# ANNUAL REPORT 2002

UNITED ARROWS



UNITED ARROWS LTD.

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# UNITED ARROWS

Philosophy of UNITED ARROWS Group



UNITED ARROWS LTD. was established in Tokyo, 1989, as a company that continues to set new standards for Japanese lifestyle and culture through the planning and sale of men's and women's apparel, accessories, and general merchandise. United Arrows pursues a value represented by an international concept that is globally accepted, and is achieved by the fusing of Japanese culture and traditions with those from the West. We would like to continue devoting ourselves to create this value in our ever continuing evolution.

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# Financial Highlights

Years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001

	Millions of Yen		U.S. Dollars (Note)		
	2002	2001	2002		
Sales	¥ 26,943	¥ 19,315	\$ 202,962		
Operating Income	3,965	1,632	29,869		
Net Income before Taxes	4,021	1,543	30,287		
Net Income	2,318	879	17,464		
Total Assets	19,645	15,054	147,983		
Total Shareholders' Equity	13,456	11,269	101,366		
Net Income per Share (in Yen and U.S. Dollars)	194.41	73.74	1.5		
Shareholders' Equity per Share (in Yen and U.S. Dollars)	1,128.41	945.00	8.5		

Note: Calculation based on the exchange rate of U.S. \$1=\footnote{132.75} (March 31, 2002).

# Sales and Growth Ratio



# Net Income and Net Income to Sales



# Operating Income and Operating Income to Sales

Thousands of





# Total Shareholders' Equity and Total Assets





# Reviewing the fiscal year ended March 2002 (13th business term)

During the fiscal year that has just ended, we have been able to take our first steps towards once again posting positive growth in our results.

Initially, this fiscal year had been regarded as "a critical period for regaining the growth of our business" and as "a period for strengthening our foundations." Although the existing store sales showed a moderate recovery, more time was needed until we could claim to be experiencing a real recovery.

However, our changes in product policy and in the operation for providing products, which we have been working on since last year, started to show results from the spring-summer season.

Since then, the various measures that we have implemented to achieve the recovery that was our essential aim have begun to succeed, to such an extent that we have seen a dramatic improvement on last year's figures.

Amid the severe conditions currently faced by the entire apparel industry, our accomplishment of a "V-shaped" recovery has made us the object of much attention. However, there are still many tasks left in order to ensure continued growth, and we believe that we have only taken the first steps towards achieving our full potential.

# Specific measures

Looking at the practical measures that we have implemented, firstly, we have rebuilt our product policy. By taking a certain level of inventory risk, we have eliminated the out of stock of "basic products" in order to reduce the number of lost sales opportunities.

In our main United Arrows (UA) business chain, our "basic products" are called the "evolving UA basic product." We define this product as "products that are always in the stores but that gradually change according to the times."

We have completely clarified the product-numbers of these "basic products," and subsequently, all stores and Product Procurement teams have worked together to create a system for procuring products in a much more careful and efficient manner.

This approach has enabled us to meet customer expectations much more effectively and to minimize lost sales opportunities.

We were also determined to execute sales promotion activities focused on improving product exposure in fashion magazines.



# **Measures for Recovering Performance**

Clarification of "Basic Products"

Reduction in lost sales opportunities

Sales promotion activities focused on improved product exposure

Improvement of product planning and product development strategies

The active promotion of products in fashion magazines led to an increase in the number of customers visiting our stores.

Moreover, our efforts towards improving our product planning and strengthening our product development strategies clearly began to take an effect and led to a recovery in sales. These courses of action have started to be taken last year when our results were suffering.

# About this fiscal year (14th business term)

Since entering the new fiscal year (our 14th term), we have continued to post solid sales results, but we will face the true critical period in this fall-winter season.

We expect to come under the close scrutiny of other companies, and we are convinced that we will not be able to post continued growth or develop further as a company if we remain satisfied with the status quo.





With this in mind, we have begun pursuing "five structural reforms," based on a central theme of "structural reform via operational improvements."

The "five stractural reforms" are: "Reform of product-customer satisfaction (CS in terms of products)," "Reform of service-customer satisfaction (CS in terms of our customer relation services)," "Reform of creativity," "Reform of business administration," and "Reform of human resources development."

Throughout the last fiscal year, we devoted ourselves to improving the working processes that had declined and we can happily say that we are now fully implementing these important reforms.

In order to build upon our achievements, we intend to create an infrastructure that will support them into the future.

Among these measures, the greatest challenge will be the "Reform of product CS."

This reform could be better described as the "reform of procurement and production" through which we aim to become a "multi-procurement-channel type of super SPA\*."

\*SPA specialty store retailer of private label apparel

In other words, it comprises measures that "skillfully incorporate trading company functions while efficiently and organically integrating the apparel and retail businesses."

This measure would be very difficult for an apparel maker without any expertise concerning the selection and planning of product lineups.

However, over several years we have been accumulating strength through cultivating knowhow about selecting and planing merchandising lineups. It is our primary intention to construct a business model unique to us by repeatedly conducting these verifications based on the hypothesis, "This is really the winning model for the 21st century."

In addition, to support these measures, we will also reexamine our creativity (= reform of creativity), review our entire information infrastructure (= reform of business administration), and create an environment for nurturing personnel and developing human resources (reform of service-CS and reform of human resources development) to enable us to realize all these reforms.

# The Five Structural Reforms

- "Reform of product-customer satisfaction"
- "Reform of service-customer satisfaction"
- "Reform of creativity"
- "Reform of business administration"
- "Reform of human resources development"

# Plans for opening new stores during this term

Presently there are no specific plans for opening further UA stores this fiscal year. However, we have recently received a number of interesting offers; therefore, we will carefully examine these opportunities.

As for the Green Label Relaxing (GLR) chain of our business, we resumed full-fledged opening of stores from spring 2002.

In April, this chain opened its first store in the Kansai region (Green Label Relaxing Umeda Store), signaling our concrete plans to open stores throughout the country. We plan to open around four to five more stores this fiscal year.

As for the Chrome Hearts (CH) chain, we are planning to open stores at the rate of about one store or so every two years.

Consequently, we are still in the planning phase and conducting research into candidate sites for future stores.

In addition, during this fiscal year, we are reinforcing activities concerning our UA Labos (test-marketing stores).

Over the past two to three

years, we have focused our attention on aligning our new business chains (GLR and CH).

As a result, strengthening UA Labo has been a secondary matter.

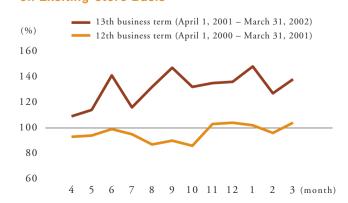
There are a number of Labos that have already begun to take concrete shape. We will open a new women's Labo in four station shopping centers located in Eastern and Western Japan. These Labos

are being positioned as "tools for working women" based on inhouse proposals that we received from employees.

There are other Labos being considered and we intend not only to focus on reinforcing our existing UA Labos but also actively launching new test-marketing stores.



# Sales Ratio Comparison with Previous Fiscal Year on Exsiting-store Basis



# Board of Directors

Through continual creative self-reflection and self reformation along with the accurate grasping of trends of the time, we will acquire the ability to rapidly adapt to change. We will proceed in a direction that meets the needs of the market and era through light footwork and a broad network.

# Osamu Shigematsu President and CEO

CEO since the company's establishment, he also presides over the sales operation.

"This fiscal term, we plan to direct our attention to completing business restructuring in each department and work towards achieving our goal of group-wide total sales of 100 billion yen by the year 2011. We are implementing structural reforms in five areas, aiming at the establishment of new Japanese standards."

# Tetsuya Iwaki Managing Director

Director, Product CS, & General Manager, Sales Promotion

Responsible both for product CS and the sales promotion department, implementing measures in a wide range of areas – including merchandising control, sales promotion, and visual presentation standards inside our shops. Has exercised keen initiative in helping to promote the sharp business recovery in 2002.

"Goals for the year are 1) reliability in taking action logically and faithfully in accordance with our principles, 2) flexibility — with attention to speed, 3) improving allround strengths through mobilizing teamwork."

# Koichi Mizunoya

Director, Customer CS, & General Manager, Human Development Dept.

Working on the development of an environment to ensure a swift response to customer needs at the newly created position of "Director in Charge of Customer CS." Manages the personnel administration of the entire company.

"Basing ourselves squarely on the United Arrows rule that 'the shop is for the customer,' I am engaged in building a better customer service to offer maximum satisfaction to the customer at our shops. It is especially important to ensure suitable and qualified personnel from the start of new stores, and carry out any measures for service betterment.

Aiming for establishment of a new personnel administration system moving with the times, and in which professionals are compensated for their results."



(seated, from left) Osamu Shigematsu and Tetsuya Iwaki (standing, from left) Hiroshi Takanashi, Koichi Mizunoya, Hirofumi Kurino and Hirotoshi Hatasaki

# Hirofumi Kurino

Creative Director

Exploring themes that are actually a step ahead of the times from both marketer's and creative director's points of view. Supervises merchandising planning and sales promotion, along with shop interior and exterior design. The key executive in forming the company's image.

