

ANNUAL REPORT 2000 UNITED ARROWS



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# what is united arrows?

# We United Arrows

are committed to becoming an "established company with progressive ideas".

We are dedicated to meeting the changing customers' needs, regardless of generations, and are always seeking for customers satisfaction. Thus we aim to become an "established company with progressive ideas" while valuing the cultivation of positive, ongoing relationships with our business partners and customers.

Japan has long been a meeting ground for the East and the West, and we would like to introduce new standards for the Japanese life styles suiting this unique environment through our mainstay operation of retail garment sales.

Customers are always looking for something new, and we need to continue to enhance and improve all aspects of our business activities to keep pace with the changing needs of each generation. We are constantly introducing innovative, top-quality products, with our sales persons best trained to allow customers to appreciate the product values, while we are dedicated to creating an in-store environment where they can relax and enjoy their shopping experience.













Our fundamental goal is to continually grow and create value for the benefit of its stakeholders. The three-point strategy for achieving this goal is:

— A multi-axis business model under the United Arrows brand.

- Restrict each chain to no more than 24 stores and build a loyal customer base for each store. — Enlarge store sizes over the long term to maximize per-

store revenue.

Supported by this strategy, the company is continually evolving as an innovative retailer of highly added-value garments and merchandise, and will increase our corporate value by creating meaningful relationships with shareholders, customers, partners, and employees.



# We Enjoy Creating New Life Styles

The name United Arrows signifies a group of arrows flying together toward a single target, a metaphor for all United Arrows staff advancing together with a common purpose. Each arrow, or all staff, has individual value and also reinforces the group's potential to achieve the goal. Our fundamental business style is represented by the true and steady flight of the arrows.

Clockwise from top left

# Hirotoshi Hatasaki <sub>Director</sub>

In addition to the position as the vice-president of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Hatasaki is promoting the Kobe fashion industry, supporting venture companies, and otherwise working to enliven regional activity. His motto is "sincerity is the number one."

# Koichi Mizunoya Executive Director

As the responsibility for internal auditing and handling claims, Mr. Mizunoya works to improve customer service. He believes that his job is to be strict stressing the importance of discipline.

# Tetsuya Iwaki

As the director responsible for business development, Mr. Iwaki directs merchandising strategy and store development. He strives to make work enjoyable.

# **Osamu Shigematsu**

Mr. Shigematsu's guiding principle is to embody enthusiasm, to be open-minded.

and to think positively.

# Hirofumi Kurino

Katsuhito Sugioka

As the director of store

besides maintaining an appropriate level of capital

development, Mr. Sugioka says,

"My job is to create attractive and

comfortable stores for customers

efficiency." Principle on his work is "to identify priorities and focus

Executive Director

on objectives."

As the director responsible for sales promotion and creative director, Mr.Kurino participates in wideranging activities, including serving as a judge of the graduate show of the Fashion Department of the Antwerp Royal Academy of Fine Art. He feels that his personal mission is to communicate love and dreams as well as hope and peace through fashion to the world.



# Creating Values with Labels

The company, targeting the trendy product market, has developed three limited chains of specialty stores — United Arrows, Green Label Relaxing and Chrome Hearts — which encompass the conceptual diversity needed to appeal to a broad customer base. Through precision management of each chain's inventory, subtle shifts in fashion trends are quickly incorporated in the company's numerous labels. Not only does this ensure that the labels remain relevant, it minimizes the risk inherent to rapidly evolving fashions and reinforces the company's base for stable, long-term growth.

# UNITED ARROWS

United Arrows, the company's core operation, comprises specialty stores that sell highly fashionable private-label clothing and merchandise, including worldwide imports. By producing its own labels, as well as carrying labels of carefully chosen manufacturers, United Arrows has earned the overwhelming support of its fashion-conscious clientele. The United Arrows limited chain offers an intelligent combination of indispensable basics and unique, private-label merchandise, and carries imports with the latest trends in mind. The sales share of private-label products, currently around 40%, is expected to rise to 60% as the company is determined to develop high-quality original products yielding high profits.

# Men's Wear

SOVEREIGN Arrows label for the finest materials and craftsmanship of arment factories in Japan and other

# BLUE:LABE

BLUE LABEL Youthful Ivy League wear in our handsome United Arrows casual styling



RAW-TEX Rugged outdoor work clothes, in natural



ΜΟΝΚΕΥ ΤΙΜΕ Wide-ranging line of casual wear started by freethinking younger employees

# TABAYA Refined mature

apparel for those who appreciate fine clothing.



WORK FOR HOLIDAY WORK FOR HOLIDAY A classic new line of fashion wear for



SLITZ Feminine a and elegant but footwear.



Trendy casual wear styles created in London

# Pink Label PINK LABEL

Youthful "Tokyo Now" around fresh revivals



PINK LABEL BASIC Basic casual wear featuring international

# THIS SIGN ANOTHER EDITION

ANOTHER EDITION independent women in their 20s, sold mostly at specialty stores and major department

Men's & Women's Wear NITED ARROWS

UNITED ARROWS Our main label, a offering high quality at affordable prices.

### Anne**l**ies Braeckma UNITED ARROWS ANNELIES BRAECKMAN

Relaxed, pleasingly nostalgic clothing co developed with Ms Annelies Braeckmar a Belgian designer graduated from the Antwerp Royal Academy of Fine Art.



J.I.L.

Products for "Jerry's Ideal Life," purchased by Blue Label directo Jiro (Jerry) Adachi.

UNITED ARROWS STYLE for LIVING STYLE FOR LIVING Furniture, tableware bed & bath items desk accessories and other tasteful interior goods

# U A LUGGAGE

**UA LUGGAGE** Stylish yet practical luggage for people ho love the United Arrows sense of style

(For spring and summer seasons in 2000

# GREEN LABEL RELAXING

Green Label Relaxing was launched as a limited chain of specialty stores in September 1999. following a year of test marketing through a pilot store opened in the trendy Harajuku district of Tokyo. Green Label Relaxing provides stylishly aware families and young adults, segments different from those United Arrows has traditionally focused on. Offerings are highly fashionable, come in a wide range of sizes and are priced reasonably. About three-quarters of the product lineup is comprised of private-label garments developed in-house. Thirteen labels of men's, women's, maternity and children's garments, plus a variety of other merchandise, were offered in the Spring-Summer 2000 collection.

# CHROME HEARTS

Chrome Hearts is a U.S. brand of silver accessories and leatherwear established in 1988. After the brand's staying power was proved through test marketing in Harajuku, Tokyo, a store was opened in Minami-Aoyama, Tokyo's another district, in December 1999. Prized worldwide for its classic designs and high quality, Chrome Hearts encompasses leather garments, such as shirts, jumpers and pants,



GER CLASSIC Timeless classics for from United Arrows styling.

# GLR SFODERATO

GLR SFODERATO Contemporary clothing that works both in and out of the



Highly functional attire anced with elements of fashion for greater character

# GLR

**GLR INDIGO** Warm, natural wear using '60s textures, including denim, herringbone and piqué, tastefully reproduced.

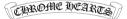
GLR sports GLR SPORTS Daily clothing, embracing the elements of design and materials suited for sports

and silver accessories, such as rings, bracelets and pendants. Nicknamed the "Hermes of the Rock 'n' Roll Generation," the brand is being developed to satisfy the yearnings for Chrome Hearts spirits of those who grew up in the '60s and '70s, and those following in their footsteps.





