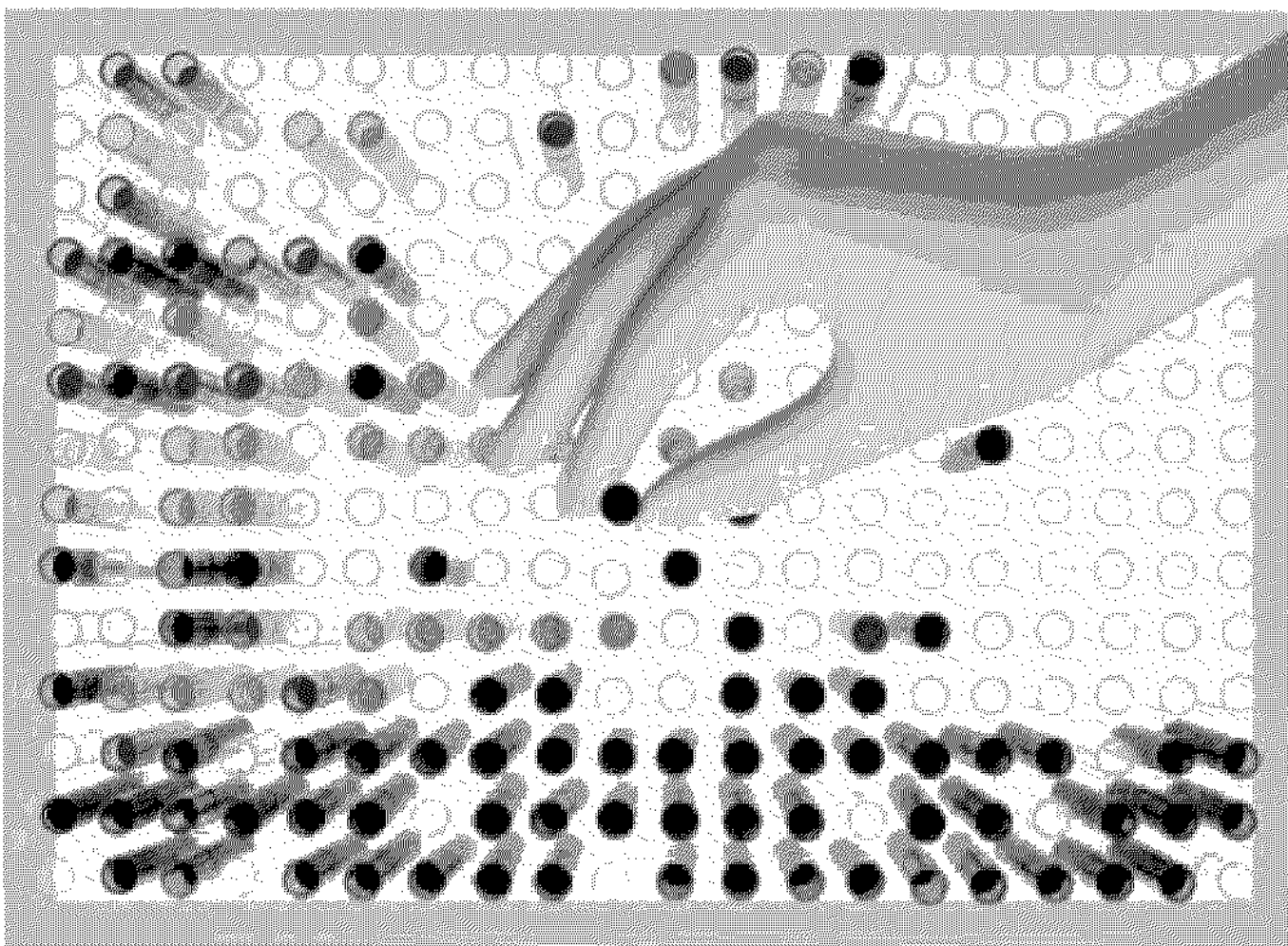


Ansell

ANNUAL REVIEW 2004



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Ansell Limited ABN 89 064 085 530

The Annual General Meeting will be held in the Melbourne Exhibition Centre, 2 Clarendon Street, Southbank on Thursday 14 October 2004 at 10.00 am. Details of the business of the meeting are contained in the Notice of Meeting enclosed with this Annual Review. Shareholders unable to attend the Annual General Meeting are encouraged to participate in the Company's affairs by completing and returning the proxy form enclosed with the Notice of Meeting.

The United States dollar (US\$) is the predominant global currency of our business transactions. To assist readers, United States dollar values are included in this report wherever appropriate. Unless otherwise stated, all values appearing in this report are Australian dollars.

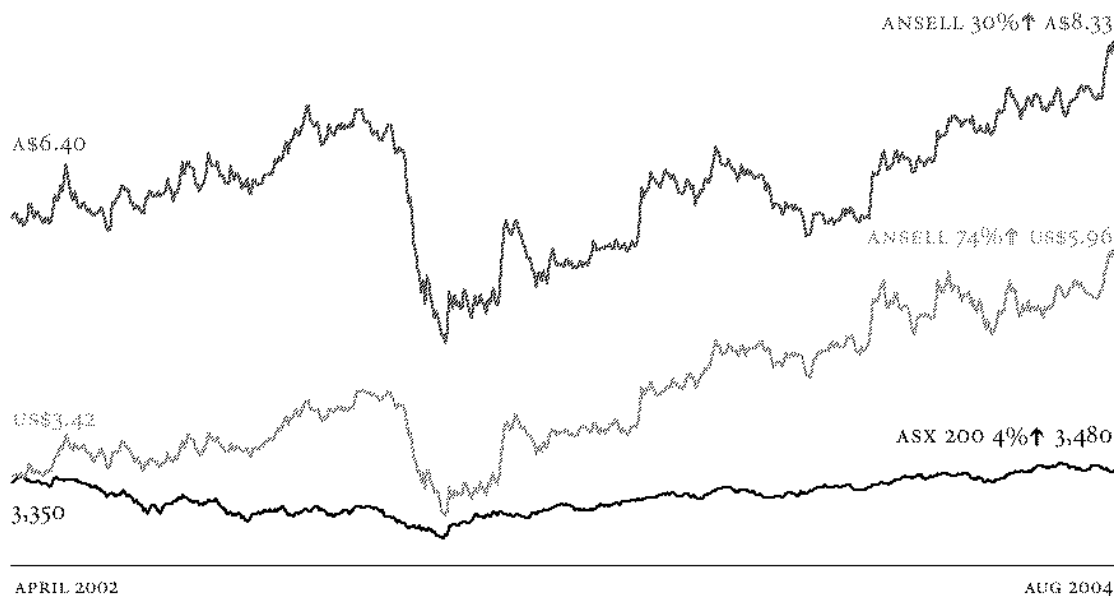
Ansell's Progress

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of shareholders in April 2002, we made a multi-year commitment to grow EBITA of the Ansell Healthcare business by 50% by the end of financial year 2005.

OUR PROGRESS TO DATE

FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE	EBITA			YEAR-ON-YEAR IMPROVEMENT
	OBJECTIVE US\$M	ACTUAL US\$M		
2002	>77	85	✓	+10%
2003	>92	94	✓	+11%
2004	>103	104	✓	+11%
2005	115			

DURING THAT PERIOD OUR SHARE PRICE HAS INCREASED AT A RATE SIGNIFICANTLY ABOVE THE MOVEMENT IN THE ASX 200 INDEX



↑42%

Profit after tax attributable to shareholders for financial year 2004 is 42% higher (72% in US\$ terms) than for the prior period.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

	2004			2003		
	GROUP \$M	ANSELL HEALTHCARE \$M	US\$M	GROUP \$M	ANSELL HEALTHCARE \$M	US\$M
Sales	1,113	1,113	792	1,294	1,294	759
EBITA	133	146	104	137	160	94
Non-Recurring Items	(2)			(6)		
Net Profit after Tax	71			50		
Total Assets	1,499			1,579		
Total Funds Employed	930			1,031		
Return on Shareholders' Equity (%)	8.8			5.6		
Shares on Issue (million)	176			186		
Earnings per share (cents)	39.1			26.7		
Dividend per share (cents)	13.0			11.0		

Earnings before interest, tax and amortisation (EBITA) of the core Ansell Healthcare business are 11.2% higher than the previous year in US\$ terms (8.3% lower in A\$ terms due to differences in translation between the two years), thereby meeting the FY2004 commitment to shareholders and the market made at the Extraordinary General Meeting held in April 2002.

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

My initial message to shareholders in the Annual Review for 2002 emphasised that your Board and management were intent on delivering the commitments made to shareholders at the Extraordinary General Meeting held in April of that year. Our clear commitment was to:

FOCUS – to market protective products in a broad healthcare context

INNOVATE – to offer safety, productivity and customer solutions

PERFORM – to maximise performance to meet earnings growth

We also committed to specific earnings targets for the Ansell Healthcare business for each of the 2003, 2004 and 2005 financial years.

I am delighted to report that the 2004 financial year has been a highly creditable one for Ansell, with the Company having again met its commitments.

Profit after tax attributable to shareholders of \$70.7 million (US\$50.4 million) for the 2004 financial year is 42% higher (72% in US dollar terms) than for the previous year. Operation Full Potential and other initiatives undertaken during the past two years that are now embedded within the core operating businesses underpinned this solid result.

Change within the Company, while at not quite the frantic pace of the preceding two years, was nonetheless relentless and will continue as we refine and re-define every element of our business to optimise shareholder value.

Ansell's ongoing and strong cash generation has enabled the Company to maintain a strong balance sheet with ample capacity for expansion. A final dividend of seven cents (unfranked), making a total dividend for the year of 13 cents, has been declared and will be paid on 14 October 2004.

At the Annual General Meeting to be held on 14 October 2004, approval will be sought for a buy-back of shares under an off-market arrangement, full details of which are provided to shareholders in a separate share buy-back offer document. Your Board believes that the buy-back is in the interest of all shareholders and we encourage shareholder support for the proposal.

The Board has also conducted an extensive corporate governance review during the past two years and has embedded both within the boardroom and within the organisation a strong culture of ethics and transparency.

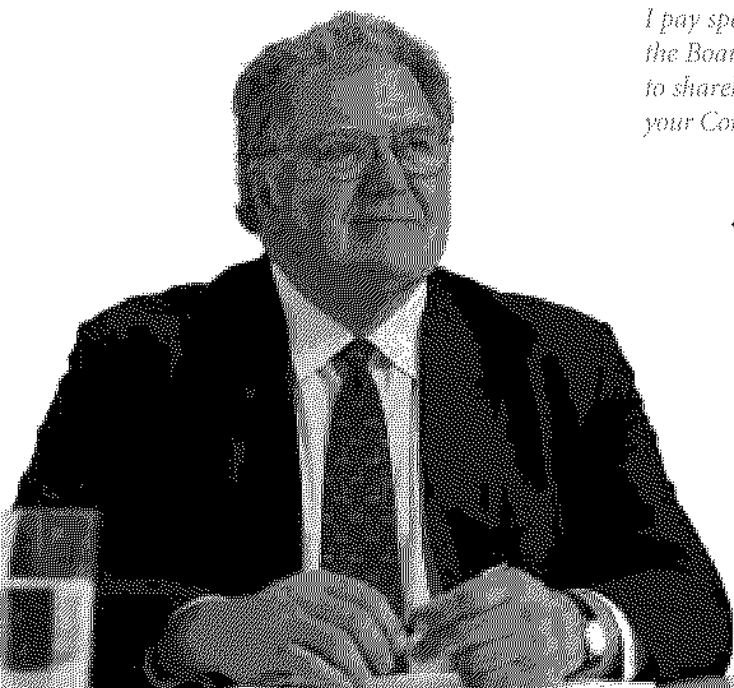
In May 2004, Douglas D. Tough joined the company to replace Harry Boon, who retired on 30 June as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director after more than 28 years with Ansell. Harry's contribution to the Company, and particularly his stewardship over Operation Full Potential during the past two years, is to be highly commended.

Coupled with Doug's extensive international experience with high-profile organisations is a renewed vitality and vigour that he brings to the Company as he sets out to lead Ansell through its next development phase.

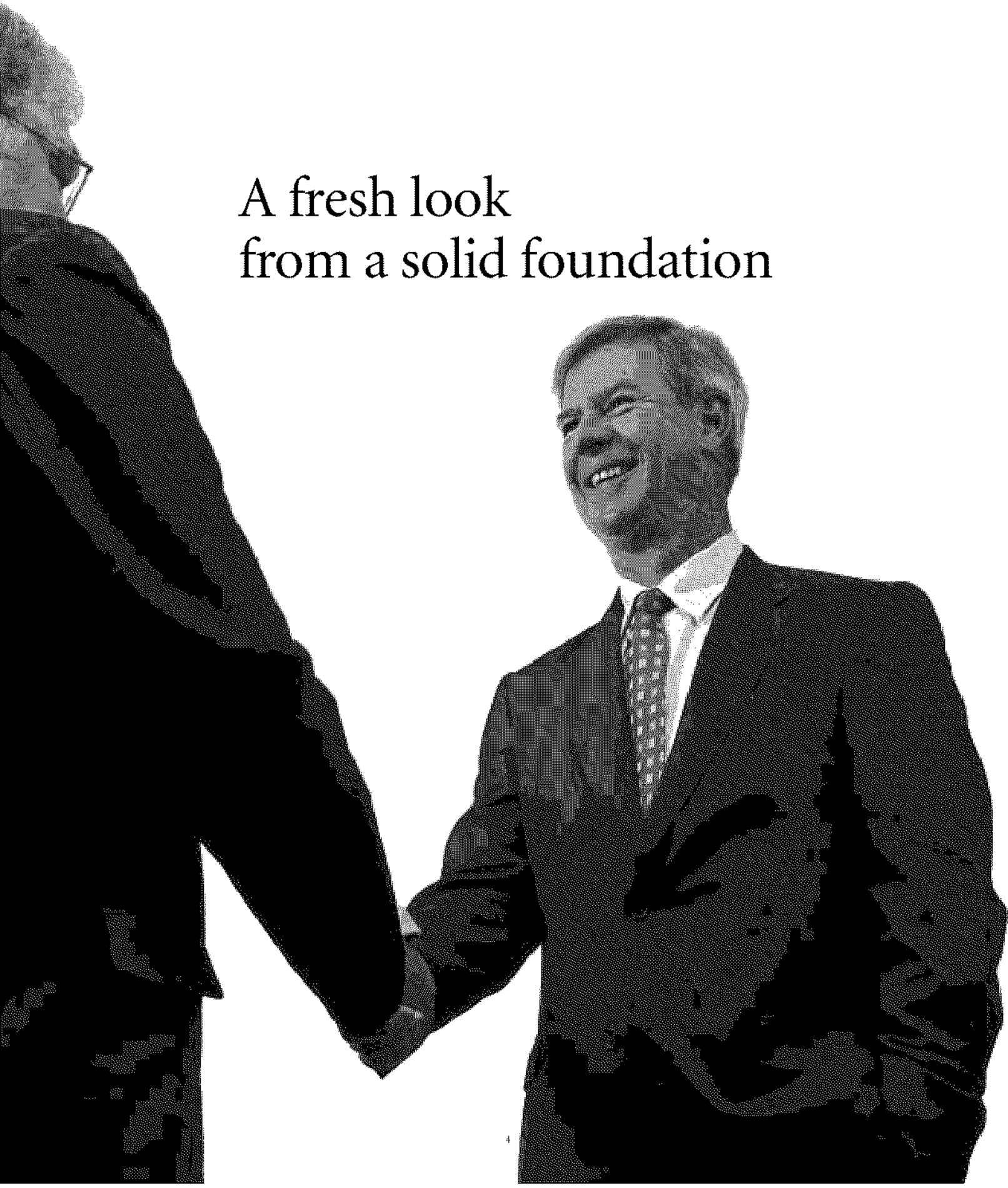
With Ansell now three successful years into its recovery program, I pay special tribute to the entire dedicated Ansell team, and to the Board whose single-minded pursuit of meeting its commitments to shareholders has delivered substantial progress and ensured that your Company has a strong and viable growth platform for the future.



Dr Ed Tweddel Chairman



A fresh look
from a solid foundation



Shareholders, employees and stakeholders, I am taking office as Chief Executive Officer of Ansell Limited at a very exciting time. I hope you will join with me and the Board in embracing the challenges, opportunities and potential that stand before the Company in the coming years.

Under the stewardship of my predecessor, Harry Boon, the Company continued to focus on improving shareholder returns with the core Ansell Healthcare business delivering earnings before interest, tax and amortisation (EBITA) of \$146.3 million (US\$ 104.1 million) thereby meeting, for the third successive year, commitments made to shareholders at our Extraordinary General Meeting held in April 2002.

These gratifying results for financial year 2004 are a testament to the efforts of all our people as they were delivered in a year that had its challenges: record level prices for energy, water and our key raw material, natural rubber latex. We were also faced with currency-associated price reductions in Europe and Australia, and global pricing pressure on latex examination gloves. Competition was rigorous across the range of countries and market segments in which we operate, forcing us to be smarter, faster and more creative with our resources.

The sustained improvement in the Company's results enabled the reintroduction of dividend payments and the continuation of a capital management model that saw capital returned to shareholders through an on-market share buy-back.

During the year we saw Operation Full Potential absorbed into the ethos of Ansell. As this program moved into its second phase the activities, capabilities and program structure were integrated into the respective business segments. We are also seeing the benefits of changes made within operations with new leadership, renewed focus and the launch of our operational excellence program.

The leadership transition has provided a great opportunity for a fresh look at Ansell. My first hundred days have been devoted to understanding the capabilities of the organisation, gaining knowledge of our people and processes and considering the opportunities that exist for growth. I have been enthused by what I've seen – the quality of our organisation and the variety of growth options. Given the strong foundation established over the last few years, Ansell's priorities going forward will be:

- *Sales Growth* – This is the lifeblood of our business. A key objective is to achieve top-line growth in volume and revenue. We believe the supply challenges of the recent past are over, and we are now concentrating on rejuvenating business momentum in each of our business segments and regions.

Ansell enjoys both organic and incremental growth potential. We continue to have 'base business' opportunities in our existing markets across all three segments to increase market share and sales volume. Geographically, we have much potential as we evaluate expansion into new markets – be they 'emerging markets' in Eastern Europe or 'virgin territories' such as China.

We are evaluating potential alliances with technology partners, which represent 'paradigm shifting' growth opportunities. Separately, with our strong capital base, we remain vigilant in pursuit of acquisition opportunities that fit our strategic, operational and financial guidelines.

- *Operational Excellence* – We have improved our manufacturing and supply chain operations in recent years, but there is further upside. Pursuit of operational excellence is a mindset and an expectation in all that we do. This approach, based on Six Sigma operational excellence doctrines, is being adopted right across the organisation and will assist in generating further efficiencies, thereby providing additional competitive advantage to our value chain.
- *New Products/Innovation* – We will continue to develop new products that provide competitive leverage, and will establish more effective, market-focused initiatives that channel our resources into 'winners' – products and initiatives that will make a difference to our customers. The development of a stronger pipeline of new products to foster revenue growth is a high priority.
- *New Business Opportunities* – We are undertaking a broad-scale review of strategic initiatives to help chart the path for the next phase of transformation and growth. We are clear that this growth must be additional to renewed growth from our existing core businesses.

In order to deliver on the plans for 2005 and beyond, we will rely on the continued motivation and enthusiasm of the global Ansell team. We will focus our efforts through prioritisation, ensuring delivery of focused programs through diligent and timely execution and by drawing heavily on our fundamental internal values of teamwork and accountability.