"Being close to nature and immersing myself all the more in the elements of nature, feeling the vibrations that nature sends out. There is nothing stronger than nature's energy to bring out a positive attitude in human beings. Nature also offers inspiration in creating colors and ideas."

# Hiroshi Takanashi Managing Director

General Manager, Administration Division and Investor Relations

Leades the administration division set up in October 2001 and is also responsible for investor relations.

"Fashion is generally quite a risky business. However, we are building a stable and experienced management foundation that can reduce such risks and promote a strong company."

# Hirotoshi Hatasaki

Director

Active in promoting the fashion industry in Kobe, support of new ventures and industries, development of sports and other community vitalization projects.

Currently a board member of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry, vice chairman of the Kobe Fashion Organization, vice chairman of the Japan Tennis Association and chairman of the Kansai Tennis Association.

# The Rapid Growth of Green Label Relaxing

# Concept of the Chain

# Helping fine families and couples to live more stylish lifestyles

The GLR business chain was originally developed "for 'UA graduates' who were no longer catered for by UA due to changes in their size or changes in their disposable income arising from marriage or child rearing."

However, a review of this hypothesis and testing from five existing stores has led us to the conclusion that the "potential market was wider" than just "UA graduates." We have; therefore, expanded our previous business concept.

GLR targets a broad customer age group (single, married, and those with

children). What they have in common

- This group "values its lifestyle," but "restricts its budget on apparel";
- however,
   this group "wants to be fashionable
- this group "wants to be fashionable and is particular about quality and design."

The mission of the GLR business chain is to provide the stylish and adequately inexpensive products that such customers want. The above concept expresses this mission.

This concept of "Helping fine

families and couples to live more stylish lifestyles" has in mind families and couples who desire a refined, high class, and comfortable lifestyle.

Based on this new concept, GLR stores are providing a feeling of comfort to customers through "products that embody a high fashion sense, that are in an appropriate price range, and that meet the needs of the market." Further, they are available in "feel free to visit, examine, and buy stores" staffed by "kind, attentive, and friendly sales personnel."

# **Store Opening Plan**

The business chain
established in
September 1999
following
approximately one
year of test marketing
in a UA Labo

Seven stores opened centering on the Tokyo metropolitan area (as of the end of March 2002) Open a further two stores
every six months in the first
one to two fiscal years
(following the resumption
of the store-opening
program) and, once on
track, increase to three
stores every six months

After verifying the success of 24 stores, more stores will be opened until reaching our target of 80 stores

Following approximately one year of test marketing in a UA Labo, the GLR business chain was formally established and as of the end of March 2002 it boasts seven stores

After opening the fifth store in July 2000, we temporarily suspended the opening of stores to review the concept behind this business chain. Following this

review, a rapid increase in sales was observed and a successful format was established. Due to this, new stores were opened in spring, 2002. We finally launched the first store for this business chain in the Kansai area, Umeda in Osaka.

Having been restarting the opening of stores, we plan generally to open two store every six months for one to two fiscal years

and then, when we are firmly on track about three stores every six months.

Moreover, the market depth of the GLR business chain is believed to be greater than the UA business chain and our basic policy is ultimately to open around 80 stores, once we have ascertained the chain's success based on the first 24 stores.





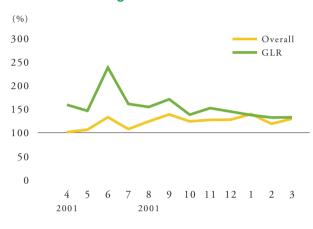


GREEN LABEL RELAXING Omiya



GREEN LABEL RELAXING Yokohama

# Sales Comparison with Previous Fiscal Year on Existing-store Basis



More than two years have passed since the business chain was established in September 1999.

In the first year, we were unable to post profits, mainly due to the burden of initial costs incurred in opening the stores and other factors. However, the business chain itself posted an ordinary profit last fiscal year (year ending March 2001) and sales grew at a healthy pace during the following year (year ending March 2002).



GREEN LABEL RELAXING Yokohama

## united arrows sreen label relaxing

# New Logo Mark

The green portion of the logo represents a leaf. The alignment of the apple leaf used in the previous logo has been altered to symbolize an evolution into a new form.

The shape of the leaf also represents water droplets, fire, a single tree and the forest created from these, depicting the characteristics of GLR intertwined with the land and nature.

Further, the horizontal leaf represents an arrowhead, which reflects an arrow among the "United Arrows."



green label relaxing

## **Products**

Starting in autumn 2001, our GLR chain began selling "all handmade suits" produced in China. These suits realize qualities specific to handmade suits by combining the know-how United Arrows has accumulated in making comfortably fitting suits and the "accuracy of handwork" and the "excellent technical skills" of Chinese tailors. With their solid

appearance, level of comfort and mobility, the suits have a classy appearance not found in suits of the same price range sold by other companies. Specifically, buttonholes and stitching provide a feeling unique to tailor made craftsmanship and quality material centering on super 100's are used. We continue on to broaden the colors and patterns that we provide.

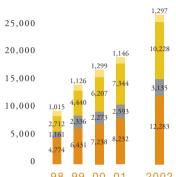
# Financial Data

## Sales by Category (Millions of Yen)

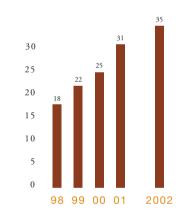




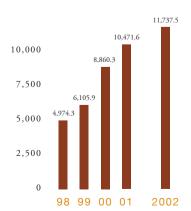




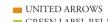
# **Number of Stores**



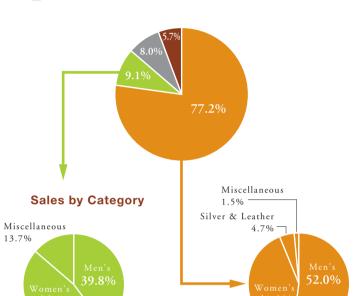
# **Total Floor Space** (m<sup>2</sup>)



# Sales by Chains



- GREEN LABEL RELAXING ■ CHROME HEARTS
- Others



# **Number of Customer Ratio (by chain)**

(%)						
		2001			2002	
	1st half	2nd half	total	1st half	2nd half	total
■ UNITED ARROWS	96.5	99.9	98.1	131.4	152.2	141.5
GREEN LABEL RELAXING	1,133.1	196.1	306.8	199.4	166.5	180.8
CHROME HEARTS	_	199.3	349.6	180.7	144.4	160.0

Note: Green Label Relaxing and Chrome Hearts launced in September 1999 and in December 1999.

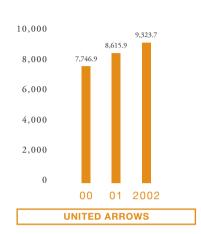
# Average spending per Customer Ratio (by chain)

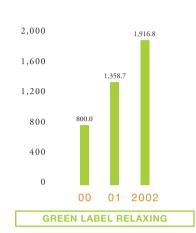
	2001			2002	
1st half	2nd half	total	1st half	2nd half	total
99.8	106.2	103.4	97.4	94.9	96.9
86.9	100.2	92.7	94.7	94.6	93.8
_	97.2	94.6	91.9	92.7	92.0
	99.8 86.9	1st half 2nd half 99.8 106.2 86.9 100.2	1st half     2nd half     total       99.8     106.2     103.4       86.9     100.2     92.7	1st half     2nd half     total     1st half       99.8     106.2     103.4     97.4       86.9     100.2     92.7     94.7	1st half         2nd half         total         1st half         2nd half           99.8         106.2         103.4         97.4         94.9           86.9         100.2         92.7         94.7         94.6

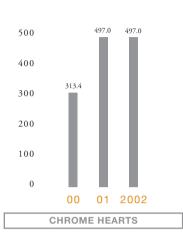
Note: Green Label Relaxing and Chrome Hearts launced in September 1999 and in December 1999.

# **Total Floor Space**

(m<sup>2</sup>)

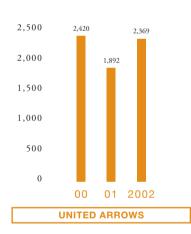


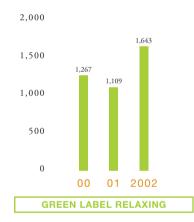


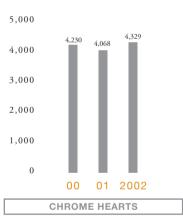


# Sales per 1m<sup>2</sup>

(Thousands of Yen)

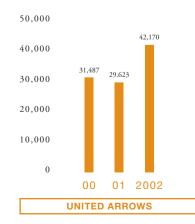




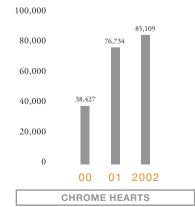


# Sales per Employee

(Thousands of Yen)







# **UA News**

# **Listed on Tokyo Stock** Exchange

We successfully listed on the second section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange on March 19, 2002. All of our directors and employees are diligently committed to further enhance and expand business.



