

Financial highlights

	2000	1999
Turnover		
– continuing operations	£1,364m	£1,263m
– total	£1,596m	£1,680m
Operating profit before exceptional items		
– continuing operations	£115m	£84m
– total	£106m	£93m
Operating profit	£70m	£16m
Pre-tax (loss)/profit		
Before FRS3 exceptional items	£50m	(£23)m
After exceptional items	(£30)m	£64m
(Loss)/earnings per share	(8.9)p	4.1p
Headline earnings/(loss) per share	3.8p	(4.3)p
Dividends per share		
2000 Interim	1.50p	1.50p
2000 Final	1.50p	1.50p
Net asset value per ordinary share	88p	99p
Capital expenditure	£52m	£56m
Net debt	£148m	£125m
Net debt less current asset investments	£128m	£124m
Net gearing	21%	16%
Net cash inflow from operating activities	£73m	£118m
Net interest cover before FRS3 exceptional items	3.5	0.7
Market Capitalisation at 31 December	£271m	£292m