days	52,994	56,304
Over 90 days	6,170	4,819
	116,141	161,815

12. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Included in trade and other payables are trade and bills payables of HK\$112,501,000 (31st December, 2000: HK\$152,944,000) and their aging analysis is as follows:

	30th June, 2001 HK\$'000	30th June, 2000 HK\$'000
Within 30 days 31 to 90 days Over 90 days	48,068 60,456 3,977	60,946 71,187 20,811
	112,501	152,944

BORROWINGS

During the period, the Group obtained new bank borrowings of approximately HK\$73 million. The loans bear interest at prevailing market rate and are repayable within one year. The proceeds were used for general working capital purpose. The Group also repaid bank loans of approximately HK\$41 million.

14. SHARE CAPITAL

Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each Issued and fully paid

	Number of	
	shares	Share capital HK\$'000
At 1st January, 2001 Shares repurchased and cancelled	726,908,724 2,200,000	72,691 220
At 30th June, 2001	724,708,724	72,471

1.5 **RESERVES**

	Share premium HK\$'000	Special reserve HK\$'000	Investment property revaluation reserve HK\$'000	Property revaluation reserve HK\$'000	Statutory surplus reserve fund HK\$'000	Enterprise expansion fund HK\$'000	reserve	Goodwill reserve HK\$'000	Capital redemption reserve HK\$'000	Accumulated profits	Total HK\$'000
At 1st January, 2000 — as originally stated — prior period adjustment (note 2)	93,230 —	38,510 —	262 	30,503 —	8,983 —	817 —	463 —			233,334 43,605	406,102 43,605
— as restated Premium arising from issue of shares Goodwill arising on acquisition of	93,230 381	38,510 —	262 —	30,503 —	8,983 —	81 <i>7</i> —	463 —	_	- -	276,939 —	449,707 381
additional interest in a subsidiary Revaluation surplus on leasehold land and buildings	_	_	_	4.544	_	_	_	(88)	_	_	(88)
Profit for the year Transfer of reserves	_	_	_	_	- 2,116	_	_	_	_	128,363	128,363
Dividends Exchange differences arising from translation of financial statements	_	-	-	_	_	-	_	_	_	(65,412)	(65,412)
of operations outside Hong Kong							457				457
At 31st December, 2000 Premium on repurchase of shares	93,611 (1, <i>797</i>)	38,510 —	262 —	35,047 —	11,099 —	817	920 —	(88)	_	337,774 —	517,952 (1,797)
Profit for the period Transfer of reserves for cancellation of shares	_	_	_	-	_	_	_	_	220	59,374	59,374
Dividends Exchange differences arising from	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	(57,977)	 (57,977)
of operations outside Hong Kong							(2,345)				(2,345)
At 30th June, 2001	91,814	38,510	262	35,047	11,099	817	[1,425]	(88)	220	338,951	515,207

16. COMMITMENTS

At 30th June, 2001, the Group was committed to pay HK\$12,493,000 (31st December, 2000: HK\$10,059,000) in respect of the acquisition of property, plant and equipment.

POST BALANCE SHEET EVENT 17.

Subsequent to 30th June, 2001, long term receivable of HK\$15,867,000 was converted into a 52% interest in Glory Time Investments Limited ("Glory Time") pursuant to a deed and a supplementary deed entered into by a subsidiary of the Company and Glory Time in December 1997 and March 2000

徳勤・關黃陳方會計師行

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> **Deloitte** Touche Tohmatsu

To the board of directors of Lerado Group (Holding) Company Limited

Introduction

We have been instructed by Lerado Group (Holding) Company Limited (the "Company") to review the interim financial report set out on pages 1 to 12.

Directors' responsibilities

The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") require the preparation of an interim financial report to be in compliance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice ("SSAP") 25 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Society of Accountants and the relevant provisions thereof. However, the Listing Rules permit departure from SSAP 25 in that comparative figures are not required for the cash flow statement included in the first interim financial report relating to accounting periods ending on or after 1st July, 2000. The interim financial report is the responsibility of, and has been approved by, the directors

Review work performed

We conducted our review in accordance with Statement of Auditing Standards ("SAS") 700 "Engagements to Review Interim Financial Reports" issued by the Hong Kong Society of Accountants. A review consists principally of making enquiries of management and applying analytical procedures to the interim financial report and, based thereon, assessing whether the accounting policies and presentation have been consistently applied unless otherwise disclosed. A review excludes audit procedures such as tests of controls and verification of assets, liabilities and transactions. It is substantially less in scope than an audit and therefore provides a lower level of assurance than an audit. Accordingly we do not express an audit opinion on the interim financial report.

