

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER CO

Form 10-K405

March 18, 2002

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**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)  
Annual  
Report  
Pursuant to  
Section 13 or  
15(d) of the  
Securities  
Exchange Act  
of 1934 for  
the fiscal Year  
ended  
December 31,  
2001 or  
Transition  
Report  
Pursuant to  
Section 13 or  
15(d) of the  
Securities  
Exchange Act  
of 1934 for  
the transition  
period from  
\_\_\_\_\_ to  
\_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number **1-4329**

**COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)  
Lima and Western Avenues, Findlay, Ohio  
(Address of principal executive offices) 45840  
(Zip Code)

34-4297750  
(I.R.S. employer  
identification no.)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (419) 423-1321

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

(Title of each class)  
Common Stock, \$1 par per share

(Name of each exchange on which registered)  
New York Stock Exchange

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the Registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

State the aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant (computed by reference to the closing price on the Composite Tape for securities listed on the New York Stock Exchange as of March 4, 2002). \$1,456,146,620

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

(Class)	(Outstanding at March 4, 2002)
Common Stock, \$1 par per share	72,807,331

### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

List hereunder the following documents if incorporated by reference and the Part of the Form 10-K into which the document is incorporated:

Proxy statement dated March 26, 2002 Part III

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### **PART I**

#### **Item 1. BUSINESS**

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company ( Cooper or the Company ) was incorporated in the State of Delaware in 1930. The Company's business is developing, manufacturing and marketing products for the transportation industry. The Company's products are primarily rubber-based.

On January 28, 2000, the Company acquired Siebe Automotive ( Siebe ), the automotive fluid handling division of Invensys plc. Siebe manufactures automotive fluid handling systems, components, modules and sub-systems for sale to the world's automotive original equipment manufacturers and large Tier 1 suppliers. The purchase included the operating assets of Siebe, with 16 operating locations extending across North and South America, Europe and Asia. This acquisition followed the acquisition of The Standard Products Company, which was completed on October 27, 1999. These acquisitions nearly doubled the size of the Company and quadrupled the Company's automotive parts business.

On February 8, 2000, the Company announced its intent to explore strategic options for its plastics division, which consisted of the automotive exterior plastic trim and Holm Industries businesses, acquired in the Standard transaction. On April 28, 2000, the Company sold the Winnsboro, South Carolina automotive plastic trim production facility. On June 30, 2000, the Company completed the sale of Holm Industries, Inc. Holm is the largest supplier of seals for home and commercial refrigerators in North America. Net sales and operating losses derived from these sold businesses were \$26.1 million and \$659,000, respectively, for the October 27 through December 31, 1999 period and \$90.7 million and \$332,000, respectively, for the period in 2000 during which those businesses were owned by the Company. The Company is continuing its efforts to sell the remaining extruded plastic trim operations of the plastics division.

Additional information on the acquisitions and divestitures appears in the Acquisition note and the Divestitures and Assets Held for Sale note to the Financial Statements on page 37 and in Exhibit (13) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **Restructuring**

During the fourth quarter of 2000, the Company announced a comprehensive restructuring plan to significantly improve efficiencies and reduce costs throughout its worldwide operations. During the fourth quarter of 2001, the Company announced a restructuring plan for its North American Automotive segment to continue its efforts to improve efficiencies and reduce costs. Additional information on these initiatives appears in the Restructuring note to the Financial Statements on pages 38 and 39.

#### **Business Segments**

The Company has two reportable segments Tire and Automotive. The Company's reportable segments are each managed separately because they offer different products requiring different marketing and distribution strategies. Additional information on the Company's operating segments, their products, markets and presence in particular geographic areas, appears in the Business Segments note to the Financial Statements on pages 49 and 50 and in Exhibit (13) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. What follows is a detailed description of the business of each segment.

#### **Tire Operations**

The Tire segment produces automobile, truck and motorcycle tires and inner tubes primarily for sale in the replacement market to independent dealers (who sell approximately 72% of the replacement tires sold in the United States), wholesale distributors and large retail chains in the United States. A small percentage of its products are exported throughout the world. The segment does not sell directly to end users, and does not manufacture tires for sale to the automobile original equipment manufacturers ( OEMs ). The Cooper-Avon subsidiary in the United Kingdom manufactures the same products for sale to dealers in the United Kingdom and continental Europe. The segment also supplies equipment and materials to truck tire retread dealers, primarily in North America. The Company has a strategic alliance with Pirelli Tyres of Milan, Italy ( Pirelli ), which involves contractual arrangements but no joint equity holding. This arrangement provides revenue to Cooper primarily through commissions on sales of Pirelli tires by Cooper dealers.

The Tire segment operates in a highly competitive industry, which includes a number of competitors larger than the Company. The Company's sales of automobile and truck tires in 2001 represented approximately 15 percent of all domestic replacement tire sales. On the basis of North American tire manufacturing capacity, the Company believes it ranks fourth in size, behind Goodyear, Michelin and Bridgestone/Firestone, among fifteen generally recognized producers of new tires. Those three companies are all substantially larger than the Company. All three compete with the segment in all distribution channels of the replacement tire market and serve the automotive Original Equipment

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Manufacturer s ( OEMs ) as well. According to a recognized trade source, the Company ranked eighth in worldwide tire sales based on 2000 estimated sales volumes. At the lower end of the market, the segment faces additional competition from low-cost tire producers located in Asia and South America. The tread rubber industry has numerous suppliers, one

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of which has a market share that is believed to approach 50 percent. The remaining include the retreading businesses of other major tire manufacturers. Management believes it is currently one of the largest suppliers of moldcure and precure rubber in North America.

Sales of the segment's tire products are affected by factors which include price, quality, availability, technology, warranty, credit terms and overall customer service. The segment has built close working relationships through the years with its independent dealers and believes those relationships have enabled it to obtain a competitive advantage in the replacement market. As a steadily increasing percent of replacement tires are sold by large regional and national retailers, the tire segment is increasing its penetration of these distribution channels. Competition in the retreading industry is based upon the price and quality of the products and services supplied.

Both the replacement tire and retreading businesses of the segment have broad customer bases, comprised primarily of independent tire dealers, large regional and national tire dealers, wholesale distributors and retail chains. Sales to the segment's largest customers did not individually account for ten percent or more of the consolidated net sales of the segment in 2001 and 2000. Overall, a balanced mix of customers and the offering of both proprietary brand and private label tires helps to protect the segment from the adverse effects that could result from the loss of a major customer.

### **Automotive Operations**

The Automotive segment produces body sealing systems, active and passive vibration control systems ( NVH ), and fluid handling systems primarily for the global automotive original equipment manufacturing and replacement markets. Additional information on the segment's products can be found in Exhibit 13.

Body sealing systems products supplied to the automotive manufacturing industry include flocked rubber and steel weatherstrip assemblies to seal vehicle windows; flocked rubber window channel assemblies and rubber window gaskets; and vehicle body and door dynamic sealing systems. These products form the sealing system of automotive vehicles, preventing water leakage and inhibiting wind noise from entering the vehicle. Attractiveness of design is an important feature of the sealing system. An increasing number of the segment's parts are sold to automotive OEMs as complete sealing systems. This is a departure from former practices, in which more suppliers furnished individual parts, and not complete systems.

NVH control systems are designed to assist with the minimization of vibration, noise and harshness experienced in the engine compartment such as molded rubber engine mounts and body cushions, and suspension components. Fluid systems transport fluids and vapors throughout a vehicle and include tubing, valves, quick connects, hoses, couplings, and similar products that comprise the modules and subsystems for heating and cooling, fuel, brake, and vapor lines, emissions and power steering.

A substantial portion of the plastics division's assets have been sold. The remaining operations produce extruded plastic exterior products which serve as protective barriers preventing damage to the vehicle's sheet metal and can be an integral part of the vehicle's overall styling and appearance. The assets of a plastics division facility are held for sale and are included with prepaid expenses, deferred income taxes and assets held for sale on the December 31, 2001 balance sheet at their estimated fair market value.

Since most of the segment's automotive products are sold as original equipment directly to the OEMs for installation on new vehicles, or in a lesser number of cases, to Tier 1 suppliers who do the same, sales of such products are directly affected by the annual car production of OEMs. The segment does not have a backlog of orders at any point in time. Instead, original equipment sales are generally based upon purchase orders issued periodically by automobile manufacturers for each part which the segment produces. The purchase orders are for all or a percentage of the customers' estimated requirements and are binding, subject to car production levels. As time evolves, customers issue releases under those purchase orders, specifying quantities of the parts which the assembly plants require. The segment's sales and product development personnel work directly with the engineering and styling departments of the OEMs in the engineering and development of its various products. The segment maintains sales offices in strategic locations to provide support and service to its OEM customers.

The segment's sales of its automotive products, though generally linked to light vehicle production, are also more closely linked to sales of the particular vehicle models for which the segment provides content. As a result, obtaining business on popular, high-volume vehicles can be important to the success of a supplier's business. The segment supplies products to virtually every OEM in the world. However, over two-thirds of its sales are to Ford, the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler and General Motors. Revenues derived from Ford and the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler approximated \$455 million and \$356 million, or 31 percent and 24 percent, respectively, of the segment's net sales in 2001. The loss of either of these customers would have a material adverse effect on the financial results of the Company. Through its joint venture with Nishikawa Rubber Company of Japan, the Company also has business with major Japanese automobile producers.

Significant consolidation among the OEMs in recent years has affected the segment. The trend toward consolidation has resulted in the creation of very large global customers which are increasingly requiring their suppliers to serve them on a global basis. Management believes its acquisitions have given the Company the size and geographic breadth to meet those customer demands. As





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the industry continues to consolidate, the segment may become even more dependent on each of its customers. As the Company expands its global position, however, it spreads the risk over additional regions and the automobile manufacturers in those regions.

Each product line in the Automotive segment operates in a highly competitive environment. The product lines compete with numerous major competitors in North America, Europe and South America. There are at least three major and several lesser competitors in each of the product lines and markets served by the segment. Some of these competitors compete in only one product line or in one geographic region while others may compete in more than one product line or geographic region. The Company believes that it is one of the three largest global producers of sealing systems and most of its fluid system products and is a significant competitor in the NVH business in North America which is highly fragmented and in which no one producer has a significant market share advantage over any other producer. The global consolidation that has taken place in the automotive supply industry has created larger and stronger competitors than previously existed. However, the acquisitions made by the Company have strengthened the segment's ability to compete in such an environment. Maintaining a strong competitive position is critical at a time when the Company's automotive customers are reducing their supply bases to exclude suppliers who cannot meet their increasingly rigorous requirements.

Although each automotive customer may emphasize a different component as its primary criteria, the automotive supply industry has historically competed in three areas in providing customer service: quality, cost and time. Time in this sense relates to on-time delivery, time to bring new products to market and manufacturing cycle time. The segment also believes engineering and design capabilities now play a greater role in the competitive process. Management believes the segment's commitment to continued investment in its engineering and design capability is crucial to achieving future business. The segment's ability to successfully apply continuous improvement methodologies to its engineering, design and manufacturing processes and implement lean manufacturing initiatives has enabled it in past years to achieve cost savings commitments made to its customers. Management also believes the ability to supply its customers globally is an increasingly important competitive criterion and that its acquisitions of Standard and Siebe have greatly enhanced its ability to meet its customers' global requirements.

### **Raw Materials**

The primary raw materials used by the Company include synthetic and natural rubbers and rubber chemicals, polyester and nylon fabrics, steel tire cord, wire carriers and metals, carbon black and adhesives, which the Company acquires from multiple sources both within and outside the United States to provide greater assurance of continuing supplies for its manufacturing operations. Because of the similarity of raw materials used in the processes of both the Tire and Automotive segments, the Company's purchasing efforts for the two segments are substantially centralized, which has resulted in efficiencies and reduced administrative costs.