"Tokishirazu" logo

# **UA LABO**

In September 2001, the second "Another Edition" store opened in Kyoto. Additionally, in February 2002, "Tokishirazu," which passed the screening of our internal venture system, was opened in

> Shibuya Ward, Tokyo. The store's concept is "High Street" and it proposes the polarization of street fashion and high class fashion as well as fashion that is free of generational boundaries.



http://www.united-arrows.co.jp/ corp/ir/en/index.html

## **IR Website Renewed**

We renewed our investor relations information page to make it "easier to see, use and understand." The content has been improved with monthly overviews, IR calendars and shareholder special benefits information now available. Furthermore, we have introduced an English version for overseas investors.

# **UNITED ARROWS work with** the Royal College of Art

Located in London, the Royal College of Art is the only wholly postgraduate university of art and design in the world.

The College has a world-wide reputation, with graduates from the College contributing to the many new and exciting modes of art and design we see around

It is our pleasure to have the opportunity to work with them through yearly projects.

Professor Sir Christopher Frayling, Rector of the Royal College of Art has presented his comments on the

> relationship between United Arrows and the Royal College of Art.







# Financial Section

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- 22 Statements of Cash Flows
- 23 Notes to Financial Statements

# 5-year Summary

			Thousands of U.S. Dollars (Note)			
	2002	2 0 0 1	2000	1999	1998	2002
Sales	¥ 26,943	¥ 19,315	¥ 17,017	¥ 14,333	¥ 9,662	\$ 202,962
Operating Income	3,965	1,632	2,378	2,504	1,051	29,869
Net Income	2,318	879			559	17,464
Total Assets	19,645	15,054	13,930	6,684	5,241	147,983
Total Shareholders' Equity	13,456	11,269	10,569		1,404	101,366
Number of Shares Issued (Share) 1	1,925,000	11,925,000	7,950,000	7,050,000	1,920	
Net Income per Share (Yen)	194			180	291,299	1.5 (in U.S. Dollars)
Shareholders' Equity per Share (Yen)	1,128	945	1,329	365	731,401	8.5 (in U.S. Dollars)
Capital Expenditures	484		3,636	894	731	3,646
Number of Stores	35	31	25		18	
(including number of UA Labos	) (6)	(5)	(3)	(5)	(3)	
Total Floor Space (m²)	11,738	10,472	8,860	6,106	4,974	
Number of Employees	441	358	342	248	193	
Net Income						
to Total Assets (ROA) (%)	13.4	6.1				
Return on Equity (%)	18.8				49.7	
Shareholders' Equity Ratio (%)	68.5			38.5	26.8	
Total Assets Turnover (times)	1.4					
Inventory Turnover (times)	2.7					
Current Ratio (%)	195.6	178.9	203.5	90.2		
Fixed Assets Ratio (%)	58.3	76.6		120.6		

# **Operating and Financial Review**

# 1. Business Environment

During fiscal 2002 (April 1, 2001 to March 31, 2002) the Japanese economy has fluctuated in severe conditions under the prolonged economic slump. Capital investment, the tractional force of economic recovery, showed sluggish growth and consumer spending remained low due to worsened employment conditions.

Within our retail apparel and related goods industry, conditions were severe as expenditures on clothing continued their gradual decrease, largely due to the slump in consumer spending, and the market scale was reduced further. On the other hand, along with the shift of consumer needs to high-value added products, the only companies that advanced were companies that managed to breakaway from price competition and differentiate themselves from their competitors.

# 2. Operating Performance

Sales came to 26,943 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 7,628 million yen (+39.5%). Operating income amounted to 3,965 million ven, a year-on-year increase of 2,333 million

(Millions of Yen)

25,000 20.000 15.000 10,000 2002 98 99 00 01

**Sales and Growth Ratio** 

ven (+143.0%). Net income came to 2,318 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 1,439 million yen (+163.6%).

We have set ourselves apart from rival companies by working to "strengthen our product development abilities" and "maximize customer satisfaction," while always bearing in mind the achievement of the following four points: "a line of products that timely meets customer needs," "a selection of products that consumers find exciting," "speedy and accurate store management that fulfills customer needs," and "sales promotion activities that arouse customer needs and bring out the best in our stores and products."

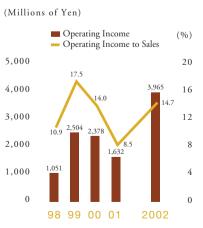
As for our sales activities, we have managed to minimize the loss of sales opportunities by "reviewing our product policy" and "making changes in our product providing operations." Further, we conduct marketing tests on a continual basis to provide "trendleading self produced products" that do not already exist in the market. Through this, a "hypothesis and verification cycle" has been established enabling the development of original

conducting sales promotion activities focusing on improved product exposure, an amplified number of our products appeared in media such as fashion magazines and has led to the increase of customers visiting our stores.

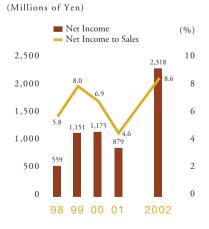
and creative products. In addition, by

With the implementation of such measures to satisfy customer needs, we have been able to distinguish ourselves from rival companies. As s result, under the business environment where the whole retail apparel and related goods industry is struggling, United Arrows (UA), along with Green Label Relaxing (GLR) and Chrome Hearts (CH) have continued to maintain solid results since last year.

UA has opened a new store in Hiroshima (September 2001) and new GLR stores were opened in Yokohama and Omiya (March 2002). As for the test marketing store, which we call UA Labo, the second "Another Edition" store was opened in Kyoto (September 2001) and the first "Tokishirazu," a project that came to fruition as a result of in-company venture system screenings, was opened in Shibuya



**Operating Income and Operating Income to Sales** 



**Net Income and Net Income to Sales** 

Ward, Tokyo (February 2002). With the opening of these new stores, the Company now has a total of 35 stores, and the number of stores owned according to a business chain as of the end of March 2002 are: UA: 20, GLR: 7, CH: 2 and UA Labo: 6.

Further, steady progress is being made towards new stores and floor extensions within each business chain during the first quarter of fiscal 2003 (April 1, 2002 to June 30, 2002). UA moved and extended the floor space of the Umeda Store (April 2002). GLR has embarked on its nation-wide expansion by opening its first Kansai region store in Umeda (April 2002) and its second Kansai store in Kyoto (June 2002).

# 3. Performance by **Business Chain**

As for sales by business segment, each showed steady growth with the posting of year-on-year increases as follows: UA: 37.0%, GLR: 69.6% and CH: 47.2%. In the UA business chain, silver and leather products decreased by 13.1%, but men's and women's clothing posted increases of 46.9% and 33.7% respectively, resulting in a steady growth in overall sales. All areas of the GLR business chain posted significant growth with increases of 57.4% in men's clothing,

70.9% in women's clothing and 112.3% in other merchandise. Within the CH business chain, the product expansion in women's clothing in particular served as a tractional force to improve growth.

As for sales by the three main product categories, which account for 95.2% of all sales, well-balanced growth were posted with men's, women's and silver & leather increasing by 49.2%, 39.3% and 20.9% respectively.

# 4. Operating Results

Sales came to 26,943 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 7,628 million ven (+39.5%). This was primarily due to the rise in sales from the opening of new stores and the year-on-year increase in sales at existing stores of 31.3%.

Gross profit totaled 14,439 million ven, a year-on-year increase of 4,249 million yen (+41.7%), and the gross profit ratio came to 53.6%, posting a year-on-year increase of 0.8 points from 52.8%.

# **Operating Income**

Operating expenses amounted to 10,474 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 1,916 million ven (+22.4%). However, the ratio of

operating expenses to sales decreased by 5.4 points to 38.9%. Rises in operating expenses are mainly due to increased fluctuation expenses as a result of increased sales, increased rent due to opening new stores and increased personnel costs due to the hiring of new staff. As a result, operating income totaled 3,965 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 2,333 million ven (+143.0%).

# Other Income (expenses)

Other income increased 144 million ven year-on-year to 56 million yen. This increase was primarily due to gains from the sale of fixed assets including our former head office, contract cancellation costs and appropriation of accrued retirement benefits that accompanied changes in internal regulations.

Moreover, the primary breakdown of other expenses was losses from disposal of stored goods, losses from canceling leases for old POS registers when replacing all registers at our stores, assessed losses for marketable securities, donations and the like.

Consequently, net income before taxes increased 2,477 million yen (+160.5%) year-on-year to 4,021 million yen.

# Sales by Chains

Millions	of Yen
----------	--------

caree by criamic	Millions of Yen									
	2	000		2	2 0 0 1			2002		
	amounts	%	YOY	amounts	%	YOY	amounts	%	YOY	
UNITED ARROWS	¥ 14,961	87.9	112.2	¥ 15,186	78.6	101.5	¥ 20,811	77.2	137.0	
GREEN LABEL RELAXING	505	3.0	_	1,437	7.4	284.5	2,438	9.1	169.6	
CHROME HEARTS	442	2.6	_	1,462	7.6	330.8	2,152	8.0	147.2	
Others	1,109	6.5	110.8	1,230	6.4	110.9	1,542	5.7	125.5	
Total	¥ 17,017	100.0	118.7	¥ 19,315	100.0	113.5	¥ 26,943	100.0	139.5	

Note: "Others" include the sales of wholesales, outside shop, and cafe.