(For spring and summer seasons in 2000)



Well-fitting clothes for active

Permanent favorites, such as striped shirts in stretchable

Casual bags in various size

7

# **Focus on Formulation** of Corporate Brands

United Arrows has maintained a consistently unique place in the fashion market since its establishment in October 1989. Selling through its limited-scale chain of specialty stores, United Arrows offers tasteful, high-quality clothing and merchandise that are defining new trends in life style and culture.



**Osamu Shigematsu** President & CEO 1 Growing the United Arrows' Brand

# >>> How do you evaluate your performance in the year ended March 2000?

To be frank, it was a very difficult year. Although casual clothing did well in April and May, business turned sluggish as the market started shifting toward more elegant styles in June. We responded by introducing more elegant garments in our autumn lineup, but the market shift did not have enough momentum to produce a clear trend in customer purchasing. Fiscal 2000 thus represented a huge turning point, as consumer values diversified and fashion trends fragmented. Overall, our sales grew for the tenth consecutive year, but operating income and ordinary income both were down from the previous year. Nevertheless, we launched two new limited chains of specialty stores, so we feel this was a significant year for United Arrows. We made solid progress in furthering our basic strategy of developing as an "established company with progressive ideas."

# What does an "established company with progressive ideas" mean?

An established company is one that values time-honored tradition and loyalty. While our history does not go back very far, our goal is for customers to perceive and trust us as a longstanding, well-established provider of consistently highquality clothing. Progressive means staying in the forefront of market trends, rather than adhering adamantly to the past, and having the courage to change. We strive to keep our merchandise and stores consistently fresh and remain trustworthy in the eyes of our customers. By combining these two concepts, we are developing as an "established company with progressive ideas."

# >>> How do you want to develop the United Arrows brand?

We offer unique merchandise, store infrastructure conducive to "fun" shopping and a pleasurable shopping experience, and store staff's intelligent advice with cheerful service. The strategy of focusing on the three factors has earned us the loyal support and trust of our customers. We equate brand image and customer loyalty, so our corporate brand is closely tied to our stores, since they are the places where we interact with our customers. When we launch a new store, we focus on creating a appropriate image of the store that has its unique labels.

When we founded the company in 1989, our goal was to be recognized by 1% of Japan's adult population, or about one million people, within 20 years. We have achieved about 40% of that target in our first 10 years, so we believe we can reach our goal by 2010 if we advance following our strategy. We also have set an aggressive target of accounting for 1% of all garment consumption in Japan by 2010. If we can achieve these goals, we expect to realize a powerful brand.

Pursuing a Multi-axis **Business Model** 

*→ Can you explain your* organizational business model. based on which vou launched two new limited chains of specialty stores during the year?

Our basic model is to develop limited chains of specialty stores in targeted markets, with each chain emanating from United Arrows. In general, we expect each chain to have up to 24 stores.

To support our business development activities, we

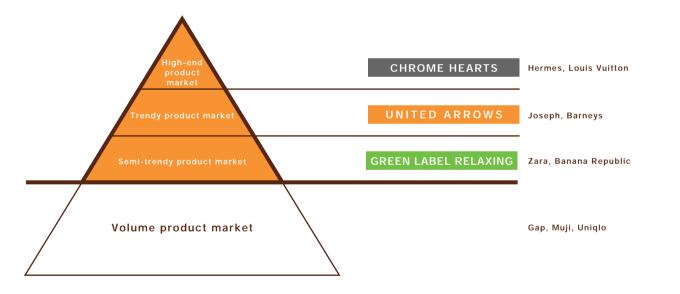
Markets that UNITED ARROWS Deal with

established UA Labo shops for test-marketing potential new products and labels. Taking this extra step helps us to increase our rate of successful launches, as well as lower our risk, and thereby move forward with confidence. Before launching our Green Label Relaxing chain, for example, we test-marketed products in a UA Labo shop beginning in August 1998.

Green Label Relaxing, which is targeted at largely young to middle-aged businessmen and women, including their children, who have a strong taste for

fashion. The Green Label Relaxing business will expand our overall lineup of garments and merchandise, but larger competitors preceded us, particularly in the merchandise market. In response, we aim to differentiate our merchandise lineup with original products, as well as imports that fit United Arrows' standards for style and quality.

One of our new chains of specialty stores is Chrome Hearts, a leading American brand of silver accessories and leather wear. The line is geared toward



Development of new businesses utilizing UA Labo



capturing a select, all-new base of customers who seek the presence, depth and satisfaction of genuine merchandise. The superior quality and handmade detail of this distinctive merchandise fit perfectly with our philosophy of offering real clothing for real people.

We would like to move forward in developing this multiaxis model which will encompass five main businesses by 2010.

# $\longrightarrow$ You have established a basic policy of not expanding any one limited chain beyond 24 stores to maintain exclusivity. At the same time, you are increasing store floor space.

We need larger stores in order to present our customers with a full range of merchandise for new life style and culture. At spacious stores, they can make their purchasing decisions in a relaxed and comfortable atmosphere.

For our United Arrows stores, for example, we plan to enlarge or newly open stores of between 500 and 1,000 square meters over the medium term. Moreover, in the long term we

are looking at opening key stores of as large as 3,000 square meters to fully accommodate our United Arrows store concept, which will ultimately encompass store amenities such as restaurants and art galleries. United Arrows and our other chains will each have no more than 24 stores, but floor spaces are being expanded to offer more merchandise. In the case of Green Label Relaxing, however, we eventually expect to have as many as 80 stores to handle this line's relatively broader customer base.

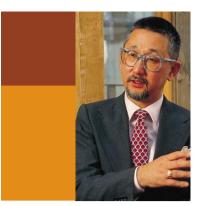
# Why are you increasing your proportion of private-label apparel?

Garment sales tend neither to grow nor decline when consumption becomes sluggish, so rival companies just compete for bigger slices of the same pie. There is still growth potential, however, for stores carrying private-label apparel and stores with a high percentage of unique imports. United Arrows is trying to create a store with flavors of

# **Combining Uniqueness** and High Profitability

both types of store. Amid the rapid increase in stores specializing in imports in recent years, however, there have been many cases of more than one retailer selling the same imported product. When this happens, both the product and the retailer lose their exclusive status. To avoid this in our business model, we plan to offer a relatively high percentage of private-label apparel and other original merchandise, compared to imports.

Since retailer-manufactured goods do not involve a wholesaler and offer high profit margins, major apparel manufacturers have been focusing on this area. To succeed, we must not only organize effective production and supply systems, we must also develop distinctive, highly finished private labels. The objective is to achieve originality and quality, as well as high profits. At the same time, we have to maintain a balanced product lineup by mixing in high-fashion, high-quality imported merchandise.



# → How can you maintain prosperity in the face of the fashion industry's dramatic swings?

For a specialty retailer such as United Arrows, our risks include outright purchases of stock, as well as imported products. Given that our business is indeed filled with many risks, we must depend on the talent and experience of our employees and support them every way we can. For example, we have created an in-house information system to enable designers, merchandisers and other headquarters staff to access customer and product information on a real-time basis, which helps us to manage risk. Over 70% of our products sell at the listed retail price, a high ratio for this industry. This has been achieved largely due to the three factors: investment in IT, investment in a system for quickly accessing retail store conditions to have sales data reflected on merchandising strategies, and the accumulation of expertise aimed at this risk hedge.