The Company did not experience any significant raw material shortages in 2001, nor have any shortages been experienced in the opening months of 2002. The Company has not experienced serious fuel shortages and none are foreseen in the near future. In 2000, the Company experienced upward price pressure for natural gas and for raw materials derived from petroleum such as carbon black, synthetic rubber and processing oils. A rise in gasoline costs during 2000, also related to petroleum, resulted in increases in transportation costs.

The Company has a purchasing office in Singapore to acquire natural rubber and various raw materials directly from producers in the Far East. This purchasing operation enables the Company to work directly with producers to improve the consistency of quality and to reduce the costs of materials, delivery and transactions. In addition, control over packaging methods enhances the Company's goal of using recyclable materials in the packaging of these raw materials.

The Company's contractual relationships with its raw material suppliers are generally based on purchase order arrangements. Certain materials are purchased pursuant to supply contracts which incorporate normal purchase order terms and establish minimum purchase amounts.

The company is an equity investor in RubberNetwork.com LLC, which was established by a group of manufacturers in the tire and rubber industry to achieve cost savings in the procurement of raw materials and indirect materials and suppliers through the appreciation of e-business technology. RubberNetwork began operations during 2001.

### **Working Capital**

The Company maintains a strong working capital position. Inventories turn regularly and accounts receivable are well managed. The Company engages in a rigorous credit analysis of its independent tire dealers and monitors their financial positions. The Company does not generally experience difficulties in collecting its account receivables in the Automotive segment because most of its customers are large, well-capitalized automobile manufacturers.

### **Research, Development and Product Improvement**

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The Company generally directs its research activities toward product development, improvements in quality, and operating efficiency. A significant portion of basic research for the rubber industry is performed by raw material suppliers. The Company participates in

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such research with its suppliers. The Automotive segment's engineering and marketing personnel work closely with their customers to assist in the design and development of products to meet their changing requirements. Product development and design are important to the success of the Automotive segment and are one way in which the Company believes it differentiates itself from its competitors. Additionally, the Company forms strategic alliances with research firms and other manufacturers to collaborate on new product development.

The Company considers itself a leader in the application of computer technology to the development of new tire and automotive products. The Company has a product and technology agreement with the MSC Software Corporation to further develop its advanced tire design and modeling system. The use of computer-aided design and sophisticated modeling programs reduce the Company's product development costs and the time necessary to bring new products to market. The ability to offer complete component design services and full vehicle analysis to automotive customers increases the Company's value as a partner in product design and development.

The Company continues to actively develop new passenger and truck tires. The Company conducts extensive testing of current tire lines, as well as new concepts in tire design, construction and materials. During 2001, approximately 77 million miles of tests were performed on indoor test wheels and in monitored road tests. The Company has a tire and vehicle test track in Texas, completed during 1999, which assists the Company's testing efforts. Uniformity equipment is used to physically monitor radial passenger, light truck and medium truck tires for high standards of ride quality. The Company continues to design and develop specialized equipment to fit the precise needs of its manufacturing and quality control requirements.

Research and development expenditures amounted to approximately \$39.9 million in 1999, \$99.5 million in 2000, and \$79.4 million in 2001.

## **Patents, Intellectual Property and Trademarks**

The Company owns and/or has licenses to use patents and intellectual property covering various aspects in the design and manufacture of its products and in processes and equipment for the manufacture of its products. While the Company believes these assets as a group are of material importance, it does not consider any one asset or group of these assets to be of such importance that the loss or expiration thereof would materially affect its business considered as a whole or the business of either of its segments.

The Company owns and uses trademarks worldwide. While the Company believes such trademarks as a group are of importance, the only trademarks the Company considers material to its business are those using the words Cooper, Cooper-Standard, Mastercraft and Avon. The Company believes all of its significant trademarks are valid and will have unlimited duration as long as they are adequately protected and appropriately used.

The Company has license and technology sharing agreements with Nishikawa Rubber Company, Ltd. for sales, marketing and engineering services on certain products sold by the Company. Under those agreements, the Company pays for services provided by Nishikawa and a royalty to Nishikawa on certain products for which Nishikawa provides design or development services.

## **Seasonal Trends**

There is a year-round demand for passenger and truck replacement tires, but passenger replacement tire sales are generally strongest during the second and third quarters of the year. Winter tires are sold principally during the months of August through November. Sales to automotive customers are lowest during the months prior to model changeovers and during assembly plant shutdowns. These typically result in slower volume during July, August and December.

## **Environmental Matters**

The Company recognizes the importance of compliance in environmental matters and has an organizational structure to supervise environmental activities, planning and programs. The Company also participates in activities concerning general industry environmental matters.

The Company's manufacturing facilities, in common with those of the industry generally, are subject to numerous laws and regulations designed to protect the environment. In general, the Company has not experienced difficulty in complying with these requirements and believes they have not had a material adverse effect on its financial condition or the results of its operations. The Company expects additional requirements with respect to environmental matters will be imposed in the future. The Company's 2001 expense and capital expenditures for environmental matters at its facilities were not material, nor is it expected that expenditures in 2002 for such uses will be material.

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### **Employee Relations**

As of December 31, 2001, the Company employed 23,268 persons worldwide of whom 8,785 were salaried employees. Approximately 21 percent of the Company's employees were represented by labor unions as of December 31, 2001. The Company considers its labor relations to be favorable.

### **Foreign Operations**

Prior to the acquisitions of Standard and Siebe, the Company's foreign operations consisted of Cooper-Avon Tyres Limited, based in Melksham, England and a plant in Piedras Negras, Mexico. Cooper-Avon, which was acquired in 1997, manufactures and sells tires primarily for the replacement tire industry in the United Kingdom. A small percentage of its production is exported, primarily to Western Europe. The Company's plant in Piedras Negras was acquired in 1986 and manufactures NVH control systems and sealing components for automobile assembly plants throughout North America.

The acquisitions of Standard and Siebe have added significant additional foreign operations to the Company. Standard produces vibration control components at a facility in Mitchell, Ontario, Canada, and has body sealing plants in Canada, Mexico, Brazil, the United Kingdom, France and Poland. Standard also has a minority equity interest in a firm in Korea and licensing and other contractual arrangements with Nishikawa Rubber Co. Ltd. of Japan.

Siebe also has an extensive foreign presence. Three quarters of its sales come from operations outside the United States. Almost one third of those foreign sales are made from Mexico. The remainder derive primarily from operations in Germany, the United Kingdom, Australia, Spain, the Czech Republic, Canada and Brazil.

The experience of the Company has been that its foreign operations in Canada and Western Europe do not present materially different risks or problems from those encountered in its United States markets, although the cost and complexity of rationalizing automotive operations in certain European countries is far greater than would be the case in the United States. This is due primarily to labor laws in those countries that make reducing employment levels far more time-consuming and expensive than in the United States.

The Company expects the risks of conducting business in less developed markets, including Brazil, Mexico, Poland and the Czech Republic, will be greater than in the United States, Canadian and Western European markets. The Company must deal with several different issues, including but not limited to, poorer infrastructures, more stringent governmental regulation, currency volatility, potential high interest and inflation rates, political instability and the general economic instability associated with emerging markets.

Additional information on the Company's foreign operations can be found in the Business Segments note to the Financial Statements on pages 49 and 50.

### **Forward Looking Information**

This report, and in particular the Outlook and Liquidity and Capital sections, contain forward-looking statements, as that term is defined under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, regarding projections and expectations for future financial performance, which involve uncertainty and risk. The Company cautions that although such forward looking statements are based on assumptions that it believes are reasonable, the assumptions are subject to various risks and actual results may differ materially from what is stated in this report. Among the factors that may cause the Company's future financial performance to differ materially from those projections or expectations are the following, which include, but are not limited to: changes in economic and business conditions in the world, including economic and political changes in international markets and countries over which the Company has no control, increased competitive activity, the failure to achieve expected sales levels, consolidation among the Company's competitors and customers, technology advancements, unexpected costs and charges, fluctuations in raw material and energy prices, government regulatory initiatives, including the proposed regulations under the TREAD Act, the cyclical nature and overall health of the global automotive industry, the loss of a major customer or program, risks associated with new vehicle launches, the failure to achieve the savings anticipated from the announced restructuring plans, the risks to the economy associated with external events, including those resulting from the events of September 11, 2001 and the impact on the economy of similar events which may occur in the future, litigation brought against the Company, and other unanticipated events and conditions. In addition, it is possible that the Company will fail to obtain final approval of the settlement of class action litigation which has been described under Contingencies herein.

It is not possible to foresee or identify all such factors. Any forward-looking statements in this report are based on certain assumptions and analyses made by the Company in light of its experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors it believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Prospective investors are cautioned that any such statements are not a guarantee of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected. The Company makes no

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commitment to update any forward-looking statement included herein, or to disclose any facts, events or circumstances that may affect the accuracy of any forward-looking statement.

Further information covering issues that could materially affect financial performance is contained in the Company's periodic filings with the U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

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The Company owns its headquarters facility which is adjacent to its Findlay, Ohio tire manufacturing facility.

The Company operates the following properties for the Tire segment:

Location	Use	Title
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>		
Albany, GA	Manufacturing Facility & Distribution	
Center Leased Asheville, NC	Distribution	
Center Leased Asheville, NC	Manufacturing	
Facility Owned Athens, GA	Manufacturing	
Facility Owned Cedar Rapids, IA	Distribution	
Center Leased Clarksdale, MS	Manufacturing	
Facility Owned Dayton, NJ	Distribution	
Distribution Center Leased Fife, WA	Distribution	
Center Leased Findlay, OH	Manufacturing Facility, Distribution Center & Technical	
Center Owned Findlay, OH	Metal Fabrication & Assembly	
Plant Owned Moraine, OH	Distribution	
Center Owned Rancho Cucamonga, CA	Distribution	
Center Leased Salisbury, NC	Offices, Manufacturing Facility & Distribution Center	
Center Owned Salt Lake City, UT	Distribution	
Center Owned San Antonio, TX	Test Track	
Test Track Owned Texarkana, AR	Manufacturing Facility & Distribution	
Center Owned Tupelo, MS	Manufacturing Facility & Distribution	
Center Owned/Leased France	<b>EUROPE</b> Distribution	Compiègne,
Center Leased Dietikon, Switzerland	Distribution	
Center Owned/Leased Melksham, England	Manufacturing Facility & Distribution	
Center Owned Messel, Germany	Distribution	
Distribution Center Leased		



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The Company operates the following properties for the Automotive segment:

Location	Use	Title
<b>NORTH AMERICA</b>		
Aguascalientes, Mexico		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Auburn Hills, MI		
Offices Leased Auburn, IN		
Manufacturing Facility & Technical Center Owned Bowling Green, OH		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Bowling Green, OH		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Cleveland, OH		
(1) Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Dearborn, MI		
Offices Leased Dearborn, MI (1)		
Offices, Distribution Center & Technical		
Center Owned El Dorado, AR		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Fairview, MI		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Gaylord, MI		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Georgetown, Ontario, Canada		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Golden, CO		
Technical		
Center Leased Goldsboro, NC		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Goldsboro, NC		
Distribution		
Center Owned Griffin, GA		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Laredo, TX		
Distribution		
Center Leased Mitchell, Ontario, Canada		
Manufacturing Facility & Technical Center Owned Mt. Sterling, KY		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Novi, MI		
Offices Leased Piedras Negras, Mexico (1)		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Sault Ste Marie, Ontario, Canada		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Spartanburg, SC		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Stratford, Ontario, Canada		
Manufacturing		
Facility & Technical		
Center Owned Stratford, Ontario, Canada		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Stratford, Ontario, Canada		
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned Surgoinsville, TN		
Manufacturing		



Facility Leased Torreon, Mexico  
Manufacturing Facility Owned

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Location	Use	Title
Torreón, Mexico	Manufacturing	
Facility Owned	<b>SOUTH AMERICA</b>	
Sao Paulo, Brazil	Manufacturing	
Facility Leased	Varginha, Brazil	
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned	<b>ASIA</b>	Chennai, India
Manufacturing		
Facility Leased	<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	Adelaide, Australia
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned	<b>EUROPE</b>	Baclair, France
Manufacturing		
Facility Leased	Banbury, U.K.	
Offices Leased	Bezons, France	
(1) Technical Center Owned	Bielsko-Biala, Poland	
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned	Getafe, Spain	
Manufacturing		
Facility Owned	Grunberg, Germany	
Manufacturing		
Facility Leased	Huntingdon, England (1)	Offices and Mixing
Facility Owned	Lillebonne, France	Manufacturing
Facility Owned	Maesteg, Wales	Manufacturing
Facility Owned	Plymouth, England	Manufacturing
Facility Leased	Plymouth, England	Manufacturing
Facility Owned	Schelklingen, Germany	Manufacturing
Facility Owned	Vitre, France	Manufacturing
Facility Leased	Zdar, Czech Republic	Manufacturing
Facility Owned		

(1) Land and buildings held for sale.