## **Net income**

Income taxes increased year-on-year by 1,038 million yen (+156.3%) to 1,702 million yen. This resulted from increases in corporate, resident and enterprise taxes along with decreases in deferred income taxes. Corporate, resident and enterprise taxes increased 1,163 million yen to 1,887 million yen. This was primarily due to increases in operating income. Deferred income taxes increased 124 million ven to be 185 million ven. This was primarily due to an increase in accrued enterprise tax.

Therefore, net income increased year-on-year by 1,439 million yen (+163.6%) to 2,318 million yen.

# 5. Financial Position

Total assets came to 19,645 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 4,591 million yen (+30.5%). This was primarily due to the increase in current assets.

# **Current Assets**

Current assets amounted to 11,795 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 5,373 million yen (+83.7%). This was mainly due to the increase in cash and deposits, inventories, and other notes and accounts receivable. Cash and deposits increased by 3,219

million yen to 3,490 million yen, primarily owing to the rise in operating income and income through selling marketable securities and the old head office building. Inventories increased by 2,263 million yen to 5,428 million yen. This was mainly due to increased sales and the restructuring of a product policy aimed to reduce loss of sales opportunities. Other notes and accounts receivable increased by 716 million ven to 2,441 million ven, primarily owing to the rise in sales of existing in-shop stores and the rise of accounts receivable concurrent with the opening of new in-shop stores. Further, marketable securities have decreased by 600 million yen, but this was due to the cancellation of investment trust.

## **Fixed Assets**

million yen, a year-on-year decrease of 876 million yen (-17.7%). There was an increase of 355 million yen due to opening of new stores and expanding and renovating existing stores. At the same time, there was a decrease of 857 million yen owing to the selling of the former head office building and disposal concurrent with expansion and renovation as well as a decrease of 374 million yen due to depreciation.

Tangible fixed assets came to 4,059

Intangible assets totaled 503 million yen, a year-on-year decrease of 124 million yen (-19.8%). Although there was a 50 million yen investment in new software, disposal of the old system amounted to 46 million yen and a decrease caused by depreciation totaled 129 million yen. Investment increased by 218 million yen, a yearon-year increase to 3,288 million ven (+7.1%). This was primarily due to the rise in guarantee deposits paid with the opening of new stores.

## Liabilities

Current liabilities and long-term liabilities totaled 6,188 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 2,404 million ven (+63.5%), which was primarily due to the increase in current liabilities.

# **Current Liabilities**

Current liabilities totaled 6,029 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 2,439 million yen (+67.9%). This was mainly due to the increase in other notes and accounts payable, trade notes and accounts payable, and income taxes payable. Other notes and accounts payable amounted to 1,334 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 650 million yen (+95.0%), mainly reflecting the rise in unpaid advertisement expenses and unpaid

expenses for new store construction that opened in March 2002. Trade notes and accounts payable totaled 2,629 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 593 million yen (+29.2%), primarily due to the increase of sales and product purchase along with the restructuring of the product policy. Income taxes payable amounted to 1,541 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 1,249 million yen (+428.4%) reflecting the rise in profits.

# **Long-Term Liabilities**

Long-term liabilities amounted to 159 million yen, a year-on-year decrease of 35 million yen (-18.0%), owing to the decrease in long-term accounts payable and accrued retirement benefits along with changes made in internal company regulations.

Furthermore, the current ratio of fiscal 2002 rose by 16.7 points yearon-year to 195.6%, and the fixed ratio fell by 18.3 points to 58.3%.

## 6. Cash Flow

Cash and cash equivalents (hereinafter, "cash") of fiscal 2002 (as of March 31, 2002) were balanced out in part mainly due to increased inventories and expenditures for the acquisition of tangible fixed assets. However, as net income before taxes

amounted to 4,021 million yen, posting a remarkable year-on-year increase of 2,477 million yen (+160.5%) and with income through selling of fixed assets, cash totaled 3,490 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 2,619 million yen.

Furthermore, cash flow in fiscal 2002 is indicated in the following paragraph.

# **Cash flows from** operating activities

Cash flows from operating activities amounted to 1,908 million yen, a year-on-year increase of 171 million yen (+9.8%).

Inflows included net income before taxes of 4,021 million ven, depreciation and amortization of tangible fixed assets amounted to 537 million yen and an increased purchase debt of 593 million yen due to the rise in purchases. Outflows included increased trade receivables of 763 million yen due to the expansion of operations and an increased inventory of 2,263 million yen.

# Cash flows from investing activities

Cash flows from investing activities totaled 840 million yen (1,905 million yen for the previous fiscal year).

This was due to new store

openings and existing store remodeling resulting in outflows of 266 million yen for the purchase of tangible fixed assets and 190 million yen for guarantee deposits while realizing income from selling tangible fixed assets including the former head office building of 1,118 million yen.

# Cash flows from financing activities

Cash flows from financing activities showed an outflow of 129 million ven, a reduction of 50 million yen from the previous year (-27.8%), due to expenditure on dividends based on the dividend policy.

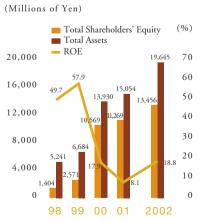
## 7. Cash dividends

Profit apportionment increased yearon-year by 8.50 yen to 19.50 yen per share (interim 5 yen).

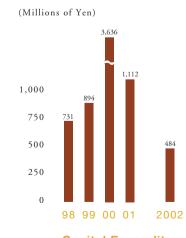
Furthermore, with the aim to achieve a more diverse range of investors and improve stock flow, on March 19, 2002 we were listed on the Second Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.



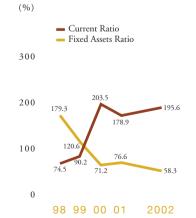
Note: "Others" include the sales of wholesales, outside shop, and cafe.



Total Shareholders' Equity, **ROE and Total Assets** 



**Capital Expenditures** 



**Current Ratio and Fixed Assets Ratio** 

# **Balance Sheets**

March 31, 2002 and 2001

	Thousands	s of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars (Note 1)		Thousar	nds of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars (Note 1)
	2002	2001	2002		2002	2001	2002
ASSETS				LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY			
Current Assets:				Current Liabilities:			
Cash and deposits (Note 3)	¥ 3,490,125	¥ 271,601	\$ 26,291				
Time deposits	10,010	273,010	75	Notes and accounts payable-			
Marketable securities (Note 3,4)	_	600,000	_	Trade	¥ 2,629,139	¥ 2,035,649	\$ 19,805
Notes and accounts receivable-				Other	1,334,400	684,383	10,052
Trade	78,747	89,300	593	I (AI 7)			
Other	2,441,065	1,725,506	18,388	Income taxes payable (Note 7)	1,540,919	291,634	11,608
Inventories (Note 5)	5,427,949	3,165,259	40,889	Consumption tax payable	126,659	159,777	954
Deferred tax assets (Note 7)	244,589	70,915	1,842	Accrued bonus	308,804	204,197	2,326
Others	102,131	225,753	770	Accrued expenses	19,883	19,465	150
Total current assets	11,794,616	6,421,344	88,848	-			
				Others	69,314	194,917	522
Fixed Assets:				Total current liabilities	6,029,118	3,590,022	45,417
Tangible Fixed Assets							
Lands	1,082,072	1,454,684	8,151				
Buildings and structures	3,452,295	3,734,427	26,006	Long-Term Liabilities:			
Furniture and fixtures	624,711	608,955	4,706	Accrued retirement benefits for directors	103,429	123,730	779
Vehicles	_	267		Others	55,926	70,669	421
Construction in progress	5,253	(0.62.60.4)	40				1 200
Accumulated depreciation	(1,105,549)	(863,684)	(8,328)	Total long-term liabilities	159,355	194,399	1,200
Total tangible fixed assets	4,058,782	4,934,649	30,575	Total liabilities	6,188,473	3,784,421	46,617
Intangible Fixed Assets Software	229 216	460,780	2.549				
Lease tenant rights	338,216 138,166	138,166	2,548 1,041	Shareholders' Equity: (Note 10)			
Others	26,785	28,254	201	• •			
Total intangible fixed assets	503,167	627,200	3,790	Common stock, no par value	3,030,000	3,030,000	22,825
Total intangible fixed assets	303,107	027,200	3,770	Authorized: 47,700,000 shares			
Investments and Other Assets:				Issued: 11,925,000 shares at March 31, 2001			
Investments in securities (Note 4)	11,301	49,413	85				
Long-term lease deposits	2,798,583	2,608,307	21,082	11,925,000 shares at March 31, 2002			
Long-term prepaid expenses	332,365	288,354	2,504	Additional paid-in-capital	4,095,600	4,095,600	30,852
Deferred tax assets (Note 7)	111,422	100,280	839	Legal reserve	31,035	23,880	234
Others	105,667	95,093	796	Retained earnings	6,299,695	4,119,639	47,455
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(71,100)	(71,100)	(536)				
Total investment and other assets	3,288,238	3,070,347	24,770	Total shareholders' equity	13,456,330	11,269,119	101,366
Total assets	¥ 19,644,803	¥ 15,053,540	\$ 147,983	Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	¥19,644,803	¥ 15,053,540	\$ 147,983
The accompanying notes are an integral part of							
these financial statements.							

