# Courts (Jamaica) Limited <br> Notes to the Financial Statements 

## 31 March 2004

1 Segmental Financial Information
A segment is a distinguishable component of the company that is engaged either in providing products (business segment), or in providing products within a particular economic environment (geographic segment), which is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other segments. The Directors are of the view that there are no material segments into which the company's business should be disclosed.

2 Turnover and Cost of Sales
(a) Turnover comprises the invoiced value of goods and hire purchase credit charges, net of discounts allowed and General Consumption Tax.
(b) Cost of sales comprises the cost of goods sold, selling expenses (including bad debt provisions, debt collection expenses and advertising), branch operating expenses (including insurance, depreciation and occupancy) and the amortisation of goodwill.

Finance (Costs)/Income

Foreign exchange gain
Interest income
Interest expense

| 2004 | 2003 |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 1000$ | $\$ 1000$ |
| 12,068 | 1,779 |
| $\frac{30,043}{42,111}$ | $\frac{83,920}{85,699}$ |

Related companies
Loans and overdraft

4 Profit before Taxation
The following items have been charged/(credited) in arriving at profit taxation:

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ ' 000$ | $\$ ' 000$ |
| 2020 | 1766 |
|  |  |
| 196,665 | 104,115 |
| $2,860,555$ | $2,444,813$ |
| 47,938 | 45,369 |
| 86,402 | 76,074 |
| 867 | 814 |
| $(677)$ | $(2,853)$ |
| 750 | 750 |
| 31,747 | 25,933 |
| 32,010 | 33,368 |
| 626,859 | 567,713 |
| $=======$ | $======$ |

## 5 Staff Costs

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | 2003 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Wages and salaries | $\mathbf{\$ ' 0 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ |
| Statutory contributions | 504,888 | 480,446 |
| Pension (Note 11) | 64,316 | 48,053 |
| Other | $(16,566)$ | $(16,314)$ |
|  | $\frac{74,221}{626,859}$ | $5 \frac{55,528}{67,713}$ |

Number of persons employed by the company at the end of the year:

```
Full - time
Part - time
```

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |
| :--- | :--- |
| No. | No. |
| 660 | 739 |
| $\mathbf{1 4 1}$ | 127 |
| 801 | 866 |

## 6 Taxation Expense

(a) Income tax is computed on the profit for the year adjusted for tax purposes and comprises income tax at 33 1/3\%

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | 2003 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Current tax | $\$ ' 000$ | $\$ ' 000$ |
| Tax credit on bonus issue of shares | 290,448 | 393,866 |
| Adjustment to prior year provision | $(97,388)$ | $(49,940)$ |
| Deferred tax (Note 21) | $(2,541)$ | $(38)$ |
|  | $\frac{90,370}{280,889}$ | $\frac{155,904}{499,792}$ |
| $========$ |  |  |

(b) Reconciliation of applicable tax charge to effective tax charge:

| 2004 | 2003 |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 1000$ | $\$ ' 000$ |

Profit before taxation
Tax calculated at 33 1/3\%
Adjusted for the effect of
Tax credit on bonus issue of shares
Adjustment to prior year provision Other charges and allowances
Income tax expense

| 1,140,995 | 1,657,227 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 380,332 | 552,409 |
| $(97,388)$ | $(49,940)$ |
| $(2,541)$ | (38) |
| 486 | $(2,639)$ |
| 280,889 | 499,792 |


|  | 2004 | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Ordinary, gross - | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ |
| Interim declared - 0.45 cents per share (2003-55 cents) | 10,787 | 878,945 |
| Final proposed - 10 cents per share (2003-0.42 cents) | $\frac{239,712}{250,499}$ | $\frac{10,068}{889,013}$ |

## 8 Earnings per Stock Unit

Basic earnings per stock unit is calculated by dividing the net profit attributable to stockholders by the weighted average number of ordinary stock units in issue during the year.

| 2004 | 2003 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 860,106 | $1,157,435$ |
| $2,397,123$ | $2,397,123$ |
| $\$ 0.36$ | $\$ 0.48$ <br> $=========$ |

The comparative figure for the previous year has been adjusted to reflect the issue of 799,040,533 bonus shares during the year (Note 19(a)).