Expanding our Knowledge Base and Fostering Talent

# *Isn't information one of Section Section* the keys to success in the highly trend-conscious and rapidly globalizing fashion industry?

Since the 1980s, specialty stores selling selected labels including United Arrows have been the driving force in the Japanese fashion market, taking over this role from major apparel makers and big-name department stores. These stores have also broadly increased their level of foreign merchandising. In line with these trends, we have vastly improved our abilities to gather information and select products. We have also become much more sophisticated at disseminating information. So, quite clearly, the ability to gather and process information efficiently and effectively has become crucial.

*W Under your concept of* developing as an "established company with progressive ideas," you are encouraging employees to engage in constructive self-denial and self-innovation.

Companies in our industry have had to learn fast about supply chain management and quick response systems, as well as substantially increase their use of information technology, to improve their efficiency and better satisfy customers. With so much change taking place, it is crucial that companies and their employees do not adhere blindly to conventional methods; instead, they must engage in constructive self-denial and self-innovation. As we grow, we need employees who are sociable and are willing to meet with many people to enrich their experience. Through the people they meet, they will be able to develop their own people networks to access information and gain knowledge, which will help them design new business models and provide better customer services. It is our task to find and train such people to attain a higher level of customer satisfaction.

# **Financial Section**

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# Non-Consolidated 5-year Summary

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996	2000
Net Sales	¥ 17,016¥	14,333	¥ 9,662	¥ 7,955	¥ 6,244	\$ 160,309
Ordinary Income	2,246	2,455	1,040	822	835	21,164
Net Income	1,174	1,150	559	412	707	11,065
Total Assets	13,930	6,683	5,241	3,956	2,662	131,230
Shareholders' Equity	10,568	2,571	1,404	844	175	99,563
Number of Shares Issued (Share)	7,950,000	7,050,000	1,920	1,920	1,570	
Net Income per Share (Yen)	153	179	291,299	250,975	702,427	1.4 (in U.S. Dollars)
Shareholders' Equity per Share (Yen)	1,329	364	731,400	440,101	111,512	12.5 (in U.S. Dollars)
Capital Expenditures	3,638	894	731	464	70	34,278
Depreciation	218	160	94	42	40	2,062
Number of Stores	24	18	16	15	12	
Total store Area (m²)	8,936	6,160	5,022	3,608	2,766	
Number of Employees	342	248	193	153	118	
Ordinary Income						
to Total Assets (ROA) (%)	21.8	41.2	22.6	24.9	32.6	
Return on Equity (%)	17.9	57.9	49.7	80.8		
Shareholders' Equity Ratio (%)	75.9	38.5	26.8	21.4	6.6	
Total Assets Turnover (times)	1.2		1.8	2.0		
Inventory Turnover (times)	2.9			4.1	4.1	
Current Ratio (%)	203.5	90.2	74.5	75.0	75.2	
Fixed Assets Ratio (%)	71.2	120.6	179.3	192.2	461.3	

# Thousands of U.S. Dollars

# **Review of Operations**

# **Business News**

# UNITED ARROWS

We advanced steadily on our goal of opening 24 United Arrows stores and expanding the floor space of the existing stores. New stores were opened in three locations: the Midosuji Store in Osaka; the Archipelago Store in Fukuoka, Kyushu; and the Ikebukuro Store in north-central Tokyo. We also expanded existing stores in three locations: Shinsaibashi, Osaka; Nagoya, Aichi Prefecture; and Kashiwa, Chiba Prefecture. In addition, we enhanced our capability to respond to a more diverse range of clientele by opening multiplestore complexes in Osaka and Fukuoka, patterned after a similar arrangement in Harajuku, Tokyo. Each store is uniquely designed and displayed. For example, the theme of the newly

opened Midosuji Store in Osaka is "urban oasis." Customers spanning a broad range of ages

clearly enjoy shopping in this spacious and highly distinctive environment.

# GREEN LABEL RELAXING

One of our new specialty chains is Green Label Relaxing, which we opened during the fiscal year to cater to customers in several segments, including young adults and families. It currently has one store in downtown Tokyo and four stores in Tokyo suburbs. Green Label Relaxing offers a mix of private labels and fashionable imports, including unique children's and maternity wear, both firsts for our company. The largest stores will feature cafes and other amenities for customers. Since its launch in September 1999, Green Label Relaxing has steadily attracted a growing clientele that can be distinguished from the United Arrows customer base. The Ikspiari Store, the newest location, opend in Maihama,

Chiba, near Tokyo Disneyland, in July 2000.

# CHROME HEARTS

Chrome Hearts, a well-known American brand of silver accessory and leather wear, has achieved the status of the "Hermes of the Rock 'n' Roll Generation." The brand is targeted at executive businessmen and upscale women who derive an innate sense of pleasure in appreciating master craftsmanship and fine materials. The Chrome Hearts Tokyo Store was opened in December 1999 as the first step in developing the brand as our leading line of merchandise. The store's creatively distinctive atmosphere, as well as its superior merchandising, attracted widespread attention among the media and discriminating consumers alike. An Osaka store is next scheduled to be opened in fiscal 2001.



GREEN LABEL RELAXING



# **Operating Results**

The Japanese economy during the fiscal year that ended in March 2000 grew in the first half, thanks to government measures aimed at stabilizing the economy and financial markets. Market sentiment. however, remained stagnant due to a pause in public works spending, sluggish consumer spending and other factors. Moreover, the economy began to contract again in the second half, which resulted in generally severe conditions in many industries.

In the garment industry, consumers demonstrated a clear preference for less costly fashion wear, which prompted retailers to lower prices. Those specialty stores that were able to cut prices while still providing good value enjoyed healthy growth.

The boom in men and women's casual wear. which had supported the market for the last several years, reached its peak and then began to decline. Fashion trends reached a turning point as values diversified and trend became more fragmented. United Arrows further differentiated its product mix and improved gross profit margins by adding more private-label wear. The company gained increased recognition as a player in the fashion industry through an OTC

stock listing.

As part of pursuing its multiaxis business model, the company launched Green Label Relaxing as a limited chain of specialty stores in September 1999. In December, a second new limited chain, Chrome Hearts, was launched

UNITED ARROWS











# CHROME HEARTS

with a store in the fashionable Minami Aoyama district of Tokyo. These major launches marked the start of a new era for United Arrows.

Sales were relatively strong in the first quarter (April to June 1999), but weakened thereafter due to the shift in fashion trends, including declining interest in casual wear, and record-breaking high temperatures in the fall and winter. Net profit was up for the year, but fell short of our initial target.

Sales came to 17.016 million yen, which was up 18.7% from fiscal 1999. Ordinary income fell 8.5% to 2,246 million yen and net income rose 2.0% to 1.174 million yen.

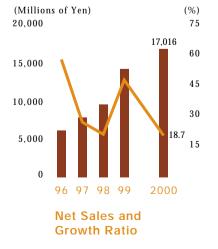
# **Financial Review**

# Analysis of **Operating Results**

(based on Japanese accounting principles)

Sales in fiscal 2000 (April 1, 1999 to March 31, 2000) rose 18.7% from the previous fiscal year to 17,016 million yen. Existing stores sales declined 3.2% due to such factors as competition in the retail clothing business, but overall sales rose due to the launch of two new businesses, Green Label Relaxing, Chrome Hearts, as well as contributions from new United Arrows stores. Gross income rose 21.3% to 9,443 million yen.