The Company believes its properties have been adequately maintained, generally are in good condition and are suitable and adequate for the business of the Company as presently conducted.

The Company believes capacity is presently adequate to meet the demands of each segment's business.

Additional information concerning the Company's facilities appears in Exhibit (13) of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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### **Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

The Company has had pending against it 32 separate class action lawsuits and two individual lawsuits with similar allegations filed in 30 separate state courts, plus the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. One of the class action lawsuits purports to represent a national class. The lawsuits, all of which were filed under the auspices of the same group of plaintiffs' attorneys, assert claims under the respective states' consumer protection and deceptive trade practices statutes, and comparable commercial law and other theories. They allege that the Company used certain materials and procedures in its process of manufacturing steel-belted radial tires which could have rendered a portion of the tires unsafe, and failed to disclose those practices to purchasers of its tires. The suits were brought on behalf of all persons (excluding those who have sustained personal injury and/or property damage as a result of the alleged unlawful practices) in the respective states who purchased steel-belted radial tires manufactured by the Company from 1985 to the present, and still retain those tires. The lawsuits generally seek, on behalf of each class member, relief sufficient to secure replacement of their tires, statutory, compensatory and punitive damages, costs and attorneys' fees. The Company removed each of the actions to Federal court. Certain of the actions have been remanded to state courts, while others have been transferred by the Federal Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio for consolidated pre-trial handling.

On October 26, 2001, the Company entered into a Stipulation of Settlement and Release of all of the class action lawsuits, without any admission of liability, resulting in a charge of \$54.6 million (\$33.9 million net of tax). Prior to settlement, \$17.6 million of legal and professional and tire storage costs were incurred related to the class action litigation. Certain parties have sought to have the settlement nullified. According to the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement and Release, the Company will provide (i) a five-year Enhanced Warranty Program offering a free replacement tire for an Adjustable Separation on an Eligible Cooper Tire or an alternative dispute resolution system; (ii) some modifications to final tire inspections; and (iii) a consumer education program to promote tire safety. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay plaintiffs' legal expenses as part of the settlement. Out of potentially millions of class members, only 156 chose to opt out of the Settlement. Those who opted out can pursue any legal rights they may have against the Company in separate individual lawsuits, any one of which the Company believes is unlikely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flow or financial position.

Preliminary judicial approval of the Settlement has been received. If final approval is received, the litigation will be fully resolved, unless appealed. There were 18 objectors to the Settlement. None objected to the structure of the Settlement, but only to the content, coverage and amount of attorneys' fees. A fairness hearing regarding the Settlement was held in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex County on January 29 and 30, 2002. The Court has not yet rendered its decision as to the fairness of the Settlement.

The Company is also a defendant in unrelated product liability and other actions in Federal and state courts throughout the United States in which plaintiffs assert monetary damages. If the plaintiffs in certain of those actions recovered the damages sought, the impact could be material to the Company's results of operations, cash flows, or financial position. The Company believes that such a result is unlikely. The Company does not believe any liability it may have for these matters will be material to its results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

### **Item 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS**

No matter was submitted to a vote of security holders during the last quarter of the fiscal year ended December 31, 2001.

## **PART II**

### **Item 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS**

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol CTB. Information concerning the Company's common stock and related security holder matters (including dividends) is presented on pages 11, 32 through 35, 40 through 43 and 52 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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**Item 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

(Dollar amounts in thousands except for per-share amounts)

	Net Sales	Gross Profit	Operating Profit	Income Before Income Taxes	Income Taxes	Net Income
	\$ 1,619,345	\$ 252,796	\$ 172,922	\$ 172,092	\$ 64,208	\$ 107,884
14,210	208,678	194,792	72,381	122,411	1.55	1.55
30,365	209,535	198,217	71,250	126,967	1.64	1.64
85,819(c)	239,080(c)	215,497(c)	80,023(c)	135,474(c)	1.79(c)	1.79(c)
32,557(d)	252,481(e)	160,156(e)	63,422(e)	96,734(e)	1.31(e)	1.31(e)
30,010	106,234(f)	29,158(g)	10,992(g)	18,166(g)	0.25(g)	0.25(g)

	Stockholders' Equity	Total Assets	Working Capital	Net Property, Plant & Equipment	Capital Expenditures	Depreciation	Long Term Debt
	\$ 786,612	\$ 1,273,009	\$ 256,130	\$ 792,419	\$ 193,696	\$ 76,820	\$ 69,...
5,575	1,495,956	354,281	860,448	107,523	94,464	205,525	
9,936	1,541,275	376,485	885,282	131,533	101,899	205,285	
(a)	634	2,757,645	549,563	1,227,069	149,817	120,977	1,046,463
(b)	556	2,896,673	419,446	1,285,397	201,366	167,787	1,036,960
2,240	2,764,250	304,192	1,206,074	136,287	169,479	882,134	

	Return On Beginning Invested Capital (h)	Return On Beginning Equity	Return On Beginning Assets	Pretax Margin	Effective Tax Rate	Return On Sales
1996	22.2%	14.4%	9.4%	10.6%	37.3%	6.7%
1997	24.4	15.6	9.6	10.7	37.2	6.8
1998	20.5	15.2	8.5	10.6	35.9	6.8
1999(a)	22.8(i)	15.9(i)	9.0(i)	10.0(i)	37.1	6.3(i)
2000(b)						

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15.5(i) 13.6(i) 4.8(i) 6.3(i) 39.6 3.8(i)

2001

9.6(i) 6.7(i) 2.2(i) 3.2(i) 37.7 2.0(i)

	Long-term				Common Shares	
	Current Ratio	Debt To Capitalization	Equity Per Share	Dividends Per Share	Average (000)	Year End (000)
1996	2.4	8.1%	\$9.67	\$0.31	83,214	81,367
1997	2.8	19.8	10.58	0.35	79,128	78,760
1998	3.0	19.1	11.45	0.39	77,598	75,791
1999(a)	2.4	51.8	12.87	0.42	75,837	75,810
2000(b)	1.7	52.1	13.13	0.42	73,585	72,544
2001	1.5	49.2	12.54	0.42	72,559	72,600

	Number of Stockholders	Number of Employees	Research & Development	Stock Price		Price/Earnings Average Ratio
				High	Low	
1996	5,991	8,932	\$ 19,700	\$27.25	\$ 18.00	17.4
1997	5,281	10,456	21,700	28.44	18.00	15.0
1998	4,809	10,766	29,200	26.25	15.44	12.7
1999(a)	4,801	21,586	39,900	25.00	13.25	10.5(i)
2000(b)	4,704	24,704	99,500	16.00	9.19	7.0(i)
2001	4,146	23,268	79,407	17.43	10.55	16.1(i)

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- (a) Reflects the acquisition of The Standard Products Company on October 27, 1999.
- (b) Reflects the acquisition of Siebe Automotive on January 28, 2000.
- (c) Amounts have been reduced by losses at closed and sold facilities of \$4,355 (\$2,737 after tax, \$.03 per share).
- (d) Amounts have been reduced by losses at closed and sold facilities of \$19,001 (\$12,100 after tax, \$.17 per share).
- (e) Amounts have been reduced by restructuring charges of \$38,699 (\$24,274 after tax, \$.33 per share) and losses at closed and sold facilities of \$19,001 (\$12,100 after tax, \$.17 per share).
- (f) Amount has been reduced by class action costs of \$72,194 (\$44,977 after tax, \$.62 per share) and restructuring charges of \$8,648 (\$5,387 after tax, \$.07 per share).
- (g) Amounts have been reduced by class action costs of \$72,194 (\$44,977 after tax, \$.62 per share) and restructuring charges of \$8,648 (\$5,387 after tax, \$.07 per share) and increased by gains on sales of non-manufacturing assets of \$8,263 (\$5,148 after tax, \$.07 per share).
- (h) Earnings before interest and income taxes divided by long-term debt plus stockholders equity.
- (i) Computed prior to class action costs, restructuring charges, losses at closed and sold facilities and gains on sales of non-manufacturing assets.

**Item 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

**Consolidated Results of Operations**

Consolidated net sales in 2001 were \$3.2 billion, a decrease of \$.3 billion, or nine percent, from the record \$3.5 billion in 2000. Net sales in 2000 were 58 percent higher than the sales level of \$2.2 billion recorded in 1999. The acquisitions of The Standard Products Company ( Standard ) on October 27, 1999 and Siebe Automotive ( Siebe ) on January 28, 2000 accounted for approximately \$1.2 billion of the increase in 2000.

Operating profit, net income and earnings per share in 2001, 2000 and 1999 were affected by a number of factors not directly related to the business operations of the Company. The following table details the impact of those factors on operating profit, net income and earnings per share in each of those years. In addition, 2001 was adversely affected by a \$20 million increase in product liability costs (seven cents per share).

(\$ millions)

	<u>Operating Profit</u>	<u>Net Income</u>	<u>Earnings Per Share</u>
<b>2001</b>			
As Reported	\$106.2	\$18.2	\$0.25
Class Action settlement and defense costs	72.2	45.0	0.62
Restructuring	8.6	5.4	0.07
Gain on sale of non-manufacturing assets	(5.2)	(0.07)	
<hr/>			
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\$187.0 \$63.4 \$0.87

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**2000**

As Reported  
\$252.5 \$96.7 1.31  
Restructuring  
38.7 24.3 0.33  
Operating losses at closed and sold facilities  
19.0 12.1 0.17

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\$310.2 \$133.1 \$1.81

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**1999**

As Reported  
\$239.1 \$135.5 1.79  
Operating losses at closed and sold facilities  
4.4 2.7 0.03

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\$243.5 \$138.2 \$1.82

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After eliminating the factors described above, operating profit was \$187 million in 2001 and \$310 million in 2000, net income was \$63 million in 2001 versus \$133 million in 2000, and earnings per share was 87 cents in 2001 compared to \$1.81 in 2000. These declines were primarily due to lower sales in both the tire and automotive segments resulting from a weakened economy. A reduction in interest expense in 2001, resulting from the repayment of debt and lower interest rates, mitigated the 2001 decline in net income. Operating profit, net income and earnings per share in 1999, after eliminating the losses incurred at a closed facility and sold facility, were \$243 million, \$138 million, and \$1.82, respectively. The increased operating profit in 2000 was attributable to the operating profits generated by Standard and Siebe. Increased interest expense resulting from the Standard and Siebe acquisitions offset the increases in operating profit.



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Selling, general, and administrative expenses were \$227 million (7.2 percent of net sales) in 2001, \$226 million (6.5 percent of net sales) in 2000, and \$144 million (6.6 percent of net sales) in 1999. The percentage increase in 2001 is due almost entirely to the lower sales level. Spending levels in 2000, when compared to 1999, reflect the higher selling, general and administrative expenses associated with the acquired operations.