I am pleased to report that Ansell is in a very healthy condition as we commence the 2005 financial year. We continue to have solid market shares in all business segments, competitive brands, an efficient manufacturing base, a robust balance sheet, a committed team and excellent free cash flow. As an entrenched participant in the important and growing healthcare industry, we at Ansell look to the future with excitement, eagerness and a high degree of confidence that we can build on our strong foundation and continue to deliver on our goals and promises.



Doug Tough
Chief Executive Officer

Overview of Operations

ANSELL LIMITED

Profit after tax attributable to shareholders for financial year 2004 was \$70.7 million (US\$50.4 million), an increase of 41.7% (72.0% in US dollar terms) on the prior year.

Sales of \$1,113 million (US\$792 million) were 4.4% higher when expressed in US dollars, the Group's operating currency. Earnings before interest, tax and amortisation (EBITA) of the core Ansell Healthcare business were \$146.3 million (US\$104.1 million), up 11.2% in US dollar terms, representing the third consecutive year of double-digit EBITA growth.

Revenue gains were achieved in all business segments and regions. EBITA of the Occupational Healthcare segment of US\$52.8 million was 43.1% higher than the previous year from sales of US\$387.8 million. The Professional Healthcare segment EBITA was 9.2% lower at US\$28.7 million from sales of US\$271.6 million, while Consumer Healthcare EBITA was US\$22.6 million, 10.0% below the previous year, from sales of US\$132.5 million.

The proportional contributions of each business segment and region to Ansell's revenues and Healthcare segment EBITA appear on page 8.

Strong cash generation enabled borrowings to be reduced by a net \$36.6 million (US\$26.0 million) notwithstanding an outlay of \$96.4 million (US\$68.7 million) on share buy-backs and dividends. Interest cover improved from 6.4 times to 9.5 times, and gearing (net interest bearing debt as a percentage of net interest bearing debt plus equity) was lower at 12.8% compared with 18.2% for the previous year.

Non-recurring expenses comprising non-cash write-downs of property, equipment and investments, and provisions and expenses offset by a cash benefit from sales tax refunds related to discontinued operations, amounted to a net \$1.7 million (US\$1.2 million).

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTHCARE

The operational highlight of the year was the performance of the Occupational Healthcare segment. Two years ago this segment was lagging with an EBITA margin of 5.8%. This improved to 13.6% in financial year 2004 resulting from a revitalised product range and continued manufacturing and procurement improvements.

The expanding HyFlex® family of products continues to drive our Occupational Healthcare business which experienced 5.8% revenue growth (in US dollars) during 2004, with HyFlex® growing 26% year on year. Elsewhere, sales of our other knitted glove ranges were stronger in the second half, increasing 15% as a result of improved product availability from our facility in Mexico. We also saw benefits beginning to flow from our growing and innovative proprietary selling programs – Safety Net™ in Europe and Ansell Value Proposition in North America, which are now providing a competitive edge.

PROFESSIONAL HEALTHCARE

Sales growth in 2004 in US dollars was modest at 2.3% as we continued to concentrate on our market share recovery program in the US. Product improvements being introduced to the market are assisting the recovery.

Surgical glove sales in Europe were lower in the first half following a strategic decision to reduce our reliance on private label customers in favour of sales of Ansell branded product. We did, however, gain leading market share position in surgical gloves in France. Sales of examination gloves in Europe improved in the second half of the year as prices were adjusted to meet the competitive environment created by a stronger Euro.

CONSUMER HEALTHCARE

Sales in this segment were 4.5% higher (in US dollars) than the previous year, due primarily to an increase in condom sales where successful tender contracts in Brazil and India provided a 7% boost to condom volumes.

Condom marketing support programs in the US have paved the way for further growth although there has been a substantial increase in competition in a number of markets, especially in the UK where we are revising our approach. We continue to benefit from our partnership with Freudenberg Household Products, our global distributor of household gloves, as we launch our new, superior foam-lined household gloves onto the market.

MANUFACTURING OPERATIONS

We continued to derive the benefits of our concerted efforts to improve our manufacturing efficiencies and reduce manufacturing costs. We successfully completed the transfer of knitting operations from our former Ohio and Wilkesboro plants to our lower-cost facility in Salavcar, Mexico. In Asia, we focused on the consolidation and rationalisation between plants of a number of products to achieve the benefits of scale in our quest to become a high-value, low-cost supplier.

We introduced a new management philosophy using the renowned Six Sigma disciplines. The initial results, which include the benefits of improved quality and lower waste, are impressive and provide great confidence as we move towards our objective of global operational excellence.

SUPPLY CHAIN

Ansell's supply chain continues to develop an even more flexible global supply network focused on exceeding our customer expectations and delivering value to shareholders. During the year, this aim was achieved by supporting growth of our key brands, realising substantial sourcing savings and improving returns from our invested capital.

Our combination of experience and deep product understanding sets us apart in our ability to effectively manage manufacturing facilities, distribution centres and vendor partners across the globe while delivering premium quality products. A key initiative, Project STEP (Service Through Effective Planning), is a comprehensive redesign of our supply chain combined with the acquisition of new technology tools. STEP represents a commitment to operational excellence aimed at ensuring the supply chain continues to be a competitive advantage for Ansell.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Our Science and Technology group completed its relocation to Ansell's Centre for Innovation co-located with the Company's manufacturing operation at Shah Alam, Malaysia. The main Science and Technology Centre in Malaysia is supported by newly created satellite centres for application engineering specifically related to new product development.

The focus of the Science and Technology group is primarily on new product development and the improvement of manufacturing and product quality with fundamental research conducted in relation to 'breakthrough' technologies.

Approximately 50% of spending on research and development relates to Occupational Healthcare products and processes, with the balance split between Professional Healthcare and Consumer Healthcare.

OTHER GROUP ACTIVITIES

South Pacific Tyres, in which the Company has a 50/50 investment with The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, saw continued improvement in its operating results with 2004 up on 2003. These results are encouraging in that they were achieved in the face of higher raw material costs and increasing imports into Australia of low cost tyres.

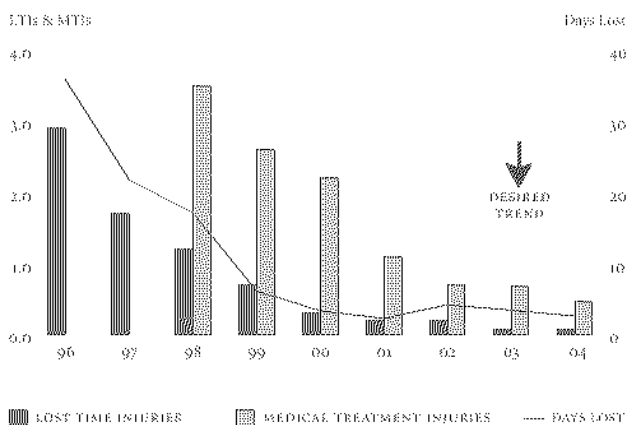
Based on these results and the current forecasts from South Pacific Tyres, it is expected that Ansell should recover the current carrying value of its investment. The investment in South Pacific Tyres is likely to be retained to the end of the option period which runs from August 2005 to August 2006. During this time the carrying value of Ansell's investment will be reviewed each half year and, if new facts or expectations emerge indicating the carrying value is impaired, appropriate action will be taken.

While some residual matters carried over from the former Company structure are yet to be resolved, these outstanding matters are being managed to resolution and are not considered material in the context of the Company.

ANSELL'S SAFETY CULTURE

Our safety culture, which has been in place since 1994, is an 'atmosphere' or 'way of working' throughout the organisation that influences safe behaviour and corrects unsafe acts and conditions before accidents occur. It is the result of many elements, of which management accountability and employee involvement are essential. The exceptionally low lost time injury rates of 0.08 per 100 employees and days lost of 2.41 per 100 employees are testament to the success of our approach.

Safety Performance
PER 100 EMPLOYEES PER ANNUM



Ansell Healthcare – Profile

The core Ansell Healthcare business operates in three broad market segments: Professional Healthcare (surgical and examination gloves); Occupational Healthcare (industrial hand protection); and Consumer Healthcare (condoms and household gloves).

The Company is organised across three geographic regions – the Americas, Europe and Asia Pacific – supported by a shared operations/supply chain, a Science and Technology group and global marketing teams.

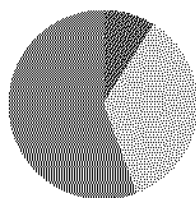
Proportional contributions to Ansell's revenues and Healthcare segment earnings before interest, tax and amortisation (EBITA) calculated in the Company's operating currency (US dollars), for the 2004 financial year are:

	% OF ANSELL HEALTHCARE	
	REVENUE	EBITA
	US\$ 791 MILLION	US\$ 104 MILLION
MARKET SEGMENT		
• Professional Healthcare	34.3%	27.6%
• Occupational Healthcare	49.0%	50.7%
• Consumer Healthcare	16.7%	21.7%
GEOGRAPHIC REGION		
• Americas	48.9%	44.3%
• Europe	36.0%	27.4%
• Asia Pacific	15.1%	28.3%

ANSELL'S SHARE AND COMPARATIVE RANKING IN EACH GLOBAL MARKET SEGMENT ARE ESTIMATED TO BE:

Professional

Global Surgical
Gloves Market US\$ 600M
Ansell Share 24%

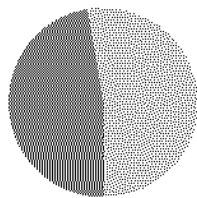


Ansell Share 11%
Global Medical Examination
Gloves Market US\$ 1,000M

ANSELL RANKING
SURGICAL GLOVES #1
MEDICAL EXAMINATION GLOVES #2

Occupational

Global Cotton & Leather
Gloves Market US\$ 1,700M

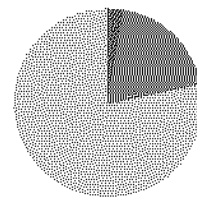


Ansell Share 18%
Global Synthetic & Knitted
Gloves Market US\$ 1,900M

ANSELL RANKING
SYNTHETIC GLOVES #1

Consumer

Global Retail Household
Gloves Market US\$ 250M
Ansell Share 15%



Ansell Share 11%
Global Condom
Market US\$ 900M

ANSELL RANKING
CONDOMS #3



Ansell's vision is to be a global leader in broad-based healthcare protection, providing exceptional solutions, products and value to our customers.

Ansell's commitment to reducing hand injury costs

Ansell's Value Proposition (AVP) is an innovative concept that helps customers change the way they manage their hand protection costs. AVP assists customers to focus on the total value of hand protection rather than the more traditional concentration on glove procurement cost.

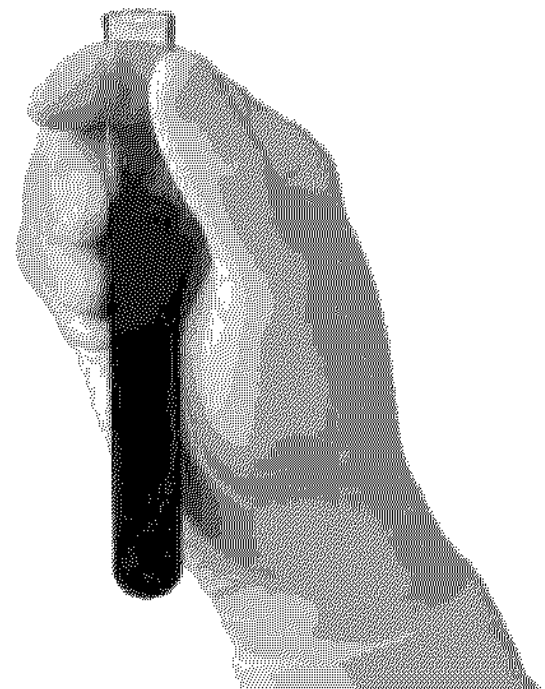
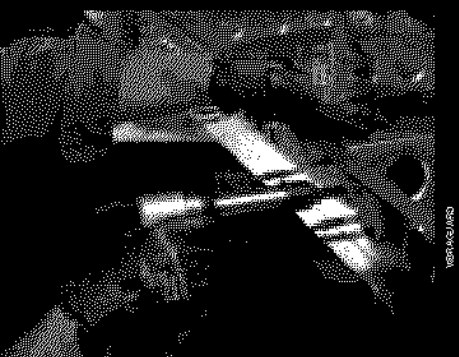
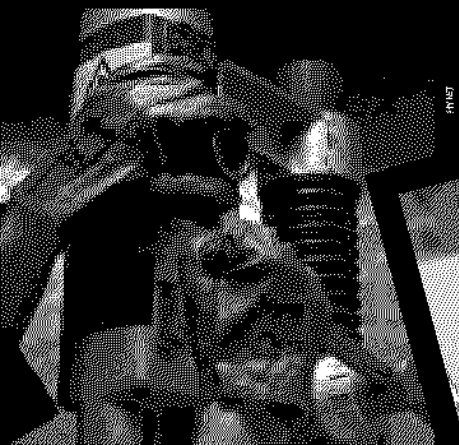
We are more than just products, we deliver solutions

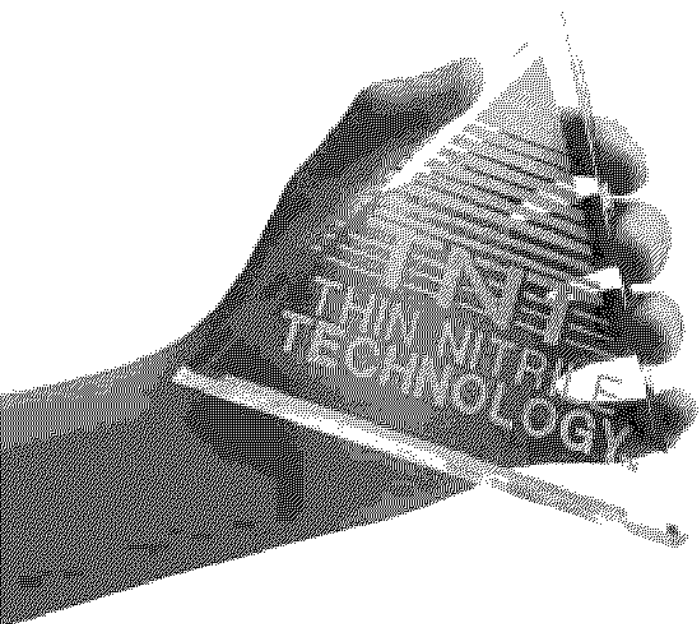


Ansell's sales force is transforming the way it approaches customers. Instead of concentrating largely on products and their attributes, the sales force focuses on how Ansell delivers value to the customer and carries this message through the organisation and up to the executive level. This is achieved by truly understanding the needs and desires of customers which cover issues such as cost/frequency of injuries, productivity/ergonomics, product standardisation and usage controls.

Pilot studies have been conducted at a number of major manufacturing operations throughout the US and, as a result, corporate level agreements have been entered into with three significant accounts. Implementation has commenced and Ansell's dedicated, consultative sales force will quantify and measure the extended value provided to these customers.

This novel approach has been accepted by a number of major manufacturers as a value-added program that will document direct cost improvements across multiple operations and include best practices, product standardisation and medical and indemnity cost reduction.





Ansell Value Proposition

With the support of our Ansell Total Apparel Products and Solutions™ (TAPS™) approach, Ansell was able to outline standardisation and consolidation strategies that included a review of hazards and chemical exposure risks throughout a major pharmaceutical company's Research & Development operations.

This approach allowed the customer to establish Good Manufacturing Practices related to standardised hand protection. From a direct cost of goods stance, the customer had already devoted significant resources to successfully achieve cost-savings specific to product procurement. But, with our AVP approach, we have defined additional cost-savings opportunities based on improvement in workplace safety, product use education, and consultative resources specific to the customer's needs.

Professional division Regional Sales Team meeting challenges in the US

OPPORTUNITY

A prestigious, multi-site teaching institution with over 700 licensed beds and a 600-physician faculty group practice. Over 30,000 admissions and more than 500,000 outpatient visits each year.

CHALLENGE

- Optimise the customer's inventory while reducing the number of glove suppliers
- Achieve cost-efficiency for the customer
- Educate the surgical staff and the nursing school regarding surgical glove use
- Develop a system for product evaluation while maintaining stock of current surgical gloves.

SOLUTION

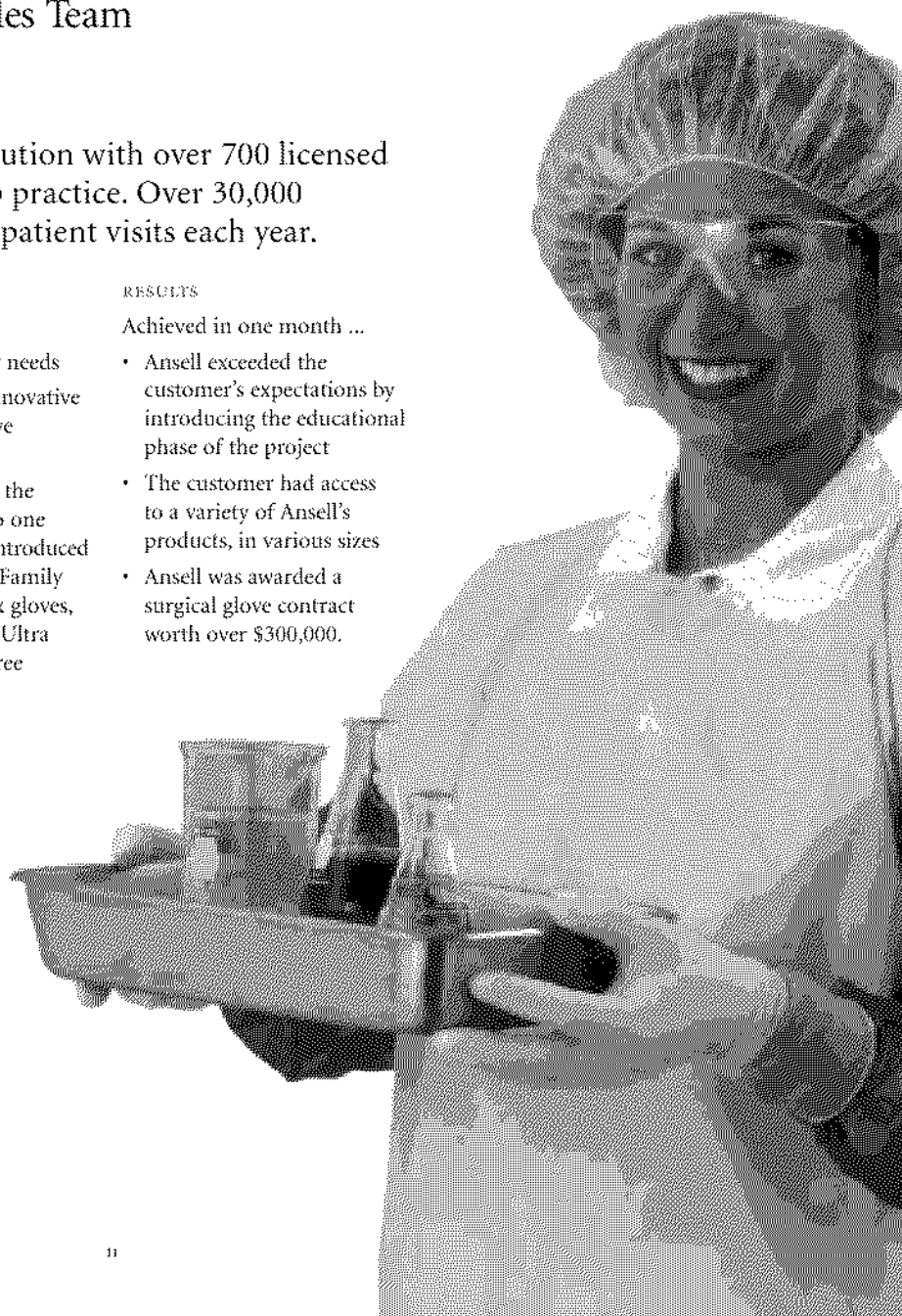
- Within five months ...
- Identified customer needs
 - Ansell created an innovative mini-container glove disposal system
 - Ansell consolidated the customer's gloves to one manufacturer and introduced the Ansell Encore® Family of powder-free latex gloves, and Derma Prenc® Ultra powder-free latex-free surgical gloves.

