

Group Financial Highlights

	1998 S\$'000	1997 S\$'000	Change %
1 Turnover	899,402	953,026	(5.6)
2 Trading profit	389,635	430,024	(9.4)
3 Profit before taxation	393,355	473,972	(17.0)
4 Profit after taxation	277,482	341,319	(18.7)
5 Minority interests	301	843	(64.3)
6 Extraordinary items	16,751	(1,821)	1,019.9
7 Profit attributable to shareholders	294,534	340,341	(13.5)
8 Shareholders' interests	2,341,288	2,136,567	9.6
9 Total assets	3,322,825	3,102,357	7.1
10 Total liabilities	981,537	965,790	1.6
11 Dividends (net)	120,175	101,231	18.7
12 Profitability ratios			
a Operating margin	43.3	45.1	(1.8)%pt
b Return on turnover	32.7	35.7	(3.0)%pt
c Return on shareholders' funds	12.6	15.9	(3.3)%pt
13 Per share data			
a Net tangible assets	\$5.75	\$5.27 [^]	9.1
b Profit before tax	\$0.97	\$1.17 [^]	(17.1)
c Profit after tax and minority interests	\$0.68	\$0.84 [^]	(19.0)
d Gross dividends (cents)	43	40	7.5
e Dividend cover (times)	2.3	3.4	(32.4)
14 Value added	S\$	S\$	
a Per employee	202,905	213,998	(5.2)
b Per \$ employment costs	3.02	3.18	(5.0)
c Per \$ fixed assets (before depreciation)	1.03	1.10	(6.4)
d Per \$ turnover	0.73	0.73	-

[^] Adjusted for bonus shares issued in the ratio of 184.8 shares for every 1,000 shares during the financial year ended August 31, 1998.