Review conclusion

On the basis of our review which does not constitute an audit, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the interim financial report for the six months ended 30th lune, 2001.

Without modifying our review conclusion, we draw to your attention that the comparative condensed consolidated income statement and condensed consolidated statement of recognised gains or losses for the six months ended 30th June, 2000 disclosed in the interim financial report has not been reviewed in accordance with SAS 700

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu

Certified Public Accountants

Hong Kong, 7th September, 2001

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Business review and prospect

Influenced by the sluggish economic climate worldwide and slowdown of the US economy, the Group expects a lull in household consumption. The Group's unaudited consolidated turnover and profit attributable to shareholders for the six months ended 30th June, 2001 were approximately HK\$574.9 million and HK\$59.4 million respectively, compared with HK\$641.7 million and HK\$86.2 million last year.

The Board declared an interim dividend of HK2 cents per share for the six months ended 30th June, 2001

For the period under review, the global economy underwent a moderate slowdown, whilst consumers in the US duly made curbs in their spending habits for high priced goods. Amidst this uncertain climate, clients adopted a more prudent inventory approach as well as new product launches. This was reflected in the Group's sales to the US of HK\$332.4 million, which represented 57.8% of the Group's total turnover or a decline of 26.2% over the same period last year. However, we believe that such psychological impact will be alleviated once the economy stabilizes.

Though the weighting of the Group's second largest market — Europe was largely behind the US market, an 11.3% growth in our sales to Europe was recorded, reaching approximately HK\$142.0 million, representing 24.7% of the Group's total turnover. The Group has seized the opportunities in meeting European brands' needs of outsourcing their products to capable manufacturers in producing high quality and cost effective products.

In terms of products, strollers and baby beds remain the Group's key revenue drivers, contributing 58.8% and 16.9% respectively to total turnover as compared with 64.7% and 16.4% in the previous year. Due to current market sentiment, the Group had focused on middle to low-end products which also explained for the decrease in total turnover and operating profit. Sale of other accessories and series product, such as highchairs and walkers, recorded satisfactory growth of 59.8% over the corresponding period last year and contributed 16.6% to total turnover. It has been the Group's strategy to develop a diversified product portfolio to strengthen its position and this strategy will be upheld in the future.

During the period under review, the Group invested HK\$21.1 million to obtain an 8% equity interest in a PRC company engaged in transgenic engineering and injected HK\$53.2 million in a jointly controlled company engaged in project investments. The Directors believe that the two investments will bring in good potential for earnings growth in the medium term.

Looking forward, market conditions remain too fluid to predict. Nevertheless, management will maintain a resolve to implement the Group's business strategies and to weather through the difficult environment. Continuous outsourcing trend in Europe provides strong momentum for the Group's future growth whilst we will continue to explore the market and seize greater market share.

With the Group's solid experience and knowledge in the PRC market, we are in an advantageous position to capitalise on business potentials in the populous market and opportunities arisina from China's accession to the World Trade Organization.

Liquidity and financial resources

As at 30th June, 2001, the Group retained total cash and bank balances of HK\$107.6 million, most of which were in Renminbi, Hong Kong and US dollars — the exposure to exchange fluctuation has been minimal. Included in the cash and bank balances was approximately HK\$13 million being proceeds from the Company's initial public offerings in 1998 remained unutilised due to the slower progress in the marketing of battery-operated ride-on cars in the US in view of its economy down turn. The Company will apply this balance according to its original plan in due course.

As at the financial period end date, the Group had bank borrowings of HK\$37.8 million, including trade lines and short term loans, over 75% of which were in Hong Kong and US dollars. Interest rates on these bank borrowings were at prevailing bank lending rates. On the same date, the current ratio and the gearing ratio (expressed as total bank borrowings to shareholders' fund) of the Group were 1.63 and 0.06 respectively, while the ratios at 31st December, 2000 were 1.73 and 0.01 respectively.

The directors are in the opinion that the Group has sufficient resources and working capital to meet its foreseeable capital expenditure.

Employees and remuneration policies

As at 30th June, 2001, the Group employed over 6300 staff members, including approximately 6000 workers in its PRC production sites and 120 staff in the research and development department.