There was no dilution of earnings per share as a result of the share options outstanding at year end (Note 19(b)).

9 Fixed Assets

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Freehold } \\ \text { Land \& } \\ \text { Buildings } \\ \$ 1000 \end{array}$ | Equipment, Fixtures \& Fittings \$'000 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Motor } \\ \text { Vehicles } \\ \$ ' 000 \end{array}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Total } \\ & \$ 1000 \\ & \hline \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cost or Valuation - |  |  |  |  |
| 1 April 2003 | 1,002,676 | 311,475 | 33,805 | 1,347,956 |
| Additions | 18,354 | 53,400 | 17,023 | 88,777 |
| Disposals | - | (249) | $(2,278)$ | $(2,527)$ |
| 31 March 2004 | 1,021,030 | 364,626 | 48,550 | 1,434,206 |

Depreciation -
l April 2003
Charge for the year
On disposals
31 March 2004
Net Book Value -
31 March 2004
31 March 2003

| - | 164,046 | 20,397 | 184,443 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 8,094 | 32,990 | 6,854 | 47,938 |
| - | (94) | $(2,084)$ | $(2,178)$ |
| 8,094 | 196,942 | 25,167 | 230,203 |
| 1,012,936 | 167,684 | 23,383 | 1,204,003 |
| 1,002,676 | 147,429 | 13,408 | 1,163,513 |

(a) Freehold land and buildings includes $\$ 211,677,000$ in respect of land.
(b) Freehold land and buildings were revalued in 2003, on the basis of open market value, by Langford and Brown, valuers and real estate agent. The deficit arising from these valuations was written off against capital reserves arising from previous upward valuation of the same properties (Note 20).
(c) The historical cost of land is $\$ 49,575,000$. If buildings were stated on the historical cost basis, the cost would be $\$ 275,366,000$ with accumulated depreciation of $\$ 21,717,000$ (2003 - $\$ 18,964,000$ ).

## 10 Goodwill

This represents goodwill arising on the acquisition of an established furniture retailing business, and is being amortised over 20 years commencing 1999.

Cost
Less: Amortisation

## 11 Retirement Benefit Asset

The company operates a defined benefit pension plan administered by Guardian Life Limited, in which all permanent employees must participate. The company contributes at a rate of $5 \%$
of pensionable salaries. Employees contribute at a mandatory rate of $5 \%$, and may make voluntary contributions not exceeding a further 5\%. The plan is valued by independent actuaries annually using the Projected Unit Credit Method.

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are determined as follows:

Fair value of plan assets
Present value of funded obligation
Unrecognised actuarial (gains)/losses
Asset in the balance sheet

$$
\begin{array}{rr}
(163,722) \\
\hline 236,677 & \frac{18,188}{16,980}
\end{array}
$$

Movement in the asset recognised in the balance sheet:

At 1 April
Amounts recognised in the profit and loss account
Contributions paid
At 31 March
d
At 31 March
The amounts recognised in the profit and loss account are

| 2004 |
| ---: |
| $\$ 1000$ |
| 216,980 |
| 16,566 |
| 3,131 |
| 236,677 |
| $========$ |

$$
\begin{array}{cr}
515,379 \\
\frac{(114,980)}{400,399} & \frac{315,471}{198,679)} \\
\frac{(163,722)}{236,677} & 2 \frac{18,188}{16,980}
\end{array}
$$

|  | 2004 $\$ ' 000$ | $\begin{array}{r} 2003 \\ \$ ' 000 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current service cost, net of employee contributions | 2,007 | 933 |
| Interest cost | $(16,119)$ | $(11,328)$ |
| Expected return on plan assets | 30,678 | 26,709 |
| Included in staff costs | 16,566 | 16,314 |

The actual return on plan assets was $\$ 184,991,000$ (2003-\$26,976,000).
The principal actuarial assumptions used were as follows:

| Discount rate | $12.5 \%$ | $12.5 \%$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Inflation rate | $7.5 \%$ | $7.5 \%$ |
| Future pension increases | $2.5 \%$ | $2.5 \%$ |
| Expected return on plan assets | $9.5 \%$ | $9.5 \%$ |
| Future salaries increases | $10.0 \%$ | $10.0 \%$ |

The average expected remaining working lives of the employees was 25.5 years (2003 - 26.3).