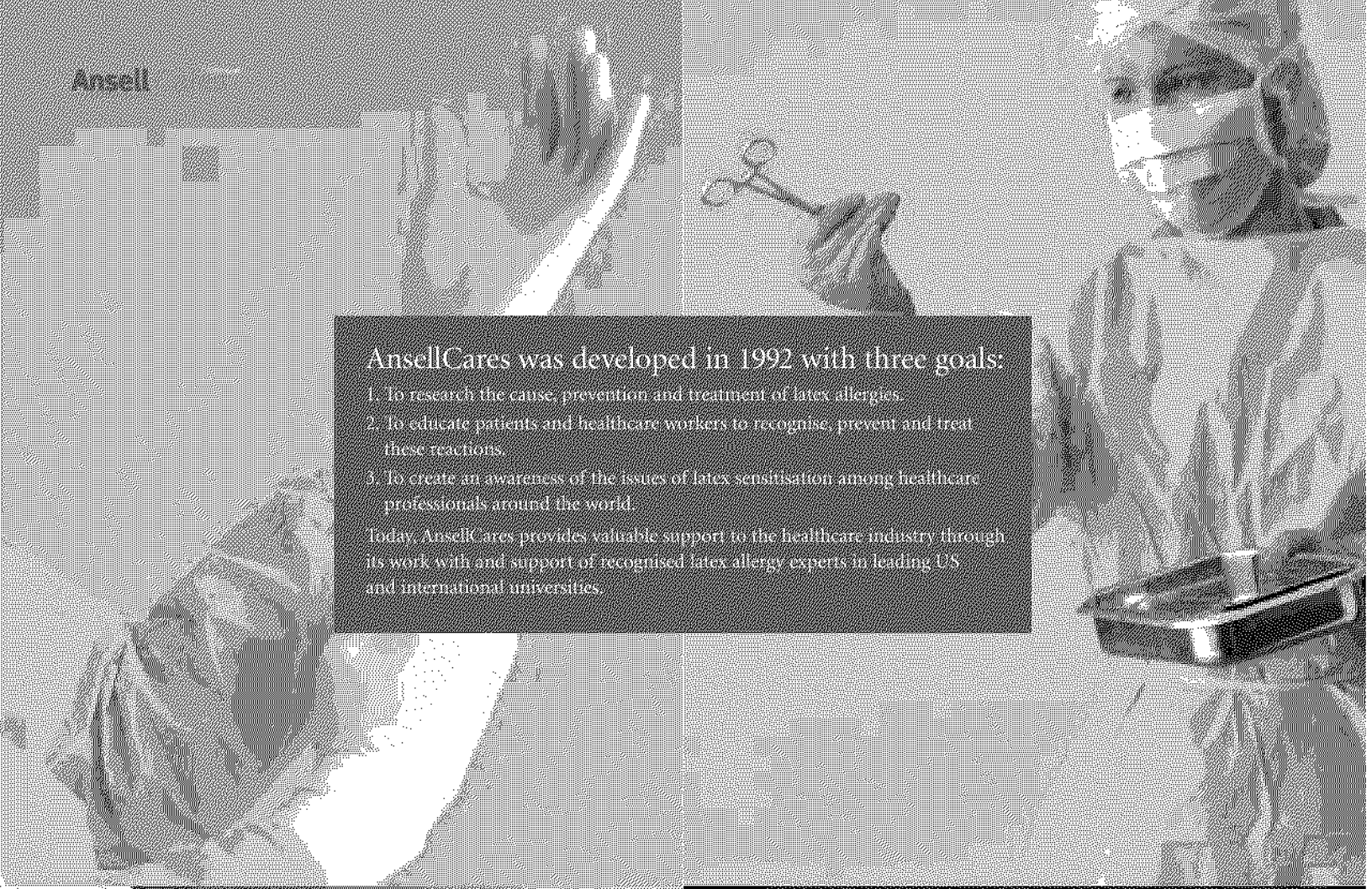
RESULTS

- Achieved in one month ...
- Ansell exceeded the customer's expectations by introducing the educational phase of the project
 - The customer had access to a variety of Ansell's products, in various sizes
 - Ansell was awarded a surgical glove contract worth over \$300,000.

Did you know?

Rubber is a generic term that generally refers to solid 'rubber' products, while latex refers to the starting raw material or 'emulsion'. Rubber and latex can be derived naturally (from rubber trees) or synthetically (from petroleum products).





Ansell

AnsellCares was developed in 1992 with three goals:

1. To research the cause, prevention and treatment of latex allergies.
2. To educate patients and healthcare workers to recognise, prevent and treat these reactions.
3. To create an awareness of the issues of latex sensitisation among healthcare professionals around the world.

Today, AnsellCares provides valuable support to the healthcare industry through its work with and support of recognised latex allergy experts in leading US and international universities.



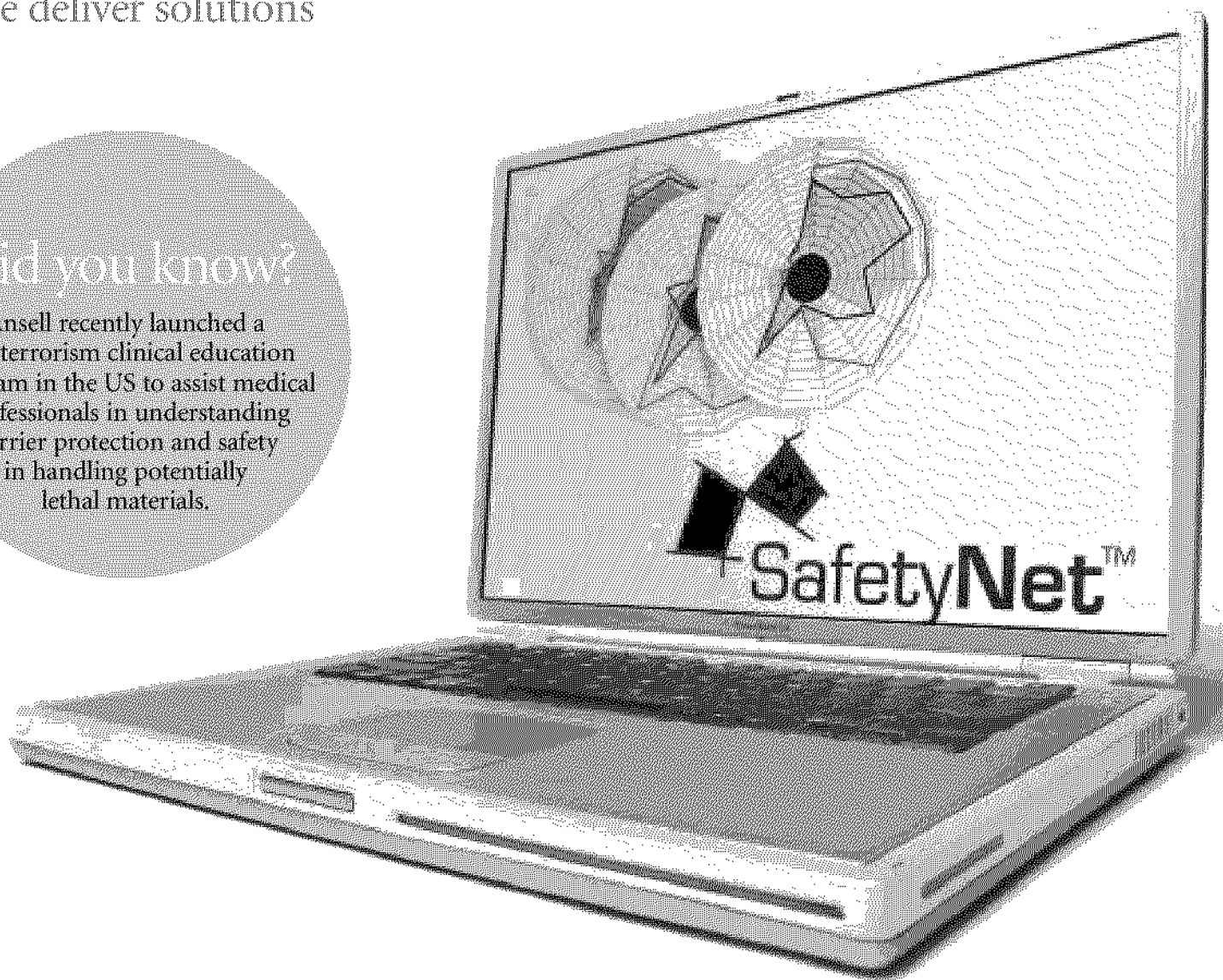
Le Partenaire du Plaisir

(The Pleasure Partner's Key to Success) Ansell's condom business continues to grow as a result of social marketing initiatives and through integrated branding efforts around the world. Keys to success include an emphasis on product quality and safety and building trust in our stable of well-known brands like LifeStyles®, Mates®, Chekmate®, Contempo®, Kama Sutra® and Manix®.

We are more than just products,
we deliver solutions

Did you know?

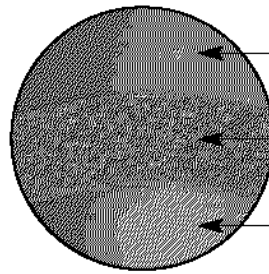
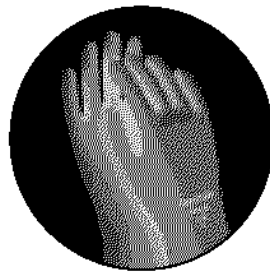
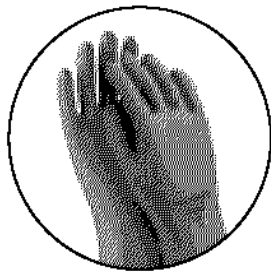
Ansell recently launched a bio-terrorism clinical education program in the US to assist medical professionals in understanding barrier protection and safety in handling potentially lethal materials.



Optimal solutions through SafetyNet™

Major multinational companies are increasingly looking for business solutions that bring value to the bottom line. During the past year, companies have been turning to Ansell to reduce their overall costs of hand protection and Ansell has responded with the Ansell Value Proposition (AVP).

Integral to the AVP program is SafetyNet™, Ansell's proprietary software tool, used to map a customer's requirements at workstation or function level within a manufacturing facility, based on predefined criteria. This unique software, designed and developed in-house, enables Ansell's SafetyNet™ to search through 18,000 decisions contained in the software to select the optimal hand protection solution to suit the customer's needs.



TOP LAYER
EXTERNAL RUBBER LATEX LAYER

MIDDLE LAYER
RUBBER LATEX MID-LAYER
CONTAINING MAGNETIC PARTICLES

BOTTOM LAYER
INTERNAL RUBBER LATEX LAYER

Innovation and superior technology to increase customer value

ScanSafe™ magnetically detectable gloves

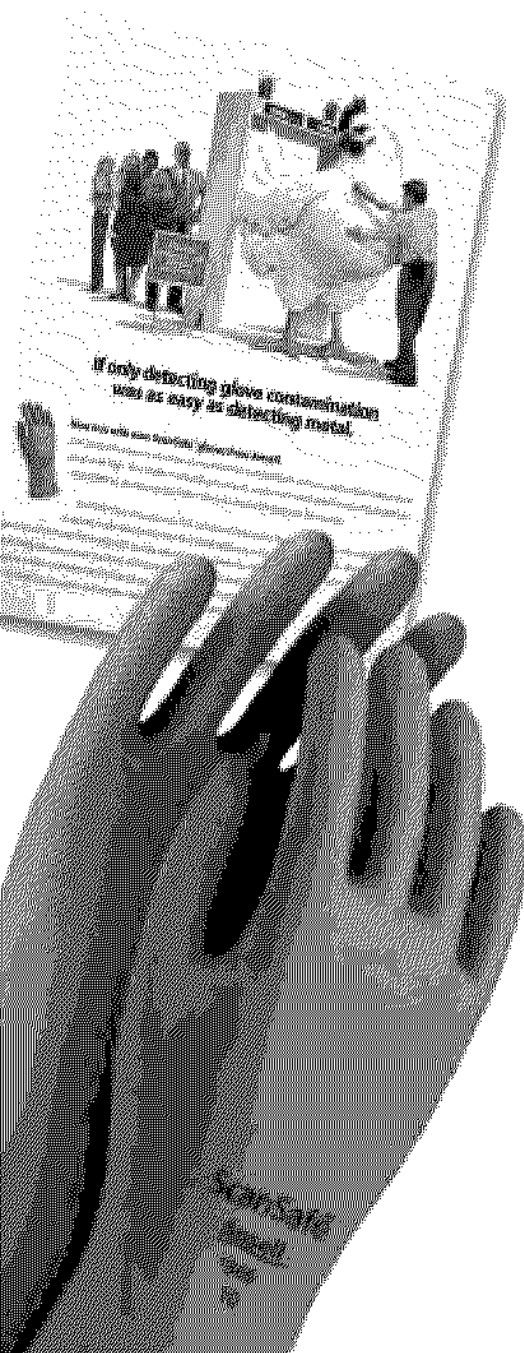
Ansell Healthcare has done it again! With the introduction of FDA-compliant ScanSafe™ technology, we have established yet another revolutionary product that we believe will meet and exceed customer expectations. ScanSafe™ gloves, launched in the US earlier this year, represent one of Ansell's largest, most comprehensive opportunities to penetrate deeper into the food processing industry. With a combination of solution-based selling, heavy media advertising and trial usage, Ansell is targeting consumers in the poultry industry. We anticipate success in both sales and recognition for what we have always been: an innovative, results-oriented company.

The idea behind ScanSafe™ evolved when a supplier approached Ansell for a solution to glove particle contamination during poultry processing. After two years of development we arrived at a product that created a real solution to a real problem.

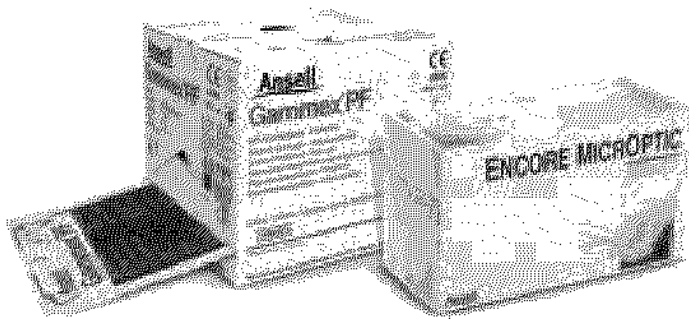
Adapting the sensor technology expertise of SafeLine™, the world's largest supplier of metal detection equipment, we were able to create a glove with the ability to provide accurate readings on a metal detector. By placing the detector in a specified area in the poultry process, glove particles can be detected and automatically rejected into a separate container, saving the processor rework time and money.

Did you know?

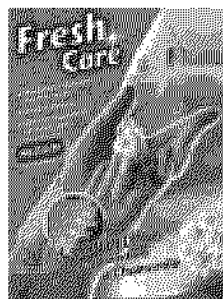
Food-borne diseases from improper handling, processing and transport caused over 5000 deaths and \$5-\$6 billion in medical costs and lost productivity in the US alone.



XTRA PLEASURE®
ANSELL'S XTRA PLEASURE® CONDOM. LAUNCHED GLOBALLY IN 1996, PIONEERED THE 'PLEASURE PLATFORM' AS A MARKETING CONCEPT. ITS NEW AND IMPROVED DESIGN OFFERED TO THE MARKET EARLY IN 2004 IS NOW ACCEPTED AROUND THE WORLD AS THE INDUSTRY STANDARD.



Ansell's powder-free surgical glove range provides the maximum barrier protection of natural rubber latex, as well as exceptional dexterity and sensitivity, while eliminating risks associated with powder. Ansell understands both the importance and the challenge of minimising the presence of glove powder in surgical suites. Ansell's powder-free surgical gloves are convenient, cost-effective and more importantly, help reduce the risks of post-operative complications such as wound infections, bacterial growth, adhesions, granulomas and peritonitis. Many of Ansell's surgical gloves are manufactured with a special continuous polymer coating to provide exceptional ease in both dry- and damp-hand donning.



Foam-lined glove technology was pioneered by Ansell. The unique thin lining contains thousands of air pockets that trap moisture and provide a dry, comfortable feel for the wearer.

In response to our customers' desire for increased comfort and better 'moisture management' Ansell developed a new line of foam-lined household gloves. Here, we make use of latex foaming and dipping technologies to apply a thin foam coating to the inside of our gloves.

Since the foam is comprised of very fine, interconnected pores the gloves are very effective at 'wicking' away moisture from a user's hand. These pores can also be impregnated with chamomile or other hand-care emollients to treat dry or damaged hands. The results of these innovations are unmatched comfort and skin-care for users.





SALVACAR, MEXICO

Driving increased shareholder returns through innovation and Six Sigma

MELAKA PLANT'S RAPID CONVERSION OF POWDERED TO POWDER-FREE SURGICAL GLOVE DIPPING LINE

The demand for powder-free coated gloves produced at Ansell's Melaka plant in Malaysia has been growing since 2000.

The market's progressive conversion from powdered to powder-free coated surgical gloves is due to growing concerns about powder contamination in hospitals and the potential for allergic reaction from users.

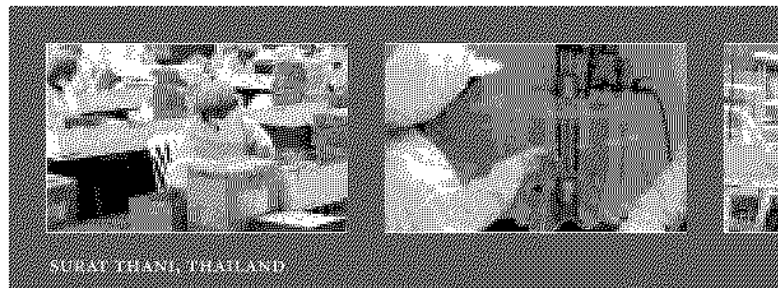
Ansell's successful Gammex® PF surgical glove is a leader in the shift to powder-free glove use. So successful has it been that it was necessary to convert one of the Melaka plant's powdered-glove dipping lines to a powder-free dipping line involving a special glove dipping machine, the Nosur, to meet the increasing demand. Conversion of the powder-free glove line started in August 2003 and was completed by a dedicated team of Ansell engineers almost two months ahead of schedule in December 2003.

The Nosur machine includes a state-of-the-art computer system to monitor and control its processes in real time to ensure that the Gammex PF surgical gloves are of consistently high quality and capable of exceeding customer expectations.

WORLD-CLASS QUALITY AND EFFICIENCY IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH A NEW OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT APPROACH

The Salvarcar plant has adopted a team approach to continuous improvement. The senior site staff serve as a steering committee which selects, champions and monitors improvement projects. Cross-functional teams are organised to develop and implement the projects. Six Sigma philosophy, procedures and tools form the guiding mantra for each team.

All projects tie to key company goals. The results of this approach to plant management are impressive. During financial year 2004, total monthly scrap has been reduced by 45 per cent, and efficiency (pairs produced per employee) has increased by 25 per cent, resulting in a substantial cost improvement for the knitted business.