Growth in sales did not make up for the increase in expenses, however, leading to a 4.7 percentage point increase in selling, general and administrative (SG&A) expenses ratio to 41.5%. SG&A increased 33.8% to 7,065 million yen, which resulted in a 5.0% drop in operating income to 2,378 million yen. Personnel expenses grew in line with the expansion in operations because we added staff at our headquarters and newly opened and expanded stores. Facilities

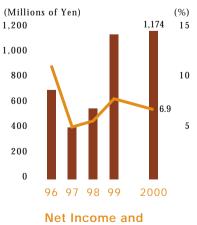


rental expenses also rose in line with store openings and store expansions.

Ordinary income fell 8.5% to 2,246 million yen as a result of lower operating income and increase in non-operating expenses. The primary components of non-operating expenses were 73 million yen in stock issue expenses relating to an initial public offering and 100 million yen in currency exchange losses.

A 71 million yen in losses on disposal of tangible fixed assets and a 99 million yen in losses on transfer to allowance for officer severance, booked as extraordinary losses, contributed to a 14.2% decline in net income before taxes to 2,076 million yen. Net income increased 2.0% to 1,174 million yen, thanks to a 372 million yen decrease in income, local and business taxes due to new tax laws. Deferred taxes totaled approximately 3 million yen.

Net income per share fell 26.22 yen to 153.43 yen due to an increase in the average number



**Net Income to Net Sales** 

of shares outstanding as a result of the OTC public offering.

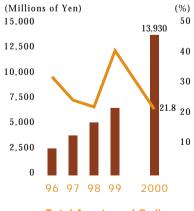
With the company's policies of maintaining a dividend payout ratio of 10%, annual dividends totaled 119 million yen, or 15 yen per share, up 6.5 yen from the previous year.

# **Financial Position**

Total assets as of March 31, 2000 amounted to 13,930 million yen, an increase of 108.4% from the previous fiscal year end.

Total current assets increased 78.9% from the previous fiscal year end to 6,410 million yen. This included a 66.6% increase of cash and deposits to 775 million yen, an increase of marketable securities to 901 million yen caused of the public stock offering, and a rise of 66.4% to 3,238 million yen in product inventories for the opening of new stores.

Total fixed assets increased 142.5% from the previous fiscal year end, to 7,519 million yen. This included a 148.5% increase in total tangible fixed assets to



**Total Assets and Ordinary Income to Total Assets** 

4.647 million ven due to the acquisition of land and buildings for the Harajuku and Shibuya stores, which had been leased. and properties for new stores and expanded stores. Also included were an increase of 2,333.7% in intangible fixed assets to 561 million yen, resulting from the acquisition of a leasehold in the Chrome Hearts Tokyo Store, software, etc. Investments and other assets totaled 2,310 million yen, up 91.4%, including increase in long-term guarantee deposits for newly opened and expanded stores.

Total current liabilities decreased 20.7% from the previous fiscal year end, to 3,150 million yen. This was mainly due to a 600 million reduction in short-term borrowings, a decline of 720 million yen in deferred tax liabilities, and a 105 million yen reduction in consumption taxes payable.

Total long-term liabilities grew 48.5% from the previous fiscal year end, to 211 million yen. The primary components of this were 111 million yen of

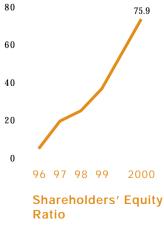


allowance for officer severance and 75 million yen of long-term accounts payable.

Due to OTC stock listing, common stock increased 759.6% from the previous fiscal year end to 3,030 million yen, additional paid-in capital increased to 4,095 million yen and retained earnings increased to 3,437 million yen, resulting in a 311.0% increase in total shareholders' equity to 10,568 million yen. The shareholders' equity ratio at the end of the period stood at 75.9%, a 37.4 percentage point increase from the end of the previous period, and shareholders' equity per share increased 264.5% to 1,329.28 yen.

# **Cash Flows**

Cash flows from operating activities showed a net outflow of 447 million yen. Despite income before taxes of 2,076 million yen, this net outflow resulted from a 1,292 million yen increase in product inventories for the opening new stores, shortfall in sales target, and 1,618 million



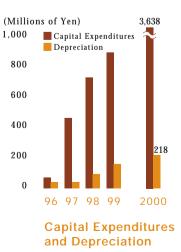
(%)

75 9 2000 yen in income taxes paid.

Cash flows from investing activities showed a net outflow of 4.898 million ven. This was primarily comprised of 2,781 million yen for the outflows of acquisition of tangible fixed assets (including the acquisition of land and buildings for the Harajuku and Shibuya stores), a 1,047 million yen in outflows of increase in long-term guarantee deposits for store openings and store expansions, 621 million yen for outflows of increase in other investment, and a 449 million yen increase in time deposits.

Cash flows from financing activities showed a net inflow of 6,108 million yen. This included 6,768 million yen revenue from stock issue (company's initial public offering), offset by a decrease of 600 million yen in short-term borrowings and 59 million yen in dividend paid.

As a result, cash and cash equivalents as of the end of this fiscal year totaled 1,218 million yen, an increase of 762 million yen from the previous fiscal year end.



# Non-Consolidated Balance Sheets

Non-Consolidated Balan	ce Sheets							
March 31, 2000 and 1999	Thousand	e of Von	Thousands of U.S. Dollars		Thousa	nds of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars	
	Thousand		U.S. Dollars	1	1 110458		U.S. Dollars	7
	2000	1999	2000		2000	1999	2000	
ASSETS				LIABILITIES				
Current assets				Current liabilities				
Cash and deposits	¥ 775,657	¥ 465,506	\$ 7,307					
Accounts receivable-trade	138,324	164, 434	1,303	Accounts payable-trade (*3)	¥ 1,554,193	¥ 1,369,708	\$ 14,641	
Marketable securities	901,378	_	8,492	Short-term borrowings	_	600,000	_	
Product inventories	3,238,220	1,945,777	30,506		1 000 000		0.007	
Other inventories	6,499	6,249	61	Accounts payable-other	1,028,288	643,759	9,687	
Advance payments		2,667	_	Deferred tax liabilities	288,544	1,009,299	2,718	
Prepaid expenses	66,698	34,007	628	Consumption taxes payable	_	105,810	_	
Deferred tax assets	54,372	_	512					
Accounts receivable-other	1,189,558	970,300	11,206	Accrued expenses	17,137	14,619	161	
Consumption taxes receivable	46,562		439	Deposits received	38,992	47,886	367	
Other Allowance for doubtful accounts	625	2,338	6	Unearned income				
	(7,819) 6,410,076	(8,242)	(74)	Unearned income	9,024	6,768	85	
Total current assets	0,410,070	3,583,040	60,387	Allowance for employee bonuses	214,173	172,817	2,018	
Fixed assets				Total current liabilities	3,150,352	3,970,668	29,678	
Tangible fixed assets				i otar current mabinities	5,150,552	3,370,000	20,070	
Buildings	2,863,895	1,329,574	26,980					
Structures	4,840	4,787	46	Long-term liabilities				
Vehicles and distribution equipment	23	1,334	0		111 700		1.059	
Equipment and fixtures	308,649	126,945	2,908	Allowance for officer severance	111,788	—	1,053	
Land	1,454,684	372,611	13,704	Long-term accounts payable	75,541	114,954	712	
Construction in progress	15,527	35,000	146	Long-term guarantee deposits received	10,760	7,400	101	
Total tangible fixed assets	4,647,620	1,870,253	43,784					
Intangible fixed assets				Long-term unearned income	12,972	19,740	122	
Leaseholds	138,165	_	1,302	Total long-term liabilities	211,061	142,094	1,988	
Trademarks	10,869	9,931	102		0 001 410	4 1 1 0 7 0 0	01 007	
Telephone subscriptions	16,804	13,136	158	Total liabilities	3,361,413	4,112,762	31,667	
Software	349,659	_	3,294					
Software suspense (*2)	45,885	—	432	Shareholders' equity				
Total intangible fixed assets	561,383	23,067	5,289					
Investments and other assets				Capital (*1)	3,030,000	352,500	28,545	
Long-term loans receivable to employees	799	459	8	Additional paid-in capital	4,095,600	5,100	38,583	
Long-term prepaid expenses	107,309	66,347	1,011					
Deferred tax assets	56,495	—	532	Legal reserves	5,992	—	56	
Long-term guarantee deposits	2,042,427	994,695	19,241	Retained earnings				
Long-term accounts receivable	89,161	135,681	840	Unappropriated retained earnings for the term	3,437,016	2,213,581	32,379	
Other Allowance for doubtful accounts	15,330	11,497	144					
Allowance for doubtful accounts Total investments and other assets	(581)	(1,100)	(5) 91-771	Total other surplus	3,437,016	2,213,581	32,379	
Total investments and other assets Total fixed assets	2,310,942 7,519,947	1,207,581 3,100,903	21,771 70,843	Total shareholders' equity	10,568,609	2,571,181	99,563	
Total assets	13,930,023	3,100,903 6,683,943	70,843 131,230	Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	13,930,023	6,683,943	131,230	
1 0141 435713	13,330,023	0,003,943	131,430	i otal navinties and shareholders equily	13,330,023	0,003,943	131,230	
				1				
See notes to non-consolidated financial statements.								

