15. INVESTMENTS IN SECURITIES

| | Tradi | ng securities | Othe | Other securities | | Total | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|----------|------------------|----------|----------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| Equity securities | | | | | | | |
| Listed, Hong Kong | 3,678 | 6,006 | _ | _ | 3,678 | 6,006 | |
| Unlisted | | | 38 | | 38 | | |
| | 3,678 | 6,006 | 38 | | 3,716 | 6,006 | |
| Market value of listed securities | 3,678 | 6,006 | | | 3,678 | 6,006 | |
| Carrying amount analyse | ed for reporting pu | rposes as: | | | | | |
| Current | 3,678 | 6,006 | _ | _ | 3,678 | 6,006 | |
| Non-current | | | 38 | | 38 | | |
| | 3,678 | 6,006 | 38 | | 3,716 | 6,006 | |

Other securities represent 2% equity interest in HK Finance.Com Limited acquired at a consideration of approximately HK\$7,208,000. Due to the changes in market condition, the directors consider that there has been a decline in the recoverable amount of these securities and an impairment loss of approximately HK\$7,170,000 has been recognised in the financial statements, thus reducing the carrying amount to approximately HK\$38,000.

16. INVENTORIES

| | THE GROUP | |
|------------------|-----------|----------|
| | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Raw materials | | |
| Work in progress | 45,299 | 49,632 |
| Finished goods | 1,840 | 2,442 |
| | 14,426 | 9,571 |
| | 61,565 | 61,645 |

Included above are raw materials and finished goods of approximately HK\$404,000 (1999: Nil) and HK\$5,666,000 (1999: HK\$7,466,000), respectively, which are stated at net realisable value.

17. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

The Group allows an average credit period of 60 days to its trade customers.

The following is an aged analysis of the Group's trade receivables at the balance sheet date:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| 0-60 days | 32,926 | 45,195 |
| 61-90 days | 12,632 | 17,592 |
| 91-120 days | 8,562 | 11,056 |
| > 120 days | 10,862 | 11,070 |
| | 64,982 | 84,913 |

18. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

The following is an aged analysis of the Group's trade payables at the balance sheet date:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|-------------|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| 0-60 days | 10,958 | 16,303 |
| 61-90 days | 3,474 | 2,836 |
| 91-120 days | 1,242 | 1,738 |
| > 120 days | 627 | 851 |
| | 16,301 | 21,728 |

19. SHARE CAPITAL

| | Authorised | | Issued and fully pa | |
|--|------------|----------|---------------------|----------|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Ordinary shares of HK\$0.1 each | | | | |
| At 1st January | 700,000 | 700,000 | 25,154 | 22,449 |
| Issue of bonus shares | _ | _ | 2,599 | _ |
| Issue of shares on exercise of share options | _ | _ | 840 | _ |
| Issue of shares on exercise of warrants | _ | _ | | 2,853 |
| Repurchase of shares | _ | | | (148) |
| At 31st December | 700,000 | 700,000 | 28,593 | 25,154 |

19. SHARE CAPITAL (Cont'd)

Bonus shares were issued to shareholders whose names appeared on the register of members on 15th May, 2000 on the basis of one bonus share for every ten existing shares then held.

All shares issued by the Company during the year rank pari passu with the then existing shares in all respects.

Share options

Under the terms of the Share Option Scheme which became effective on 30th September, 1992, the board of directors of the Company may offer to any director, full time employee or chief executive of the Company, or any of its subsidiaries, options to subscribe for shares in the Company at a price equal to the higher of the nominal value of the shares and 80% of the average of the closing prices of the shares on the Stock Exchange on the five trading days immediately preceding the date of the grant of the options, subject to a maximum of 10% of the issued share capital of the Company from time to time.

On 4th October, 1999, a total of 8,400,000 options were granted pursuant to the Share Option Scheme to certain directors and employees of the Company to acquire the same number of shares of HK\$0.1 each in the Company at any time between 4th April, 2000 and 29th September, 2002 at an exercise price of HK\$0.72 per share. All of these share options were exercised in 2000 resulting in issue of 8,400,000 shares of HK\$0.1 each in the Company.

No options under the Share Option Scheme were granted during the year.

Warrants

In 1999, the registered holders of 28,532,300 warrants exercised their rights to subscribe for 28,532,300 shares of HK\$0.1 each in the Company at a subscription price of HK\$0.664 per share. The remaining 8,185,925 warrants lapsed in that year.

No warrants were issued by the Company during the year and accordingly, no warrants were outstanding at 31st December, 2000.