SURAT THANI, THAILAND

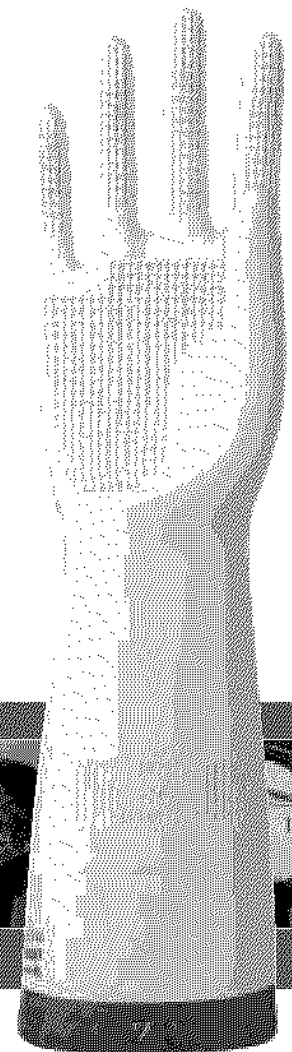
ACHIEVING WORLD-CLASS CONDOM QUALITY, THROUGH CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS, UTILISING STATISTICAL METHODOLOGIES AND TEAMWORK

Ansell's drive to achieve 'World-Class Condom Quality' started over five years ago following the acquisition of Suretex Limited. At that time, the team in Surat Thani developed a vision, 'to be the best condom manufacturer in the world'. This vision is now being realised at the Surat Thani plant with:

- Implementation of decision-making based on statistical data.
- Waste reduction projects, resulting in significantly lower reject rates, reduced maintenance costs and improved labour utilisation.
- Out-going quality (the percentage of defects in the samples tested in accordance with ISO 2859-1) ten times better than the regulatory requirements.
- Six Sigma operational excellence programs in place and delivering positive results.

Ansell global operations

Through dedicated and disciplined approaches, including the relocation of operations from North America to Mexico and Asia, the rollout and execution of Six Sigma as a continuous improvement methodology, and a rigid focus on quality and efficiency in all manufacturing processes, Ansell's global operations achieved a significant year-on-year improvement in plant profitability.



MELAKA, MALAYSIA

Ansell begins a Six Sigma journey

Ansell has adopted the globally recognised Six Sigma operational excellence methodology, with a focus on improving customer satisfaction and delivering on customer expectations by reducing variation in products and processes. It is this point of difference, via systematic disciplines, that has made companies such as Motorola, GE and Honeywell (formerly AlliedSignal) world-class leaders in their respective fields.

During 2004, four Executive Champions – Rainer Wolf in Operations, Michael Zedalis in Science & Technology, William Reed and Werner Heintz in Sales & Marketing – were appointed to instil this methodology into Ansell's business psyche, capably facilitated and coordinated by Sudi Narasimhan, Director of Quality & Continuous Improvement. The results so far are highly encouraging, with validated savings and quality improvements particularly in the manufacturing operations where Six Sigma was first introduced and executed.

Did you know?

Ansell is one of the world's largest manufacturers and marketers of condoms, with its three plants having a combined annual production capacity of 1,600 million pieces.

Ansell's priorities are to leverage the Company's financial strength and develop growth strategies which will include organic growth from a broader geographic focus, the entry into new vertical business segments, and the introduction of new products through innovation and new technology.

Opportunities for continued growth in our markets

Herakles Aachen Tender Group

After three years of hard work with the Aachen Tender Group in Germany, the Ansell Professional Healthcare sales team has won this tender accounting for over one million pairs of surgical gloves.

The Aachen Tender Group supplies several large-scale university hospitals such as the Universities of Essen and Aachen.

The contract win is partly the result of a strategic growth program, 'Herakles', which was implemented by the Professional Healthcare management team throughout Europe. The program aims to identify and seize early opportunities in the Powder-Free (PF) market, assist conversions to PF and realise sustainable growth for Ansell Professional Healthcare in that same market segment.

The contract win will certainly help Ansell Europe to seize other opportunities in the Aachen region with its large population and large number of hospitals.

Did you know?

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that approximately 110,000 workers with hand and finger injuries lose days away from work each year – second only to back strain and sprain. A new study shows that 60 per cent of those injuries could be eliminated through the use of appropriate hand protection.

WHEN IT COMES TO
CHEMICAL-RESISTANT
PRODUCTS, ANSELL'S
GOT YOU COVERED.

ASIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY WELCOMES PARTICIPANTS OF THE ANSELL MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM 18-22 JULY 2003



Training our managers for success

In July 2003, 19 mid-level managers working in the Asia Pacific region came together at the Asian Institute of Technology, International School of Business Studies (AIT) for the Ansell-AIT Management Development Program 2003/2004.

Such was its success that the program has been expanded to include Ansell's operations world-wide and retitled the 'Ansell-AIT Leadership Development Program 2004/2005'. Commencing in September 2004, participants for the next program will represent a wide variety of functions and disciplines from Ansell's operations in the US, Europe, Australia and, of course, the Asia Pacific region.

Gazprom, Russia

After a year of hard work with Ansell's key distribution partner Vostok Services, Ansell has become Gazprom's preferred supplier for occupational gloves, affecting approximately 150,000 workers.

This success is the result of the continuous efforts of the Ansell Russia team to upgrade the protective glove market, educating and advising end-users and distribution partners on safety standards.

Gazprom is the largest natural gas producing company in the world, producing 20 per cent of annual world consumption. It employs nearly 300,000 people and is responsible for 8 per cent of Russia's GDP.

The result of this achievement contributes to the continuing strong performance of Ansell Europe's emerging markets and reinforces Ansell's market leadership in Russia.

Glove
of choice
in many
industries

Excellent
dexterity

Superior
tactility

Breathable



Three Year Summary

OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE

	2004 \$M	2003 \$M	2002 \$M	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M	2002 US\$M
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE						
Sales – Continuing Ansell Healthcare Operations	1,113	1,294	1,414	792	759	738
Sales – Discontinued Operations	–	–	809	–	–	422
Depreciation and Amortisation	25	31	53	18	18	28
Operating EBITA from Continuing Operations	133	137	135	95	81	70
Operating EBITA from Discontinued Operations	–	–	61	–	–	32
Operating EBITA	133	137	196	95	81	102
Non-recurring	(2)	(6)	(169)	(1)	(4)	(88)
Goodwill amortisation	21	25	29	15	15	15
EBIT	110	106	(2)	79	62	(1)
Net borrowing costs	17	26	55	12	15	29
Income tax expense	20	27	56	15	16	29
Outside equity interests	2	3	3	2	2	1
Operating profit/(loss) attributable	71	50	(116)	50	29	(60)
for six months to 30 June	37	30	(23)	26	17	(12)
for six months to 31 December	34	20	(93)	24	12	(48)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION						
Cash – excluding restricted deposits ^(a)	308	286	259	212	191	146
Other current assets	441	475	563	304	317	319
Property, plant and equipment	228	263	333	157	175	188
Investments	141	141	159	97	94	90
Goodwill	176	204	261	121	135	147
Brand names	117	121	143	81	81	81
Other non-current assets	88	89	115	61	60	66
TOTAL ASSETS	1,499	1,579	1,833	1,033	1,053	1,037
Current payables	159	154	193	110	103	109
Current interest bearing liabilities	190	152	108	131	101	61
Other current liabilities	55	62	89	38	41	50
Non-current payables	3	3	4	2	2	2
Non-current interest bearing liabilities	236	320	517	163	213	292
Other non-current liabilities	44	43	46	30	30	27
TOTAL LIABILITIES	687	734	957	474	490	541
NET ASSETS	812	845	876	559	563	496
Contributed equity	1,384	1,448	1,455	953	965	824
Reserves	(275)	(269)	(176)	(190)	(179)	(100)
Retained profits	(307)	(345)	(417)	(211)	(230)	(236)
ANSELL LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	802	834	862	552	556	488
Outside equity interests	10	11	14	7	7	8
TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY	812	845	876	559	563	496
TOTAL FUNDS EMPLOYED ^(b)	930	1,031	1,242	641	686	703
SHARE INFORMATION						
Basic earnings per share (cents) ^(c)	39.1	26.7	(61.9)	27.9	15.7	(32.3)
Diluted earnings per share (cents) ^(c)	39.0	26.6	(61.7)	27.8	15.6	(32.2)
Dividends per share (cents)	13.0	11.0	–	–	–	–
Net assets per share (\$) ^(d)	4.62	4.54	4.68	3.18	3.03	2.65
GENERAL						
Cash received from divestments	–	–	936	–	–	489
Net cash from operating activities	179	162	113	127	95	59
Capital expenditure	14	15	34	10	9	18
Shareholders (no.)	55,235	60,833	79,534	NA	NA	NA
Employees (no.)	11,530	12,013	12,160	NA	NA	NA
RATIOS						
Return on average shareholders' equity (%)	8.8	5.6	(13.2)	NA	NA	NA
Operating EBITA return on funds employed (%) ^(d)	14.3	13.3	10.8	NA	NA	NA
Operating EBITA margin (%) ^(d)	12.0	10.6	9.5	NA	NA	NA
Ansell Healthcare average days working capital	79.8	84.6	87.6	NA	NA	NA
Interest cover (times)	9.5	6.4	4.5	NA	NA	NA
Net liabilities to shareholders' equity (%) ^(e)	46	53	80	NA	NA	NA
Number of shares at 30 June (million) ^(c)	176	186	187	NA	NA	NA

(a) Cash includes cash at bank and short-term deposits, but excludes restricted deposits which have been classified as other current assets.

(b) Total funds employed equals total shareholders' equity plus interest bearing liabilities less cash – excluding restricted deposits.

(c) Effective 24 April 2002, Ansell Limited reduced the number of ordinary shares and exercisable options on issue by means of a 1 for 5 share consolidation.

(d) Operating EBITA equals operating EBITA from continuing operations.

(e) Net liabilities equals total liabilities less cash – excluding restricted deposits.

Board of Directors

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF ANSELL LIMITED AT THE DATE OF THIS REVIEW COMPRISES:

EDWARD D TWEDDELL, BSC, MBBS (HONS), FRACGP, FAICD
Chairman and Non-executive Director since October 2001. A Director of Australia Post and CSIRO, he is also Chairman of the Nepenthe Group Pty Ltd.

Dr Tweddell's experience includes 10 years with a multi-national pharmaceutical company primarily involved in medical affairs and drug development, an appointment as President and Chief Executive of a consumer-products and healthcare company in Japan, and eight years as Chief Executive of an Australian-based pharmaceutical company.

Dr Tweddell resides in Adelaide and is aged 63.

DOUGLAS D TOUGH, MBA, BBA

Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer since 1 July 2004.

Prior to joining Ansell, Mr Tough spent 17 years with Cadbury Schweppes plc in a number of international and domestic leadership roles, most recently as President and Chief Executive Officer of its largest division worldwide, Dr Pepper/Seven Up, North America.

Mr Tough has also had some 12 years experience with Procter & Gamble in various sales and marketing assignments. Mr Tough holds an MBA from the University of Western Ontario, Canada, and a BBA from the University of Kentucky.

Mr Tough resides in New Jersey, USA and is aged 55.

PETER L BARNES, B.COM, (HONS) MBA MELB

Appointed Non-executive Director in October 2001. He is Chairman of Samuel Smith & Son Pty Limited and a Director of The News Corporation Limited and Metcash Trading Limited. He is also President of the Winemakers Federation of Australia and a Member of the National Food Industry Council.

Mr Barnes brings to the Board his experience in senior roles in finance, marketing and general management in the international arena. His background includes a long career with a leading global consumer marketing organisation in USA, Europe, Asia and Australia.

Mr Barnes resides in Sydney and is aged 61.

L. DALE CRANDALL, MBA UC BERKELEY, CPA

Non-executive Director since November 2002. Director of Union Bank of California, Covad Communications Group and BEA Systems, Trustee of Dodge & Cox Mutual Funds.

Mr Crandall has a background in accounting and finance and is a former Group Managing Partner for Southern California for Price Waterhouse. He was formerly President and Chief Operating Officer of Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and Hospitals in the United States.

Mr Crandall resides in San Francisco, USA and is aged 63.

HERBERT J ELLIOTT, AC, MBE, MA CANTAB.

Non-executive Director since February 2001. Chairman of the Telstra Foundation Limited and Director of Portescue Metals Group Limited and Board member of Athletics Australia.

Mr Elliott has experience in marketing and general management, including an appointment as President and Chief Executive of North America for Puma, the sporting goods company.

Mr Elliott resides in Perth and is aged 66.

MICHAEL J MCCONNELL, AB, MBA (HONS) VIRGINIA

Managing Director of Shamrock Capital Advisors Inc. and Shamrock Holdings Inc. and Chairman of Shamrock's Investment Committee. He is also a Director of Neo Technology Ventures and a former Director of Nuplex Industries.

Mr McConnell was appointed to the Board on 16 April 2004, having actively served as Alternate Director to Stanley Gold since October 2002.

Mr McConnell has an investment banking background having served with Kidder Peabody and Merrill Lynch. He received an AB from Harvard University in Economics, and an MBA with honours from The Darden School of The University of Virginia.

Mr McConnell resides in Los Angeles, USA and is aged 38.

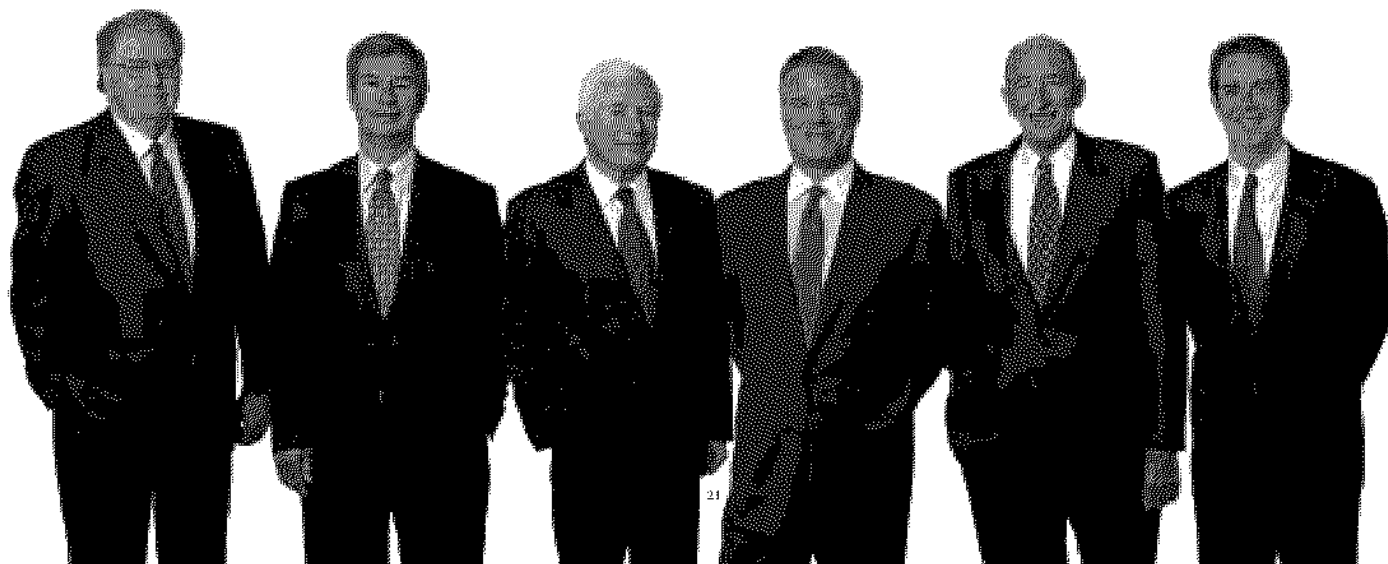
STANLEY P GOLD, AB, JD

(ALTERNATE TO MR MCCONNELL SINCE 16 APRIL 2004)

Non-executive Director since October 2001. President and Chief Executive Officer of Shamrock Holdings Inc., President of Shamrock Capital Advisors Inc., and Chairman of Tadiran Communications Ltd.

Mr Gold is a former Managing Partner of a prominent Los Angeles law firm and has specialised in corporate acquisitions, sales and financing. He has served as President and Chairman of a number of companies in the United States and Israel.

Mr Gold resides in Los Angeles, USA and is aged 61.



Corporate Governance

INTRODUCTION

The Board works under a set of well-established corporate governance policies that reinforce the responsibilities of all Directors in accordance with the requirements of the Corporations Act and the Listing Rules of the Australian Stock Exchange (ASX). In addition, many of the governance elements are enshrined in the Company's Constitution.

The Board regularly reviews and updates its corporate governance policies, to ensure that the Company's policies remain in accordance with best practice. The Board is aware of, and has had regard to, developments in Australia and overseas in relation to corporate governance 'best practice'.

The Board has for some time satisfied the recommendations of the ASX Corporate Governance Council and has incorporated its provisions in its periodic review of corporate governance practices.

The corporate governance section of the Company's website contains various material relating to corporate governance, including Board charter, Committee charters, Code of Conduct and other information. The link to the corporate governance section of the Ansell website is www.ansell.com.

BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board has ultimate responsibility to set policy regarding the business and affairs of the Company and its subsidiaries for the benefit of the shareholders and other stakeholders of the Company. The Board is accountable to shareholders for the performance of the Group.

The Board has the following responsibilities and functions, namely, to:

- (a) review and approve corporate strategies, budgets, plans and policies developed by management and evaluate performance of the Group against those strategies and business plans in order to:
 - (i) monitor the performance of functions delegated to the executive team including the progress of major capital expenditure, capital management, acquisitions, divestitures and strategic commitments; and
 - (ii) assess the suitability of the Company's overall strategies, business plans and resource allocation;
- (b) appoint a Chief Executive Officer for the ongoing management of the business and its strategies;
- (c) regularly evaluate the performance of the Chief Executive Officer and senior management and ensure appropriate executive succession planning is conducted;
- (d) monitor financial and business results (including the audit process) to understand at all times the financial position of the Group;
- (e) ensure regulatory compliance and maintain adequate risk management processes;
- (f) report to shareholders; and
- (g) implement a culture of compliance with the highest legal and ethical standards and business practices.

In carrying out its duties, the Board meets formally over one or two days at least six times a year, with additional meetings held as required to address specific issues. Directors also participate in meetings of various Board Committees, which assist the full Board in examining particular areas or issues.

It is also the Company's practice for Directors to visit a number of the Company's facilities in each year. During the 2004 financial year, Board meetings were held in conjunction with visits to Ansell facilities in Europe and South-east Asia.

The Board delegates management of the Company's resources to the executive team under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, to deliver the strategic direction and achieve the goals determined by the Board. Any powers not specifically reserved for the Board have been delegated to the executive team.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND CODE OF CONDUCT

Ansell places high priority on risk identification and management throughout all its operations and has processes in place to review their adequacy. These include:

- a comprehensive risk control program that includes property protection and health, safety and environmental audits using underwriters, self-audits, and engineering and professional advisers; and
- a process to identify and measure business risk.

The Company also has in place a system of internal controls for the identification and management of financial risk including a system of internal sign-offs to ensure the Company is in compliance with its legal obligations, including those which arise under the US Sarbanes-Oxley Act. The Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer also provide assurances to the Board as to the integrity of the Company's risk management and internal compliance and control systems, and financial reports.

Ansell is committed to upholding the highest legal, moral and ethical standards in all of its corporate activities and has adopted a Code of Conduct, which aims to strengthen its ethical climate and provide basic guidelines for situations in which ethical issues arise.