## 12 Long Term Hire Purchase Receivables

Hire purchase receivables
Less: Unearned charges

Less: Impairment for doubtful accounts
Less: Current portion (Note 13)

13

## Receivables

Current portion of hire purchase receivables (Note 12) Prepayments
Other

14
Inventories

2004

## \$'000

2003

5,325,329 4,160,567 $\begin{array}{cc}\frac{(984,316)}{4,341,013} & 3,459,057 \\ \frac{(179,758)}{4,161,255} & 3, \frac{(153,357)}{305,700} \\ \frac{(1,934,452)}{2,226,803} & \frac{(1,035,439)}{2,270,261} \\ =============== & ===\end{array}$

20042003
'000 \$'000

$$
\begin{array}{rr}
1,934,452 & 1,035,439 \\
8,738 & 8,344 \\
68,844 \\
\hline 2,012,034 & 1,135,819 \\
========= & ===========
\end{array}
$$

2004 2003
'000 \$'000
749,389 540,679

(a)Cash is comprised mainly of amounts held in current accounts, which do not attract interest.
(b) This security has been classified as available-for-sale and attracts an interest rate of $18 \%$ (2003 - 18\%). The security matures in 90 days (2003-70 days).
(c) The company entered into resale agreements collateralised by Government of Jamaica securities. These agreements may result in credit exposure in the event that the counterparty to the transaction is unable to fulfill its contractual obligation The weighted average effective interest rate on these fixed rate resale agreements was $26 \%(2003-17 \%)$ and these investments have an average maturity of 4 days.

Payables

Trade payables
Accrued vacation Accruals
Other payables

| $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ ' 000$ | $\$ ' 000$ |
| 65,071 | 57,690 |
| 19,783 | 10,637 |
| 128,225 | 122,897 |
| $\frac{14,381}{227,460}$ | $\frac{54,492}{245,716}$ |


| 2004 | 2003 |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ ' 000$ | $\$ ' 000$ |
|  |  |
| 56,024 | 36,889 |
| 41,347 | 65,679 |
| $\frac{(49,643)}{47,728}$ | $\frac{(46,544)}{56,024}$ |
| $\frac{60,925}{108,653}$ | $\frac{-}{56,024}$ |

18 Short Term Loans and Overdrafts

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | 2003 |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| (a) Bank loan - unsecured | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ |
| (b) Promissory notes | 100,000 | 190,000 |
| (c) Bank overdrafts - unsecured | 680,405 | - |
|  |  | $1, \frac{250,842}{031,247}$ |

(a) The bank loan represents working capital borrowings repayable on 1 April 2004 (2003 - 30 April 2003)
The loan attracts interest at a rate of $20 \%$ (2003 - 36\%) per annum and is unsecured.
(b) The promissory notes represent working capital borrowings with a weighted average interest rate of $15.51 \%$ and an average maturity of 30 days. Approximately $\$ 79$ million is guaranteed by a Letter of Comfort from the parent company, courts plc. The balance is unsecured
(c) The company has unsecured overdraft facilities of $\$ 300,000,000$ with The Bank of Nova Scotia Jamaica Limited, $\$ 260,000,000$ with RBTT Bank Jamaica Limited and $\$ 350,000,000$ with The National Commercial Bank (Jamaica) Limited. The weighted average effective interest rate on the overdraft facilities was 20.79\% (2003 - 22.56\%)

Authorised 2,400,000,000 (2003-1,600,000,000) ordinary shares of 50 cents each
ordinary shares of 50 cents each 1,200,000 $\begin{aligned} \text { ssued and fully paid, } 2,397,123,000(2003-1,598,082,000) & ========= \\ \text { ordinary stock units of } 50 \text { cents each } & 1,198,562\end{aligned}$ $\qquad$
(a) During the year, the authorised share capital of the company was increased by $\$ 400,000,000$ by the creation of $800,000,000$ ordinary shares of 50 cents each. A total of $799,040,553$ shares were then issued at par as fully paid up bonus shares by the capitalisation of $\$ 399,520,277$ of current year profits. The shares were then converted to stock units ranking parri passu with existing stock units.
(b) Share options -