# **Statements of Income**

Years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001

# Statements of Shareholders' Equity

Years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001

	Thousan	ds of Yen	U.S. Dollars (Note 1)				Thousan	ls of Yen	
	2002	2001	2002		Number of common stock	Common stock	Additional paid-in capital	Legal reserve	Retained earnings
Sales	¥26,943,208	¥ 19,314,895	\$ 202,962						
Cost of sales	12,504,552	9,125,293	94,196	Balance at March 31, 2000	7,950,000	¥ 3,030,000	¥ 4,095,600	¥ 5,993	¥ 3,437,01
Gross profit	14,438,656	10,189,602	108,766	Net income for the year 2001	_	_			879,38
Operating expenses	10,473,568	8,557,794	78,897	Stock split (Note 9)	3,975,000	_	_	_	_
Operating income	3,965,088	1,631,808	29,869	Prior year year-end appropriation	0,,,,,,,,,				
				-Cash dividends				_	(119,25
Other income (expenses):					_	_	_		
Interest income	1,392	2,813	10	-Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	11,925	(11,92
Interest expense	(30)	(2,111)	(0)	Current year interim appropriation					
Exchange losses	(32,870)	(24,119)	(248)	-Cash dividends	_	_	_	_	(59,62
Dividends income	12,903	12,161	97	-Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	5,962	(5,96
Rental income, net	22,819	19,609	172	Balance at March 31, 2001	11,925,000	3,030,000	4,095,600	23,880	4,119,63
Donation	(53,483)	_	(403)	Net income for the year 2002	_	_	_		2,318,38
Gain (loss) on sale or disposal of fixed assets, net	215,812	(33,716)	1,626	Prior year year-end appropriation					
(Loss) on disposal of supplies	(88,224)	_	(665)	-Cash dividends	_				(71,55
Impairment of value of securities	(38,112)	_	(287)			_	_	7.155	
Settlements on cancellation of contract	47,784	_	360	-Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	7,155	(7,15
Provision of allowance for doubtful accounts	_	(62,700)	_	Current year interim appropriation					
Reversal of retirement benefits for employees	_	18,120	_	-Cash dividends	_	_	_	_	(59,62
Reversal of retirement benefits for directors	31,272	_	236	-Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	_	-
Loss on cancellation of leases	(52,654)	_	(397)	Balance at March 31, 2002	11,925,000	¥ 3,030,000	¥ 4,095,600	¥ 31,035	¥ 6,299,69
Others, net	(11,034)	(18,371)	(83)						
	55,575	(88,314)	418						
let income before taxes	4,020,663	1,543,494	30,287						
Income taxes (Note 7)									
-Current	1,887,092	724,437	14,215						
-Deferred	(184,815)	(60,327)	(1,392)						
	1,702,277	664,110	12,823				Thousands of	U.S. Dollars	
let income	2,318,386	879,384	17,464						
					Number of common	Common	Additional paid-in	Legal	Retained
Retained earning beginning balance	4,040,934	3,305,842	30,440		stock	stock	capital	reserve	earnings
Interim dividend paid	(59,625)	(59,625)	(449)						
Interim legal reserve	— — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — —	(5,962)	— 	Balance at March 31, 2001	11,925,000	\$ 22,825	\$ 30,852	\$ 180	\$ 31,03
nappropriated retained earnings for the year	¥ 6,299,695	¥ 4,119,639	\$ 47,455	Net income for the year 2002	_	_	_	_	17,40
				Prior year year-end appropriation					
									(5.3
				-Cash dividends	_	_	_	_	(53
			In exact	-Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	54	(5
	In exa	ict Yen	U.S. Dollars	Current year interim appropriation					
1				-Cash dividends	_	_	_	_	(44
er share:	W 10//1	v = === /	<b>.</b>	-Transfer to legal reserve	_	_	_	_	-
Net income	¥ 194.41		\$ 1.465						
Cash dividends (Note 10)	19.50	11.00	0.147	Balance at March 31, 2002	11,925,000	\$ 22,825	\$ 30,852	\$ 234	\$ 47,45
he accompanying notes are an integral part of				The accompanying notes are an integral part of					
nese financial statements.	1			these financial statements.	The second secon	The second secon			