# Non-Consolidated Statements of Income

Years ended March 31, 2000 and 1999

Thousands of	
U.S. Dollars	

Non-Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended March 31, 2000

Years ended March 31, 2000 and 1999	Thousa	ands of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars	Year ended March 31, 2000
	2000	1999	2000	
Sales	¥17,016,842	¥ 14,333,012	\$ 160,309	Cash flows from operating activities
Cost of sales		, ,		Net income before taxes
Beginning product inventories	1,945,777	1,392,059	18,330	
Purchases	8,871,248	7,109,145	83,573	Depreciation
Total Amount transferred to other accounts (*1)	10,817,025 5,186	$8,501,204 \\ 6,247$	101,903 49	Amortization of intangible fixed assets
Ending product inventories	3,238,220	1,945,777	30,506	Amortization of long-term prepaid expenses
Total cost of sales	7,573,618	6,549,179	71,348	
Gross income	9,443,223	7,783,833	88,961	Increase in allowance for employee bonuses
Selling, general and administrative expenses				Increase in allowance for officer severance
Packing and distribution expenses	328,400	247,277	3,094	Decrease in allowance for doubtful accounts
Advertising expenses Selling and promotional expenses	364,500 46,680	$272,347 \\ 26,471$	3,434 440	
Officer compensation	143,317	159,972	1,350	Interest and dividend income
Salaries	1,710,303	1,127,791	16,112	Interest expenses
Employee bonuses	217,746	192,469	2,051	Losses on disposal of tangible fixed assets
Transfer to allowance for employee bonuses	214,173	172,817	2,018	
Transfer to allowance for officer severance	11,936		112	Gain on sale of tangible fixed assets
Welfare expenses	260,585	176,686	2,455	Increase in accounts receivable-trade
Traveling expenses Commissions	164,947 406,968	$140,072 \\ 283,042$	$1,554 \\ 3,834$	Increase in product inventories
Facilities rental expenses	1,647,292	1,321,356	15,519	•
Consumable expenses	272,042	221,409	2,563	Increase in other current assets
Maintenance and repair expenses	242,579	189,225	2,285	Increase in accounts payable-trade
Depreciation	218,901	160,037	2,062	Decrease in other current liabilities
Charges	235,344	176,069	2,217	
Miscellaneous expenses Total selling, general and administrative expenses	579,454 7,065,176	$413,162 \\5,280,211$	5,459 66,558	Decrease in other long-term liabilities
Operating income	2,378,047	2,503,621		Subtotal
Non-operating income	2,370,047	2,303,021	22,403	Interest and dividend received
Interest income	5,268	3,595	50	
Dividend income	3,323	_	31	Interest paid
Product rental income	3,682	2,919	35	Income taxes paid
Compensation received	15,688	0 700	148	Total cash flows from operating activities
Store fixtures resale income Store rental income	4,512 62,283	6,768	43 587	Total tash nows nom operating activities
Miscellaneous income	8,645	7,334	81	
Total non-operating income	103,403	20,617	974	Cash flows from investing activities
Non-operating expenses				Transfer to time deposits
Interest expenses	3,108	15,250	29	•
Stock issue expenses	73,910		696	Transfer from time deposits
Losses on disposal of other inventories	100 470	12,877		Increase in long-term loans receivable to employees
Currency exchange losses Store rental costs	100,479 51,754	37,109	947 488	Outflows of increase in long-term guarantee deposits
Miscellaneous expenses	5,623	3,456	53	
Total non-operating expenses	234,875	68,694	2,213	Outflows of increase in other investment
Ordinary income	2,246,575	2,455,544	21,164	Revenue from sale of tangible fixed assets
Extraordinary income				Outflows of acquisition of tangible fixed assets
Gain on sale of tangible fixed assets (*2)	595		6	
Gain on reversal of allowance for doubtful accounts Total extraordinary income	942 1,537	$\begin{array}{c}100\\100\end{array}$	9 14	Total cash flows from investing activities
Extraordinary expenses	1,337	100	14	
Losses on disposal of tangible fixed assets (*3)	71,958	31,757	678	Cash flows from financing activities
Losses on disposal of tangible fixed assets (*3) Losses on transfer to allowance for officer severance	99,852	· _	941	-
Lease contract cancellation losses		2,774	-	Decrease in short-term borrowings
Total extraordinary expenses	171,810	34,532	1,619	Revenue from stock issue
Net income before taxes Income taxes, local taxes and business taxes	2,076,302	2,421,112	19,560	Dividends paid
Deferred taxes	897,816 3,937	1,270,115	8,458 37	1
Net income	1,174,548	1,150,996	11,065	Total cash flows from financing activities
Retained earnings from the previous year	2,147,663	1,068,189	20,232	
Deferred taxes for past years'	114,805	_	1,082	Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents
Losses of pro-forma surviving company				
(merged company) brought forward from the previous year		409		Increase in cash and cash equivalents
Losses on the retirement of treasury stock		409 5,195		Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year
Unappropriated retained earnings for the year	3,437,016	2,213,581	32,379	Cash and cash equivalents at end of year
See notes to non-consolidated financial statements.				See notes to non-consolidated financial statements.
See notes to non consonance infancial statements.				