The Share Option Trust has purchased shares from which future share options are exercisable. At the year end, there were outstanding share options exercisable as follows:
(i) Exercisable by 2 Executive Directors, 1 of whom is to acquire 50,000 shares and the other 66,667 shares. These options are exercisable on or after 17 January 2005 at a price of $\$ 2.83$ per share.
(ii) Exercisable by an Executive Director to acquire 50,000 shares. This option is exercisable on or after 17 January 2005 at a price of $\$ 5.55$ per share.
(iii) Exercisable by 2 Executive Directors to acquire 50,000 shares each. These options are exercisable on or after 31 October 2007 at a price of $\$ 3.38$ per share.
(iv) Exercisable by an Executive Director to acquire 60,000 shares. These options are exercisable on or after 10 December 2008 at a price of $\$ 2.61$ per share.
(v) Exercisable by 5 Senior Managers to acquire 10,000 shares each. These options are exercisable on or after 17 January 2005 at a price of $\$ 2.83$ per share.
(vi) Exercisable by a Senior Manager to acquire 10,000 shares. This option is
exercisable on or after 17 January 2005 at a price of $\$ 5.55$ per share.
(vii) Exercisable by a Senior Manager to acquire 15,000 shares. This option is exercisable on or after 31 October 2007 at a price of $\$ 3.38$ per share.

The option agreement provides for a proportionate increase in the number of shares available under the option, in respect of bonus shares issued by way of capitalisation of profits or reserves.
(c) At 31 March 2004, the Share Option Trust held 18,152,000 (2003-12,101,000) units of the company's stock.

20 Capital Reserve

Realised capital gains
Unrealised surplus on revaluation of fixed assets,
net of applicable deferred taxes

| 2004 | 2003 |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$ 1000$ | $\$ 1000$ |

## 21 Deferred Income Taxes

Deferred income taxes are calculated in full on temporary differences under the liability method using a principal rate of $331 / 3 \%$. The movement on the deferred income tax account is as follows:

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ |
| At 1 April |  | 616,959 |
| Credited to equity - revaluation of buildings | - | 471,083 |
| Charged to the profit and loss account (Note 6) | $\frac{90,370}{707,329}$ | $\frac{155,904}{616,959}$ |
| At 31 March |  |  |

Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities.

The movement in deferred tax assets and liabilities, prior to offsetting of balances, is as follows:

|  | 2004 $\$ ' 000$ | 2003 $\$ 1000$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Deferred income tax assets |  |  |
| Excess of depreciation over capital allowances | 43,402 | 40,249 |
| Other | 9,802 | 7,711 |
|  | 53,204 | 47,960 |
|  | 2004 | 2003 |
|  | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Deferred income tax liabilities |  |  |
| Hire purchase profits deferred for taxation purposes | 478,462 | 389,760 |
| Retirement benefits | 78,892 | 72,327 |
| Revaluation of buildings | 195,283 | 195,283 |
| Other | 7,896 | 7,549 |
|  | 760,533 | 664,919 |
| These balances include the following: | 2004 | 2003 |
|  | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Deferred tax assets to be settled after more than 12 months |  |  |
| Deferred tax liabilities to be recovered after more than 12 months | 274,175 | 267,610 |

The deferred tax charged to the profit and loss account comprises the following temporary differences:

|  | 2004 | 2003 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| Hire purchase profits deferred for taxation purposes | 88,702 | 154,543 |
| Retirement benefits | 6,565 | 8,599 |
| Excess of depreciation over capital allowances | $(3,153)$ | $(9,519)$ |
| Other | $(1,744)$ | 2,281 |
|  | 90,370 | 155,904 |

During the year, the company entered into transactions with related companies as follows:

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
|  | $\mathbf{\$ ' 0 0 0}$ | $\mathbf{\$ ' 0 0 0}$ |
| Computer charges | 61,299 | 24,858 |
| Interest income | 20,932 | 899 |
| Interest expense | 1,421 | 613 |
| Management fees | - | 7,693 |
| Other charges | 20,039 | 12,442 |
| Purchases and expenses | $2,421,960$ | $1,307,184$ |

Related companies include the parent company and fellow subsidiaries.