Interest expense was \$91 million in 2001, compared to \$97 million in 2000, reflecting a reduction in debt levels and lower interest rates. Interest expense in 2000 was \$73 million higher than in 1999, reflecting the debt incurred for the acquisitions of Standard and Siebe.

Other income increased from \$5 million in 2000 to \$13.6 million in 2001. Gains resulting from the sale of two tire warehouses and an aircraft were responsible for this increase. Other income increased from \$862,000 in 1999 to \$5 million in 2000. Income from unconsolidated entities which were part of the Standard acquisition accounted for this increase. The most significant of these is Nishikawa Standard Company, a partnership of which the Company and Nishikawa Rubber Co., Ltd. of Japan each own 50 percent. The partnership, which has production facilities in Indiana, manufactures automotive sealing components for automotive companies operating in the United States, including those based in Japan.

The Company's effective income tax rate was 37.7 percent in 2001, which was lower than the 39.6 percent rate in 2000. This was substantially due to the impact of global tax planning and the mix of earnings by entity across state and local jurisdictions. In 2000, the effective tax rate increased from 37.1 percent in 1999, due to the impact of nondeductible goodwill attributable to the acquisitions of Standard and Siebe. The Company anticipates a decrease in its effective tax rate in 2002 due to the continued implementation of global tax planning initiatives and the elimination of the amortization of non-deductible goodwill in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ( SFAS ) No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets.

The Company has recorded valuation allowances pertaining to certain foreign subsidiaries acquired with Standard and Siebe because the Company believes it is more likely than not that certain available net operating loss carryforwards may not be utilized. At December 31, 2001, the Company has future tax benefits of \$68 million related to various foreign and state net operating losses and other tax credit carryforwards. Some of these can be carried forward indefinitely, while others expire from 2002 through 2021. The valuation allowance totals \$25 million at December 31, 2001. It is more likely than not the carryforwards for which no valuation allowance has been established will be realized based upon forecasted future earnings resulting in future taxable income and the implementation of certain tax strategies.

Postretirement benefit expense was \$29 million in 2001, \$25 million in 2000, and \$20 million in 1999. The Company was required by accounting rules to change certain key assumptions related to the measurement of its liability for other postretirement benefit plans at December 31, 2001 which will result in an increase in expense in 2002 and beyond. However, the Company is evaluating plans to mitigate the increases.

The effects of inflation did not have a material effect on the results of operations of the Company in 2001, 2000, and 1999.

## **Business Segments**

The Company has two reportable segments Tire and Automotive. The Company's reportable segments are each managed separately because they offer different products requiring different marketing and distribution strategies.

The Tire segment produces automobile, truck and motorcycle tires, and inner tubes, which are sold nationally and internationally in the replacement tire market to independent dealers, wholesale distributors, and regional and national retail chains, and supplies equipment and materials to the truck tire retreading industry.

The Automotive segment produces body sealing systems, active and passive vibration control systems, and fluid handling systems, primarily for the global automotive original equipment manufacturing and replacement markets.

## **Tire Segment**

### **Overview**

Sales of passenger car and light truck tire replacement units in the United States market decreased in 2001 by approximately 4.7 percent from 2000 sales levels. This followed a 3.3 percent increase in the market in 2000 over 1999. The year 2000 was a record high sales year, due largely to the well-publicized recall of certain Firestone tires. Consumer demand softened in early 2001 due primarily to a weakened United States economy. This softening continued throughout the year and was exacerbated by the events of September 11, 2001. In addition, foreign produced, low-priced tires continued to be imported into the United States market at high levels.



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### **Sales**

Sales of the Tire segment were \$1.7 billion in 2001, a decrease of \$98 million, or five percent, from \$1.8 billion in 2000. Tire unit sales for 2001 were down eight percent from 2000. The segment's sales decrease from one year ago results primarily from a significant softening in consumer demand in 2001 due to generally weak economic conditions, the abnormally high demand for certain tires generated by the Firestone recall announced in 2000, and increased purchases in the fourth quarter of 2000 ahead of a January 1, 2001 price increase. Improvements in pricing and product mix partially offset these factors.

Sales for 2000 were nearly 16 percent, or \$245 million, higher than the \$1.6 billion recorded in 1999. The acquisition of Oliver Rubber Company ( Oliver ) as part of the Standard acquisition contributed \$133 million of this increase. Tire unit sales for 2000 increased five percent from 1999.

Although industry-wide sales of light and medium truck tires declined eight percent in 2001 from 2000, the segment's sales in this category decreased by less than four percent. A broadened product line in this category, including an increased focus on radial medium truck tires, caused the segment's market share to increase in 2001. The segment's sales of passenger tires declined by 11 percent in 2001 versus an industry-wide sales decrease of four percent. This was partly due to the fact that the Company did not participate in the most recent Firestone tire recall to the same extent as certain other manufacturers who reached agreements with Ford Motor Company regarding the replacement of Firestone tires. Continued imports of low-priced passenger tires were also a factor in the decline experienced by the segment's performance relative to the industry. Passenger tires account for over 80 percent of the combined passenger and light and medium truck replacement tire market.

The segment's unit sales in 2000, including both passenger and truck tires, increased by five percent from 1999. Passenger tire shipments increased more than one percent from 1999. Light truck tire shipments increased more than 16 percent, significantly outpacing the industry's four percent growth in this category in 2000. A strong emphasis on serving the light truck tire market with the introduction of significant new product offerings during the year accounted for the segment's excellent performance in the light truck market. Increased sales of the Company's proprietary brand tires, and sales arising from the Firestone recall, contributed to the sales increase in 2000. A price increase announced late in 2000 and effective on January 1, 2001, was a factor in an increase in sales in the fourth quarter of 2000, as customers made purchases in advance of the price increase. The adverse impacts of low-priced tire imports and a large customer's shift away from the marketing of private brand tires partially offset those gains.

Sales of the segment's international operations increased three percent in 2001 from 2000, following a decrease of more than six percent in 2000 from 1999. The improvement in 2001 primarily reflects higher demand for Avon brand products in both the United Kingdom and the United States replacement tire markets due to aggressive product development and marketing efforts. The decrease in 2000 reflected the difficulty of exporting from the United Kingdom into Europe due to the strong British pound when compared to the euro.

Sales of the segment's retread business were 23 percent lower in 2001 than in 2000. Approximately 57 percent of this decline reflects the loss of a major tread rubber customer late in 2000, while the remainder is due to extreme weakness in the commercial trucking industry through the first six months of 2001. In July 2001, the Company acquired certain assets of the retread business of The Hercules Tire & Rubber Company, which has exited the retread business. The segment began to benefit from this purchase late in the third quarter and into the fourth quarter as former Hercules customers depleted inventory obtained from Hercules prior to the acquisition and commenced purchases of retread products from the Company.

### **Operating Profit**

Operating profit and operating margin in 2001 and 2000 were affected by class action settlement and defense costs and restructuring costs which were not directly related to the segment's ongoing performance. The following table details the impact of those factors on operating profit and operating margin in each of these years.

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(\$ millions)

	<u>Operating Profit</u>	<u>Operating Margin</u>
<b>2001</b>		
As Reported	\$73.2	4.3%
Class Action settlement and defense costs	72.2	4.2%
Restructuring	1.6	0.1%
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<hr/>		
	\$147.0	8.6%
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
<b>2000</b>		
As Reported	\$183.9	10.2%
Restructuring	5.7	0.3%
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<hr/>		
	\$189.6	10.5%
<hr/>		
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Operating profit during 2001 was helped by a more favorable product mix, price increases implemented in North America during the first and third quarters, and moderation in the cost of energy and certain raw materials derived from petroleum commencing during the second quarter. By the end of the year, many raw materials used by the segment were priced lower than in recent years. The margin improvements were not sufficient to offset the impacts of lower sales, product liability provisions (which impacted the segment by \$30 million in 2001, an increase of \$20 million from 2000), and production curtailments which took place in response to the weak market conditions experienced during the year. The cost of these production curtailments totaled \$40 million in 2001.

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The restructuring charges in 2001 and \$4 million of the restructuring charges in 2000 resulted from the decision to close Oliver's manufacturing facilities in Wadsworth, Ohio; Export, Pennsylvania; Paris, Texas; Dallas, Texas; as well as a distribution facility and Oliver's administrative headquarters in Athens, Georgia. The closings were due to a restructuring plan to more closely integrate Oliver's operations with those of the Company's tire business and to optimize the utilization of the segment's existing capacity.

Performance of the segment's international operations improved during 2001 due to a strategic decision made in 2000 to streamline the various product lines offered by its United Kingdom subsidiary and focus on premium and performance tires. The Company's subsidiary in the United Kingdom recorded restructuring charges of \$2 million in 2000 which also contributed to operating profit improvement in 2001. The strong United States dollar adversely affected exports of tires produced in the United States in both 2001 and 2000.

Operating profit for the segment was \$176 million in 1999 and operating margin was 11.3 percent. The segment's 1999 results were not affected by any of the special factors detailed in the table above.

An increase in raw material costs of over \$30 million, due primarily to increases in the price of petroleum, was the principal reason for the decline in the segment's margins in 2000. Improvements in product mix and pricing due to the fact that a higher percentage of the segment's sales in 2000 consisted of higher-margin proprietary brand tires, together with lower plant costs resulting from manufacturing efficiency initiatives, partially offset the impact of the higher raw material costs.

### **Outlook**

The year 2002 will be one of continued challenge for the Tire segment. A leading trade association forecasts a decline in replacement tire sales in 2002 of one to two percent from 2001 levels, reflecting generally weak economic conditions and a disruption in consumer demand for replacement tires created by the two Firestone recalls. However, early in 2002, the economic recovery and the segment's sales appear to be somewhat more robust than was previously forecast, which provides a cautious optimism that performance of the segment may be better than originally expected. Industry-wide replacement tire sales in North America in the first two months of 2002 have increased by more than six percent over sales in the first two months of 2001, and the segment's sales increased by an even greater amount.

The segment is projecting an increase in its unit sales for the year, in part due to significant new business with a large private brand customer under an agreement concluded late in 2001. However, the segment continues to operate its facilities at levels below normal capacity. Further reduction and improved management of the segment's tire inventories is an important priority this year. New supply chain optimization initiatives are being undertaken to achieve the segment's inventory management objectives. Lower than expected sales would likely result in more aggressive measures to manage inventories, including temporary production curtailments, which would have an adverse impact on the segment's profitability level.

Global overcapacity remains a significant difficulty for the replacement tire industry. One of the segment's competitors has announced plans to rationalize its original equipment production capacity. However, overcapacity among tire producers in South America and

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Asia, coupled with a continuation of the strength of the United States dollar, are likely to result in sustained high levels of imports of low-priced passenger tires into the United States replacement market.

Improvements in the segment's profitability will depend on an increase in consumer demand or increases in the segment's market share, better management of inventories, and the ability to increase prices to offset any increases in the cost of production that may occur, such as increases in the cost of raw materials, which are presently at extremely favorable price levels, and natural gas, which is available at much lower prices than in the first half of 2001. Imports of low-priced tires may make price increases difficult to achieve. The segment expects that its best opportunities for sales growth over the longer term will likely be in its sales of proprietary brand tires and to regional and national retailers, which are steadily increasing their share of the replacement tire market. The segment was successful in significantly increasing its penetration of the regional and national retail markets in 2001, and intends to continue to expand its focus on those distribution channels in 2002, while also continuing to provide its traditional strong support to its independent dealers.

Improved performance of the segment's subsidiary in the United Kingdom will require an increase in volume, as well as the successful implementation of further cost reduction initiatives and a more competitive British pound versus the euro.

The commercial tire division expects to benefit from gradually improving economic conditions in the commercial trucking industry, which was extremely weak in the first half of 2001, and the inclusion of sales from former Hercules customers for all of 2002.