Apart from basic salaries, discretionary bonus and contribution to the mandatory provident fund for staff in Hong Kong, share options may also be granted to staff with reference to the individual's performance.

REVIEW OF INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Audit Committee has reviewed with management and the external auditors, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed internal controls and financial reporting matters including the review of the unaudited interim financial statements.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has declared an interim dividend of HK2 cents per share in cash for the six months ended 30th June, 2001 to shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Members of the Company on 18th October, 2001. It is expected that the dividend warrants will be sent to the Shareholders no later than 30th October, 2001.

CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from 15th October, 2001 to 18th October, 2001, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfers accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Registrar, Secretaries Limited, 5th Floor, Wing on Centre, 111 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong, not later than 4:00 p.m. on 12th October, 2001.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES AND SHARE OPTIONS

At 30th June, 2001, the interests of the directors and their associates in the share capital of the Company and its associated corporations as recorded in the register maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 29 of the Hong Kong's Securities (Disclosure of Interests) Ordinance ("SDI Ordinance") and the share options were as follows:

		of ordinary held as	Number of share options of the Company held as		
	Personal	Family	Personal	Family	
	interest	interest	interest	interest	
		(Note 1)	(Note 2)	(Note 1)	
Mr. Huang Ying Yuan	101,187,360	42,102,180	4,000,000	3,000,000	
Mr. Tsang Yat Kiang	58,815,720	_	3,500,000	_	
Mr. Chen Hsing Shin	94,105,800	_	3,500,000	_	
Madam Huang Chen Li Chu	42,102,180	101,187,360	3,000,000	4,000,000	
Mr. Chen Jo Wan	11,763,225	_	2,500,000	_	
Mr. Leung Man Fai	_	_	2,500,000	_	
Mr. Lin John Sian-zu	_	_	1,000,000	_	
Mr. Lim Pat Wah Patrick	_	_	500,000	_	

Notes:

- (1) The family interest represents the shares and share options held by the spouse of Mr. Huang Ying Yuan and Madam Huang Chen Li Chu, respectively. Madam Huang Chen Li Chu is the wife of Mr. Huang Ying Yuan.
- (2)The share options in relation to 1,000,000 shares of the Company granted to Mr. Tsai Joseph Chung were lapsed upon his resignation as director on 29th March, 2001. Other than this, there were no movements in share options during the year.

The share options were granted by the Company on 18th August, 1999 to subscribe for shares in the Company at an exercise price of HK\$1.26 per share, subject to adjustment, exercisable from 1st January, 2000 to 17th August, 2009.

Save as disclosed above and other than certain nominee shares in the subsidiaries held by certain directors in trust for the Company, none of the directors or their associates, had any interests in any securities of the Company or any of its associated corporations as defined in the SDI Ordinance at 30th June, 2001.

SUBSTANTIAL SHARFHOLDERS

At 30th June, 2001, the register of substantial shareholders maintained under Section 16(1) of the SDI Ordinance showed that, other than the interests disclosed above in respect of certain directors, the following shareholder had an interest of 10% or more in the share capital of the Company:

Name of shareholder	Number of shares	Percentage	
Investor AB	81,527,040	11.25%	

Other than as disclosed above, the Company has not been notified of any other interests representing 10% or more of the Company's issued share capital as at 30th June, 2001.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF LISTED SECURITIES

During the six months ended 30th June, 2001, the Company repurchased its own shares on the SFHK as follows:

	Number of	Price per s	share	Aggregate Consideration
Month of repurchase	shares	Highest	Lowest	paid
		HK\$	HK\$	HK\$'000
January 2001	1,550,000	0.94	0.91	1,428
February 2001	650,000	0.97	0.84	589
	2,200,000			2,017

The above shares were cancelled upon repurchase and accordingly the issued share capital of the Company was reduced by the nominal value of these shares.

Save as disclosed above, neither the company nor any of its subsidiaries has redeemed, purchased or sold any of the Company's shares during the period.

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CODE OF BEST PRACTICE

None of the Directors of the Company is aware of any information that would reasonably indicate that the Company is not, or was not for any part of the six months ended 30th June, 2001, in compliance with the Code of Best Practice as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules.

> By Order of the Board Huang Ying Yuan Chairman

Hong Kong, 7th September, 2001