Thousands of Yen	Thousands o U.S. Dollar	
2000	2000	
¥ 2,076,302	\$ 19,560	
227,525	2,143	
33,479	315	
6,199	58	
41,355	390	
111,788	1,053	
(942)	(9	)
(8,591)	(81	
3,108	29	, 
71,958	678	
(595)	(6	)
(155,061)	(1,461	
(1,292,692)	(12,178	
(66,438)	(626	
184,485	1,738	, 
(21,198)	(200	)
(42,820)	(403	)
1,167,862	11,002	
8,591	81	
(5, 270)	(50	)
(1,618,570)	(15,248	
(447,387)	(4,215	
(459,000)	(4,324	)
10,000	94	
(340)	(3	)
(1,047,731)	(9,870	)
(621, 672)	(5,857	)
1,700	16	
(2,781,113)	(26,200	)
(4,898,158)	(46,144	)
(600,000)	(5,652	)
6,768,000	63,759	
(59,925)	(565	)
6,108,075	57,542	
—	—	
762,529	7,184	
455,506	4,291	
1,218,035	11,475	

# Non-Consolidated Appropriation of Retained Earnings

Year ended March 31, 2000 (Approved by shareholders on June 24, 2000)	Thousands of Yen	Thousands of U.S. Dollars	
	2000	2000	
Unappropriated retained earnings for the term Appropriation of retained earnings Legal reserves Dividends Earnings retained forward to the next year	¥ 3,437,016 131,175 11,925 119,250 3,305,841	\$32,379 1,236 112 1,123 31,143	
See notes to non-consolidated financial statements.			

# Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

Year ended March 31, 2000

# **1. Significant Accounting Policies**

# 1. The valuation standard and method for securities

Nonmarketable securities are stated at cost based on the moving average method.

2. The valuation standard and method for inventory assets

(1) Product inventories are stated at cost based on the periodic average method. (2) Other inventories are stated at cost based on the latest purchase cost method.

# 3. Depreciation and amortization method for fixed assets

(1) Tangible fixed assets — Tangible fixed assets are based on the method of a fixed percentage on cost set forth in the Corporate Tax Law. Buildings (except facilities attached to buildings) are based on the straight-line method provided under the Corporate Tax Law. (2) Intangible fixed assets——Software for in-house use are based on the straight-line method over an in-house available period (5 years). Other intangible fixed assets are based on the straight-line method using the same valuation standard set forth in the Corporate Tax Law. (3) Long-term prepaid expenses — Long-term prepaid expenses are based on the straight-line method set forth in the Corporate Tax Law.

# 4. Accounting method of deferred assets

All new stock issue expenses are settled as costs at the time of expenditure.

## 5. Standards for earmarking allowances

## (1) Allowance for doubtful accounts

The amount provided for the allowance for doubtful debts is equivalent to the limited amount according to the legal provision rate set forth in the Corporate Tax Law to prepare for loss on bad debts, plus additional amount based on the consideration on the collectibility of receivables. Specific provisions have not been made for the term under review.

(2) Allowance for employee bonuses

The amount provided for the allowance for employees' bonus is equivalent to the estimated amount required to pay for the payment period to prepare for bonus to be paid to employees.

(3) Allowance for officer severance

The amount provided for the allowance for officer severance is the estimated amount required to pay at the term's end, which is based on the Company rule for the payment of the severance bonus allowance for officers.

# 6. Method taken in accounting lease transaction

Finance leases of the Company, except those leases which the ownership of the leased assets are considered to be transferred to the lessee, are accounted for operating leases.

### 7. Limitation of funds in cash-flow statement

Funds in the cash-flow statement (cash and cash equivalents) consists of cash in hand, accessible bank deposits, and easily converted short-term investment with small exposure to value fluctuation risks, maturing within 3 months from acquisition.

### 8. Other significant items for preparing financial statements

(1) Consumption taxes accounting——The tax-excluding method is used. (2) Adjusted pensions——Contributes to the World Employees' Pension Fund since September 1992 and adopts the adjusted pension system for all the retirement allowances.

- a. Total amount of pension assets as of March 31, 1999 (Liability reserve provided in the Welfare Pension Insurance Law, C b. Total members of the pension fund
- Members in the Company (as of March 31, 1999)
- c. Contribution period of prior service cost
- Prior service liability accrued from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Recalculation of Pension Financing (as of March 31, 1998). This contribution period of prior service cost is 3 years starting from the term ended March 2000.

# 2. Changes in the Accounting Method

## (Allowance for officer severance)

Accounting method of the allowance for officer severance changed from the previous method, which reported it as a cost at the time of expenditures, to the method to provide the required amount for payment based on the Company rule, in order to prepare for the future expenditure. It is intended to reflect accrual profits and losses more appropriately by allocating the cost of allowance for officer severance to each term in office, considering the well-established accounting practice for the said reserve for retirement. With this change, accrued amount of 11,936 thousand yen for the term under review is included in selling, general and administrative expenses, and the amount of 99,852 thousand yen for the prior year is included in extraordinary losses. As a result, for the term under review, operating income and ordinary income are both reported 11,936 thousand yen smaller, and net income before taxes is reported 111,788 thousand yen smaller than the amount calculated with the previous standard.

## (Store rental income and store rental costs)

The Company sub-leases some of the leasehold facilities (buildings) for stores, and the rental income for this sub-lease had been deducted from the facilities rental expenses under the selling, general and administrative expenses. However, in order to reflect the results of operation more appropriately, it is included in the non-operating income as a store rental income (62,283 thousand yen) from the term under review in consideration of the fact that the said income is not the result of the Company's main operating activities. In this new method, relevant store rental costs (51,754 thousand yen) is also included in the non-operating expenses.

As a result, for the term under review, selling, general and administrative expenses is reported 10.529 thousand ven larger, and operating income is reported the same amount smaller than the amount calculated with the previous method, but there is no change in ordinary income.

# 3. Additional Information

## (Software)

Software reported under "long-term prepaid expenses" up to the pervious term is stated by adopting the method hitherto, under to the "Practical Guideline on Accounting Treatment for R&D Costs and Software" (Accounting Committee Report No.12, Japan Institute of Certified Public Accountants, March 31, 1999). The following changes, however, are made according to the above-mentioned report: (1) account name has been changed from "long-term prepaid expenses" to "software" and classification for the account has also been changed from "Investments and other assets" to "Intangible fixed assets"; and (2) the straight-line method based on the our company's prescribed useful period (5years) is used for the amortization. As for software obtained in this financial year, under the "Accounting Standard for R&D Costs, etc". (Business Accounting Council, March 31,1998), it has also been reported in the "software" column of the "Intangible fixed assets" and the above-mentioned amortization method is also applied.

# (Tax effect accounting)

According to the amendment of regulations relating to the presentation of financial statements, tax effect accounting is adopted to prepare financial statements from the term under review. With this change, the additional deferred tax assets of 110.867 thousand ven (current assets 54,372 thousand yen, investments and other assets 56,495 thousand yen) is reported, with the net profit 3,937 thousand yen smaller and unappropriated retained earnings 110,867 thousand yen larger, compared with the amount calculated without accounting the tax effect.

	16,098 million yen
Clause 85, Paragraph 2	5,379 million yen)
	6,543
	278

### (Issue of new stock)

New issues publicly offered on July 30, 1999 (900 thousand shares) are based on the "new method" firm commitment underwriting agreement, in which the issues are underwritten by underwriting securities company in underwriting price, and sold to public investors in issue price which is different from the said underwriting price. Because in the "new method," the difference between the underwriting price and issue price will be the practical underwriting commission, there is no underwriting commission paid to the underwriting securities company.