Thousands of

# Statements of Cash Flows

Years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001

Cash flows from operating activities:           Net income before taxes         ¥ 4,020,663         ¥ 1,543,494         \$ 30,287           Depreciation         373,768         349,823         2,816           Amortization of intangible fixed assets         128,943         113,083         971           Amortization of long-term prepaid expenses         34,237         21,837         258           Increase (decrease) in accrued bonuses         104,607         (9,976)         788           (Decrease) increase in accrued retirement benefits         (20,302)         11,942         (153)           Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts         — 62,700         —           Interest and dividend income         (14,295)         (14,973)         (108)           Interest expense         30         2,111         0           Impairment of value of securities         38,112         —         287           Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets         62,252         33,716         469           (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets         45,775         —         345           Settlements on cancellation of contract         (47,784)         —         360           Increase in accounts receivable         (762,757)         (410,636)         (5,746)     <
Net income before taxes
Net income before taxes
Depreciation
Amortization of intangible fixed assets         128,943         113,083         971           Amortization of long-term prepaid expenses         34,237         21,837         258           Increase (decrease) in accrued bonuses         104,607         (9,976)         788           (Decrease) increase in accrued retirement benefits         (20,302)         11,942         (153)           Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts         — 62,700         —           Interest and dividend income         (14,295)         (14,973)         (108)           Interest expense         30         2,111         0           Impairment of value of securities         38,112         — 287           Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets         62,252         33,716         469           (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets         45,775         — 345         469           Settlements on cancellation of contract         (47,784)         — (360)         16,746           Increase in accounts receivable         (762,757)         (410,636)         (5,746)           (Increase) decrease in inventorics         (2,262,690)         79,461         (17,045)           Decrease (increase) in other current assets         86,466         (67,812)         651           Increase in other long-term li
Amortization of long-term prepaid expenses   34,237   21,837   258     Increase (decrease) in accrued bonuses   104,607   (9,976)   788     (Decrease) increase in accrued retirement benefits   (20,302)   11,942   (153)     Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts   — 62,700   —     Interest and dividend income   (14,295)   (14,973)   (108)     Interest expense   30   2,111   0     Impairment of value of securities   38,112   — 287     Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets   62,252   33,716   469     (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets   (323,839)   381   (2,439)     Loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets   (47,784)   — 345     Settlements on cancellation of contract   (47,784)   — 360     Increase in accounts receivable   (762,757)   (410,636)   (5,746)     (Increase) decrease in inventories   (2,262,690)   79,461   (17,045)     Decrease (increase) in other current assets   86,466   (67,812)   651     Increase in accounts payable   593,490   481,456   4,471     Increase in other current liabilities   489,391   254,683   3,687     Decrease in other long-term liabilities   (14,742)   (5,553)   (111)     Subtotal   2,531,325   2,445,737   19,068     Receipt of interest and dividends   14,295   14,973   108     Payment of income taxes   (637,807)   (721,347)   (4,805)     Net cash from operating activities   1,907,783   1,737,252   14,371      Cash flows from investing activities   263,000   185,990   1,981     Increase of staff loan   — (316)   —     Purchase of securities   — (49,413)   —
Increase (decrease) in accrued bonuses
(Decrease) increase in accrued retirement benefits   (20,302)   11,942   (153)     Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts
Increase in allowance for doubtful accounts
Interest and dividend income   (14,295)   (14,973)   (108)     Interest expense   30   2,111   0     Impairment of value of securities   38,112   — 287     Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets   62,252   33,716   469     (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets   (323,839)   381   (2,439)     Loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets   45,775   — 345     Settlements on cancellation of contract   (47,784)   — (360)     Increase in accounts receivable   (762,757)   (410,636)   (5,746)     (Increase) decrease in inventories   (2,262,690)   79,461   (17,045)     Decrease (increase) in other current assets   86,466   (67,812)   651     Increase in accounts payable   593,490   481,456   4,471     Increase in other current liabilities   489,391   254,683   3,687     Decrease in other long-term liabilities   (14,742)   (5,553)   (111)     Subtotal   2,531,325   2,445,737   19,068     Receipt of interest and dividends   14,295   14,973   108     Payment of interest   (30)   (2,111)   (0)     Payment of income taxes   (637,807)   (721,347)   (4,805)     Net cash from operating activities   (190,783)   1,737,252   14,371      Cash flows from investing activities   Cash flows from investing activities   Cash flows from investing activities   (316)   — (31
Interest expense   30   2,111   0
Impairment of value of securities   38,112
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets (Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets (Gain) loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets (45,775 — 345
(Gain) loss on sale of tangible fixed assets       (323,839)       381       (2,439)         Loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets       45,775       —       345         Settlements on cancellation of contract       (47,784)       —       (360)         Increase in accounts receivable       (762,757)       (410,636)       (5,746)         (Increase) decrease in inventories       (2,262,690)       79,461       (17,045)         Decrease (increase) in other current assets       86,466       (67,812)       651         Increase in accounts payable       593,490       481,456       4,471         Increase in other current liabilities       489,391       254,683       3,687         Decrease in other long-term liabilities       (14,742)       (5,553)       (111)         Subtotal       2,531,325       2,445,737       19,068         Receipt of interest and dividends       14,295       14,973       108         Payment of increst       (30)       (2,111)       (0)         Payment of income taxes       (637,807)       (721,347)       (4,805)         Net cash from operating activities       1,907,783       1,737,252       14,371         Cash flows from investing activities       263,000       185,990       1,981
Loss on disposal of intangible fixed assets       45,775       —       345         Settlements on cancellation of contract       (47,784)       —       (360)         Increase in accounts receivable       (762,757)       (410,636)       (5,746)         (Increase) decrease in inventories       (2,262,690)       79,461       (17,045)         Decrease (increase) in other current assets       86,466       (67,812)       651         Increase in accounts payable       593,490       481,456       4,471         Increase in other current liabilities       489,391       254,683       3,687         Decrease in other long-term liabilities       (14,742)       (5,553)       (111)         Subtotal       2,531,325       2,445,737       19,068         Receipt of interest and dividends       14,295       14,973       108         Payment of increst       (637,807)       (721,347)       (4,805)         Net cash from operating activities       1,907,783       1,737,252       14,371         Cash flows from investing activities:       263,000       185,990       1,981         Increase of staff loan       —       (316)       —         Purchase of securities       —       (49,413)       —
Settlements on cancellation of contract         (47,784)         —         (360)           Increase in accounts receivable         (762,757)         (410,636)         (5,746)           (Increase) decrease in inventories         (2,262,690)         79,461         (17,045)           Decrease (increase) in other current assets         86,466         (67,812)         651           Increase in accounts payable         593,490         481,456         4,471           Increase in other current liabilities         489,391         254,683         3,687           Decrease in other long-term liabilities         (14,742)         (5,553)         (111)           Subtotal         2,531,325         2,445,737         19,068           Receipt of interest and dividends         14,295         14,973         108           Payment of interest         (30)         (2,111)         (0)           Payment of income taxes         (637,807)         (721,347)         (4,805)           Net cash from operating activities:         1,907,783         1,737,252         14,371           Cash flows from investing activities:         263,000         185,990         1,981           Increase of staff loan         —         (316)         —           Purchase of securities         —
Increase in accounts receivable (762,757) (410,636) (5,746) (Increase) decrease in inventories (2,262,690) 79,461 (17,045)     Decrease (increase) in other current assets (67,812) 651     Increase in accounts payable (593,490) 481,456 (4,471     Increase in other current liabilities (489,391) 254,683 (3,687     Decrease in other long-term liabilities (14,742) (5,553) (111)     Subtotal (2,531,325) 2,445,737 (19,068     Receipt of interest and dividends (14,295) 14,973 (108     Payment of income taxes (637,807) (721,347) (4,805)     Net cash from operating activities (1907,783) 1,737,252 14,371     Cash flows from investing activities: (316) — (316) — (49,413) — (49,413) —
(Increase) decrease in inventories         (2,262,690)         79,461         (17,045)           Decrease (increase) in other current assets         86,466         (67,812)         651           Increase in accounts payable         593,490         481,456         4,471           Increase in other current liabilities         489,391         254,683         3,687           Decrease in other long-term liabilities         (14,742)         (5,553)         (111)           Subtotal         2,531,325         2,445,737         19,068           Receipt of interest and dividends         14,295         14,973         108           Payment of increst         (30)         (2,111)         (0)           Payment of income taxes         (637,807)         (721,347)         (4,805)           Net cash from operating activities         1,907,783         1,737,252         14,371           Cash flows from investing activities:         263,000         185,990         1,981           Increase of staff loan         —         (316)         —           Purchase of securities         —         (49,413)         —
Decrease (increase) in other current assets   86,466   (67,812)   651     Increase in accounts payable   593,490   481,456   4,471     Increase in other current liabilities   489,391   254,683   3,687     Decrease in other long-term liabilities   (14,742)   (5,553)   (111)     Subtotal   2,531,325   2,445,737   19,068     Receipt of interest and dividends   14,295   14,973   108     Payment of income taxes   (637,807)   (721,347)   (4,805)     Net cash from operating activities   1,907,783   1,737,252   14,371      Cash flows from investing activities:   263,000   185,990   1,981     Increase of staff loan   (316)   — Purchase of securities   (49,413)   —
Increase in accounts payable   593,490   481,456   4,471     Increase in other current liabilities   489,391   254,683   3,687     Decrease in other long-term liabilities   (14,742)   (5,553)   (111)     Subtotal   2,531,325   2,445,737   19,068     Receipt of interest and dividends   14,295   14,973   108     Payment of interest   (30)   (2,111)   (0)     Payment of income taxes   (637,807)   (721,347)   (4,805)     Net cash from operating activities   1,907,783   1,737,252   14,371      Cash flows from investing activities:   263,000   185,990   1,981     Increase of staff loan   (316)   — Purchase of securities   (49,413)   —
Increase in other current liabilities
Decrease in other long-term liabilities         (14,742)         (5,553)         (111)           Subtotal         2,531,325         2,445,737         19,068           Receipt of interest and dividends         14,295         14,973         108           Payment of interest         (30)         (2,111)         (0)           Payment of income taxes         (637,807)         (721,347)         (4,805)           Net cash from operating activities         1,907,783         1,737,252         14,371           Cash flows from investing activities:         263,000         185,990         1,981           Increase of staff loan         —         (316)         —           Purchase of securities         —         (49,413)         —
Subtotal       2,531,325       2,445,737       19,068         Receipt of interest and dividends       14,295       14,973       108         Payment of interest       (30)       (2,111)       (0)         Payment of income taxes       (637,807)       (721,347)       (4,805)         Net cash from operating activities       1,907,783       1,737,252       14,371         Cash flows from investing activities:       263,000       185,990       1,981         Increase of staff loan       —       (316)       —         Purchase of securities       —       (49,413)       —
Receipt of interest and dividends       14,295       14,973       108         Payment of interest       (30)       (2,111)       (0)         Payment of income taxes       (637,807)       (721,347)       (4,805)         Net cash from operating activities       1,907,783       1,737,252       14,371         Cash flows from investing activities:       263,000       185,990       1,981         Increase of staff loan       —       (316)       —         Purchase of securities       —       (49,413)       —
Payment of interest         (30)         (2,111)         (0)           Payment of income taxes         (637,807)         (721,347)         (4,805)           Net cash from operating activities         1,907,783         1,737,252         14,371           Cash flows from investing activities:         263,000         185,990         1,981           Increase of staff loan         —         (316)         —           Purchase of securities         —         (49,413)         —
Payment of income taxes         (637,807)         (721,347)         (4,805)           Net cash from operating activities         1,907,783         1,737,252         14,371           Cash flows from investing activities:         263,000         185,990         1,981           Increase of staff loan         —         (316)         —           Purchase of securities         —         (49,413)         —
Net cash from operating activities         1,907,783         1,737,252         14,371           Cash flows from investing activities:         263,000         185,990         1,981           Increase of staff loan         — (316)         —           Purchase of securities         — (49,413)         —
Cash flows from investing activities:  Drawing from time deposits  Increase of staff loan  Purchase of securities  Cash flows from investing activities:  263,000  185,990  1,981  —  (316) —  (49,413) —
Drawing from time deposits       263,000       185,990       1,981         Increase of staff loan       — (316)       —         Purchase of securities       — (49,413)       —
Increase of staff loan — (316) — Purchase of securities — (49,413) —
Purchase of securities — (49,413) —
Guarantee deposits paid $(190,276)$ $(565,879)$ $(1,433)$
Purchase of other investments (85,434) (386,350) (644)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets 1,118,230 13 8,424
Purchase of tangible fixed assets (265,651) (1,088,857) (2,001)
Net cash from (used in) investing activities         839,869         (1,904,812)         6,327
Cash flows from financing activities:
Dividends paid (129,128) (178,875) (973)
Net cash used in financing activities (129,128) (178,875) (973)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents 2,618,524 (346,435) 19,725
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year 871,601 1,218,036 6,566
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year (Note 3) \(\frac{\pmathbf{Y}}{3},490,125\) \(\frac{\pmathbf{Y}}{871,601}\) \(\frac{\pmathbf{Z}}{26,291}\)
T 3,770,123 T 0/1,001 \$ 20,271
The constraint and the first section of
The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

# **Notes to Financial Statements**

For the years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001

# 1. Major Policies Adopted in Preparation of Financial Statements

The accompanying financial statements, which are a translation of those issued in Japan after modification to enhance foreign readers' understanding, are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Japan, which are different in certain respects from the application and disclosure requirements of International Accounting Standards. In addition, the notes to the financial statements included financial information which is not required under accounting principles generally accepted in Japan but is presented herein as additional information.