The segment anticipates that its product liability costs will increase further from the 2001 level, which was much higher than in previous years. In the wake of the issues surrounding the Firestone recall, product liability litigation has increased significantly and the environment for such litigation is more difficult than was the case in previous years. Whether the current environment will continue in the future is uncertain, but the Company's current caseload indicates it is unlikely that its product liability costs will be reduced in 2002 from 2001 levels.

The Company has tentatively settled numerous class action lawsuits pending against it involving its tires. Additional information about the lawsuits is included in the "Contingencies" section of this Management's Discussion and Analysis.

The segment may also begin to be impacted in 2002 by the Transportation Recall Enhancement Accountability and Documentation Act ("TREAD Act") which became law on November 1, 2000, and which will directly impact the tire industry. Pursuant to the statute, the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration ("NHTSA"), the federal agency which oversees certain aspects of the tire industry, has proposed rules relating to test standards, tire labeling, tire pressure monitoring, early warning reporting, tire recalls and record retention. Rules for certain of these issues may be finalized during 2002, depending upon whether NHTSA is able to meet the deadline set forth in the statute.

The TREAD Act and any regulations promulgated under the Act are applicable to all tire manufacturers and importers of tires who sell tires in the United States, regardless of where such tires are manufactured. The Company has been working with the Rubber Manufacturers' Association in reviewing and preparing tire industry comments on the proposed rules. The Company will continue to closely monitor these rules and assess the potential financial impact on the Company as the rules become final and are implemented.

## **Automotive Segment**

### **Overview**

The Company's Automotive segment serves automotive original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs") throughout the world. The year 2001 was one of significantly reduced automotive production in North America. Light vehicle production in North America declined by approximately ten percent to 15.5 million vehicles from 17.1 million vehicles in 2000, which was the highest level ever recorded, and represented an increase of approximately one percent over 1999 levels. Production in Europe was 19.5 million vehicles in 2001, unchanged from the production levels in 2000. European production was 18.9 million vehicles in 1999. South American production totaled 2.0 million vehicles in 2001, which was equal to production levels in 2000. Production in 1999 totaled 1.7 million vehicles, as a currency crisis led to a severe economic contraction.

The share of the North American market held by the three United States-based automotive manufacturers, General Motors, Ford, and the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler, declined by approximately one percentage point in 2001 from 2000. This followed a decline of approximately two percentage points in 2000 from 1999 levels. The decline in their market share has the potential to negatively impact the segment over the longer term, depending upon the particular platforms and products most affected. A significant element of the segment's global strategy is to increase its level of sales to automotive manufacturers based outside of the United States.

Automotive suppliers such as the Company are presently operating in an environment in which its customers generally require annual price reductions. As a result, emphasis on continuous improvement, lean manufacturing, and other cost reduction initiatives is essential to profitable operations.



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**Sales**

Sales for the Automotive segment were \$1.5 billion in 2001, a decrease of 13 percent from \$1.7 billion in 2000. Approximately 41 percent, or \$90 million, of the decline is attributable to the absence of the sales of Holm Industries, Inc. and the plastics operations at Winnsboro, South Carolina, both of which were sold during the second quarter of 2000. The remainder of the sales decrease was primarily the result of the decrease in light vehicle production in North America from the levels of 2000, and to a lesser extent, the impact of lower prices for many of the segment's products and the discontinuance of certain programs for which the segment provided products. New business commencing in 2001 was not sufficient to offset this volume decline.

Sales for the segment increased from \$644 million in 1999 to \$1.7 billion in 2000. The acquisitions of Standard and Siebe were responsible for virtually all of the sales increase of this segment. Sales in 2000 were especially strong in North America due to record production levels in the industry.

Approximately 74 percent of the segment's sales in 2001 were in North America, 22 percent in Europe, and four percent in Brazil, Australia and India. Although the segment does business with all of the world's major automakers, approximately 76 percent of its global sales are to Ford, the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler, and General Motors. These percentages did not change significantly from 2000. Nearly all of the segment's foreign sales were of body sealing components and fluid handling systems. Approximately 30 percent of the total sales of each of these product lines were derived from foreign operations in 2001 and 2000, respectively.

**Operating Profit**

Operating profit and operating margin in 2001, 2000 and 1999 were affected by restructuring costs and operating losses at closed and sold facilities which were not directly related to the segment's ongoing performance. The following table details the impact of those factors on operating profit and operating margin in each of these years.

(\$ millions)

	<u>Operating Profit</u>	<u>Operating Margin</u>
<b>2001</b>		
As Reported	\$39.0	2.6%
Restructuring	7.0	0.5%
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<hr/>		
	\$46.0	3.1%
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
<b>2000</b>		
As Reported	\$68.6	4.0%
Restructuring	33.0	2.0%



Operating losses at closed  
and sold facilities 19.0 1.1%

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\$120.6 7.1%

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**1999**

As Reported \$62.7 9.7%

Operating losses at closed  
and sold facilities 4.4 0.7%

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\$67.1 10.4%

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The reduction in North American light vehicle production levels in 2001 was primarily responsible for the lower operating profits reported by the segment. Other factors that adversely affected operating profit were the inefficiencies created by erratic scheduling resulting from the short lead times given by the OEMs in advance of the frequent production curtailments that occurred during the year, the pricing reductions granted in 2001, and inefficiencies resulting from the redeployment of the business of the closed Rocky Mount, North Carolina sealing production plant to two other facilities.

The segment's business outside of North America was not profitable in 2001, due to costs associated with significant product launches in both the sealing and fluid systems units in the United Kingdom, the inefficiencies associated with the substantial restructuring that the segment has undertaken in Europe, and the effects of a weakened economy in Brazil, due largely to an energy crisis.

In addition to the restructuring plan announced in the fourth quarter of 2000, the segment continued to further reduce its North American costs during the year through additional personnel reductions and lean manufacturing and other costs saving initiatives, as part of an aggressive program to reduce controllable costs in all areas of the business. These efforts helped mitigate the decline in the segment's operating performance, but not enough to offset the impact of the significantly reduced volumes, erratic production schedules and production inefficiencies resulting from the relocation of business.

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Operating profit in 2000 was higher than in 1999 because of the substantially increased volumes resulting from the acquisitions of Standard and Siebe. Operating margins, however, were lower in 2000. A significant portion of the reason for the decline was in the sealing business in Europe where overcapacity, poor product pricing, and a significant presence in the United Kingdom (where the strong British pound hurt sales of products exported to other European countries) plagued the segment's efforts to achieve profitability. In addition, a sluggish Brazilian economy prevented the segment from being profitable there in 2000.

### **Outlook**

The performance of the Automotive segment in 2002 is dependent upon several factors. The overall level of light vehicle production is a significant influence on the segment's level of profitability. The segment has projected North America light vehicle production at 15.2 million vehicles. Given encouraging economic news thus far in 2002, the segment is cautiously optimistic that this number is conservative and, if so, 2002 performance may exceed the segment's current expectation.

Performance is also dependent on the extent of price reductions granted to the segment's customers. In addition to reductions that took effect at the beginning of 2002 under long-term agreements, the segment has entered into discussions with certain of its customers, including Ford Motor Company, its largest customer, for additional price reductions. The outcome of those discussions and their impact both on current contracts and on the segment's future relationship with those customers cannot presently be determined with any certainty. The segment believes that these pricing pressures are largely due to the lack of profitability among global automobile manufacturers. This is a concern to the segment as it is likely to result in continued efforts by the OEMs to obtain price reductions from their suppliers.

Although the segment sells products to virtually all of the world's major automakers, its sales are disproportionately weighted to General Motors, Ford, and the Chrysler unit of DaimlerChrysler. As a result, the segment's sales volumes are partially dependent on their ability to maintain or improve their market share.

Although industry-wide production levels are expected to be lower in 2002 than in 2001, the segment's sales in 2002 are expected to increase slightly, due to incremental new business awarded in recent years. Enhanced profitability will require not only the anticipated volume increases but also the successful completion of the segment's restructuring initiatives and continued progress in obtaining savings from lean manufacturing and other cost reduction efforts. In addition, the resolution of inefficiencies arising from the transfer of business from the closed Rocky Mount, North Carolina sealing production facility to other North American sealing facilities is essential to the successful performance of that business in 2002.

In Europe, the segment experienced high costs related to numerous product launches in both the sealing and fluid systems business units in 2001. The segment expects to improve its profitability significantly in 2002 because of the absence of significant launch costs and the impact of having fully implemented the restructuring plan, which is expected to have occurred by the end of the second quarter of 2002. The segment will continue to seek ways to increase production at its facilities in Poland and the Czech Republic, where costs are significantly lower than in the United Kingdom, France and Germany, where the bulk of the segment's European manufacturing operations now take place. The segment also seeks to diversify its customer base to include all of the major OEMs in Europe, and not just those which the segment has traditionally served.

A severe energy crisis caused renewed recessionary conditions in Brazil in 2001. However, as a result of continued cost reduction efforts, the sealing operation generated a small operating profit. Although conditions there have stabilized and the energy problems have abated, the segment will need to make additional cost reductions to be profitable at the sales levels expected in 2002.

### **Company Summary**

Although the Company expects that 2002 will be a difficult year if economic conditions remain weak, the substantial completion of the announced restructuring programs and a relentless emphasis on lean manufacturing and other cost reduction efforts have positioned the Company to remain profitable when economic conditions are weaker than normal. A return to more normal conditions in the replacement tire market and the beginning of significant new product launches in the automotive segment provide the Company with optimism about its performance in the second half of 2002 and into 2003. In addition, if the economic recovery commences earlier than expected, as some economic indicators are showing, results for the year 2002 could be higher than originally forecast.

Nevertheless, the Company must continue to meet numerous challenges to achieve its desired level of performance. In the Tire segment, the evolution in the distribution channels into which replacement tires are sold will require continued changes in the segment's sales and marketing practices. In addition, the continuing level of low-priced tire imports will require that the segment maintain and even enhance its position as a low-cost supplier of quality products. In the Automotive segment, the lack of profitability among the OEMs will require suppliers such as the Company to operate in an extremely lean and efficient manner if they are to survive and prosper in an industry in which pricing pressures cannot be expected to abate.



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### **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Net cash provided by operating activities was \$269 million in 2001, \$38 million higher than the \$231 million generated in 2000. Net cash provided by operating activities was \$231 million in 2000, \$20 million higher than the \$211 million generated in 1999. Net income, adjusted for non-cash charges, decreased by \$48 million in 2001 from 2000 and increased \$18 million in 2000 from 1999. Changes in operating assets and liabilities resulted in the availability of \$85 million more cash in 2001 than in 2000. This improvement was due in part to a change in the payment pattern of a significant tire customer.

Net cash used in investing activities during 2001 reflects capital expenditures of \$136 million, compared to \$201 million in 2000 and \$150 million in 1999. Capital expenditures in 2002 are expected to approximate \$150 million, primarily to support new business launching in 2002 and 2003, advances in manufacturing technology and process improvements throughout the Company's operations. The Company's capital expenditure commitments at December 31, 2001 are not material to its consolidated financial position or cash flows.

Net cash used in investing activities includes the acquisition of certain assets of the tire retread business of The Hercules Tire & Rubber Company in July 2001 for \$6 million and the purchase of certain assets of Siebe's subsidiary in India in March 2001. The Indian transaction had been delayed due to regulatory requirements in that country. The Company sold various assets in 2001, which included two tire distribution facilities and an aircraft, for \$16 million. During 2000, the Company acquired Siebe for \$223 million. Pretax proceeds from the sale of the Holm and Winnsboro businesses provided \$110 million. In 1999, the Company acquired Standard for \$594 million and assumed its outstanding debt.

Through its financing activities in 2001, the Company reduced its total debt by \$86 million. The reduction consisted of the repayment of commercial paper borrowings of \$127 million, the repurchase of \$24 million of the Company's public notes, the payment of scheduled maturities of long-term debt in the amount of \$15 million, and a reduction in bank line borrowings. Offsetting this reduction was the placement of \$90 million of debt in Canada under a five-year note.