According to the "previous method," in which the issues are underwritten by the underwriting securities company in issue price and sold to public investors in the same offering price, the total amount of difference between the underwriting price and issue price for the new issues on July 30, 1999 (which was 432,000 thousand ven) is treated as stock issue expenses.

Therefore, in the "new method," both the stock issue expenses and the total of capital and additional paid-in capital are reported smaller by amount for the underwriting commission (432,000 thousand yen) compared to the "previous method."

Furthermore, net income before taxes is reported lager by the same amount compared to the calculation based on the "previous method.'

### 4. Matters Relevant to Balance Sheets

\*1. Number of authorized shares and issued and outstanding shares Authorized

Issued and outstanding

28.200.000 shares 7 950 000 shares

\*2. Software suspense account is a part of advance payment of programs changing the product number planned to purchace in next term.

\*3. Major foreign currency obligations are as follows: Accounts payable-trade US\$333 thousand (¥35,385 thousand)

# 5. Matters Relevant to Income Statements

- \*1. Amount transferred to other accounts is the purchased merchandise transferred to promotional and miscellaneous expenses.
- \*2. Gain on sale of tangible fixed assets is from the sales of vehicles.
- \*3. Breakdown of losses on disposal of tangible fixed assets is as follows:

Buildings	¥67,317 thousand
Equipment and fixtures	¥ 4,641 thousand

### 6. Matters Relevant to Cash Flow Statement

Relation with "cash and cash equivalents" and amount of items stated in the balance sheet at term-end

	(As of March 31, 2000)
Cash and deposits	¥ 775,657 thousand
Marketable Securities account	¥ 901,378 thousand
Time deposits over 3 months	¥ (459,000 thousand)
Cash and cash equivalents	¥1,218,035 thousand

# 7. Matters Relevant to Lease Transaction

Finance leases except those leases which the ownership of the leased assets is considered to be transferred to the lessee (1) The amount equivalent to the acquisition cost, the accumulated depreciation and amortization, and the balance at term-end

	Equivalent to acquisition cost	Equivalent to accumulated depreciation and amortization	Equivalent to term-end balance		
Equipment and fixtures	¥477,086 thousand	¥277,641 thousand	¥199,445 thousand		
Software	¥181,947 thousand	¥114,766 thousand	¥ 67,181 thousand		
Total	¥659,034 thousand	¥392,408 thousand	¥266,626 thousand		

(2) The amount equivalent to the term-end balance of unfinished finance lease payment

Less than one year	¥113,852 thousand
Over one year	¥166,999 thousand
Total	¥280,851 thousand

(3) Finance lease payment, amount equivalent to accumulated depreciation and amount equivalent to interest expense

Finance lease payment	¥1	23,267 tho	ousand
Amount equivalent to accumulated depreciation	¥1	13,116 tho	ousand
Amount equivalent to interest expenses	¥	8,175 tho	ousand

- (4) Method of calculating the amount equivalent to accumulated depreciation Calculated by the straight-line method in which the lease term is used for the durable life and residual value is set at zero.
- (5) Method of calculating the amount equivalent to interest expenses Difference between total finance lease payment and amount equivalent to the acquisition cost of the leased properties is stated as the amount equivalent to interest expenses, with interest method adopted for allocation to each terms.

# 8. Market Price of Marketable Securities

Years ended March 31, 2000		Thousands of Yen 2000			Thousands of U.S. Dollars			
Type	Book value	Market price	Valuation profit & loss	Book value	Market price	Valuation profit & loss		
(1) Current assets								
Stocks	¥ —	¥ —	¥ —	s —	s —	s —		
Bonds	_	_	_	_	_	_		
Others	600,000	606,130	6,130	5,652	5,710	58		
Subtotal	600,000	606,130	6,130	5,652	5,710	58		
(2) Fixed assets								
Stocks		_	_	_	_	_		
Bonds		_	_	_	_	_		
Others		_	_	_	_	_		
Subtotal		_	_	_	_	_		
Total	600,000	606,130	6,130	5,652	5,710	58		

### Notes:

1. Method of calculating the market price

Investment Trusts in unlisted securities are based on the standard prices.

2. The following is the book value of the marketable securities excluded from the disclosure.

Current assets Money management fund : 301,378 thousand yen.

# 9. Matters Relevant to Derivative Transaction

1. Items related to the status of transactions

(1) Transaction details and purpose

### (Currencies)

With the objective of mitigating the risk of fluctuating foreign exchange associated with foreign currency obligations from the import of merchandise as well as the balance of contracts for import transactions and import transactions which are certain to occur, we engages in trading foreign exchange forward contracts, and interest rate swap (coupon swap) transactions based on our actual requirements. (Interest)

In order to mitigate the risk of liabilities with interest, we uses interest rate swap transactions in order to manage interest costs.

### (2) Policies for handling transactions

Within the scope of our actual requirements, we participate in derivative transactions solely with the objective of hedging the risk to which our credit and debt are exposed due to changes in foreign exchange and interest rates, and we have a policy of not engaging in speculative derivative transactions.

### (3) Details of the risk associated with transactions

The foreign exchange forward contracts, currency options transactions, currency swaps transactions used by our company carry a risk of future fluctuations in foreign exchange rates. Derivative transactions are undertaken with only highly rated financial institutions as our counterparties, and therefore we believe that there is virtually no credit risk, that is to say the risk of losses due to a failure to perform by counterparty.

### (4) Risk management for transactions

For risk management of derivative transactions, mutual control and checks are undertaken within the finance department. The head of the finance department determines the transaction, verifying the transaction amount and terms, and along with being approved by the overseeing director, the status of the transaction is reported to the board of directors as the need arises.

# 2. Items relevant to the market value of transactions

Contract amount, market value and valuation profit & loss of derivative transaction (1) Currency

(i) ouriency		In Thousands of Yen						
			2000					
Classification	Type	Contract amount	Over one-year price	Market price	Valuation profit & loss			
Transactions other than market transaction Total	Forward exchange contract Buying rate USS	¥ 11,631 11,631	¥	¥ 11,722 11,722	¥ 91 91			

Note:

Method of calculating the market price

Forward exchange contract : Based on the exchange rate of future trading.

### (2) Interest rate

			In Thousands of Yen			
		2000				
Classification	Туре	Contract amount	Over one-year price	Market price	Valuation profit & loss	
Transactions other than	Interest rate swap trading					
market transaction	Floating payment/Fixed receipt	¥ —	¥ —	¥ —	¥ —	
	Coupon swap	1,761,750	1,291,950	(476,807)	(476,807)	
	Receipt by US dollar					
	(supposition principal)	(\$60 million)				
	Payment by Yen					
	(supposition principal)	(¥8,743 million)				
Total	-		_	(476,807)	(476,807)	

Note:

1. Method of calculating market price: Based on the price announced by financial institutions.

2. Coupon swap transaction is based on the commitment concerning the mutual payment.

The supposition principal is not paid at the beginning day and the final day of the transaction. The amount for the coupon will be mutually paid in accordance with the commitment.

Term: From December 1,1998 to December 1, 2003.

Day of mutual payment : The first day for the payment was January 4, 1999, and subsequently, the first trading day of every month until the final day of the transaction.