20. ACCUMULATED PROFITS

| | THE (| THE GROUP | | OMPANY | |
|----------------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| At 1st January | 104,273 | 71,430 | 3,401 | 822 | |
| Repurchase of shares | _ | (1,323) | _ | _ | |
| Profit for the year | 28,102 | 51,832 | 31,401 | 20,245 | |
| Dividends | (17,575) | (17,666) | (17,575) | (17,666) | |
| At 31st December | 114,800 | 104,273 | 17,227 | 3,401 | |

21. INVESTMENT PROPERTY REVALUATION RESERVE

| | THE GROUP | |
|------------------------|-----------|----------|
| | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| At 1st January | | |
| Deficit on revaluation | _ | 266 |
| | _ | (266) |
| At 31st December | | |
| | _ | _ |

22. SHARE PREMIUM AND OTHER RESERVES

| | Share premium HK\$'000 | Capital redemption reserve HK\$'000 | Contributed surplus HK\$'000 | Translation reserve HK\$'000 | Goodwill reserve HK\$'000 | Total HK\$'000 |
|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|
| THE GROUP | 11114 000 | 11110 000 | 11110 000 | | | 11114 000 |
| At 1st January, 1999 | 36,171 | 788 | _ | 49 | (1,013) | 35,995 |
| Goodwill arising on acquisition of additional interest in a subsidiary | _ | _ | _ | _ | (57) | (57) |
| Translation of financial statements of an | | | | | , , | , , |
| overseas subsidiary | _ | _ | _ | (9) | _ | (9) |
| Issue of shares on exercise | 16.000 | | | | | 16.002 |
| of warrants | 16,092 | 148 | _ | _ | _ | 16,092 148 |
| Repurchase of shares | | 148 | | | | 148 |
| At 31st December, 1999 Negative goodwill arising | 52,263 | 936 | - | 40 | (1,070) | 52,169 |
| on acquisition of additional interest in a subsidiary | _ | _ | _ | _ | 24 | 24 |
| Issue of shares on exercise | 5 200 | | | | | 5 200 |
| of share options Issue of bonus shares | 5,208 (2,599) | _ | _ | _ | _ | 5,208 (2,599) |
| issue of bolius shares | (2,399) | | | | | (2,399) |
| At 31st December, 2000 | 54,872 | 936 | | 40 | (1,046) | 54,802 |
| THE COMPANY | | | | | | |
| At 1st January, 1999 Issue of shares on exercise | 36,171 | 788 | 23,212 | _ | _ | 60,171 |
| of warrants | 16,092 | _ | _ | _ | _ | 16,092 |
| Repurchase of shares | _ | 148 | (1,323) | | | (1,175) |
| At 31st December, 1999 Issue of shares on exercise | 52,263 | 936 | 21,889 | _ | _ | 75,088 |
| of share options | 5,208 | _ | _ | _ | _ | 5,208 |
| Issue of bonus shares | (2,599) | | | | | (2,599) |
| At 31st December, 2000 | 54,872 | 936 | 21,889 | | | 77,697 |
| | | | | | | |

22. SHARE PREMIUM AND OTHER RESERVES (Cont'd)

The contributed surplus represents the difference between the consolidated shareholders' funds of the subsidiaries at the date on which they were acquired by the Company, and the nominal amount of the Company's shares issued for the acquisition at the time of the group reorganisation prior to the listing of the Company's shares in 1992.

Under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (as amended), the contributed surplus account of the Company is available for distribution. However, the Company cannot declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of contributed surplus if:

- (a) it is, or would after the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due; or
- (b) the realisable value of its assets would thereby be less than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium account.

In the opinion of the directors, the Company's reserves available for distribution to shareholders were as follows:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---------------------|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Contributed surplus | 21,889 | 21,889 |
| Accumulated profits | 17,227 | 3,401 |
| | 39,116 | 25,290 |

23. BANK BORROWINGS

| | THE GROUP | |
|---|-----------|----------|
| | 2000 | 1999 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Bank loans, unsecured | _ | 2,657 |
| Bank overdrafts, unsecured | 231 | 152 |
| | 231 | 2,809 |
| The maturity of the above bank borrowings is as follows: | | |
| On demand or within one year | 231 | 1,090 |
| More than one year but not exceeding two years | _ | 938 |
| More than two years but not exceeding five years | | 781 |
| | 231 | 2,809 |
| Less: Amounts due within one year shown under current liabilities | (231) | (1,090) |
| Amounts due after one year | | 1,719 |

24. DEFERRED TAXATION

At the balance sheet date, the major components of the unprovided deferred taxation liabilities (assets) are as follows:

| | THE GROUP | | THE C | OMPANY | |
|----------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| Tax effect of timing differences | | | | | |
| because of: | | | | | |
| Excess of tax allowances | | | | | |
| over depreciation | 2,526 | 4,457 | _ | _ | |
| Taxation losses | (1,120) | (674) | _ | _ | |
| | 1,406 | 3,783 | | | |

No provision for deferred taxation has been recognised in the financial statements in respect of timing differences 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.