## 23 Commitments

Commitments under operating leases are scheduled for payment as follows:

|  | $\mathbf{2 0 0 4}$ | $\mathbf{2 0 0 3}$ |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| In the year ending 31 March | 2004 | $\mathbf{\$ \prime} 000$ | $\mathbf{\$ \prime 0 0 0}$ |
|  | 2005 | - | 14,256 |
|  | 2006 | 19,775 | 13,696 |
|  | 2007 | 19,542 | 11,351 |
| 2008 | 7,762 | 5,287 |  |
| 2009 | 4,621 | 1,320 |  |

## 24 Financial Risk Management

The company's activities expose it to a variety of financial risks, including the effects of changes in debt market prices, foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. Management seeks to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of the company by applying procedures to identify, evaluate and manage these risks, based on guidelines set by the Board of Directors.
(a) Currency risk

Currency risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate
because of changes in foreign exchange rates. The main currencies giving rise to
this risk are the United States dollar, British pound and Eastern Caribbean dollar.

| 2004 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| US\$'000 | $£^{\prime} 000$ | EC\$'000 |


| 2003 |  |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| US\$'000 £'000 | EC\$'000 |  |

Cash and bank
Securities purchased under resale
agreements
Parent company
Due from affiliates

| 152 | - | - |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 713 | - | - |
| - | 110 | - |
| - | - | 149 |
| 865 | 110 | 149 |

Liabilities
Payables
Short term loans and overdrafts
Parent company
Due to affiliates
Net Assets/(Liabilities)

| - | - | - |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 5,449 | - | - |
| - | - | - |
| 661 | - | - |
| 6,110 | 110 | 149 |


| 215 | - | - |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| - | - | - |
| - | - | - |
| 215 | - | 112 |
| $(55)$ | - | - |
| - | - | - |
| - | $(147)$ | - |
| $(1,116)$ | - | - |
| $(1,171)$ | $(147)$ | - |
| $(956)$ | $(147)$ | 112 |

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will
fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The table below summarises the company's exposure to interest rate risks. Included in the table are the company's assets and liabilities at carrying amounts, categorised by the earlier of contractual repricing or maturity dates

| Weighted |  | Weighted |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| average | Weighted | average |
| period for | average | period |
| which rate | interest | until |
| al | is fixed | rate |
| 00 | years | $\circ$ |
| 0 | yearity |  |

Assets
Long term hire-purchase
receivables

| - | $2,226,803$ | - | $2,226,803$ |
| ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| - | $1,934,452$ | 68,844 | $2,012,034$ |
| - | 25,000 | - | $(25,000)$ |
| - | 427,929 | - | 427,929 |
| - | 12,030 |  | 12,030 |
| - | - | 46,774 | 46,774 |
| - | - | 45,623 | 45,623 |
| - | $4,626,214$ | 161,241 | $4,787,455$ |
| - | - | 336,113 | 336,113 |
| - | - | 49,418 | 49,418 |
| 780,405 | 250,842 | - | $1,031,247$ |
| 780,405 | 250,842 | 385,531 | $1,416,778$ |
| $(780,405)$ | $4,375,372$ | $(224,290)$ | $3,370,677$ |


| 1.70 | 19 | 1.70 |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| 1 | 19 | 1 |
| 1 | 18 | 0.25 |
| 0.01 | 26 | 0.08 |
| 1 | - | 0.08 |
| - | - | 0.08 |
| - | - | - |
|  | - | 0.08 |
| - | - | 0.08 |
| - | 17.30 | 0.08 |

(c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will fail to discharge an obligation and cause the other party to incur a financial loss. The company has no significant concentration of credit risk attaching to
hire purchase receivables as the company has a large and diverse customer base with no significant balances arising from any single economic or business sector, or any single entity or group of entities. The company has policies in place to ensure that sales are made to customers with an appropriate credit history. Hire purchase receivables balance are shown net of provision for impairment for doubtful debts

Cash and short-term investments are held with substantial financial institutions. A significant level of investments is held in various forms of government instruments.
(d) Liquidity risk

[^0]instruments. Liquidity risk may result from an inability to sell a financial asset quickly at close to its fair value. Prudent liquidity risk management implies maintaining sufficient cash and marketable securities, and the availability of funding through an adequate amount of committed credit facilities. Due to the dynamic nature of the underlying businesses, the management of the company aims at maintaining flexibility in funding by keeping committed lines of credit available.
(e) Cash flow risk

Cash flow risk is the risk that future cash flows associated with a monetary financial instrument will fluctuate in amount and timing. The company manages this risk by ensuring, as far as possible, that financial assets and liabilities are matched to mitigate any significant adverse cash flows.