In 2000, the Company's total debt increased by \$129 million, due substantially to the issuance of commercial paper to fund the Siebe acquisition. This increase in debt was partially offset by proceeds received from the sale of businesses and by a purchase price adjustment related to the Siebe acquisition. The Company also used \$42 million to repurchase 3,314,800 shares of its common shares in 2000. During 1999, the Company issued \$800 million of public notes to provide long-term funding for the acquisition of Standard.

Dividends paid on the Company's common shares were \$30 million, \$31 million and \$32 million in 2001, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

On December 21, 2001, the Company amended and restated its credit agreement with a group of eight banks. Pursuant to the amendment, the ratio of income before fixed charges and income taxes to fixed charges (the fixed charge coverage ratio) required to be maintained by the Company under the agreement was reduced from 2.0 times to 1.5 times through September 30, 2002, 1.75 times at December 31, 2002 and 2.0 times thereafter. The amendment provides for the exclusion of certain charges in calculating the ratio. The amendment also allows the Company to maintain a total debt to total capitalization ratio of 60 percent through December 31, 2002 and 55 percent thereafter, and permits the exclusion of the impact of the cumulative currency translation adjustment recorded in equity from the total debt to total capitalization measurement. Further, the amendment provides that any adverse impact from any potential impairment of goodwill and other intangibles upon adoption of the new accounting standard in 2002 shall be excluded from the calculation of both the fixed charge coverage and total debt to total capitalization ratios. The same amendments were made to the Company's 6.55 percent notes placed with insurance companies. The Company was in compliance with these covenants at December 31, 2001. At that date, the ratio of total indebtedness to total capitalization was 54.0 percent, under the definitions contained in the agreement. For the twelve months ended December 31, 2001, the fixed charge coverage ratio was 1.66 times.

The credit commitment under the amended agreement has been reduced from \$350 million to \$250 million. Of this amount, \$125 million may be borrowed, with the amounts repayable through a date as late as August 31, 2006. The remaining \$125 million, if borrowed, must be repaid by August 31, 2002. The Company generally renegotiates the short-term portion of its credit facility each year, and expects to do so again in 2002. The Company does not presently expect to experience difficulty in renegotiating this facility with its bank group. In addition, the agreement allows the Company to increase its total credit commitment to \$350 million, without renegotiating the terms of the agreement, through the addition of new lending institutions. The credit facilities support issuance of commercial paper. There were no borrowings under the agreement at December 31, 2001. At December 31, 2000, \$127 million was outstanding under the previous credit facilities.

The Company's unsecured credit arrangements include certain provisions for acceleration of maturity. These provisions include (i) bankruptcy or dissolution proceedings; (ii) failure to pay principal and interest; (iii) cross default in an amount in excess of \$10 million for money borrowed; (iv) final uninsured judgments which exceed \$10 million and which have not been vacated or discharged within 60 days; (v) litigation or government proceedings that will likely have a material adverse effect and have not been cured within 30 days; and (vi) change in control whereby a person or group of persons acquires 20 percent or more of the voting stock.



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In August 2001, a Canadian subsidiary of the Company entered into a \$125 million loan agreement, which expires in August 2006, with Market Street Funding Corporation, an affiliated company of PNC Bank NA, which is secured by certain trade accounts receivable. At that time, \$90 million was advanced under the loan agreement, with a maturity date of August 2006 and interest at an average commercial paper floating rate plus a spread of .675 percent. At December 31, 2001, \$90 million was outstanding under this agreement.

The Company established a \$1.2 billion universal shelf registration in 1999 in connection with the acquisition of Standard. Fixed rate debt of \$800 million was issued pursuant to the shelf registration in December 1999 to fund the acquisition. The remaining amount available under the shelf registration continues to be available at December 31, 2001. Securities that may be issued under this shelf registration include debt securities, preferred stock, fractional interests in preferred stock represented by depositary shares, common stock, and warrants to purchase debt securities, common stock or preferred stock.

In November 2001, Moody's Investors Service reduced the Company's long-term debt rating from A3 to Baa2, with a stable outlook. In January 2002, Standard & Poor's reduced the Company's long-term corporate credit, senior unsecured debt and senior unsecured shelf registration ratings from BBB+ to BBB, with a stable outlook. These ratings are investment grade. Both Moody's and Standard and Poor's attributed the change in rating to the difficult industry conditions which they judge could prevent the Company from achieving the improvement in financial measures factored into the previous ratings. The ratings on the Company's short-term credit and commercial paper ratings were affirmed at P-2 by Moody's and at A-2 by Standard and Poor's. The Company does not expect that the ratings downgrade will impact its ability to obtain any financing that may be needed for its business operations.

The Company expects, given current business projections, that sufficient liquidity will be provided by cash flows from operations, the disposition of assets held for sale, its credit facilities and its loan arrangement secured by certain trade receivables to fund its obligations and commitments during 2002. The Company's additional borrowing capacity through use of its credit agreement with its bank group and other bank lines at December 31, 2001 is \$321 million, with another \$400 million available under the shelf registration.

The Company expects to use cash in 2002 for debt service obligations, capital expenditures, dividends on its common shares, the cash requirements of its tentative agreement to settle the litigation described herein under Contingencies, and normal working capital requirements. Cash flows from operations may change materially if economic conditions and the Company's restructuring efforts are achieved at a pace different than expected, or if a downturn in the economy from early 2002 levels occurs. The cost of borrowings under the Company's \$250 million credit facility would be impacted by further changes in debt ratings.

The Company's contractual obligations at December 31, 2001 are summarized in the following table:

(000's)	Contractual Obligations	Payments Due by Period				
		Total	Less Than 1 Year	1 - 3 Years	4 - 5 Years	After 5 Years
Long-Term Debt		\$1,086,489	\$213,835	\$12,500	\$90,000	\$770,154
Capital Lease Obligations	12,807 3,326 3,968 417 5,096					
Operating Leases	124,180 17,360 25,110 18,980 62,730					
Notes payable	15,875 15,875					
Unconditional Purchase(a)	21,718 21,718					
Total Contractual Cash Obligations	\$1,261,069 \$272,114 \$41,578 \$109,397 \$837,980					

(a) Noncancellable purchase order commitments for raw materials, principally natural rubber, made in the ordinary course of business.

**Contingencies**

The Company has had pending against it 32 separate class action lawsuits and two individual lawsuits with similar allegations filed in 30 separate state courts, plus the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. One of the class action lawsuits purports to represent a national class. The lawsuits, all of which were filed under the auspices of the same group of plaintiffs' attorneys, assert claims under the respective states' consumer protection and deceptive trade practices statutes, and comparable commercial law and other theories. They allege that the Company used certain

materials and procedures in its process of manufacturing steel-belted radial tires which could have rendered a portion of the tires unsafe, and failed to disclose those practices to purchasers of its tires. The suits were brought on behalf of all persons (excluding those who have sustained personal injury and/or property damage as a result of the alleged unlawful practices) in the respective states who purchased steel-belted radial tires manufactured by the Company from 1985 to the present, and still retain those tires. The lawsuits generally seek, on behalf of each class member, relief sufficient to secure replacement of their tires, statutory, compensatory and punitive damages, costs and attorneys' fees. The Company removed each of the actions to Federal

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court. Certain of the actions have been remanded to state courts, while others have been transferred by the Federal Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio for consolidated pre-trial handling.

On October 26, 2001, the Company entered into a Stipulation of Settlement and Release of all of the class action lawsuits, without any admission of liability, resulting in a charge of \$54.6 million (\$33.9 million net of tax). Prior to settlement, \$17.6 million of legal and professional and tire storage costs were incurred related to the class action litigation. Certain parties have sought to have the settlement nullified. According to the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement and Release, the Company will provide (i) a five-year Enhanced Warranty Program offering a free replacement tire for an Adjustable Separation on an Eligible Cooper Tire or an alternative dispute resolution system; (ii) some modifications to final tire inspections; and (iii) a consumer education program to promote tire safety. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay plaintiffs' legal expenses as part of the settlement. Out of potentially millions of class members, only 156 chose to opt out of the Settlement. Those who opted out can pursue any legal rights they may have against the Company in separate individual lawsuits, any one of which the Company believes is unlikely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flow or financial position.

Preliminary judicial approval of the Settlement has been received. If final approval is received, the litigation will be fully resolved, unless appealed. There were 18 objectors to the Settlement. None objected to the structure of the Settlement, but only to the content, coverage and amount of attorney's fees. A fairness hearing regarding the Settlement was held in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex County on January 29 and 30, 2002. The Court has not yet rendered its decision as to the fairness of the Settlement.

The Company is also a defendant in unrelated product liability and other actions in Federal and state courts throughout the United States in which plaintiffs assert monetary damages. If the plaintiffs in certain of those actions recovered the damages sought, the impact could be material to the Company's results of operations, cash flows, or financial position. The Company believes that such a result is unlikely. The Company does not believe any liability it may have for these matters will be material to its results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

## **New Accounting Standards**

For a discussion of recent accounting pronouncements and their impact on the Company, see the "Significant Accounting Policies" Accounting pronouncements note to the financial statements.

## **Critical Accounting Policies**

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations discusses the Company's consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. When more than one accounting principle, or the method of its application, is generally accepted, the Company selects the principle or method that is appropriate in its specific circumstances. Application of these accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Management bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and on other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates under different assumptions or conditions.

**Product liability** The Company has pending various claims and lawsuits arising in the ordinary course of business with respect to product liability for its tire products. The facts related to each individual claim or lawsuit are evaluated on an ongoing basis and judgments are made to determine the Company's requirement to establish or revise an accrual for specific liability. The amount of the accrual gives appropriate consideration to historical patterns and results of similar cases. In evaluating the appropriateness of its accruals, the Company takes the litigation environment into account, using its best judgment as to the most likely outcome of specific litigation brought against it. In the wake of the Firestone recall, the Company believes that product liability litigation has become more difficult for defendants and relying solely upon historical results in establishing accruals could understate the Company's exposure. Legal costs are expensed as incurred.

**Deferred tax assets** The Company records a valuation allowance to reduce its deferred tax assets to the amount that is more likely than not to be realized. While future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies have been considered in assessing the need for the valuation allowance, in the event the Company were to determine that it would be able to realize its deferred tax assets in the future in excess of their net recorded amount, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would increase income in the period such determination was made. Likewise, should the Company determine that it would not be able to realize all or part of its net deferred tax assets in the future, an adjustment to the deferred tax asset would be charged to income in the period such determination was made. A valuation allowance of \$13.8 million was recorded on purchased net operating loss carryforwards of \$21 million and, to the extent such benefits are realized, the benefits will be recorded as an adjustment to goodwill.

**Impairment of long-lived assets** The Company's long-lived assets include property, plant and equipment, long-term investments, goodwill and other intangible assets. If an indicator of impairment exists, the Company will compare the undiscounted cash flows





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generated by the business units to the carrying value. Based on current facts, the Company believes there is no impairment. If current business conditions deteriorate, the Company may be required in the future to record an impairment charge. As discussed in the notes to the financial statements, the Company is assessing the impact of SFAS No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets.

**Pension and postretirement benefits** The Company has recorded significant pension and postretirement liabilities that are developed from actuarial valuations. Inherent in these valuations are key assumptions including discount rates and expected returns on plan assets. Current market conditions, including changes in interest rates, are considered in selecting these assumptions. Changes in the related pension and postretirement benefit liabilities may occur in the future due to changes in plan design and key assumptions.

**Warranties** The Company provides for the estimated cost of product warranties at the time revenue is recognized based primarily on historical return rates. If return rates differ materially from those historical rates, such as reductions in warranty claims due to improvements in product quality, revisions to the estimated warranty liability would be required.