Amount : 39,150 thousand yen or 300 thousand U.S. dollars (in divided payment of sixty times)

3. The contract amount of interest swap trading and the contract amount indicated in (brackets) of coupon swap are the calculated supposition principal. This amount shall not indicate the market risk and credit risk of the derivative transaction. No interest rate swap contracts were held by the company as of March 31, 2000.

# 10. Matters Relevant to Tax Effect Accounting

Breakdown of deferred tax assets and liabilities according to the major reasons	
Deferred tax assets	
Allowance for officer severance rejected	¥ 46,951 thousand
Excess in amount allowable for bracket depreciable asset	¥ 23,743 thousand
Unpaid business tax rejected	¥ 22,999 thousand
Excess in amount allowable for allowance for employee bonuses	¥ 12,837 thousand
Others	¥ 4,336 thousand
Total	¥110,867 thousand

# **11. Related Parties Transaction**

(1) Parent company and main corporate shareholder

Name of the		of the Conit	Capital and		Fanity	Concerned matters					Term-end
Type	company	Address	investments	Business	Equity holdings	Interlocking directors	Fact relevance	Transactions	Amount	Items	balance
corporate	World Chuo-ku, v14.04	¥14,942,102	Planning and sales of women's, men's and children's fancy clothes	Holdings of	One officer		Purchase of land	¥1,082,072	_	-	
	Co., Ltd.	Co., Ltd. Kobe chil		One onicer	_	Purchase of buildings	¥ 920,740	_	-		

Note:

1. The above amount excludes Consumption taxes.

2. Condition for transactions and estimate basis of condition for transactions The purchase price of the land and buildings is based on the actual values in the neighborhood.

### 12. Per Share Information

Category	For the year ended March 31, 2000
Shareholders' equity per share Net income per share Net income per share after adjusting for dilutive shares	1,329.38 yen 153.43 yen There is no entry for net income per share after adjusting f issued bonds with warrant attached or convertible bonds.

### 13. Major Subsequent Events

At the regularly scheduled meeting held on June 24, 2000 the general shareholders of the company voted to a stock option plan in accordance with Article 280-19 of the Japanese Commercial Code as follows: • Type of stocks

- Par value common stock
- Persons to be granted stock option rights

All 341 employees who joined the company before March 31, 2000 and will be employed on the date of grant of stock option rights. • Number of stocks

Not more than 229,800 shares in total.

Individually, based on the post of employees as of March 31, 2000, 81 supervisors and above all each receive a grant of 1,000 shares, and the remaining 260 employees will receive a grant of 100 shares. Additionally, there will be a separate grant of a maximum of 4,000 shares and a minimum of zero shares depending on the date of employment.

• The issue price for the stock options

Issue price will equal 102.5% of the average of the closing prices (published by the Japan Securities Dealers Association (JSDA)) of the United Arrows' common stock on each day (excluding a day or days on which no closing price is available) during the month immediately prior to the month in which the date of stock option rights will be granted (amounts below 1yen will be rounded up the nearest 1yen), but if such average is lower than the closing price of the company's common stock of the date of grant of stock option rights, the issue price shall be equal to 102.5% of that day's closing price. The issue price will be adjusted using the following calculation, rounded up to the nearest yen, if the new stocks are issued at a price below the market price.

		Number of	N
Issue price	Issue price	issued common stocks +	iss
after adjustment =	before adjustment ×		
j	June 1 June 1	Mumber of issued some	

Number of issued common stocks + Number of newly issued common stocks

In addition, should there be a stock split or merger, the exercise price will be proportionally adjusted and rounded up to the nearest yen.

• The exercise period for stock option rights From July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2005

(¥ Thousand)

for dilutive shares because we have not

Number of newly Amount to be paid per newly ssued common stocks × issued common stocks Stock price before split or new issue

# **Corporate Data**

As of March 31, 2000

# Shareholders Information

As of March 31, 2000

# Name of the Company UNITED ARROWS LTD. Headquarters Phone URL Established Capital President & CEO Number of Employees Average Age of Employees **Business** Outline

Auditor Sales Composition

### <Directors>

President & CEO **Executive Director Executive Director Executive Director** Director Director Standing Corporate Auditor **Corporate Auditor** Corporate Auditor **Corporate** Auditor

3-25-5 Jingumae, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo 150-0001, Japan +81 - 3 - 3479 - 8192http://www.united-arrows.co.jp/ October 2, 1989 ¥3,030million Osamu Shigematsu 342 (Male 206, Female 136) 27.9 (Male 28.7, Female 26.7) Planning and Sales of Men's and Women's Apparel, Accessories and Other Products ChuoAoyama Audit Corporation Men's 55.9% Women's 36.5% Others 7.6%

# Osamu Shigematsu Tetsuya Iwaki Koichi Mizunoya Hirofumi Kurino Katsuhito Sugioka Hirotoshi Hatasaki Toshifumi Kusunoki Sadaaki Kitagawa Sunao Onuma Hirohisa Tanaka

(As of June 24, 2000)

# Corporate History

Oct. 1989 Founded United Arrows Ltd. in Tokyo. July 1990 Opened Shibuya Store, United Arrows' first store, in Tokyo. Nov. 1990 Opened United Arrows Fukuoka Store in southern Japan city of Fukuoka, to begin nationwide expansion. Oct. 1992 Opened United Arrows Harajuku Store in Tokyo as the flagship store. Mar. 1993 Opened United Arrows Shinsaibashi Store in Osaka. July 1998 Built and moved into new HQ. Feb. 1999 Opened United Arrows Yokohama Store. July 1999 Listed stock over the counter.

# Sept. 1999

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

# Dec. 1999

Launched Chrome Hearts and opened Tokyo Store in Minami Aoyama district. Mar. 2000

Opened United Arrows Ikebukuro Store in Tokyo and Green Label

Relaxing Kohoku Store in Yokohama. Apr. 2000

Opened Green Label Relaxing

Funabashi Store in Tokyo suburb.

# Total Number of Authorized Shares 28,200,000

Shares of Common Stock Issued 7.950.000

Shareholders

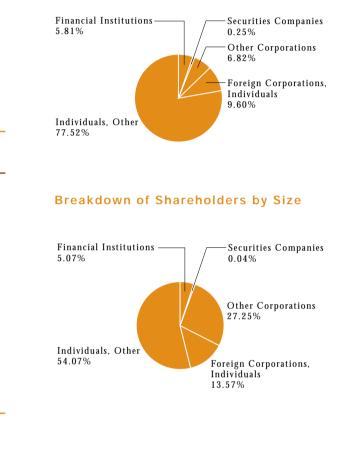
396

# Major Shareholders

	Number of shares held	Ratio of total shares outstanding (%)
World. Co., Ltd.	2,119,000	26.65
Hirotoshi Hatasaki	1,337,000	16.81
Osamu Shigematsu	767,000	9.64
Tetsuya Iwaki	382,000	4.80
Koichi Mizunoya	382,000	4.80
Hirofumi Kurino	382,000	4.80
Katsuhito Sugioka	382,000	4.80
Deutscher Auslandskassenverein AG Customer's Account	350,000	4.40
United Arrows Employees Shareholding Association	205,600	2.58
The Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. London	151,000	1.89

# **Stock Prices**





**Breakdown of Shareholders** 



Shareholders of record, either based on the final register of shareholders on March 31, 2000 or the actual register of shareholders, received 1.5 shares of common stock for each share of the company's common stock held on that date. The dividend distribution date was May 22, 2000.

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