The Code of Conduct applies to Directors, executives, management and employees, sets high standards for ethical behaviour and business practice beyond complying with the law, and is based on guiding principles whereby Ansell:

- strives to uphold high ethical standards in all corporate activities;
- is committed to competing lawfully, fairly and ethically in the marketplace, consistent with its aim of providing quality products to its customers;
- is committed to pursuing sound growth and earnings goals, by operating in the best interests of the Company and shareholders;
- strives to treat all employees and applicants with fairness, honesty and respect;
- expects all employees to work together for the common good and to avoid placing themselves in a position that is in conflict with the interests of the Company;

- is committed to good corporate citizenship and participating actively in and improving the communities in which the Company does business; and
- expects all employees to conduct themselves in accordance with the guiding principles.

It is the policy of Ansell to comply with the letter and spirit of all applicable laws, including those relating to employment, discrimination, health, safety, medical device, consumer protection, privacy, intellectual property, antitrust, securities and the environment. The Company has also developed procedures to ensure that employees are aware of and discharge their obligations under relevant privacy laws in their handling of information provided to the Group. No Director, Officer, executive or manager of Ansell has authority to violate any law or to direct another employee or any other person to violate any law on behalf of the Company.

The Company has appointed a Compliance Officer to assist in the administration of the Code of Conduct. As part of its commitment to ethical and legal conduct, the Company expects its employees to report information about actual or suspected violations of the Code of Conduct or of law.

The Code of Conduct also sets out the Company's policies in respect of ethical issues such as conflicts of interest, social accountability and fair dealing. In addition, the Company has developed specific policies in relation to several matters covered in the Code of Conduct. These policies, along with the Code of Conduct, are publicly available on the Company's website, www.ansell.com.

The Company's ethical practices and procedures are reviewed regularly (most recently in April 2004), and processes are in place to promote and communicate these policies within the Company. Employees and Directors are required to participate in Company-sponsored compliance training programs presented by or on behalf of the Company to ensure that they remain up-to-date regarding relevant legal and industry developments. Assistance is also available to clarify whether particular laws apply and how they may be interpreted.

BOARD COMPOSITION

The Board's policy is that there should be a majority of independent, Non-executive Directors. This is a requirement embodied in the Company's Constitution, ensuring that all Board discussions or decisions have the benefit of predominantly outside views and experience, and that the majority of Directors are free from interests and influences that may create a conflict with their duty to the Company. Maintaining a balance of experience and skills is an important factor in Board composition. Details of the skills, experience and expertise of each Director is set out on page 21 of the Annual Review.

The requirement under the Constitution is for at least twice as many Non-executive Directors as Executive Directors. As an additional safeguard in preserving independence, an Executive Director cannot hold the office of Chairman.

The Board has adopted the definition of independence set out in the IFSA Blue book (December 2002)*. The Board has developed guidelines to determine materiality thresholds for the purposes of that definition. Broadly speaking these guidelines seek to determine whether the Director is generally free of any interest and any business or other relationship which could, or could reasonably be perceived to, materially interfere with the Director's ability to act in the best interests of the Company.

The Company currently has six Directors, one of whom is an Executive Director (the Chief Executive Officer who is also Managing Director). Four of the Non-executive Directors, including the Chairman, are considered to be 'independent'.

The Board considers that, in addition to the Managing Director, Mr M J McConnell is not independent, by virtue of his position as an officer of Shamrock Capital Advisors Inc., a related body corporate of Shamrock Holdings of California Inc., a substantial shareholder.

In addition, Mr S P Gold, who retired as a Director in April 2004, has been appointed as an alternate Director to represent Mr McConnell. This allows the Board to continue to benefit from the experience and insight of Mr Gold from time to time. For the purposes of completeness, Mr Gold does not meet the Board's definition of independence, due to his financial interest in Trefoil International III, L.P., a related body corporate of Shamrock Holdings of California Inc.

Any Director can seek independent professional advice at the Company's expense in the furtherance of his or her duties, subject to prior discussion with the Chairman. If this occurs, the Chairman must notify the other Directors of the approach, with any resulting advice received to be generally circulated to all Directors.

BOARD REVIEW AND ELECTION PROCESSES

The Board periodically conducts a formal review of its performance. Such reviews include:

- comparing Board performance against agreed external benchmarks;
- assessment and consideration of the effectiveness and composition of the Board;
- an assessment of the performance of the Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director by the Non-executive Directors;
- assessing whether corporate governance principles are appropriate and reflect 'good practice' by way of self-assessment using a structured approach; and
- assessing whether the expectations of differing shareholder groups have been met.

New Directors are nominated by the Board, as described below, and then must face a vote of shareholders at the next Annual General Meeting in order to be confirmed in office. The criteria for considering new candidates for the Board are set by the Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee. All Directors other than the Managing Director are required to seek re-election at least once in every three years on a rotating basis.

* *Corporate Governance, A Guide for Fund Managers and Corporations – Blue Book*, Investment and Financial Services Association, December 2002 (copy available at www.ifsau.com.au).

Corporate Governance continued

APPOINTMENT TERMS

In order to ensure that composition of the Board will change over time, the Board has a general policy that Non-executive Directors should not serve for a period exceeding 12 years, and that the Chairman should not serve in that role for more than 10 years.

In order to ensure that Directors are able to fully discharge their duties to the Company, all Directors must consult with the Chairman of the Board and advise the Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee, prior to accepting a position as a Non-executive Director of another company.

REMUNERATION

In June 2003, the Board resolved to discontinue the practice of paying retirement benefits to Non-executive Directors (notwithstanding the payment of retirement benefits had previously been approved by shareholders). The retirement benefits of existing Non-executive Directors were quantified and paid as at 30 June 2003 as detailed in the Annual Review 2003. The Company has no ongoing liability regarding those amounts. In addition to their fees, Non-executive Directors now only receive Company-sponsored superannuation contributions at rates that accord with statutory requirements.

Full details of the remuneration paid to Non-executive and Executive Directors are set out in the Remuneration section on pages 27 to 29.

DEALING IN SHARES

The Company has adopted a policy on dealing in Ansell shares by Directors and employees generally which is publicly available on the Company's website, www.ansell.com.

Subject to the restriction that persons may not deal in any securities when they are in possession of price-sensitive information, Directors and employees generally may only buy or sell Ansell shares in the period immediately following any price-sensitive announcements, including the half-year and full year results and Annual General Meeting. At other times, Directors dealing in Ansell shares must obtain prior approval from the Chairman. The relevant interests of each Director in the share capital of the Company as at the date of this Report, as notified to the Australian Stock Exchange Limited pursuant to the Listing Rules and section 205G of the Corporations Act, were:

	1	2	3
E D Tweddell	34,220		
P L Barnes	11,685		
D D Tough		675,000	
L D Crandall	8,108		
H J Elliott	8,976		
M J McConnell	26,406		
S P Gold (alternate to M J McConnell)	15,239		16,428,840

1. Beneficially held in own name, or in the name of a trust, nominee company or private company.
2. Beneficial, Executive Share Options (525,000) and Performance Share Rights (PSRs) (150,000). These were granted upon Mr Tough's appointment in May 2004. Details in relation to the options and PSRs are set out on page 28.
3. Non-beneficial. Mr Gold has an indirect interest in these shares by virtue of a 10 per cent limited partnership interest in 'Trefoil International Investors III, L.P., which is a related body corporate of Shamrock Holdings of California Inc.

Note: In addition, Mr H Boon who retired on 30 June 2004, held, as at the date of his retirement, 56,701 shares beneficially in his own name or in the name of a trust, nominee company or private company, and 1,000,000 options pursuant to the Ansell Limited Stock Incentive Plan. Details in relation to the options and PSRs are set out on page 29.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

In order to ensure that any 'interests' of a Director in a particular matter to be considered by the Board are brought to the attention of each Director, the Company has developed protocols, consistent with obligations imposed by the Corporations Act and the Listing Rules, to require each Director to disclose any contracts, offices held, interests in transactions and other directorships which may involve any potential conflict. Appropriate procedures have been adopted to ensure that, where the possibility of a material conflict arises, relevant information is not provided to the Director, and the Director does not participate in discussion on the particular issue, or vote in respect of the matter at the meeting where the matter is considered.

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board has established two standing Committees, being the:

- Audit Committee; and
- Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee.

The Board periodically reviews the charter of each Committee. These charters are publicly available on the Company's website, www.ansell.com.

The Board also delegates specific functions to ad hoc Committees of Directors on an 'as needs' basis. The powers delegated to these Committees are set out in Board resolutions.

Senior executives attend Board and Committee meetings by invitation, whenever particular matters arise that require management presentations or participation.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The members of the Audit Committee during the year were all 'Independent' Non-executive Directors and comprised:

- Mr P L Barnes (Chair);
- Mr L D Crandall; and
- Mr H J Elliott

Members of the Audit Committee are financially literate and the Board is of the opinion that the members of the Committee possess sufficient financial expertise and knowledge of the industry in which the Company operates. Details of the qualifications of the Audit Committee members are included in this Report on page 21.

The Audit Committee reviews the financial statements, adequacy of financial controls and the annual audit arrangements, both internal and external. It monitors the controls and financial reporting systems, applicable Company policies, national and international accounting standards and other regulatory or statutory requirements.

The Committee also liaises with the Company's internal and external auditors, reviews the scope of their activities, reviews the external auditor's remuneration and independence, and advises the Board on their remuneration, appointment and removal. It is Board policy that the lead external audit partner and review partner are each rotated periodically. The Board has adopted a policy in relation to the provision of non-audit services by the Company's external auditor that is based on the principle that work that may detract from the external auditor's independence and impartiality, or be perceived as doing so, should not be carried out by the external auditor. The Company's external auditor has also confirmed its independence to the Directors in accordance with applicable laws and standards.

The Committee also reviews the processes in place for the identification, management and reporting of business risk, and reviews the findings reported.

The Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Group Chief Accountant, Director – Internal Audit, other relevant Company officers (as required) and the principal external audit partner participate at meetings of the Committee.

NOMINATION, REMUNERATION AND EVALUATION COMMITTEE

The members of the Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee during the year were all Non-executive Directors and comprised:

- Dr E D Tweddeff (Chair);
- Mr P L Barnes;
- Mr S P Gold (until 16 April 2004); and
- Mr M J McConnell (from 16 April 2004),

a majority of whom are 'independent' Non-executive Directors.

This Committee's charter provides for it to periodically review the structure and performance of the Board, Board Committees and individual Directors, and to recommend changes when necessary. This includes identifying suitable candidates for appointment as Non-executive Directors.

In doing so, the Committee establishes the policies and criteria for Non-executive Director selection. The criteria include a candidate's personal qualities, professional and business experience, and availability and time to commit to all aspects of the Board's program.

The Committee also considers matters such as succession and senior executive compensation policy, including short- and long-term incentive plans and the Company's recruitment, retention and termination policies, and advises the Board accordingly. The Committee makes recommendations to the Board regarding the specific remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer (including base pay, incentive payments, equity awards, retirement rights and service contracts). The remuneration of Non-executive Directors is a matter that is determined by the Board, although the Committee may request management or external consultants to provide necessary information upon which the Board may make its determination. The Committee has available to it the services of independent professional advisers to assist in the search for high-calibre people at all levels and ensures that the terms and conditions offered by the Company are competitive with those offered by comparable companies.

DISCLOSURE TO INVESTORS

The Company has implemented procedures to ensure that it provides relevant and timely information to its shareholders and to the broader investment community, in accordance with its obligations under the ASX continuous disclosure regime. The Company's Continuous Disclosure Policy is available on its website, at www.ansell.com.

In addition to the Company's obligations to disclose information to the ASX and to distribute information to shareholders, the Company publishes annual and half-year reports, media releases, and other investor relations publications on its website.

The Board encourages full participation of shareholders at the Annual General Meeting to ensure a high level of accountability and discussion of the Group's strategy and goals. The Company invites the external auditor to attend the Annual General Meeting and be available to answer shareholder questions about the conduct of the audit and the preparation and content of the auditor's report.

Corporate Governance continued

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD AND BOARD COMMITTEE MEETINGS DURING THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	BOARD		AUDIT		NOMINATION, REMUNERATION & EVALUATION	
	HELD	ATTD	HELD	ATTD	HELD	ATTD
E D Tweddell	7	7			4	4
P L Barnes	7	7	5	5	4	3
H Boon	6	6				
L D Crandall	7	7	5	5		
H J Elliott	7	7	5	5		
M J McConnell	2	2				
S P Gold	5	5*			4	3 [†]

Held – Indicates the number of meetings held while each Director was in office, including meetings of Non-executive Directors only convened in conjunction with meetings of the full Board.

Attd – Indicates the number of meetings attended during the period that each Director was in office.

Mr S P Gold retired on 16 April 2004. Mr M J McConnell was appointed on 16 April 2004.

Mr M J McConnell, who was previously an alternate for Mr Gold, attended two Board meetings as a Director.

*Mr S P Gold, who retired as a Director and was appointed as an alternate for Mr McConnell, did not attend any Board meetings as a Director but was represented at five meetings by his alternate. Mr Gold was represented at two meetings of the Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee by his alternate.

A meeting of a special Board Committee comprising Dr E D Tweddell and Mr P L Barnes was convened on 14 August 2003 in relation to the review and lodgement of the 2003 Full Year Results announcement. A meeting of a special Board Committee comprising Dr E D Tweddell and Messrs P L Barnes, L D Crandall and H J Elliott was convened on 1 September 2003 in relation to the signing of the accounts for the year ended 30 June 2003. A special Board Committee comprising Dr E D Tweddell and Mr M J McConnell was convened on 11 February 2004 in relation to the review and lodgement of the Half-Year Results announcement, Reports and financial statements for the six months ended 31 December 2003.

A special Committee of the Board was established to conduct the search for a Chief Executive Officer to replace Mr H Boon who retired on 30 June 2004. This Committee met on numerous occasions during the period leading up to the appointment of Mr Boon's successor.

Directors' and Senior Executives' Remuneration

The Board's Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee is responsible for reviewing the remuneration policies and practices of the Company, including the compensation arrangements for the Managing Director and senior management and, within the aggregate amount approved by shareholders, the fees for Non-executive Directors. This role also includes responsibility for the Company's equity incentive arrangements. Executive and senior management performance review and succession planning are matters also referred to, and considered by, the Committee.

The Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee has access to independent advice and comparative studies on the appropriateness of remuneration arrangements.

Non-executive Directors – The fees of the Chairman and Non-executive Directors are set within the aggregate amount approved by shareholders, at levels which represent the responsibilities of, and the time commitments provided by, those Directors in discharging their duties. The total annual amount approved for Ansell is currently \$750,000, which was set in 1989. This is a maximum aggregate amount, and the Company does not, at this time, intend distributing that full amount by way of fees.

The fees paid to Directors take into account what is paid by comparable companies, and what is necessary to attract high-calibre people to consider Board appointment. As noted in the Annual Review 2003, the Board, prior to setting the annual fees for the 2004 financial year, obtained independent expert advice and undertook a review of comparative companies. The fees payable to the Non-executive Directors for this year were adjusted to reflect the termination of the retirement payment arrangements as at 30 June 2003. The Board will continue to review its remuneration strategies in relation to Non-executive Directors from time to time, in line with general industry practice.

Each Non-executive Director is required to reinvest a minimum of 10 per cent of their annual gross fee in acquiring shares in the Company until their shareholding is equal to at least one year's fees, pursuant to the Non-executive Directors' Share Plan. The Plan enables Non-executive Directors to elect to apply up to 100 per cent of their fees in acquiring shares in the Company.

The Non-executive Directors' Share Plan is not a performance-based share plan and is not intended as an incentive component of a Non-executive Director's remuneration. Shareholders approved the participation by Non-executive Directors in the Plan in October 2000 and April 2002 (on amended terms).

This Plan essentially involves each Non-executive Director using his or her own after-tax money to buy shares on ASX at market price (i.e. involving no discount) to increase his or her direct holding in the Company. Accordingly, no performance conditions were proposed to attach as a precondition for purchase of the shares. Each Director is, however, generally required to retain shares acquired under the Plan for the period he or she holds office as a Director.

Details of securities acquired on ASX on behalf of Non-executive Directors under the Ansell Non-executive Directors' Share Plan at the prevailing market price during the financial year are set out below in accordance with ASX Listing Rule 10.15A.

DIRECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES ACQUIRED	DATE OF ACQUISITION	ACQUISITION PRICE
Dr E D Tweddell	853	19/9/2003	\$6.84
	904	16/12/2003	\$6.46
	842	17/3/2004	\$6.94
	749	16/6/2004	\$7.80
Mr P L Barnes	337	19/9/2003	\$6.84
	355	16/12/2003	\$6.46
	330	17/3/2004	\$6.94
	293	16/6/2004	\$7.80
Mr L D Crandall	1,943	19/9/2003	\$6.84
	1,777	16/12/2003	\$6.46
	296	17/3/2004	\$6.94
	264	16/6/2004	\$7.80
Mr H J Elliott	300	19/9/2003	\$6.84
	318	16/12/2003	\$6.46
	296	17/3/2004	\$6.94
	264	16/6/2004	\$7.80
Mr M J McConnell	1,406	16/6/2004	\$7.80

In addition, Mr S P Gold participated in the Plan prior to his retirement as a Director of the Company, acquiring:

- 1,943 shares on 19/9/2003 at \$6.84 per share;
- 1,777 shares on 16/12/2003 at \$6.46 per share;
- 2,176 shares on 17/3/2004 at \$6.94 per share; and
- 278 shares on 16/6/2004 at \$7.80 per share (being purchases from fees paid for the period 1–16 April 2004).

Directors' and Senior Executives' Remuneration continued

Senior executives – Remuneration levels for Executive Directors and executive management are competitively set to attract, retain and motivate appropriately qualified and experienced senior executives capable of discharging their respective responsibilities.

Remuneration packages of senior executives incorporate fixed remuneration and short- and long-term performance-based components.

Fixed remuneration – The terms of employment of all executive management contain a fixed remuneration component, or base salary. In general, base salary is dependent upon the level and scope of an executive's position, is targeted at a norm within benchmarked industries, and takes into account individual performance.

Short-term incentive – An annual cash-based incentive program operates to reward individual performance against agreed performance targets. These targets are set with respect to both organisational and individual goals. For the 2004 financial year they include measures related to revenues, EBITA achievement (reflecting specific EBITA commitments made publicly to shareholders), and working capital, and are dependent upon outcomes over three levels: functional/individual, regional and company total. In general, these targets were met. For the 2005 financial year the measures will be related to revenue and EBITA achievement (again reflecting commitments to shareholders), which, in the Board's judgement, are the major internal factors that will directly influence shareholder value. Pursuant to this program, in general, an incentive equal to a set percentage of base salary is determined by the level and scope of the position. Incentive awards can increase for performance meeting set stretch targets.

Long-term incentive – In 2002, the Company established the Ansell Limited Stock Incentive Plan (the Plan). Under the Plan, Ansell may make grants of options or Performance Share Rights (PSRs), which are subject to the achievement of performance targets set by the Board. In general, grants are made annually in three tranches, each linked to Group performance in each of the three successive years. These rights entitle the holder to an equivalent number of fully-paid ordinary shares upon satisfaction of performance targets. The options may be exercised at a price based on the average of the Ansell share price on the five days preceding the date of grant. PSRs, when vested, are converted into fully-paid ordinary shares and issued at no cost to the executive.

The Chief Executive Officer was granted 525,000 options and 150,000 PSRs pursuant to the Plan upon his appointment as an executive officer of the Company. The options and PSRs were granted in three tranches, and are subject to the achievement of long-term performance targets and stretch targets established by the Board. Targets for financial year 2005 and future years are yet to be finalised and are subject to further Board consideration of the next stage of the Company's development under the leadership of the new Chief Executive Officer.