The amount of the unprovided deferred tax (credit) charge for the year is as follows:

| | THE GROUP | | THE C | OMPANY | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| Tax effect of timing differences | | | | | |
| because of: | | | | | |
| Difference between tax allowances | | | | | |
| and depreciation | (1,931) | 545 | _ | _ | |
| Taxation losses | (446) | 1,098 | | 133 | |
| | (2,377) | 1,643 | | 133 | |

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

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Profit before taxation | 32,573 | 59,656 |
| Interest income | (1,036) | (701) |
| Interest expense | 2,733 | 4,021 |
| Interest on obligations under hire purchase contracts | 207 | 301 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 16,701 | 16,904 |
| Deficit arising on revaluation of investment properties | 500 | 434 |
| Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment | (121) | (14) |
| Dividends from trading securities | (162) | (74) |
| Loss (gain) on disposal of trading securities | 2,081 | (222) |
| Unrealised losses on trading securities | 1,728 | 140 |
| Impairment loss recognised in respect of other securities | 7,170 | _ |
| Decrease (increase) in inventories | 80 | (6,463) |
| Decrease (increase) in trade and other receivables | 15,858 | (11,755) |
| (Decrease) increase in trade and other payables | (5,174) | 6,521 |
| Decrease in bills payable | (2,586) | (43,784) |
| Decrease in amount due to a director | _ | (608) |
| (Decrease) increase in amount due to a minority | | |
| shareholder of a subsidiary | (410) | 729 |
| Net cash inflow from operating activities | 70,142 | 25,085 |

26. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN FINANCING DURING THE YEAR

| | Share capital and share premium HK\$'000 | Bank loans HK\$'000 | Obligations under hire purchase contracts HK\$'000 | Minority interests HK\$'000 |
|--|--|---------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| At 1st January, 1999 Net cash inflow (outflow) during the year | 58,620 18,945 | 3,595 (938) | 877 (856) | 3,010 |
| Transfer to capital redemption reserve Dividends paid to minority shareholders Change of equity interest in a subsidiary Minority share of profit for the year | (148) - - - | - - - - | - - - - | (969) (143) 2,679 |
| At 31st December, 1999 Net cash inflow (outflow) during the year Dividends paid to minority shareholders Change of equity interest in a subsidiary Minority share of profit for the year | 77,417 6,048 - - - | 2,657 (2,657) - - - | 21 (21) - - - | 4,577 - (1,834) (344) 758 |
| At 31st December, 2000 | 83,465 | _ | | 3,157 |

27. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Company has given guarantees to banks in respect of general facilities granted to its subsidiaries. The extent of such facilities utilised by the subsidiaries at 31st December, 2000 amounted to approximately HK\$558,000 (1999: HK\$5,722,000).

28. LONG SERVICE PAYMENTS

At 31st December, 2000, the Group had a number of employees who had completed the required number of years of service under Hong Kong's 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 of employment meets the circumstances which are specified in the Ordinance. Had the employment of all eligible employees been terminated on 31st December, 2000 under the circumstances specified by the Ordinance, the maximum potential exposure would have been approximately HK\$4.3 million (1999: HK\$4 million). No provision has been made in the financial statements in respect of such long service payments.

29. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Neither the Group nor the Company had any material capital commitments at 31st December, 2000 or 31st December, 1999.

30. LEASE COMMITMENTS

At the balance sheet date, the Group had the following outstanding annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases in respect of land and buildings, as follows:

| | THE GROUP | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|----------|--|
| | 2000 | 1999 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| Operating leases which expire: | | | |
| Within one year | 168 | 827 | |
| In the second to fifth year inclusive | 1,499 | 1,086 | |
| Over five years | 1,208 | 1,208 | |
| | | | |
| | 2,875 | 3,121 | |

31. RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME

The Group operates defined contribution retirement benefits schemes for all qualifying employees. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group in funds under the control of trustees.

31. RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME (Cont'd)

The retirement benefits cost charged to income statement represents contributions payable to the fund by the Group at rates specified in the rules of the scheme. Where there are employees who leave the scheme prior to vesting fully in the contributions, the contributions payable by the Group are reduced by the amount of forfeited contributions.