The Company maintains its accounting records in yen. The dollar amounts included in the financial statements and notes thereto represent the arithmetical results of translating yen to dollars on a basis of ¥132.75 =U.S.\$1, the approximate current rate of exchange prevailing on March 31, 2002. The inclusion of such amounts is solely for the convenience of readers outside Japan and not intended to imply that Japanese yen have been or could be readily converted, realized or settled in U.S. dollars at the given rate or any other rate.

# 2. Significant Accounting Policies

# (1) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents included in the financial statements are composed of cash in hand, bank deposits able to be withdrawn on demand and highly liquid investments purchased with initial maturities of three months or less and which represent low risk of fluctuation in value.

# (2) Translation of foreign currencies

Foreign currency transactions were translated using foreign exchange rates prevailing at the respective transaction dates. All monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies, whether long-term or short-term, are translated at the foreign exchange rates prevailing at the respective balance sheet dates.

# (3) Marketable securities and Investments in securities

Securities are classified into four categories, i.e. trading, held-to-maturity debt, securities of subsidiaries and affiliates, and other securities. Securities held by the Company are classified as other securities.

The Company followed the new Japanese accounting standard for the evaluation of carrying value of securities without

exception. Securities designated as available-for-sale, and whose fair values are readily determinable, are carried at fair value at the balance sheet date using the moving-average method with unrealized gain or loss included as a component of shareholders' equity, net of applicable taxes.

## (4) Inventories

Inventories consist of merchandise and supplies. Merchandise is stated at cost based on the weighted average method, while supplies are stated at cost based on the last invoice method.

## (5) Property and Equipment

Depreciation of property and equipment except for buildings is computed by the declining-balance method at rates based on the estimated useful lives of assets.

Depreciation of buildings is computed by the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of assets.

Useful lives of major categories are as follows:

Buildings	3-50 years
Structures	7-20 years
Vehicles	2 years
Furniture & fixtures	2-20 years

# (6) Intangible assets and Other assets

Intangible assets mainly consist of "software for internal use". Intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis.

"Software for internal use" is amortized over 5 years.

Long-term prepaid expenses are amortized on straight-line basis over 5 to 10 years.

# (7) Allowance for doubtful accounts

The balance of allowance for doubtful accounts consists of a general reserve and specific reserve. The general reserve is provided based upon past loss experience. The specific reserve is provided to cover estimated losses of specific doubtful accounts.

# (8) Accrued retirement benefit

The Company had two kinds of pension plans for employees and directors respectively at March 31, 2002.

In the prior year, the pension fund 'World Pension Fund' for employees was liquidated on March 23, 2001, when the Company decided to terminate the current pension plan. As a result, no accrued retirement benefit for employees has existed since March 31, 2001.

The Company newly established the Employee's Retirement Regulation on February 1, 2002 and adopted defined contribution benefit plan. There is no projected benefit obligation as of March 31, 2002 under the new retirement regulation of the Company.

Concerning the directors' pension plan, the obligation for the severance indemnity benefits is provided for through accruals, which are recorded at 100% of pension obligation, on assumption that all directors were to retire at the respective balance sheet dates.

## (9) Income taxes

Deferred income taxes are recorded to reflect the expected future tax consequences of temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and their reported amounts in the financial statements, and are measured by applying currently enacted tax laws.

## (10) Consumption tax

Consumption tax is imposed at the flat rate of 5% on all domestic consumption of goods and services (with certain exemptions).

Consumption taxes paid for purchase and consumption tax withheld from sales are excluded from expenses and sales amounts disclosed. Net consumption tax payable (receivable) is recorded as current liabilities (assets) respectively.

# (11) Accounting for hedges

Effective from the year ended March 31, 2001, the Company adopted the new Japanese accounting standard for financial instruments, which is effective for periods beginning on or after April 1, 2000.

Under the new standard, all derivatives are stated at fair value, with changes in fair value included in net profit or loss for the period in which they arise, except for derivatives that are designated as "hedging instruments".

Concerning accounting for hedges, gains or losses arising from changes in fair value of the derivatives designated as "hedging instruments" are deferred as an asset or liability and included in net profit or loss in the same period during which the gains and losses on the hedged items or transactions are recognized.

The derivatives designated as hedging instruments by the Company are principally coupon swaps (interest rate swaps) and forward exchange contracts. The related hedged items are accounts payable.

The Company has a policy to utilize the above hedging instruments in order to reduce the Company's exposure to the risk of foreign currency exchange rate fluctuation. Thus, the Company's purchases of the hedging instruments are limited to, at maximum, the amounts of the hedged items and not for speculation or dealing purposes.

The Company evaluates effectiveness of its hedging activities by reference to the accumulated gains or losses on the hedging instruments and the related hedged items from the commencement of the hedges.

## (12) Accounting for leases

Finance leases other than those under which ownership of the leased assets is regarded being transferred to lessee are accounted for as ordinary operating leases.

# (13) Impact of changes in accounting standards

In the current year, as described in Note 2 (3), the Company adopted the new accounting standard for evaluation of securities without exception. The changes in this accounting standard, however, has not had a significant impact on the financial statements.

# (14) Net Income and Dividends per Share

Net income per share of common stock is based upon the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during each year. Cash dividends per share shown for each year in the statements of income represent dividends declared applicable to each respective period.

# 3. Cash Flow Information

Cash and cash equivalents at March 31, 2002 and 2001 consist of:

March 31,	Thousands of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars
	2002 2001	2002
Cash and deposits Marketable securities	¥ 3,490,125 ¥ 271,60 — 600,000	
Cash and cash equivalents	¥ 3,490,125 ¥ 871,60	\$ 26,291

# 4. Marketable Securities and Investments in Securities

The following is a summary of securities classified as other securities at March 31, 2002:

		Thousa	nds of Yen	
Other securities	Cost	Gross unrealized gains	Gross unrealized losses	Book value (estimated fair value)
Stocks	¥ 11,301	_	_	¥ 11,301
Otocko	¥ 11,301	_	_	¥ 11,301

			Thousands	of U.S Dollars		
Other securities	,	Cost	Gross unrealized gains	Gross unrealized losses	Book value (estimated fair value)	
Stocks	\$	85	_	_	\$	85
	\$	85	_	_	\$	85

Marketable securities represents investment trust of ¥600,000 thousand (\$4,843 thousand) at March 31, 2001. Investments in securities represent stock of ¥49,412 thousand (\$399 thousand) as of March 31, 2001.

# 5. Inventories

March 31,	Thousa	Thousands of Yen		
	2002	2001	2002	
Men's wear	¥ 2,465,351	¥ 1,349,128	\$ 18,571	
Women's wear	1,725,474	957,552	12,998	
Silver & Leather	1,075,945	742,340	8,105	
Others	154,784	104,887	1,167	
Supplies	6,395	11,352	48	
	¥ 5,427,949	¥ 3,165,259	\$ 40,889	

# 6. Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company uses coupon swaps to hedge against the exchange rate risk associated with monetary payables, contract balances in import transactions and anticipated transactions denominated in foreign currencies.

The Company is exposed to certain market risks arising from coupon swaps. The Company is also exposed to the risk of credit loss in the event of non-performance by the counterparties. The Company does not anticipate non-performance by any of these counterparties, as all of them are financial institutions with high credit ratings.

The disclosure of fair value information for derivatives at March 31, 2002 and 2001 has been omitted since all derivatives have been accounted for as hedges.

## 7. Income Taxes

Income taxes in Japan applicable to the Company for the years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001 consist of corporate income tax (national), enterprise tax (local) and resident income taxes (local) at the approximate rates are indicated below:

For the years ended March 31,	Rate on taxable income		
	2002	2001	
Standard rates:			
Corporate income tax	30.0%	30.0%	
Enterprise tax	10.0%	10.0%	
Resident income tax	20.6%	20.6%	
Statutory tax rate in effect to reflect deduction of			
enterprise tax on payment	42.0%	42.0%	

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities (both current and non-current) consist of the following elements:

farch 31,	Thousan	U.S. Dollars	
	2002	2001	2002
Deferred Tax Assets arising from:  Non-deductible officers' retirement allowance Depreciation in excess of tax limit Non-deductible enterprise	¥ 43,440 25,042	¥ 51,967 22,001	\$ 327 189
tax payable	138,498	23,981	1,043
accrued bonus in excess of tax limit	86,141	41,745	649
llowance for doubtful accounts			
in excess of tax limit	26,903	26,257	203
Others	35,986	5,244	271
otal deferred tax assets	¥ 356,010	¥ 171,195	\$ 2,682

## 8. Leases

The Company uses certain furniture, fixtures and software under finance lease contracts. As all such finance lease contracts do not transfer the ownership of the leased property to the lessee, they are accounted for as ordinary operating leases. Pro forma information regarding the leased property for the years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001 are as follows:

March 31, 2002		Thousands of Ye	n	Thousands of U.S. Dollars
	Costs	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying Amount	Carrying Amount
Furniture and fixtures Software	¥ 384,808 137,787	¥ 250,456 123,519	¥ 134,352 14,268	\$ 1,013 107
	¥ 522,595	¥ 373,975	¥ 148,620	\$ 1,120

March 31, 2001	Thousands of Ye	n		
	Costs	Accumulated Depreciation	Carrying Amount	
Furniture and fixtures	¥ 454,676	¥ 238,854	¥ 215,822	
Software	146,178	106,779	39,399	
	¥ 600,854	¥ 345,633	¥ 255,221	

March 31,		Thousands of Yen			Thousands of U.S. Dollars	
		2002		2001		2002
The scheduled maturities of future lease payments, on such lease contracts were as follows:						
Due within one year Due over one year	¥	94,838 60,073	¥	135,508 132,023	\$	714 453
Lease rental expenses for the year	¥ ¥	154,911 139,655		267,531 147,326	\$ \$	1,167 1,052

The amounts of acquisition costs and future minimum lease payments under finance leases include the imputed interest expense portion.