## 25 Fair Values of Financial Instruments

Fair value is the amount for which an asset could be exchanged, or a liability settled, between knowledgeable, willing parties in an arm's length transaction. Market price is used to determine fair value where an active market exists as it is the best evidence of the fair value of a financial instrument. However, market prices are not available for a significant number of the financial assets and liabilities held and issued by the company. Therefore, for financial instruments where no market price is available, the fair values presented have been estimated using present value or other estimation and valuation techniques based on market conditions existing at balance sheet dates. The values derived from applying these techniques are significantly affected by the underlying assumptions used concerning both the amounts and timing of future cash flows and the discount rates. The following methods and assumptions have been used:
(a)the fair value of liquid assets and other assets maturing within one year is assumed to approximate their carrying amount. This assumption is applied to liquid assets and the short-term elements of all other financial assets and financial liabilities;
(b) the fair value of variable rate financial instruments is assumed to approximate their carrying amounts; and
(c) the fair value of long term hire purchase receivables are determined by discounting the expected cash inflows using the market rate of interest for similar instruments.

The following table summarises the carrying amount and fair value of financial asset not presented on the company's balance sheet at its fair value:

| Carrying | Fair | Carrying | Fair |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Value | Value | Value | Value |
| 2004 | 2004 | 2003 | 2003 |
| \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 | \$'000 |
| 5,325,329 | 4,050,120 | 4,160,567 | 3,161,054 |

## 26 Contingent Liabilities

(a) The company has received from the Commissioner of Inland Revenue notices of reassessment in respect of its corporate tax liabilities for the years ended 31 March 1992 - 1994 and 1996 - 1997 which, if successful, would result in demands for increased taxation for those periods totalling $\$ 53,701,000$. The reassessment, against which the company has already lodged a formal objection, results from the bringing into account for tax purposes, profits deferred by the company in its accounts.

At the date of these financial statements, these matters remain under discussion, however it is the opinion of the Board of Directors, that they will be favourably resolved.
(b) The company serves jointly, along with other subsidiaries of Courts PLC, as guarantor for revolving credit facilities extended to the group through the parent company by a consortium of financial institutions. The company's obligation under this guarantee is limited to the aggregate from time to time of:
(i) the outstanding amount of all letters of credit issued in relation to obligations of the company; and
(ii)the aggregate amount directly or indirectly attributed to the company out of the proceeds of the facility by way of intercompany loan or otherwise.

## 27 Subsequent Events

The company had been assessed by the Customs Department for increased duties and General Consumption Tax of approximately $\$ 61$ million in respect of merchandise imported during the period January 1997 to August 2000. The additional charge was based on the Customs

Department's contention that amounts paid to Courts Worldwide Purchasing should have been included in the valuation of the imported merchandise.

The Board of Directors had been appealing the matter, on the grounds that these payments were part of a cost-recovery charge by Courts Worldwide Purchasing. Subsequent to the year end, the company was unsuccessful in its appeal and a provision for the entire amount has been made in these financial statements (Note 17).

## 28 Financial Effects of Adopting International Financial Reporting Standards

The company adopted International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRSs) effective 1 April 2003. Prior to that date, the financial statements of the company were prepared in accordance with Jamaican generally accepted accounting principles (JGAAP). The results and financial position for the year ended 31 March 2003 have been restated to reflect the changes. The financial effects of conversion from JGAAP to IFRSs are set out as follows:
(a) Reconciliation of stockholders' equity at 1 April 2002:

## Previous JGAAP \$'000

Non-Current Assets
Fixed assets
Goodwill
Retirement benefit asset (i)
Long term hire purchase receivables (ii Net current assets (ii), (iii), (iv)