The Chief Financial Officer has been granted options and the Chief Financial Officer and other Group senior executives have been granted PSRs pursuant to the Stock Incentive Plan. In relation to the 2005 financial year, the performance condition applicable to options and PSRs issued to executives other than the Chief Executive Officer is that the EBITA for the Ansell Healthcare business meets or exceeds US\$115 million. Performance targets for periods beyond financial year 2005 are also under review pending Board consideration of the next stage of the Company's development under the leadership of the recently-appointed Chief Executive Officer.

Further details regarding the terms of the Stock Incentive Plan, including the number of options and PSRs issued under the Plan, are set out in Note 25 to the financial statements contained in the Financial Report 2004.

Termination payments – The Group has entered into Service Agreements with, or has adopted policies relating to, its senior executive team, which provide for termination payments to be made available in certain circumstances.

The Chief Executive Officer must provide six months notice of his resignation and will, in general, be entitled to a lump-sum termination payment equivalent to 18 months of base salary if the Company wishes to terminate his employment within three years of his commencement date, or 12 months of base salary after the first three years of his employment. In certain circumstances, such as a substantial diminution of responsibility for the Chief Executive Officer, the Company may be deemed to have terminated employment and will be liable to make payments equivalent to 18 months' remuneration.

The potential liability of the Company in relation to the termination of employment of other Group executives is dependent upon the circumstances of the termination, the Company's policies or arrangements with those executives and the laws of the jurisdiction in which the executives are based. For example, while all US-based executives of the Company are considered to be employed 'at-will' and terminable without notice or cause, it is Company policy that senior US executives employed for more than 12 months will, in general, receive termination payments equal to 12 months salary plus certain other benefits.

The Company may summarily terminate the employment of any executive for cause.

As the potential liability of the Group to make termination payments is dependent upon the circumstances giving rise to the cessation of employment and the applicable policies, arrangements or laws, it is not possible to quantify the potential future impact of these agreements on the Company's financial position. However, the Company makes provision for employee entitlements in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards.

The table on the following page (which forms part of the Report of Directors) sets out the remuneration provided to the Directors, the five continuing members of the Executive Committee (the Executive Committee being those officers of the Group with the most authority) receiving the highest remuneration for the year and one former member of the Executive Committee. All values are A\$ unless otherwise stated.

	Fixed Base Remuneration (Fees/Salary) \$	Incentives ^(a) \$	Superannuation Contribution ^(b) \$	Notional Value of Equity Compensation ^(c) \$	Other ^(d) \$	Total \$
NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS						
E D Tweddell	234,375		21,094			255,469
P L Barnes	91,875		8,287			100,162
I D Crandall	82,500		7,425			89,925
H J Elliott	82,500		7,425			89,925
M J McConnell ^(e)	17,187		1,547			18,734
S P Gold ^(f)	65,625		5,906			71,531
Total Remuneration – Directors	574,062		51,684			625,746
MANAGING DIRECTOR AND OFFICERS ^(g) OF THE COMPANY AND THE GROUP						
H Boon, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer ^(h)	US\$ 678,434	US\$ 294,353	US\$ 250,216	US\$ 377,110	US\$ 2,048,569	US\$ 3,648,682
D Tough, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer ⁽ⁱ⁾	US\$ 87,500				US\$ 717	US\$ 88,217
P Corke, Senior Vice-President, Human Resources & Communications ^(j)	US\$ 224,942	US\$ 105,019	US\$ 14,118	US\$ 68,457	US\$ 30,252	US\$ 442,788
D Dickson, Head of Global Marketing & Program Director – <i>Operation Full Potential</i> ^(k)	US\$ 224,962	US\$ 98,017		US\$ 41,911	US\$ 384,273	US\$ 749,163
W Heintz, Senior Vice-President and Regional Director, Europe ^(k)	€ 223,403	€ 110,201	€ 72,722	€ 88,350	€ 149,933	€ 644,609
R Jilla, Senior Vice-President and Chief Financial Officer ^(l)	US\$ 279,923	US\$ 133,310	US\$ 20,460	US\$ 286,064	US\$ 35,938	US\$ 755,695
W Reed, Senior Vice-President and Regional Director, Americas ^(j)	US\$ 254,962	US\$ 85,678	US\$ 13,755	US\$ 100,290	US\$ 40,715	US\$ 495,400
W Reilly, Senior Vice-President and General Counsel ^(j)	US\$ 234,942	US\$ 111,801	US\$ 13,395	US\$ 68,457	US\$ 15,533	US\$ 444,128
Total Remuneration – Managing Director and Officers	US\$ 1,985,665 € 223,403	US\$ 828,178 € 110,201	US\$ 311,944 € 72,722	US\$ 942,289 € 88,350	US\$ 2,555,997 € 149,933	US\$ 6,624,073 € 644,609

- (a) Comprises cash awards payable to senior executives for achieving or exceeding organisational and individual objectives. For financial year 2004 the measures related to achievement of revenue, EBITA and working capital targets. Payout ratios were less than the possible maximum in all cases.
- (b) For Directors, includes notional contributions at the rate that satisfies Australian Superannuation Guarantee requirements. No amounts were required to be paid to the Australian superannuation fund in respect of the year ended 30 June 2004 upon advice of the Trustee. For Officers, includes contributions to US benefit or non-qualified pension plans or European pension plan, as applicable. For Mr Boon it also includes an imputed notional contribution to the Australian superannuation fund calculated at an actuarial rate.
- (c) In accordance with the requirements of the Accounting Standards, remuneration includes a proportion of the fair value of Options or PSRs granted or outstanding during the year. The fair value is determined as at grant and is progressively allocated over the 'vesting period' for these securities. The amount included as remuneration is not related to, nor indicative of, the benefit (if any) that individual executives may ultimately realise should the Options or PSRs vest. Includes for the former Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, Options granted in 2002, which have an exercise price of \$6.32 and \$6.97 respectively. For the Chief Financial Officer, also includes PSRs granted in 2003. For other executives, includes PSRs granted in 2002 and 2003. The notional value relates to Options and PSRs that vested upon achievement of performance conditions applicable to financial year 2004. Further details of Options and PSRs provided to Specified Directors and Executives as remuneration, including the basis of valuation, is included in Notes 25 and 28 to the financial statements contained in the Financial Report 2004.

- (d) Includes the cost to the Company of cash benefits such as motor vehicle allowances, home office expenses and executive insurance and, in respect of Messrs Boon and Dickson, contractual payments to executives upon cessation of employment.
- (e) Mr M J McConnell was appointed as a Director on 16 April 2004 (previously Mr McConnell was alternate director for Mr Gold).
- (f) Mr S P Gold retired as a Director on 16 April 2004, and was appointed alternate director for Mr McConnell on the same date. Mr Gold receives no separate emoluments from the Company for acting as Mr McConnell's alternate.
- (g) All Officers are US-based except for Mr Heintz, who is Europe-based.
- (h) Mr Boon retired as Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer on 30 June 2004, after 28 years with the Group.
- (i) Mr Tough was appointed as an executive of the Company effective 11 May 2004, and as Group Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer effective 1 July 2004.
- (j) US-based Officers are paid in US\$. The average exchange rate for June 2004 is US\$0.7016 = A\$1.00.
- (k) Europe-based Officer is paid in €. The average exchange rate for June 2004 is €0.5775 = A\$1.00.

Report of the Directors

This Report by the Directors of Ansell Limited ('the Company') is made for the year ended 30 June 2004 pursuant to Division 1 of Part 2M.3 of the Corporations Act. The information set out below is to be read in conjunction with the section entitled Directors' and Senior Executives' Remuneration appearing on pages 27 to 29 of this Annual Review 2004 and Notes 25 and 28 to the financial statements contained in the Financial Report 2004.

DIRECTORS

The name of each person who has been a Director of the Company during or since the end of the financial year, particulars of the qualifications, experience and special responsibilities of each Director as at the date of this Report, and of their other directorships, and the relevant interests of each of those Directors in the share capital of the Company and any related body corporate that have been notified to the Australian Stock Exchange under regulatory requirements, are as set out on pages 21 to 25.

Details of meetings of the Company's Directors (including Meetings of Committees of Directors) and Directors' attendance are set out on page 26. As described on page 25 of this Report, the Board has established both an Audit Committee and a Nomination, Remuneration and Evaluation Committee.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Ansell group of companies ('the Group') principally involve the development, manufacturing and sourcing, distribution and sale of gloves and protective products in the Professional Healthcare, Occupational Healthcare and Consumer Healthcare markets.

In addition, the Company remains a partner in the South Pacific Tyres partnership with The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company.

DIVIDENDS AND SHARE BUY-BACK

An interim cash dividend of 6 cents per share (unfranked) was paid in respect of the half-year ended 31 December 2003. A final dividend of 7 cents per share (unfranked) in respect of the year ended 30 June 2004 is payable on 14 October 2004 to shareholders registered on 22 September 2004.

The Company, on 30 April 2004, ceased buying back shares under the on-market buy-back announced on 16 April 2003, after buying back 11,199,184 shares (approximately 6% of the shares on issue) for a total outlay of \$72.2 million (US\$52.9 million). On 3 May 2004, the Company announced that it would undertake a further on-market buy-back of up to 12 million shares as part of a balanced capital management strategy. As at 30 June 2004, the Company had bought back 198,288 shares for \$1.47 million (US\$1.08million). Purchase of shares under the latter on-market buy-back arrangement were suspended while consideration was given to an alternative off-market buy-back proposal.

On 10 August 2004 the Company announced that the Board was considering a proposal for an off-market buy-back of 17 million shares, or approximately 10% of the shares on issue. The proposal is subject to satisfactory responses being received in relation to specific applications made to the Australian Taxation Office and Australian Securities and Investments Commission. The off-market share buy-back, should it proceed, will require shareholder approval at the Annual General Meeting to be held on 14 October 2004, and full details of the proposal will be included in the Notice of Meeting.

PERFORMANCE IN RELATION TO ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATIONS

The Group's continuing international manufacturing operations are subject to environmental regulation in the jurisdictions where the Group operates. The Group has risk management programs in place to address the requirements of these regulations. From time to time, the Group receives notices from relevant authorities pursuant to various environmental legislation. On receiving such notices, the Group evaluates the options for the matters raised and the associated costs and, where appropriate, makes provision for such costs.

The Directors are not aware of any material breaches of Australian or international environmental regulations during the year.

REVIEW OF OPERATIONS AND RESULTS

The Group operating profit attributable to shareholders after tax of \$70.7 million (US\$50.4 million) was significantly ahead of the previous year's result of \$49.9 million (US\$29.3 million).

The result for the 2004 financial year is inclusive of non-recurring items of a net \$1.7 million (US\$1.2 million) comprising non-cash write-downs of property, equipment and an investment totalling \$9.8 million (US\$6.9 million), expenses and provisions relating to transitional issues carried over from discontinued businesses and the previous company structure of \$9.7 million (US\$6.7 million), offset by a cash benefit of \$17.8 million (US\$12.4 million) from sales tax refunds relating to discontinued businesses in Australia.

Operating earnings before interest, tax and amortisation (EBITA) of the continuing Ansell Healthcare business before unallocated items was down 8.3% from \$159.6 million to \$146.3 million, but 11.2% higher at US\$104.1 million when expressed in the Company's operating currency.

Revenues, expressed in operating currency, increased in each of the Company's three business segments and operating regions. EBITA, again in operating currency, was lower than the previous year in the Consumer Healthcare and Professional Healthcare segments by 10.0% and 9.2% respectively, however, this was offset by an increase of 43.1% in the Occupational Healthcare segment.

The continuing overall improvement in the Company's results reflects initiatives of Ansell's three-year strategic program, Operation Full Potential, that are now embedded in the core operating businesses.

Free cash flow was strong at \$134.8 million (US\$90.3 million) after distribution of \$96.4 million (US\$68.7 million) to shareholders by way of dividends and share buy-backs. Net interest bearing debt further reduced, and gearing (net interest bearing debt as a percentage of net interest bearing debt plus equity) was lower at 12.8% compared with 18.1% last year. Interest cover improved to 9.5 times, up from 6.4 times in 2003.

In the opinion of the Directors, other than as referred to in this Report, there were no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Group.

EVENTS AFTER BALANCE DATE

Since the end of the financial year there have been no matters or circumstances that have significantly affected, or may significantly affect, the operations, results of operations or state of affairs of the Group in subsequent financial years.

LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

Certain likely developments in the operations of the Group, and the expected results of those operations, in financial years subsequent to the financial year ended 30 June 2004, are referred to in the Message from the Chairman and in the Chief Executive Officer's Report sections of the Annual Review. In the opinion of the Directors it would be likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the Group if further information were to be included.

This Report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors and is signed for and on behalf of the Directors.



E D Tweddell
Director

Dated in Melbourne this 31st day of August 2004.

INDEMNITY

Upon his appointment as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, Mr D D Tough entered into a Deed of Access, Indemnity and Insurance on terms previously entered into by each Non-executive Director. These Deeds provide for indemnification of the Directors to the maximum extent permitted under law. They do not indemnify for any liability involving a lack of good faith.

No Director or Officer of the Company has received the benefit of an indemnity from the Company during or since the end of the year.

Rule 61 of the Company's Constitution also provides an indemnity in favour of Officers (including the Directors and Company Secretary) of the Company against liabilities incurred while acting as such Officers to the extent permitted by law. In accordance with the powers set out in the Constitution, the Company maintains a Directors' and Officers' insurance policy. Due to confidentiality obligations and undertakings of the policy, no further details in respect of the premium or policy can be disclosed.

ROUNDING

Ansell Limited is a company of the kind referred to in Australian Securities and Investments Commission Class Order 98/100 (as in force on 30 June 2004) and, unless otherwise shown, amounts in this Report have been rounded off to the nearest one hundred thousand dollars.



D D Tough
Director

Discussion and Analysis of the Financial Statements

Although the Company reports in Australian dollars, the United States (US) dollar is the predominant global currency of our business transactions and the currency in which the global business is managed. The following discussion and analysis is provided to assist members in understanding the concise financial report and includes references to Australian dollars (\$) and US dollars (US\$). Presentation of the Company's results in US dollars can be found in the Supplementary Unaudited US Dollar Financial Information set out on pages 47 to 51.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

Sales revenue in 2003/2004 from the Healthcare businesses (Occupational, Professional and Consumer) was \$1,113.3 million (US\$791.9 million) compared with \$1,293.6 million (US\$758.7 million) in 2002/2003. In US dollar terms Occupational sales increased by 5.8 per cent, Professional sales increased by 2.3 per cent and Consumer sales increased by 4.5 per cent. Healthcare Segment EBITA increased by 11.2 per cent from US\$93.6 million (\$159.6 million) to US\$104.1 million (\$146.3 million).

The Occupational business accounted for 49 per cent of Ansell's 2003/2004 sales and 51 per cent of Healthcare Segment EBITA. The sales increase of 5.8 per cent in US dollar terms was driven by a 26 per cent increase in sales of the HyFlex® range and an 8 per cent increase in sales of disposables and critical environment gloves. Sales of knitted gloves showed an encouraging 15 per cent increase in the second half of the year compared to the first half as increased production improved availability. The knitting plant in North Carolina, USA was closed and the Mexican knitting plants' results improved significantly due to this consolidation and improved production process.

The Professional division accounted for 34 per cent of Ansell's 2003/2004 sales and 27 per cent of Healthcare Segment EBITA. Professional sales in US dollar terms increased 2.3 per cent assisted by a marked improvement in examination glove sales in the second half of the year as prices were adjusted to meet the competitive environment created by a stronger Euro. America's sales were lower by 3 per cent as recovery in the surgical glove business was slower than expected. Profitability in Europe and Australia was impacted by currency associated price reductions and worldwide by examination glove competitive price pressures and latex cost increases.

The Consumer division accounted for 17 per cent of Ansell's 2003/2004 sales and 22 per cent of Healthcare Segment EBITA. Consumer sales in US dollar terms increased by 4.5 per cent. This was generated by an increase in condom volumes of 7 per cent primarily due to bid contracts in both Brazil and India which were recorded in the Asia Pacific regional results. Retail condom sales were essentially flat in all regions, where new retail entrants and heightened competition in several markets adversely impacted sales growth and caused additional selling and advertising expenditure. Household glove sales in the second half of the year were 18 per cent below the same period in the prior year primarily due to reductions and clearances of older technology products by the Company's global partner, Freudenberg, in anticipation of deliveries in the coming year of the new Foam-lined gloves.

A review of the carrying value of all assets resulted in non-recurring, non-cash write-downs of \$7.4 million (US\$5.3 million) for equipment from the now closed Massillon, USA manufacturing facility, \$1.4 million (US\$0.9 million) for certain US properties and \$1.0 million (US\$0.7 million) in the book value of the shares held in Ambri Limited. A further \$9.7 million (US\$6.7 million) charge was incurred in respect of legacy issues including Workers Compensation costs from the GNB sale to Exide of \$7.5 million (US\$5.2 million). Offsetting these charges was a \$17.8 million (US\$12.4 million) cash benefit from sales tax refunds related to discontinued businesses.

A reduction in net interest expense by \$9.7 million (US\$3.6 million) to \$16.8 million (US\$11.9 million) resulted in interest cover increasing to 9.5 times from 6.4 times last year.

Income tax expense was \$20.7 million (US\$14.8 million) compared to \$26.8 million (US\$15.8 million) last year and continues to benefit from the utilisation of unbooked US tax losses.

The net profit after income tax attributable to shareholders for the year was \$70.7 million (US\$50.4 million) compared to \$49.9 million (US\$29.3 million) in 2002/2003.

Earnings per share was 39.1 cents (US 27.9 cents) up on the previous year's 26.7 cents (US 15.7 cents). Return on assets increased from 11.7 per cent to 14.0 per cent while return on equity improved from 5.6 per cent to 8.8 per cent.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

Total assets reduced from \$1,578.8 million (US\$1,052.7 million) to \$1,499.4 million (US\$1,032.8) benefiting from reduced amounts invested in working capital, however, available cash reserves increased from \$286.0 million (US\$190.7 million) to \$307.8 million (US\$212.0 million). Total liabilities reduced from \$734.3 million (US\$244.3 million) to \$687.6 million (US\$195.3 million) predominantly due to a reduction in interest bearing liabilities of \$45.6 million (US\$21.0 million). The reduced net debt improved balance sheet ratios with gearing (net debt to net debt plus equity) further improved to 12.8 per cent down from 18.1 per cent the previous year. Net debt to equity decreased from 22.0 per cent last year to 14.7 per cent while net liabilities to equity decreased from 53.1 per cent to 46.3 per cent. Restricted deposits of \$10.3 million (US\$7.1 million) have been set aside to cover the provisions established to address any remaining liability to members of the Group to claims arising with respect to the Accufix Pacing Leads. Restricted deposits at 30 June 2003 totalled \$13.8 million (US\$9.2 million).

During the year 10.0 million shares were purchased under the buy-back program for a total outlay of \$65.4 million (US\$47.9 million).

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$179.2 million (US\$127.3 million) compared to \$161.6 million (US\$95.2 million) in 2002/2003. Capital expenditure of \$13.8 million (US\$9.8 million) was down on the previous year's \$15.4 million (US\$9.1 million). During the year the Company returned \$96.4 million (US\$68.7 million) to shareholders via the share buy-back \$65.4 million (US\$47.9 million) and dividends \$31.0 million (US\$20.8 million).

INTEREST COSTS

Net interest expense and borrowing costs for the year were \$16.8 million (US\$11.9 million) compared with \$26.5 million (US\$15.5 million) in the previous year. The reduced cost resulted from the continued reduction in net debt, a lower cost of funds as older high-cost borrowings matured and were repaid or replaced by new lower-cost borrowings and a better return on cash. The average cost of debt fell from 6.44% last year to 6.15% in the current year.