In light of the introduction of the Mandatory Provident Fund ("MPF") Scheme, the Group has also participated in an approved MPF scheme with the HSBC Provident Fund Trustee (Hong Kong) Limited effective 1 December 2000 to provide MPF scheme to all employees. The contributions borne by the Group are calculated at 5% of the salaries and wages (monthly contribution is limited at 5% of HK\$20,000 for each eligible employee) as calculated under the MPF legislation.

The Group's contributions to the retirement benefits scheme, net of forfeited contributions of approximately HK\$19,000 (1999: HK\$28,000), for the year amounted to approximately HK\$346,000 (1999: HK\$384,000). At 31st December, 2000 and 31st December, 1999, there were no forfeited contributions, which arose upon employees leaving the retirement benefits scheme and which are available to reduce the contributions payable in the future years.

32. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On 2nd March and 5th March, 2001, the Company repurchased 680,000 and 230,000 shares through the Stock Exchange at a consideration of approximately HK\$538,000 and HK\$180,000, respectively.

33. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the group companies entered into the following significant transactions with related parties who are not members of the Group:

| | 2000 | 1999 |
|---|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Rental expenses paid to: | | |
| Nice Step Investment Limited | 999 | 1,317 |
| Mr. Poon Siu Chung | 168 | 168 |
| Professional fees paid to Messrs. Cheung, Tong & Rosa | 287 | 174 |
| Printing fees paid to Run All Limited | 457 | 233 |

Mr. Leung Ying Wai, Charles, a substantial shareholder and a director of the Company, has beneficial interest in Nice Step Investment Limited.

Mr. Tong Wui Tung, an independent non-executive director of the Company, is a partner of Messrs. Cheung, Tong & Rosa, the legal advisers of the Group.

Mr. Ng Siu Yu, Larry, an independent non-executive director of the Company, has beneficial interest in Run All Limited.

33. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS (Cont'd)

During the year, the Group issued guarantees to financial institutions to secure general banking facilities granted to the Group including its subsidiaries which are not wholly-owned by the Group. The extent of such facilities utilised by these non-wholly-owned subsidiaries at 31st December, 2000 amounted to approximately HK\$86,000 (1999: HK\$5,722,000).

The above transactions were determined by the directors on the basis of estimated market value.

34. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES

| Name of subsidiary | Place of incorporation or registration | Proportion of nominal value of issued/ registered capital held by the Company | | Paid up issued/ registered ordinary share capital | Principal activities |
|---|--|---|------------|---|---|
| substatat y | registration | | Indirectly | share capital | 1 Imelpar activities |
| Benefit Packing Materials Limited | Hong Kong | _ | 75% | HK\$1,000,000 | Trading of PVC films |
| Link Faith Company Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$100,000 | Security investment |
| Onward Packing Manufacturer Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$320,000 | Manufacture of novelties, festival decorations and packaging products |
| Perfectech Colour Centre Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$1,000,000 | Dye stuff manufacturing |
| Perfectech Enterprises (B.V.I.) Limited | British Virgin Islands | - | 100% | US\$1 | Investment holding |
| Perfectech International (B.V.I.) Limited | British Virgin Islands | 100% | _ | US\$50 | Investment holding |
| Perfectech International (China) Limited | The People's Republic of China | - | 100% | HK\$2,000,000 | Manufacture of novelties and festival decorations |
| Perfectech International Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$200 (ordinary shares) | Investment holding |
| | | _ | _ | HK\$80,000 (non-voting deferred shares) | |

34. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES (Cont'd)

| Name of subsidiary | Place of incorporation or registration | Propor nomins of iss registered co by the Co Directly | al value ued/ apital held ompany | Paid up issued/ registered ordinary share capital | Principal activities |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|
| Perfectech International Packaging Products Company Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$450,000 | Manufacture of PVC blister and box |
| Perfectech International Trading Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$2 | Trading of novelties, festival decorations and packaging products |
| Perfectech Paper Products Company Limited | Hong Kong | - | 99% | HK\$1,000,000 | Manufacture of paper products |
| Perfectech Plastics Limited | Hong Kong | - | 75% | HK\$1,000,000 | Trading of plastic materials |
| Perfectech Printing Company Limited | Hong Kong | - | 90% | HK\$1,000,000 | Printing |
| iTech Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$2 | Investment holding |
| Sunflower Garland Manufactory Limited | Hong Kong | - | 100% | HK\$2 (ordinary shares) | Property investment |
| | | - | _ | HK\$160,000 (non-voting deferred shares) | |

The above table lists the subsidiaries of the Group 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.

Except for the activities of Perfectech International (China) Limited which is operated in the People's Republic of China, all principal activities of subsidiaries are carried out in Hong Kong.

None of the subsidiaries had any loan capital outstanding at the end of the year.