Stockholders' Equity
Share capital
Capital reserve (v)
Retained earnings (i), (ii), (iii), (v)
$1,050,284$
12,000
-
522,376
$\frac{1,650,635}{3,235,295}$
$=========$
599,281
617,903
-
$\frac{2,018,111}{3,235,295}$

Non-Current Liabilities
Deferred tax liabilities (v)

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \frac{-235,295}{3,2} \\
& ========
\end{aligned}
$$

(b) Reconciliation of stockholders' equity at 31 March 2003:

Effect of Transition

$\$ 1000$

## IFRSS

 \$'0001,050,284 12,000 191,183 1,228,026 1,671,237 4,152,730 $========$
599,281 412,592 28,415 2,641,359 3,681,647
$\frac{471,083}{917,435}$
$=======$
$=========$

|  | $\begin{array}{r} \text { Previous } \\ \text { JGAAP } \\ \$ ' 000 \end{array}$ | Effect of Transition to IFRSs \$'000 | $\begin{aligned} & \text { IFRSs } \\ & \$ ' 000 \end{aligned}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Non-Current Assets |  |  |  |
| Fixed assets | 1,163,513 | - | 1,163,513 |
| Goodwill | 11,250 | - | 11,250 |
| Retirement benefit asset (i) | - | 216,980 | 216,980 |
| Long term hire purchase receivables (ii) | 1,100,981 | 1,169,280 | 2,270,261 |
| Net current assets (ii), (iii), (iv) | 876,124 | (569) | 875,555 |
|  | 3,151,868 | 1,385,691 | 4,537,559 |
| Stockholders' Equity |  |  |  |
| Share capital | 799,041 | - | 799,041 |
| Capital reserve (v) | 596,753 | $(195,283)$ | 401,470 |
| Dividends proposed (iv) | - | 10,068 | 10,068 |
| Retained earnings (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) | 1,756,074 | 953,947 | 2,710,021 |
|  | 3,151,868 | 768,732 | 3,920,600 |
| Non-Current Liabilities |  |  |  |
| Deferred tax liabilities (v) | - - | 616,959 | 616,959 |
|  | 3,151,868 | 1,385,691 | 4,537,559 |

(c) Reconciliation of net profit for year ended 31 March 2003:

Turnover (ii)
Cost of sales
Gross Profit
Other operating income
Administration expenses (i), (iii) Distribution cost
Operating Profit
Finance income, net


Profit before deferred profit transfer Deferred profit transfer (ii)
Profit before Taxation
Taxation (ii), (v)
NET PROFIT

| $1,745,086$ | $(87,859)$ | $1,657,227$ |
| :--- | :---: | ---: |
| $\frac{(574,462)}{1,170,624}$ | $\frac{574,462}{486,603}$ | $\frac{-}{1,657,227}$ |
| $\frac{(343,888)}{826,736}$ | $\frac{(155,904)}{330,699}$ | $\frac{(499,792)}{1,157,435}$ |

Brief description of each item of difference:
(i) Provision for pension obligations, which was not required under previous JGAAP, is now made in full (Note 11). The provision for pension obligations is determined by independent actuaries using the Projected Unit Credit Method.
(ii) Profits previously deferred on hire purchase contracts have been included in accordance with IAS 17- Leases, which provides for the recognition of such contracts and IAS 18 Revenue, which requires the gross inflows of economic benefits received and receivable by the enterprise on its own account to be included in turnover.
(iii) Under IFRSs, companies are required to recognise outstanding vacation due to employees. As a result, $\$ 10,637,000(2002-\$ 7,813,000)$ was accrued and included in payables.
(iv) IAS 10 determines when an enterprise should adjust its financial statements for events after the balance sheet date. Where dividends to holders of equity shares are proposed or declared after the balance sheet date, an enterprise should not recognise those dividends as a liability at the balance sheet date. Accordingly, dividends payable amounting to $\$ 10,068,000(2002-\$ 28,415,000)$ have been reclassified and shown as proposed dividends as a separate component of stockholders' equity.
(v) Provision for deferred tax is made in full using the liability method (Note 20). No provision for deferred tax was made under previous JGAAP.


[^0]:    Liquidity risk, also referred to as funding risk, is the risk that the company will encounter difficulty in raising funds to meet commitments associated with financial