On 30 April 2004, the Company entered into a new Revolving Credit Facility comprising a US\$200m facility for 5 years and a US\$50m facility for 364 days. It is envisaged that the 5 year facility will be used to repay maturing Medium Term Notes while the short-term facility will remain available as required. The new facility will result in a reduction in future borrowing costs.

This facility when combined with the Group's cash on deposit ensures continuing strong financial flexibility and liquidity. At year end the borrowing portfolio's average maturity was 816 days (previous year 699 days) and was approximately 77% fixed and 23% floating interest rate.

Discussion and Analysis of the Financial Statements continued

RATINGS

The Group's ratings are as follows:

	LONG TERM	OUTLOOK	SHORT TERM
Moody's	Ba2	Positive	Not Prime
Standard & Poor's	BB+	Stable	B

The current ratings from both rating organisations were updated during the year.

WORKING CAPITAL

Ansell Healthcare's days working capital in 2003/2004 was 79.8 days compared to 84.6 days in 2002/2003.

This is comprised of the following:

	2004	2003
Inventory Days Held	63.8	66.5
Days Sales Outstanding	59.5	62.2
Days Payable Outstanding	43.5	44.1

DEPRECIATION (INCLUDING AMORTISATION OF LEASEHOLD LAND & BUILDINGS)

	2004 \$M	2003 \$M	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
Group	25	31	18	18

FACTORIES BY REGION — ANSELL HEALTHCARE

	2004	2003
Asia Pacific	9	9
Americas	5	7
Europe	1	1
TOTAL	15	17

ASSETS EMPLOYED BY REGION — ANSELL HEALTHCARE

	2004 %	2003 %
Asia Pacific	40	38
Americas	35	36
Europe	25	26

Statement of Financial Performance

CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

		CONSOLIDATED	
	NOTES	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
REVENUE			
Total revenue	2	1,131.1	1,320.1
EXPENSES			
Cost of goods sold		662.1	830.4
Selling, distribution and administration		289.8	310.3
Depreciation and amortisation		46.7	56.5
Write-down of assets		9.8	6.1
TOTAL EXPENSES, EXCLUDING BORROWING COSTS		1,008.4	1,203.3
Borrowing costs		29.4	37.8
Share of net gain of associates and joint venture entities		-	0.3
PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE	3	93.3	79.3
Income tax expense attributable to ordinary activities		20.7	26.8
NET PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX EXPENSE		72.6	52.5
Outside equity interests in net profit after income tax		1.9	2.6
NET PROFIT AFTER INCOME TAX ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANSELL LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS		70.7	49.9
NON-OWNER TRANSACTION CHANGES IN EQUITY			
Net exchange difference on translation of financial statements of self-sustaining foreign operations		(7.4)	(71.3)
Total valuation adjustments attributable to Ansell Limited shareholders recognised directly in equity		(7.4)	(71.3)
TOTAL CHANGES IN EQUITY FROM NON-OWNER RELATED TRANSACTIONS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANSELL LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS	6	63.3	(21.4)
		CENTS	CENTS
Earnings per share is based on net profit after income tax attributable to Ansell Limited shareholders			
Basic earnings per share		39.1	26.7
Diluted earnings per share		39.0	26.6

The above statement of financial performance should be read in conjunction with the discussion and analysis on pages 32 to 34 and the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 40 to 43.

Statement of Financial Position

CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES AS AT 30 JUNE 2004

	NOTES	CONSOLIDATED	
		2004 \$M	2003 \$M
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash assets		307.8	286.0
Cash assets – restricted deposits		10.3	13.8
Receivables ^(b)		228.7	262.4
Inventories		190.5	187.9
Prepayments		11.7	10.9
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		749.0	761.0
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Receivables ^(b)		63.6	57.0
Other financial assets ^(a)		141.4	141.4
Property, plant and equipment		227.8	262.9
Intangible assets		293.4	324.5
Deferred tax assets		24.2	32.0
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		750.4	817.8
TOTAL ASSETS		1,499.4	1,578.8
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables		159.4	154.4
Interest bearing liabilities		190.2	151.8
Provisions		52.0	57.5
Current tax liabilities		2.6	3.1
Other		–	1.1
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		404.2	367.9
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Payables		3.3	3.2
Interest bearing liabilities		236.0	320.0
Provisions		23.9	21.7
Deferred tax liabilities		20.2	21.5
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		283.4	366.4
TOTAL LIABILITIES		687.6	734.3
NET ASSETS		811.8	844.5
EQUITY			
Contributed equity		1,383.9	1,448.3
Reserves		(275.6)	(268.9)
Accumulated losses	5	(306.7)	(345.7)
TOTAL EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANSELL LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS		801.6	833.7
Outside equity interests		10.2	10.8
TOTAL EQUITY	6	811.8	844.5

(a) Includes investment in South Pacific Tyres Partnership and South Pacific Tyres N.Z. Ltd of \$138.0 million (June 2003 \$138.3 million).

(b) Includes interest bearing loans to South Pacific Tyres Partnership of \$62.8 million (June 2003 \$62.7 million).

The above statement of financial position should be read in conjunction with the discussion and analysis on pages 32 to 34 and the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 40 to 43.

Statement of Cash Flows

CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
CASH FLOWS RELATED TO OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	1,155.9	1,357.0
Payments to suppliers and employees (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	(950.6)	(1,159.9)
Net receipts from customers (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	205.3	197.1
Income taxes paid	(15.9)	(8.6)
Dividends received	-	2.6
Net cash provided by Operating Activities (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	189.4	191.1
Non-recurring payments to suppliers and employees	(7.1)	(26.8)
Payments to suppliers and employees net of customer receipts (Accufix Research Institute)	(3.1)	(2.7)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	179.2	161.6
CASH FLOWS RELATED TO INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(13.8)	(15.4)
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment in the ordinary course of business	5.3	6.1
Loans repaid	3.4	4.2
Payments for other investments	(1.3)	-
Proceeds from sale of other investments	-	9.1
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(6.4)	4.0
CASH FLOWS RELATED TO FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from borrowings	104.3	7.8
Repayments of borrowings	(140.9)	(86.9)
Net repayments of borrowings	(36.6)	(79.1)
Proceeds from issues of shares	1.0	1.0
Payments for share buy-back	(65.4)	(8.2)
Dividends paid	(32.7)	(1.7)
Interest received	9.0	8.0
Interest and borrowing costs paid	(28.7)	(37.8)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(153.4)	(117.8)
NET INCREASE IN CASH HELD	19.4	47.8
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	297.2	262.3
Effects of exchange rate changes on the balances of cash held in foreign currencies at the beginning of the financial year	(1.8)	(12.9)
CASH AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	314.8	297.2

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the discussion and analysis on pages 32 to 34 and the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 40 to 43.

Industry Segments

CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	OPERATING REVENUE		OPERATING RESULT	
	2004 \$M	2003 \$M	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
INDUSTRY				
ANSELL HEALTHCARE				
Occupational Healthcare	545.2	624.9	74.2	62.9
Professional Healthcare	381.8	452.6	40.5	53.9
Consumer Healthcare	186.3	216.1	31.6	42.8
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	1,113.3	1,293.6	146.3	159.6
Unallocated Items	17.8	26.5	(13.1)	(22.4)
Operating EBITA			133.2	137.2
NON-RECURRING				
DISCONTINUED BUSINESSES				
Net gain on sale of interests in Associated Companies				5.5
Other			17.8	
RATIONALISATION/RESTRUCTURING				
Ansell Healthcare				(4.6)
Other			(9.7)	(5.5)
WRITE-DOWN OF ASSETS				
Ansell Healthcare			(8.8)	
Other			(1.0)	(1.5)
			131.5	131.1
Goodwill amortisation			(21.4)	(25.3)
EARNINGS BEFORE NET INTEREST AND TAX (EBIT)			110.1	105.8
Borrowing Costs Net of Interest Revenue			(16.8)	(26.5)
Operating Profit before Tax			93.3	79.3
Tax			(20.7)	(26.8)
Outside Equity Interests			(1.9)	(2.6)
TOTAL CONSOLIDATED	1,131.1	1,320.1	70.7	49.9
REGIONS				
Asia Pacific	168.2	173.7	41.4	35.9
Americas	544.7	656.0	65.0	80.2
Europe	400.4	463.9	39.9	43.5
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	1,113.3	1,293.6	146.3	159.6

	ASSETS EMPLOYED		LIABILITIES	
	2004 \$M	2003 \$M	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
INDUSTRY				
ANSELL HEALTHCARE				
Occupational Healthcare	274.8	284.4	96.1	90.0
Professional Healthcare	277.4	310.8	68.1	63.9
Consumer Healthcare	110.4	111.5	37.2	39.4
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	662.6	706.7	201.4	193.3
UNALLOCATED ITEMS	15.6	24.8	463.8	512.7
DISCONTINUED BUSINESSES	209.7	223.0	22.4	28.3
Goodwill and Brand names	293.4	324.5		
Cash	318.1	299.8		
TOTAL CONSOLIDATED	1,499.4	1,578.8	687.6	734.3
REGIONS				
Asia Pacific	268.3	269.5	75.3	78.6
Americas	227.5	256.1	90.6	86.6
Europe	166.8	181.1	35.5	28.1
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	662.6	706.7	201.4	193.3

The above industry segments report should be read in conjunction with the discussion and analysis on pages 32 to 34 and the notes to the financial statements set out on pages 40 to 43.

Notes to the Financial Statements

CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

1. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT

The concise financial report has been prepared in accordance with the Corporations Act 2001, Accounting Standard AASB 1039 'Concise Financial Reports' and applicable Urgent Issues Group Consensus Views. The financial statements and specific disclosures required by AASB 1039 have been derived from the consolidated entity's full financial report for the financial year. Other information included in the concise financial report is consistent with the consolidated entity's full financial report. The concise financial report does not, and cannot be expected to, provide as full an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the consolidated entity as the full financial report.

It has been prepared on the basis of historical costs and, except where stated, does not take into account changing money values or current valuations of non-current assets.

These accounting policies have been consistently applied by each entity in the consolidated entity and are consistent with those of the previous year.

Where necessary, comparative information has been reclassified to achieve consistency in disclosure with current financial year amounts and other disclosures.

A full description of the accounting policies adopted by the consolidated entity may be found in the consolidated entity's full financial report.

	CONSOLIDATED	
	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
2. TOTAL REVENUE		
REVENUE FROM THE SALE OF GOODS	1,113.3	1,293.6
REVENUES FROM OTHER OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
INTEREST RECEIVED OR DUE AND RECEIVABLE		
From related parties	3.5	3.3
From others	9.0	8.0
TOTAL REVENUE FROM OTHER OPERATING ACTIVITIES	12.5	11.3
REVENUE FROM OUTSIDE OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from the sale of non-current assets	5.3	15.2
TOTAL REVENUE	1,131.1	1,320.1

3. PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE

INDIVIDUALLY SIGNIFICANT ITEMS INCLUDED IN PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE

Sales Tax Refund	17.8	...
GNB Workers Compensation costs	(7.5)	...
Write-down of Ansell Healthcare fixed assets	(8.8)	...
Write-down of investment	...	(6.1)

	THE COMPANY	
	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
4. DIVIDENDS PAID AND DECLARED		
DIVIDENDS PAID		
A final dividend of 11 cents per share for the year ended 30 June 2003 (June 2002 – Nil)	20.4	...
An interim dividend of 6 cents per share for the year ended 30 June 2004 (June 2003 – Nil)	10.6	...
	31.0	...
DIVIDENDS DECLARED		
Since the end of the financial year the Directors declared the following dividend:		
a final dividend of 7 cents per share, unfranked	12.3	20.4
The financial effect of this dividend has not been brought to account in the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2004 and will be recognised in subsequent financial reports.		
DIVIDEND FRANKING ACCOUNT		
As a result of entering the Tax Consolidation regime the balance of available franking credits in the franking account as at 30 June 2004 was \$2.7 million (2003 – Nil).		
	CONSOLIDATED	
	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
5. ACCUMULATED LOSSES		
Accumulated losses at the beginning of the financial year	(345.7)	(417.0)
Transfer from/(to) reserves	(0.7)	21.4
Net profit after income tax attributable to Ansell Limited shareholders	70.7	49.9
Dividends paid during the year	(31.0)	...
ACCUMULATED LOSSES AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	(306.7)	(345.7)
6. TOTAL EQUITY RECONCILIATION		
Total equity at the beginning of the financial year	844.5	876.0
Total changes in equity from non-owner related transactions attributable to Ansell Limited shareholders	63.3	(21.4)
Transactions with owners as owners:		
Contributions of equity	1.0	1.0
Share buy-back	(65.4)	(8.2)
Dividends	(31.0)	...
Total changes in outside equity interest	(0.6)	(2.9)
TOTAL EQUITY AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	811.8	844.5

Notes to the Financial Statements continued

CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT OF ANSELL LIMITED AND CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

7. NOTES TO THE INDUSTRY SEGMENTS REPORT

(A) UNALLOCATED REVENUE AND COSTS

Represents costs of Statutory Head Office, part of the costs of Ansell Healthcare's Corporate Head Office and non-sales revenue.

(B) CASH

Cash also includes Accufix Pacing Leads restricted deposits.

(C) INTER-SEGMENT TRANSACTIONS

Significant inter-segment sales were made by Asia Pacific – \$216.3 million (2003 – \$258.2 million) and Americas – \$233.0 million (2003 – \$254.7 million). Inter-segment sales are predominantly made at the same prices as sales to major customers. Operating Revenue is shown net of inter-segment values. Accordingly, the Operating Revenues shown in each segment reflect only the external sales made by that segment.

(D) INDUSTRY SEGMENTS

The consolidated entity comprises the following main business segments:

- Occupational Healthcare – manufacture and sale of occupational health and safety gloves.

- Professional Healthcare – manufacture and sale of medical, surgical and examination gloves for hand barrier protection and infection control.
- Consumer Healthcare – manufacture and sale of condoms, household gloves and other personal products.
- Discontinued Businesses – represents former Industry Segment businesses which have been sold or abandoned.

(E) REGIONS

The allocation of Operating Revenue and Operating Results reflects the geographical regions in which the products are sold to external customers. Assets Employed are allocated to the geographical regions in which the assets are located.

- Asia Pacific – manufacturing facilities in four countries and sales.
- Americas – manufacturing facilities in USA and Mexico and significant sales activity.
- Europe – principally a sales region with one manufacturing facility in the UK.

	2004 \$M	2003 \$M
(F) SEGMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		
Occupational Healthcare	5.4	3.2
Professional Healthcare	4.4	8.6
Consumer Healthcare	3.3	3.4
(G) REGION CAPITAL EXPENDITURE		
Asia Pacific	8.7	10.1
Americas	3.4	4.2
Europe	1.0	0.9
(H) SEGMENT DEPRECIATION		
Occupational Healthcare	8.7	11.0
Professional Healthcare	11.5	15.5
Consumer Healthcare	5.1	4.8
(I) SEGMENT OTHER NON-CASH EXPENSES (EXCLUDING PROVISION FOR RATIONALISATION AND WRITE-DOWN OF ASSETS SEPARATELY DISCLOSED)		
Occupational Healthcare	6.9	8.3
Professional Healthcare	1.5	0.7
Consumer Healthcare	4.9	2.9

8. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

INDEMNITIES AND GUARANTEES

Ansell Limited ('the Company') has previously entered into Deeds of Indemnity with each of the Directors of the Company and certain officers of controlled entities, in relation to liabilities that they may incur (other than to Group companies) as Directors of the Company and Directors of certain controlled entities respectively, to the extent permitted by law and the Company's Constitution.

The Company has also guaranteed the performance of certain wholly-owned controlled entities which have negative shareholders' funds.

At this time, no liabilities the subject of any such indemnity or guarantee have been identified and, accordingly, it is not possible to quantify any financial obligation of the consolidated entity under these indemnities and of the Company pursuant to its guarantee.

ACCUFIX LITIGATION

Only a limited number of lawsuits in relation to the Accufix Pacing Leads which have been made against certain Group Companies remain on foot, the majority of which have been brought in France.

As at 30 June 2004, the balance of the provisions made for settlements in relation to claims (approximately A\$11.2 million) is considered adequate to address any remaining liability of members of the Ansell Group.

LATEX ALLERGY LITIGATION

As at 30 June 2004, there were approximately 46 product liability cases pending against one or more Ansell Group Companies in the United States in relation to allergic reaction to exposure to natural rubber latex gloves. In a number of cases, distributors of latex gloves who have also been named as defendants, are pursuing cross-claims and third party claims against United States Group Companies. It is not possible at this time to quantify the potential financial impact of such cases on the Group.

BUSINESS AND ASSET SALES

The Company and various Group Companies have, as part of the Group's historical asset and business sale program, provided warranties, indemnities and other undertakings and, in some instances, the Company has guaranteed the warranties, indemnities and other obligations of various Group Companies, to the purchasers of Group assets and businesses. At this time, it is not possible to quantify the potential financial impact of those warranties, indemnities, undertakings or guarantees upon the economic entity. From time to time, the Company has received notices from purchasers of its businesses pursuant to the relevant sale agreements. No formal proceedings are currently on foot and, accordingly, it is not possible at this time to quantify the potential financial impact on the Group.

9. CONTINGENT ASSETS

EXIDE CORPORATION

US legal proceedings are continuing against entities in the Exide Group in connection with the sale of the GNB business. Proceedings against those entities in the Exide Group that have not filed for bankruptcy ('Non-bankrupt Entities') were transferred to the Delaware bankruptcy court ('the Court') where the Court determined that all of the Ansell Group's claims against the Non-bankrupt Entities may only be asserted against Exide Technologies, Inc., a company which has emerged from bankruptcy.

The Ansell Group has requested that the Court review its decision. The Court has yet to do so. The Ansell Group will continue to pursue recovery of the amounts owed by the Exide Group, but the Ansell Group only expects to recover stock in the reorganised company (Exide Technologies, Inc.). The ultimate amount of the Ansell Group's claims have not yet been determined and therefore the amount and value of the stock that may be recovered from Exide Technologies Inc. is also undetermined.

10. ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

The Company and various Group Companies as the occupiers of property receive, from time to time, notices from relevant authorities pursuant to various environmental legislation. On receiving such notices, the Company evaluates potential remediation options and the associated costs. At this time, the Company does not believe that the potential financial impact of such remediation upon the economic entity is material.

In the ordinary course of business, the Ansell Group has maintained comprehensive general liability insurance policies covering its operations and assets. Generally such policies exclude coverage for most environmental liabilities.

Directors' Declaration

In the opinion of the Directors of Ansell Limited, the accompanying concise financial report of the consolidated entity, comprising Ansell Limited and its controlled entities for the year ended 30 June 2004, set out on pages 32 to 43:

(a) has been derived from or is consistent with the Financial Report for the financial year; and

(b) complies with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1039 'Concise Financial Reports'.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the directors:



Edward D Tweddell
Director



Douglas D Tough
Director

Dated in Melbourne this 31st day of August 2004

Audit Opinion

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT ON CONCISE FINANCIAL REPORT

To the members of Ansell Limited,

SCOPE

THE FINANCIAL REPORT AND DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY

The concise financial report comprises the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, statement of cash flows, accompanying notes (1 to 10) and the accompanying discussion and analysis on the statement of financial performance, statement of financial position, and statement of cash flows, (set out on pages 32 to 43) for Ansell Limited ('the Company') and its controlled entities (the 'Consolidated Entity') for the year ended 30 June 2004.

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the concise financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1039 'Concise Financial Reports'. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls that are designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, and for the accounting policies and accounting estimates inherent in the concise financial report.