Depreciation expenses, which are not reflected in the accompanying statements of income, computed by the straightline method, would be ¥132,067 thousand (\$995 thousand) and ¥138,990 thousand for the years ended March 31, 2002 and 2001, respectively.

# 9. Stock Split

The Company split up of one stock to 1.5 stocks on May 22, 2000. As a result, the number of issued shares increased from 7,950,000 on March 31, 2000 to 11,925,000 on March 31, 2001.

# 10. Subsequent Events

after the end of each financial year.

(1) Appropriation of Retained Earnings and Legal Reserve Under the Japanese Commercial Code and the Articles of Incorporation of the Company, the plan for appropriation of retained earnings (including year-end cash dividend payments) proposed by the Board of Directors should be approved by the shareholders' meeting which must be held within three months

The approved appropriation plan at the shareholders' meeting on June 21, 2002 is as follows:

	Thousands of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars
Unappropriated retained earnings for the year	¥ 6,299,695	\$ 47,455
Appropriation of retained earnings	219,278	1,652
Transfer to dividends	172,913	1,303
Bonuses to directors	46,365	349
Earnings to be carried forward to the next year	¥ 6,080,417	\$ 45,803

# (2)Purchase of Treasury Stock

On June 21, 2002, the shareholders' meeting passed a resolution to purchase treasury stock.

Summary of the treasury stock to be purchased is as follows:

Type of share: Common stock Number of share: 1,000,000 share Up to ¥3,000,000 thousand Amount to be spent: (\$ 22,599 thousand) June 21, 2002 to close of the next Purchase period:

shareholders' meeting

The ratio of numbers of treasury stocks to those of issued stocks as of June 21, 2002 is 8.39%.

# Report of Independent Accountants



**PricewaterhouseCoopers** Kasumigaseki Bldg., 32nd Floor 3-2-5, Kasumigaseki, Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-6088, Japan

# Report of Independent Accountants

June 21, 2002

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of UNITED ARROWS LTD.

In our opinion, the accompanying balance sheets and the related statements of income, of shareholders' equity and of cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of UNITED ARROWS LTD. at March 31, 2002 and 2001, and the results of its operations and cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in Japan. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Japan which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for the opinion expressed above.

The amounts expressed in U.S. dollars, which are provided solely for the convenience of the reader, have been translated on the basis set forth in Note 1 to the accompanying financial statements.

Tricewaterhouse loopers
Tokyo, Japan

The accompanying financial statements are not intended to present the financial position and results of operations and cash flows in accordance with accounting principles and practices generally accepted in countries and jurisdictions other than Japan.

Accordingly the accompanying balance sheets and the related statements of income, shareholders' equity and cash flows, and their utilization, are not designed for those who are not informed about Japanese accounting principles, procedures and practices.

The standards, procedures and practices utilized in Japan to audit such financial statements may differ from those generally accepted in countries and jurisdictions other than Japan.

# **Corporate Data**

(as of March 31, 2002)

# **Shareholder Information**

(as of March 31, 2002)

47,700,000

11,925,000

Shareholders

3,098

Total authorized shares

Shares of common stock issued

Official Name	UNITED ARROWS LTD.
Headquarters	2-31-12 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku,
	Tokyo 150-0001, Japan
Telephone	+81-3-3479-8192
URL	http://www.united-arrows.co.jp/
Established	October 2, 1989
Capital	¥3,030 million
President and CEO	Osamu Shigematsu
Number of Employees	441

Average Age of Employees Business Outline Planning and Sales of Men's and

> Women's Apparel, Accessories and Other Products

AuditorChuoAoyama Audit Corporation Sales Composition Men's 45.6% Women's 38.0%

Silver&Leather 11.6%

Miscellaneous 2.4% \*Others 2.4%

\* "Others" include the sales of wholesales, outside shop, and cafe.

Board	of	Directors	and	Corporate	Auditors
ouiu	0.	Directors	unu	Corporate	Auditois

President and CEO Osamu Shigematsu Tetsuya Iwaki Managing Director Managing Director Koichi Mizunoya Creative Director Hirofumi Kurino Managing Director Hiroshi Takanashi Director Hirotoshi Hatasaki Toshifumi Kusunoki Standing Corporate Auditor Corporate Auditor Sadaaki Kitagawa Corporate Auditor Sunao Onuma Corporate Auditor Hirohisa Tanaka (as of June 21, 2002)

Major shareholders

	Number of shares held	Ratio of total shares issued and outstanding (%)
World. Co., Ltd.	2,172,500	18.21
ŕ		
Hirotoshi Hatasaki	1,703,500	14.28
Osamu Shigematsu	1,150,500	9.64
Tetsuya Iwaki	573,000	4.80
Koichi Mizunoya	573,000	4.80
Hirofumi Kurino	573,000	4.80
The Bank of New York (Luxembourg) S.A.	566,500	4.75
UFJ Trust Bank Limited	500,300	4.19
The Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Corporation	482,200	4.04
Japan Trustee Services Bank, Ltd.	407,800	3.41

		shares held	issued and outstanding (%)
World. Co., Ltd	l.	2,172,500	18.21
Hirotoshi Hatas		1,703,500	14.28
Osamu Shigema	tsu	1,150,500	9.64
Tetsuya Iwaki		573,000	4.80
Koichi Mizunoy	a	573,000	4.80
Hirofumi Kurin	0	573,000	4.80
The Bank of Ne (Luxembourg) S		566,500	4.75
UFJ Trust Bank Limited		500,300	4.19
The Mitsubishi and Banking Co		482,200	4.04
Japan Trustee		407.800	3 /1

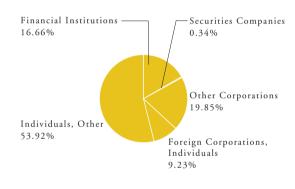
## **Stock Prices**



# Shareholders by type



# Shareholders by number shares



# **Corporate History**

# October 1989

Founded UNITED ARROWS LTD. in Tokyo.

# July 1990

Opened Shibuya Store, UNITED ARROWS' first store, in Tokyo. November 1990

Opened UNITED ARROWS Fukuoka Store in southern Japan city of Fukuoka, to begin nationwide

expansion. October 1992

Opened UNITED ARROWS Harajuku Store in Tokyo as the flagship store.

# March 1993

Opened UNITED ARROWS Shinsaibashi Store in Osaka.

# July 1998

Built and moved into new HQ.

# February 1999

Opened UNITED ARROWS Yokohama Store.

# July 1999

Listed stock over the counter.

# September 1999

Launched Green Label RELAXING and opened Shinjuku and Machida stores in downtown Tokyo and Tokyo suburb, respectively.

# December 1999

Launched CHROME HEARTS and opened Tokyo Store in Minami Aoyama

# March 2000

Opened UNITED ARROWS Ikebukuro Store in Tokyo and Green Label RELAXING Kohoku Store in Yokohama.

# April 2000

Opened Green Label RELAXING Funabashi Store in Tokyo suburb.

# Iuly 2000

Green Label RELAXING opened new store in IKSPIARI, a commercial establishment of Urayasu, Chiba Prefecture.

# August 2000

Opened UNITED ARROWS Sapporo Store in Hokkaido.

# January 2001

CHROME HEARTS opened second store in this business chain, CHROME HEARTS OSAKA, in downtown Osaka. February 2001

Moved to new address to place all headquarters functions under one roof.

## September 2001

Opened UNITED ARROWS Hiroshima Store in Hiroshima.

# February 2002

Renewed UNITED ARROWS Kyoto Store for its enlargement.

# March 2002

Opened Green Label Relaxing Omiya Store in Saitama prefecture, and Green Label Relaxing Yokohama Store in Yokohama.

Listed on the Second Section of the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

## April 2002

Moved UNITED ARROWS Umeda Store for its enlargement to the same area of Umeda, Osaka.

Opened Green Label Relaxing Umeda Store after the site of UNITED ARROWS Umeda Store.

# June 2002

Opened Green Label Relaxing Kyoto Store in Kyoto.