AUDIT APPROACH

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to members of the Company. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards in order to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the concise financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by factors such as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, the inherent limitations of internal control, and the availability of persuasive rather than conclusive evidence. Therefore an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected. We have also performed an independent audit of the financial report of the Company and its controlled entities for the year ended 30 June 2004. Our audit report on the financial report was signed on 31 August 2004, and was not subject to any qualification.

We performed procedures in respect of the audit of the concise financial report to assess whether, in all material respects, the concise financial report is presented fairly in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1039 'Concise Financial Reports'.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures, which include:

- testing that the information in the concise financial report is consistent with the financial report, and
- examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts, discussion and analysis, and other disclosures, which were not directly derived from the financial report.

While we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls over financial reporting when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

INDEPENDENCE

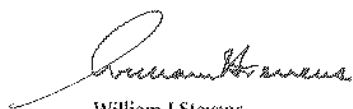
In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements and the Corporations Act 2001.

AUDIT OPINION

In our opinion, the concise financial report of Ansell Limited and its controlled entities for the year ended 30 June 2004 complies with Australian Accounting Standard AASB 1039 'Concise Financial Reports'.



KPMG



William J Stevens
Partner

Dated in Melbourne this 31st day of August 2004

Shareholders

Details of quoted shares held in Ansell Limited as at 18 August 2004.

DISTRIBUTION OF ORDINARY SHAREHOLDERS AND SHAREHOLDINGS

SIZE OF HOLDING	NUMBER OF SHAREHOLDERS		NUMBER OF SHARES	
1 – 1,000	43,855*	82.57	15,458,764	8.79
1,001 – 5,000	8,300	15.62	16,744,540	9.52
5,001 – 10,000	646	1.22	4,572,072	2.60
10,001 – 100,000	264	0.50	6,323,720	3.59
100,001 and over	47	0.09	132,802,025	75.50
	53,112	100%	175,901,121	100%

* Including 1,657 shareholders holding a parcel of shares of less than \$500 in value (61 shares), based on market price of \$8.33.

Percentage of the total holding of the 20 largest shareholders – 71.45 per cent.

In addition to the foregoing, there were 1,479 members of the Employee Share Plan, holding 149,763 shares, and 749 members of the Executive Share Plan, whose shares are paid to one cent each, holding 714,600 Plan shares.

Voting rights as governed by the Constitution of the Company provide that each ordinary shareholder present in person or by proxy at a meeting shall have:

(a) on a show of hands, one vote only;

(b) on a poll, one vote for every fully paid ordinary share held.

TWENTY LARGEST SHAREHOLDERS	NO. OF FULLY PAID SHARES	% OF ISSUED CAPITAL
National Nominees Limited	39,109,059	22.11
Westpac Custodian Nominees Limited	30,454,617	17.22
RBC Global Services Australia Nominees Pty Limited <PIPOOLED A/C>	11,377,071	6.43
J P Morgan Nominees Australia Limited	8,808,419	4.98
ANZ Nominees Limited	6,345,625	3.59
Citicorp Nominees Pty Limited	5,868,111	3.32
RBC Global Services Australia Nominees Pty Limited	4,387,155	2.48
Queensland Investment Corporation	3,503,981	1.98
Cogent Nominees Pty Limited	2,614,993	1.48
RBC Global Services Australia Nominees Pty Limited <PIIC A/C>	1,969,992	1.11
AMP Life Limited	1,711,922	0.97
UBS Nominees Pty Ltd <Prime Broking A/C>	1,654,184	0.94
Warbont Nominees Pty Ltd <Unpaid Entrepot A/C>	1,641,632	0.93
RBC Global Services Australia Nominees Pty Limited <BKCUST A/C>	1,600,000	0.90
De Bortoli Wines Pty Limited	1,050,000	0.59
Suncorp General Insurance Ltd <SI Account>	1,000,000	0.57
Equipart Nominees Pty Ltd	935,486	0.53
Westpac Custodian Nominees Limited <ADR Account>	902,428	0.51
Bainpro Nominees Pty Limited	840,077	0.48
Cogent Nominees Pty Limited <SMP Accounts>	587,372	0.33
	126,362,124	71.45

REGISTER OF SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS

The names of substantial shareholders in the Company and the number of fully paid ordinary shares in which each has an interest, as disclosed in substantial shareholder notices to the Company on the respective dates shown, are as follows:

17 December 2003	Perpetual Trustees Australia Limited.	18,138,087	10.31%
26 April 2004	AXA Asia Pacific Holdings Limited	9,359,034	5.32%
27 April 2004	Harris Associates L.P.	20,389,330	11.59%
27 May 2004*	Shamrock Holdings of California Inc. and its related bodies corporate	16,437,905	9.37%
8 June 2004	Maple-Brown Abbott Limited	16,066,726	9.13%

* Advice of change of substantial shareholding was received from Shamrock Holdings of California Inc. subsequent to the table of 20 largest shareholders being compiled.

Supplementary Unaudited US Dollar Financial Information

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

ANSELL LIMITED AND ITS CONTROLLED ENTITIES

The following unaudited US dollar financial information is supplementary to the Company's concise financial report for the year ended 30 June 2004. It is provided as additional information for the Company's shareholders. This financial information does not form part of the Company's financial statements that are required to be prepared under the Corporations Act 2001, Australian Accounting Standards and the ASX listing rules.

This financial information has been derived from the Company's concise financial report.

Translation of amounts from Australian dollars to US dollars in the Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Cash Flows and Operating Revenue and Operating Result within the Industry Segments have been made at the average of the 10 a.m. mid buy/sell rate for Australian dollars as quoted by Reuters on the last working day of each month for the 13 month period June 2003 to June 2004.

Translation of amounts from Australian dollars to US dollars in the Statement of Financial Position and Assets Employed and Liabilities within the Industry Segments have been made at the 10 a.m. mid buy/sell rate for Australian dollars as quoted by Reuters, on Wednesday 30 June 2004, at US\$0.68885 = A\$1 (30 June 2003 US\$0.66675 = A\$1).

Statement of Financial Performance

OF ANSELL LIMITED AND ITS CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
REVENUE		
Sales	791.9	758.7
Other revenue	12.7	15.6
Total revenue	804.6	774.3
EXPENSES		
Cost of goods sold	471.0	487.0
Selling, distribution and administration	206.0	182.0
Depreciation and amortisation	33.2	33.1
Write-down of assets	6.9	3.6
TOTAL EXPENSES, EXCLUDING BORROWING COSTS	717.1	705.7
Borrowing costs	20.9	22.2
Share of net gain of associates and joint venture entities	-	0.2
PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES BEFORE INCOME TAX EXPENSE	66.6	46.6
Income tax expense attributable to ordinary activities	14.8	15.8
NET PROFIT FROM ORDINARY ACTIVITIES AFTER INCOME TAX EXPENSE	51.8	30.8
Outside equity interests in net profit after income tax	1.4	1.5
NET PROFIT AFTER INCOME TAX ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANSELL LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS	50.4	29.3
Earnings per share is based on net profit after income tax attributable to Ansell Limited shareholders		
	CENTS	CENTS
Basic earnings per share	27.9	15.7
Diluted earnings per share	27.8	15.6

Statement of Financial Position

OF ANSELL LIMITED AND ITS CONTROLLED ENTITIES AS AT 30 JUNE 2004

	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash assets	212.0	190.7
Cash assets – restricted deposits	7.1	9.2
Receivables ^(b)	157.5	175.0
Inventories	131.2	125.3
Prepayments	8.1	7.2
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	515.9	507.4
NON-CURRENT ASSETS		
Receivables ^(b)	43.8	38.0
Other financial assets ^(a)	97.4	94.3
Property, plant and equipment	156.9	175.3
Intangible assets	202.1	216.4
Deferred tax assets	16.7	21.3
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS	516.9	545.3
TOTAL ASSETS	1,032.8	1,052.7
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	109.8	103.0
Interest bearing liabilities	131.0	101.2
Provisions	35.8	38.3
Current tax liabilities	1.8	2.1
Other	–	0.7
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	278.4	245.3
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Payables	2.3	2.1
Interest bearing liabilities	162.6	213.4
Provisions	16.5	14.5
Deferred tax liabilities	13.9	14.3
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES	195.3	244.3
TOTAL LIABILITIES	473.7	489.6
NET ASSETS	559.1	563.1
EQUITY		
Contributed equity	953.3	965.7
Reserves	(189.9)	(179.3)
Accumulated losses	(211.3)	(230.5)
TOTAL EQUITY ATTRIBUTABLE TO ANSELL LIMITED SHAREHOLDERS	552.1	555.9
Outside equity interests	7.0	7.2
TOTAL EQUITY	559.1	563.1

(a) Includes investment in South Pacific Tyres Partnership and South Pacific Tyres N.Z. Ltd of US\$ 95.1 million (June 2003 US\$ 92.2 million).

(b) Includes interest bearing loans to South Pacific Tyres Partnership of US\$ 43.3 million (June 2003 US\$ 41.8 million).

Statement of Cash Flows

OF ANSELL LIMITED AND ITS CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
CASH FLOWS RELATED TO OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Receipts from customers (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	822.2	795.9
Payments to suppliers and employees (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	(676.3)	(679.9)
Net receipts from customers (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	145.9	116.0
Income taxes paid	(11.3)	(5.0)
Dividends received	...	1.5
Net cash provided by Operating Activities (excluding non-recurring and Accufix Research Institute)	134.6	112.5
Non-recurring payments to suppliers and employees	(5.1)	(15.7)
Payments to suppliers and employees net of customer receipts (Accufix Research Institute)	(2.2)	(1.6)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	127.3	95.2
CASH FLOWS RELATED TO INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(9.8)	(9.1)
Proceeds from sale of plant and equipment in the ordinary course of business	3.7	3.6
Loans repaid	2.4	2.5
Payments for other investments	(0.9)	...
Proceeds from sale of other investments	...	5.3
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(4.6)	2.3
CASH FLOWS RELATED TO FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from borrowings	74.2	4.6
Repayments of borrowings	(100.2)	(51.0)
Net repayments of borrowings	(26.0)	(46.4)
Proceeds from issues of shares	0.7	0.6
Payments for share buy-back	(47.9)	(4.8)
Dividends paid	(21.9)	(1.0)
Interest received	6.4	4.7
Interest and borrowing costs paid	(20.4)	(22.2)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(109.1)	(69.1)
NET INCREASE IN CASH HELD	13.6	28.4
Cash at the beginning of the financial year	198.4	148.6
Effects of exchange rate changes on the balances of cash held in foreign currencies at the beginning of the financial year	4.8	21.4
CASH AT THE END OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR	216.8	198.4

Industry Segments

OF ANSELL LIMITED AND ITS CONTROLLED ENTITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2004

	OPERATING REVENUE		OPERATING RESULT	
	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
INDUSTRY				
ANSELL HEALTHCARE				
Occupational Healthcare	387.8	366.5	52.8	36.9
Professional Healthcare	271.6	265.5	28.7	31.6
Consumer Healthcare	132.5	126.7	22.6	25.1
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	791.9	758.7	104.1	93.6
Unallocated Items	12.7	15.6	(9.2)	(13.1)
Operating EBITA			94.9	80.5
NON-RECURRING				
DISCONTINUED BUSINESSES				
Net gain on sale of interests in Associated Companies				3.2
Other			12.4	
RATIONALISATION/RESTRUCTURING				
Ansell Healthcare				(2.7)
Other			(6.7)	(3.2)
WRITE-DOWN OF ASSETS				
Ansell Healthcare			(6.2)	
Other			(0.7)	(0.9)
Goodwill amortisation			(15.2)	(14.8)
EARNINGS BEFORE NET INTEREST AND TAX (EBIT)			78.5	62.1
Borrowing Costs net of Interest Revenue			(11.9)	(15.5)
Operating Profit before Tax			66.6	46.6
Tax			(14.8)	(15.8)
Outside Equity Interests			(1.4)	(1.5)
TOTAL CONSOLIDATED	804.6	774.3	50.4	29.3
REGIONS				
Asia Pacific	119.7	101.9	29.5	21.1
Americas	387.0	384.7	46.1	47.0
Europe	285.2	272.1	28.5	25.5
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	791.9	758.7	104.1	93.6

	ASSETS EMPLOYED		LIABILITIES	
	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M	2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
INDUSTRY				
ANSELL HEALTHCARE				
Occupational Healthcare	189.3	189.6	66.2	60.0
Professional Healthcare	191.1	207.2	46.9	42.6
Consumer Healthcare	76.0	74.3	25.6	26.3
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	456.4	471.1	138.7	128.9
UNALLOCATED ITEMS	10.7	16.6	319.6	341.8
DISCONTINUED BUSINESSES	144.5	148.7	15.4	18.9
Goodwill and Brand names	202.1	216.4		
Cash	219.1	199.9		
TOTAL CONSOLIDATED	1,032.8	1,052.7	473.7	489.6
REGIONS				
Asia Pacific	184.8	179.7	51.9	52.4
Americas	156.7	170.8	62.4	57.8
Europe	114.9	120.6	24.4	18.7
TOTAL ANSELL HEALTHCARE	456.4	471.1	138.7	128.9
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION				
			2004 US\$M	2003 US\$M
(A) SEGMENT CAPITAL EXPENDITURE				
Occupational Healthcare			3.9	1.9
Professional Healthcare			3.1	5.0
Consumer Healthcare			2.4	2.0
(B) REGION CAPITAL EXPENDITURE				
Asia Pacific			6.3	5.9
Americas			2.4	2.5
Europe			0.7	0.5
(C) SEGMENT DEPRECIATION				
Occupational Healthcare			6.3	6.5
Professional Healthcare			8.1	9.1
Consumer Healthcare			3.6	2.8

Investor Information

ANNUAL REPORT

Ansell's Annual Report consists of two documents – the Annual Review 2004 (incorporating the concise financial report to shareholders) and the Financial Report 2004. The Annual Review details the Company's operations and provides a summary of the financial statements. The financial statements and disclosures in the concise financial report have been derived from the Ansell Limited Financial Report 2004. A more complete understanding of the Company's financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities can be obtained from the Financial Report.

All shareholders are entitled to receive a copy of the Annual Review. Those who do not wish to receive a copy of the Annual Review can have their name deleted from the mailing list by advising the Company in writing. A copy of the Financial Report of the Company and its Controlled Entities is available and will be sent to shareholders, free of charge, on request.

Alternatively, shareholders can access the Financial Report 2004 and other information on the Company and its activities on the internet from Ansell's website at www.ansell.com

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Shareholders should notify the Company in writing immediately there is a change to their registered address. For added protection, shareholders should quote their Securityholder Reference Number (SRN) or Holder Identification Number (HIN).

DIVIDEND

A final dividend of 7 cents per share will be paid on 14 October 2004 to shareholders registered on 22 September 2004. The dividend will be unfranked.

Australian shareholders may elect to have cash dividends paid directly into any bank, building society or credit union account in Australia. Shareholders with registered addresses in New Zealand, the UK or the US who receive cash dividends may elect to be paid by cheque in their respective currencies. Shareholders with a registered address in Canada can receive their dividends in US dollars.

COMPANY DIRECTORY

The Annual Review, and the Company's website, are the main sources of information for investors. Shareholders who wish to contact the Company on any matter relating to its activities are invited to contact the most convenient office listed below, or contact the Company via its website at www.ansell.com

AUSTRALIA

Att: Mr David Graham
Ansell Limited
Level 3
678 Victoria Street
Richmond VIC 3121
Telephone: (+61 3) 9270 7270
Facsimile: (+61 3) 9270 7300
Email: shareholderenquiries@ap.ansell.com

UNITED STATES

Att: Mr Phil Corke
Ansell Limited
200 Schulz Drive
Red Bank NJ 07701
Telephone: (+1 732) 345 5400
Facsimile: (+1 732) 219 5114
Email: pcorke@ansell.com

ENQUIRIES

Shareholders requiring information about their shareholdings should contact the Company's registry at:

Computershare Investor Services Pty Limited
Yarra Falls
452 Johnston Street
Abbotsford VIC 3067

or

GPO Box 242
Melbourne VIC 3001
Australia

Telephone: (+61 3) 9415 4000
Facsimile: (+61 3) 9473 2555
Shareholder Enquiries 1300 850 505

Or visit their website (www.computershare.com.au), where shareholder information can be accessed by clicking on 'Investors' and providing a Securityholder Reference Number (SRN or HIN), Family or Business name and Postcode.

LISTINGS

Ansell Limited shares (Ticker Symbol ANN) are listed on the Australian Stock Exchange. In the US, Ansell shares are traded in the form of American Depositary Receipts (ADRs) on NASDAQ. Each ADR unit represents four ordinary Ansell shares. Cash dividends for ADRs are paid in US dollar denominated cheques and stock dividends are issued in the form of ADRs by the administrator of the program. ADR investors requiring information concerning their shareholding should contact:

JPMorgan Service Center
PO Box 43013
Providence, RI 02940-3013 USA
US Toll Free: (800) 990 1135
Telephone: (+1 781) 575 4328
Facsimile: (+1 781) 575 4082
Email: adr@jpmorgan.com

FINANCIAL CALENDAR – 2005

9 February 2005

Announcement of result for half-year ending 31 December 2004

16 August 2005

Announcement of result for year ending 30 June 2005

13 October 2005

Annual General Meeting

Ansell Offices

REGISTERED OFFICE

Ansell Limited
ABN 89 004 085 330
Level 3, 678 Victoria Street
Richmond VIC 3121
Australia
Telephone: (+61 3) 9270 7270
Facsimile: (+61 3) 9270 7300
Email: shareholderenquiries@ap.ansell.com
Secretary
Robert J. Bartlett
Auditors
KPMG
Lawyers
Frechills

OPERATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

Ansell Healthcare
200 Schulz Drive
Red Bank, NJ 07701
USA
Telephone: (+1 732) 345 5400
Facsimile: (+1 732) 219 5114

REGIONAL SALES & MARKETING OFFICES

Europe:
Ansell Healthcare
Riverside Business Park
"Spey House"
Internationalelaan 55
1070 Brussels
Telephone: (+32 2) 528 7400
Facsimile: (+32 2) 528 7401
Americas:
Ansell Healthcare
200 Schulz Drive
Red Bank, NJ 07701
USA
Telephone: (+1 732) 345 5400
Facsimile: (+1 732) 219 5114
Asia Pacific
Ansell Healthcare
Level 3, 678 Victoria Street
Richmond, VIC 3121
Australia
Telephone: (+61 3) 9270 7270
Facsimile: (+61 3) 9270 7330

Senior Management

Doug Tough
Managing Director & Chief Executive
Officer, Ansell Limited
(Red Bank)

Robert Bartlett
Company Secretary & General Manager –
Corporate
(Richmond)

Phil Corke
Senior Vice-President, Human Resources &
Communications
(Red Bank)

Werner Heintz
Senior Vice-President & Regional Director,
Europe
(Brussels)

Rustom Jilla
Senior Vice President & Chief Financial
Officer
(Red Bank)

Neil O'Donnell
Senior Vice-President & Regional Director,
Asia Pacific
(Richmond)

Scott Papier
Vice-President Global Supply & Logistics
(Red Bank)

William Reed
Senior Vice-President & Regional Director,
Americas
(Red Bank)

William Reilly
Senior Vice-President & General Counsel
(Red Bank)

Peter Soszyn
Senior Vice-President & Chief Information
Officer
(Red Bank)

Rainer Wolf
Head of Global Manufacturing
(Shah Alam, Malaysia)

Dr Michael Zedalis
Senior Vice-President Science & Technology
(Red Bank)

A complete copy of the financial
statements can be obtained from the
Ansell website: www.ansell.com

Ansell