### **Insurance Costs and Availability**

The Company purchases excess/umbrella liability insurance coverage for its products liability exposure and has obtained noncancelable coverage through March 31, 2003. The policy contains aggregate annual maximums for all claims incurred during a policy year which the Company believes are sufficient to cover the ultimate cost of all claims incurred in each policy year. With respect to renewal of the Company's coverage beginning on April 1, 2003, the litigation environment created by the Firestone recalls may adversely impact both the scope and cost of coverage available to the Company.

As a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 and general market conditions, the Company's property insurance costs for 2002 have approximately tripled. In addition, the breadth of coverage has been reduced, although not to a level that creates a significant risk to the Company's business operations or financial condition. In particular, the Company's property insurance coverage now excludes any coverage for the risks associated with terrorism.

### **Forward-Looking Statements**

This report, and in particular the Outlook and Liquidity and Capital Resources sections, contain forward-looking statements, as that term is defined under the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, regarding projections and expectations for future financial performance, which involve uncertainty and risk. The Company cautions that although such forward looking statements are based on assumptions that it believes are reasonable, the assumptions are subject to various risks and actual results may differ materially from what is stated in this report. Among the factors that may cause the Company's future financial performance to differ materially from those projections or expectations are the following, which include, but are not limited to: changes in economic and business conditions in the world, including economic and political changes in international markets and countries over which the Company has no control, increased competitive activity, the failure to achieve expected sales levels, consolidation among the Company's competitors and customers, technology advancements, unexpected costs and charges, fluctuations in raw material and energy prices, government regulatory initiatives, including the proposed regulations under the TREAD Act, the cyclical nature and overall health of the global automotive industry, the loss of a major customer or program, risks associated with new vehicle launches, the failure to achieve the savings anticipated from the announced restructuring plans, the risks to the economy associated with external events, including those resulting from the events of September 11, 2001 and the impact on the economy of similar events which may occur in the future, litigation brought against the Company, and other unanticipated events and conditions. In addition, it is possible that the Company will fail to obtain final approval of the settlement of class action litigation which has been described under Contingencies herein.

It is not possible to foresee or identify all such factors. Any forward-looking statements in this report are based on certain assumptions and analyses made by the Company in light of its experience and perception of historical trends, current conditions, expected future developments and other factors it believes are appropriate in the circumstances. Prospective investors are cautioned that any such statements are not a guarantee of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from those projected. The Company makes no commitment to update any forward-looking statement included herein, or to disclose any facts, events or circumstances that may affect the accuracy of any forward-looking statement.

Further information covering issues that could materially affect financial performance is contained in the Company's periodic filings with the U. S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **Item 7a. QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

## Edgar Filing: COOPER TIRE & RUBBER CO - Form 10-K405

The Company is exposed to fluctuations in interest rates and currency exchange rates from its financial instruments. The Company actively monitors its exposure to risk from changes in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. Derivative financial instruments are used to reduce the impact of these risks. See the Significant Accounting Policies Derivative financial instruments and Fair Value of Financial Instruments notes to the financial statements for additional information.

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The Company has estimated its market risk exposures using sensitivity analysis. These analyses measure the potential loss in future earnings, cash flows or fair values of market sensitive instruments resulting from a hypothetical ten percent change in interest rates or foreign currency exchange rates.

A ten percent decrease in interest rates would have adversely affected the fair value of the Company's fixed-rate, long-term debt by approximately \$52.7 million at December 31, 2001 and approximately \$57 million at December 31, 2000. A ten percent increase in the interest rates for the Company's floating rate long-term debt obligations would not have been material to the Company's results of operations and cash flows.

The Company uses interest rate swap agreements to manage its exposure to interest rate risk. In October 2001, the Company entered into \$100 million of interest rate swap agreements to convert a portion of its 7.75 percent fixed-rate, 2009 senior notes to a floating rate based on LIBOR. The Company's exposure to changes in interest rates from its short-term notes payable issuances is not significant as such notes, which are not material to its financial position at December 31, 2000 and 2001, are issued at current market rates.

At December 31, 2001, the Company has derivative financial instruments that hedge foreign currency denominated intercompany loans. Gains or losses on the foreign currency denominated loans are offset by changes in the values of derivative financial instruments. To manage the volatility related to currency exchange exposures related to future sales and purchases, the Company nets the exposures on a consolidated basis to take advantage of natural offsets. For the residual portion, the Company enters into forward exchange contracts and purchased options with maturities of less than 12 months pursuant to the Company's policies and hedging practices. The changes in fair value of these hedging instruments are offset in part or in whole by corresponding changes in the fair value of cash flows of the underlying exposures being hedged. The Company's unprotected exposures to earnings and cash flow fluctuations due to changes in foreign currency exchange rates were not significant at December 31, 2000 and 2001.

**Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

Consolidated statements of financial position at December 31, 2000 and 2001 and consolidated statements of income, cash flows, and stockholders' equity for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001, the independent auditor's report thereon, and the Company's unaudited quarterly financial data for the two-year period ended December 31, 2001 are presented on pages 30 through 50 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K and are incorporated herein by reference.

**Item 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**

None.

**PART III****Item 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT**

Information concerning the Company's directors appears in the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 26, 2002, which will be herein incorporated by reference. The names, ages, and all positions and offices held by all executive officers of the Company, as of the same date, are as follows:

Name	Age	Executive Office Held	Business Experience
Thomas A. Dattilo	50	Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer and Director	Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer since April 2000. President and Chief Operating Officer since January 1999. Director since February 1999. Formerly with Dana Corporation since 1977, having served as President, Sealing Products since 1998 and in senior management positions at Dana Corporation subsidiaries since 1985.



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Name	Age	Executive Office Held	Business Experience
<p>Mark F. Armstrong            54 Vice President Vice            President since March 2000.            President, North American            Tire Division, Cooper Tire            since December 2000. Vice            President, Sales and            Marketing, Cooper Tire            from March through            December 2000. Vice            President, Sales, Tire            Division from 1994 to            March 2000. Vice            President, House Brand            Sales from 1991 to</p>			
<p>1994. James S. McElya            54 Vice President Vice            President since February            2000. President,            Cooper-Standard            Automotive since May            2000. President, Global            Fluid Systems Division,            Cooper-Standard            Automotive from January            through May 2000.            Previously, President, of            Siebe Automotive            Worldwide from 1996            through 2000. Formerly            served as President, Handy            and Harman Automotive, as            a Corporate Vice President            and Officer of Handy and            Harman, and in other senior            management positions since</p>			
<p>1974. Roderick F. Millhof            62 Vice President Vice            President since 1998.            Executive Vice President,            Cooper-Standard            Automotive since May            2000. President, Global            Sealing Division,            Cooper-Standard            Automotive from 1999 to            May 2000. President,            Engineered Products            Operations from 1998 to            1999. Formerly Vice            President Sales/Marketing            of Engineered Products            Operations from 1988            through 1998. D. Richard            Stephens 54 Vice            President President of</p>			

Cooper Tire since December 3, 2001, Vice President since March 2001, President, International Tire Division, Cooper Tire since December 2000. Vice President, Technical and Commercial Tire Operations, Cooper Tire from March 2000 to December 2000. Vice President, Technical from 1994 to March 2000. Director, Technical from 1990 to 1994. Richard D. Teeple 59 Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary Vice President since 1990. General Counsel since 1983. Secretary since January 2001. Assistant General Counsel from 1979 to 1983. Associate Counsel from 1977 to 1979. Philip G. Weaver 49 Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since 1999. Tire Operations Vice President from 1994 through 1999 and Tire Operations Controller from 1990 through 1994. Eileen B. White 51 Corporate Controller Corporate Controller since 1997. Assistant Corporate Controller from 1994 to 1997. Manager, Financial

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Name	Age	Executive Office Held	Business Experience
Research and Compliance from 1986 to 1994.			

Each such officer shall hold such office until a successor is selected and qualified.

**Item 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Information regarding executive compensation appears in the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 26, 2002, which will be herein incorporated by reference.

**Item 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

Information concerning the security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management of the Company's voting securities and equity securities appears in the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 26, 2002, which will be herein incorporated by reference.

**Item 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS**

None.

**PART IV**

**Item 14. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE, AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K**

(a) 1. Financial Statements

The financial statements listed in the accompanying index to financial statements and financial statement schedules are filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

2. Financial Statement Schedule

The financial statement schedule listed in the accompanying index to financial statements and financial statement schedule is filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

All other schedules have been omitted since the required information is not present or not present in amounts sufficient to require submission of the schedules, or because the information required is included in the financial statements or the notes thereto.

3. Exhibits

The exhibits listed on the accompanying index to exhibits are filed as part of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K

A form 8-K was filed March 14, 2002 related to item 9 Other Events, Concerning the Company's first quarter earning expectations.



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**EXHIBITS:**

- (3) Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws
  - (i) Certificate of Incorporation, as restated and filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on May 17, 1993, is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit 3(i) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 1993  
  
Certificate of Correction of Restated Certificate of Incorporation as filed with the Secretary of State of Delaware on November 24, 1998 is incorporated by reference from Exhibit 3(i) of the Company's Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998
  - (ii) Bylaws, as amended May 5, 1987, are incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit 19 of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 1987
- (4)(i) Prospectus Supplement dated March 20, 1997 for the issuance of \$200,000,000 notes is incorporated herein by reference from Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 33-44159
- (ii) Amended and Restated Rights Agreement, dated May 11, 1998, between the Company and The Fifth Third Bank as Rights Agent is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit 4 to the Company's Form 8-K dated May 15, 1998
- (iii) Prospectus Supplement dated December 8, 1999 for the issuance of an aggregate \$800,000,000 notes is incorporated herein by reference from Form S-3 Registration Statement No. 333-89149
- (10)(i) Description of management contracts, compensatory plans, contracts, or arrangements will be herein incorporated by reference from the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 26, 2002
- (ii) Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated as of February 6, 2002 between Cooper Tire & Rubber Company and Thomas A. Dattilo
- (iii) Employment Agreement dated as of June 6, 2000 between Cooper Tire & Rubber Company and James S. McElya is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(iii) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2000
- (iv) Amended and Restated Employment Agreement dated as of June 6, 2000 between Cooper Tire & Rubber Company and Roderick F. Millhof is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(iv) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 2000
- (v) Employment Agreement dated as of June 6, 2000 between Cooper Tire & Rubber Company and Phillip G. Weaver
- (vi) Employment Agreement dated as of June 6, 2000 between Cooper Tire & Rubber Company and Richard D. Teeple
- (vii) Cooper Tire & Rubber Company Executive Financial Planning Assistance is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2000
- (viii) Credit Agreement dated as of September 1, 2000 by and among Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a Delaware Corporation, and the Banks and PNC Bank, National Association, as agent for the Banks is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(i) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2001
- (ix) Amendment No. 1 to the Credit Agreement dated as of March 27, 2001 by and among Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a Delaware Corporation, and the Banks and PNC Bank, National Association, as agent for the Banks is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(ii) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2001
- (x) Amendment No. 2 to the Credit Agreement dated as of August 30, 2001 among Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a Delaware Corporation, and the Banks, and PNC Bank, National Association, as agent for the Banks is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(i) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2001
- (xi) Amendment No. 3 to the Credit Agreement dated as of September 30, 2001 among Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a Delaware Corporation, and the Banks, and PNC Bank, National Association, as agent for the Banks is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(ii) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2001
- (xii)

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Amendment No. 4 to the Credit Agreement dated as of September 30, 2001 among Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a Delaware Corporation, and the Banks, and PNC Bank, National Association, as agent for the Banks is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(iii) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2001

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- (xiii) Amendment No. 5 to the Credit Agreement dated as of December 21, 2001 among Cooper Tire & Rubber Company, a Delaware Corporation, and the Banks, and PNC Bank, National Association, as agent for the Banks
- (xiv) Executive Deferred Compensation Plan is incorporated herein by reference from Exhibit (10)(iv) of the Company's Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2001
- (xv) Agreement dated November 14, 2001 between the Company and William S. Klein

The following related documents are incorporated by reference:

- a) 1986 Incentive Stock Option Plan Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 33-5483, Exhibit 4(a)
  - b) Thrift and Profit Sharing Plan Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 2-58577, Post-Effective Amendment No. 6, Exhibit 4
  - c) 1991 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 33-47980 and Appendix to the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 26, 1991
  - d) 1996 Stock Option Plan Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 333-09619 and Appendix to the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 26, 1996
  - e) 1998 Employee Stock Option Plan and 1998 Incentive Compensation Plan Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 333-83309 and Appendix to the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 24, 1998
  - f) 1998 Non-Employee Directors Compensation Deferral Plan Form S-8 Registration Statement No. 333-83589 and Appendix to the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 24, 1998
  - g) 2001 Incentive Compensation Plan Appendix A to the Company's Proxy Statement dated March 20, 2001
- (13) Annual report to security holders, Form 10-Q or quarterly report to security holders
  - (21) Subsidiaries of the Registrant
  - (23) Consent of Independent Auditors
  - (24) Power of Attorney

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**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

/s/ Thomas  
A. Dattilo

THOMAS  
A. DATTILO,  
Chairman of  
the Board,  
President,  
and Chief  
Executive  
Officer Date:  
March 18,  
2002

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
THOMAS A. DATTILO	Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	March 18, 2002
PHILIP G. WEAVER Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer) March 18, 2002	EILEEN B. WHITE Corporate Controller (Principal Accounting Officer) March 18, 2002	ARTHUR H. ARONSON* Director March 18, 2002
EDSEL D. DUNFORD* Director March 18, 2002	DEBORAH M. FRETZ* Director March 18, 2002	DENNIS J. GORMLEY* Director March 18, 2002
JOHN F. MEIER* Director March 18, 2002	BYRON O. POND* Director March 18, 2002	JOHN H. SHUEY* Director March 18, 2002

\*By: /s/ Richard N. Jacobson  
RICHARD N. JACOBSON, Attorney-in-fact



**Table of Contents****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME**

Years ended December 31

(Dollar amounts in thousands except per-share amounts)

	1999	2000	2001
Net sales	\$2,196,343	\$3,472,372	<b>\$3,154,702</b>
Cost of products sold			
1,810,524 2,939,815 <b>2,724,692</b>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
Gross profit			
385,819 532,557 <b>430,010</b>			
Selling, general and administrative			
144,189 225,824 <b>227,229</b>			
Class action costs			
<b>72,194</b>			
Amortization of goodwill			
2,550 15,553 <b>15,705</b>			
Restructuring			
38,699 <b>8,648</b>			
<hr/>			
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Operating profit			
239,080 252,481 <b>106,234</b>			
Interest expense			
24,445 97,461 <b>90,695</b>			
Other income net			
(862) (5,136) <b>(13,619)</b>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
Income before income taxes			
215,497 160,156 <b>29,158</b>			
Provision for income taxes			
80,023 63,422 <b>10,992</b>			

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Net income  
\$135,474 \$96,734 **\$18,166**

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Basic and diluted earnings per share  
\$1.79 \$1.31 **\$0.25**

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See Notes to Financial Statements, pages 35 to 50.



**Table of Contents****CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**

December 31

(Dollar amounts in thousands except per-share amounts)

Assets	2000	2001
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$45,795	<b>\$71,835</b>
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$11,000 in 2000 and \$13,159 in 2001	581,142	<b>497,180</b>
Inventories:		
Finished goods	192,357	<b>207,484</b>
Work in process	32,882	<b>32,838</b>
Raw materials and supplies	71,221	<b>66,156</b>
	296,460	<b>306,478</b>
Prepaid expenses, deferred income taxes and assets held for sale	74,793	<b>76,604</b>
	998,190	<b>952,097</b>
<b>Property, plant and equipment:</b>		
Land and land improvements	47,737	<b>47,713</b>
Buildings	408,332	<b>393,065</b>
Machinery and equipment	1,568,760	<b>1,636,773</b>
Molds, cores and rings	138,588	<b>156,209</b>

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2,163,417 **2,233,760**  
Less accumulated depreciation and  
amortization  
878,020 **1,027,686**

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Net property, plant and equipment  
1,285,397 **1,206,074**  
Goodwill, net of accumulated  
amortization of \$17,237 in 2000 and  
\$33,199 in 2001  
439,443 **427,895**  
Intangibles, net of accumulated  
amortization of \$10,492 in 2000 and  
\$14,698 in 2001, and other assets  
173,643 **178,184**

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\$2,896,673 **\$2,764,250**

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See Notes to Financial Statements, pages 35 to 50.

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December 31	2000	2001
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Notes payable		
\$154,997	<b>\$15,875</b>	
Accounts payable		
186,284	<b>191,802</b>	
Accrued liabilities		
218,021	<b>222,503</b>	
Income taxes		
4,249	<b>564</b>	
Current portion of long-term debt		
15,193	<b>217,161</b>	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
Total current liabilities	578,744	<b>647,905</b>
Long-term debt	1,036,960	<b>882,134</b>
Postretirement benefits other than pensions	190,175	<b>197,757</b>
Other long-term liabilities	75,791	<b>106,202</b>
Deferred income taxes	62,447	<b>20,012</b>
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$1 per share par value; 5,000,000 shares authorized; none issued		
Common stock, \$1 per share par value; 300,000,000 shares authorized; (83,848,027 in 2000) 83,903,845 shares issued in 2001	83,848	<b>83,904</b>
Capital in excess of par value	3,982	<b>4,658</b>
Retained earnings	1,115,389	<b>1,103,080</b>
Cumulative other comprehensive loss	(53,642)	<b>(84,390)</b>
<hr/>		
<hr/>		

1,149,577 **1,107,252**  
Less: (11,304,400 in 2000)  
11,303,900 shares in treasury at  
cost  
(197,021) **(197,012)**

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Total stockholders' equity  
952,556 **910,240**

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\$2,896,673 **\$2,764,250**

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See Notes to Financial Statements, pages 35 to 50.

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**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY**

(Dollar amounts in thousands except per-share amounts)

	Common Stock \$1 Par Value	Capital In Excess of Par Value	Cumulative Other Retained Earnings	Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Common Shares in Treasury	Total
Balance at January 1, 1999	\$83,781	\$3,296	\$945,975	\$(9,867)	\$(155,249)	\$867,936
Net income						
135,474	135,474					
Other comprehensive income:						
Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of \$3,494 tax effect						
5,502	5,502					
Currency translation adjustment						
(1,688)	(1,688)					
<hr/>						
Comprehensive income						
139,288						
Stock compensation plans						
18,242	260					
Cash dividends \$ .42 per share						
(31,850)	(31,850)					
<hr/>						
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<hr/>						
<hr/>						
Balance at December 31, 1999	83,799	3,538	1,049,599	(6,053)	(155,249)	975,634
Net income						
96,734	96,734					
Other comprehensive income:						
Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of \$9,703 tax effect						
(15,556)	(15,556)					
Currency translation adjustment						
(32,033)	(32,033)					

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Comprehensive income  
 49,145  
 Purchase of treasury shares  
 (41,772) (41,772)  
 Stock compensation plans  
 49 444 493  
 Cash dividends \$.42 per share  
 (30,944) (30,944)

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Balance at December 31, 2000  
 83,848 3,982 1,115,389 (53,642) (197,021) 952,556

**Net income**  
 18,166 18,166  
**Other comprehensive loss:**

**Minimum pension liability adjustment, net of \$13,199 tax effect**  
 (21,636) (21,636)  
**Currency translation adjustment**  
 (9,573) (9,573)  
**Unrealized gain on marketable securities and change in fair value of derivatives, net of \$285 tax effect**  
 461 461

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**Comprehensive loss**  
 (12,582)  
**Stock compensation plans**  
 56 676 9 741  
**Cash dividends \$.42 per share**  
 (30,475) (30,475)

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**Balance at December 31, 2001**

**\$83,904 \$4,658 \$1,103,080 \$(84,390) \$(197,012) \$910,240**

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See Notes to Financial Statements, pages 35 to 50.

**Table of Contents****CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

Years ended December 31  
(Dollar amounts in thousands)

	<u>1999</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
<b>Operating activities:</b>			
Net income	\$135,474	\$96,734	<b>\$18,166</b>
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation	120,977	167,787	<b>169,479</b>
Amortization of goodwill and intangibles	4,600	20,994	<b>20,808</b>
Deferred income taxes	1,095	(4,876)	<b>(22,148)</b>
Class action settlement agreement, less payments			<b>46,454</b>
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of businesses acquired and sold:			
Accounts receivable	6,526	(28,954)	<b>83,314</b>
Inventories	(18,279)	(19,375)	<b>(9,077)</b>
Prepaid expenses, deferred income taxes and assets held for sale	2,359	(9,404)	<b>2,500</b>
Accounts payable	(10,853)	(19,763)	<b>5,720</b>
Accrued liabilities	(25,989)	6,169	<b>(38,852)</b>
Other non-current items	(4,835)	21,937	<b>(7,216)</b>
<hr/>			
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<hr/>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	211,075	231,249	<b>269,148</b>
Investing activities:			
Property, plant and equipment	(149,817)	(201,366)	<b>(136,287)</b>
Acquisition of businesses, net of cash acquired	(594,139)	(222,755)	<b>(7,239)</b>
Proceeds from sale of businesses			



109,990  
 Proceeds from the sale of assets  
 187 2,136 **15,828**

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Net cash used in investing activities  
 (743,769) (311,995) **(127,698)**  
 Financing activities:

Issuance of debt  
 832,846 322,669 **188,159**  
 Payment on debt  
 (241,336) (194,207) **(273,840)**  
 Purchase of treasury shares  
 (41,772)  
 Payment of dividends  
 (31,850) (30,944) **(30,475)**  
 Issuance of common shares  
 260 493 **735**

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Net cash provided by (used in) financing  
 activities  
 559,920 56,239 **(115,421)**  
 Effects of exchange rate changes on cash  
 1,935 (825) **11**

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Changes in cash and cash equivalents  
 29,161 (25,332) **26,040**  
 Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year  
 41,966 71,127 **45,795**

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Cash and cash equivalents at end of year

\$71,127 \$45,795 **\$71,835**

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See Notes to Financial Statements, pages 35 to 50.

**Table of Contents****Notes to Financial Statements**

(Dollar amounts in thousands except per-share amounts)

(Certain amounts for prior years have been reclassified to conform to 2001 presentations)

**Significant Accounting Policies**

*Principles of consolidation* - The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. Newly acquired businesses are included in the consolidated financial statements from the dates of acquisition. All material intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated.

The equity method of accounting is followed for investments in 20 percent to 50 percent owned companies. The cost method is followed in those situations where the Company's ownership is less than 20 percent and the Company does not have the ability to exercise significant influence over the affiliate.

The Company's investment in Nishikawa Standard Company (NISCO), a 50 percent owned joint venture in the United States, is accounted for under the equity method. The Company's investment in NISCO at December 31, 2000 and 2001 was \$23,205 and \$26,708, respectively, and is included in other assets in the accompanying Consolidated Balance Sheets.

*Cash and cash equivalents* - The Company considers highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

*Inventories* - Inventories are valued at cost, which is not in excess of market. Inventory costs have been determined by the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method for substantially all domestic inventories. Costs of other inventories have been determined principally by the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method.

*Pre-production costs related to long-term supply arrangements* - Design and development costs for molds, dies, and other tools owned by the Company to produce products under long-term supply arrangements are recorded at cost in property, plant, and equipment and amortized over the lesser of three years or the term of the related supply agreement. Amounts capitalized were \$4,142 and \$5,596 at December 31, 2000 and 2001, respectively. Costs incurred during the engineering and design phase of customer owned tooling projects are expensed as incurred. If a contractual arrangement for reimbursement by the customer exists, tool development costs for tools to be owned by the customer are recorded in other assets. Reimbursable tooling costs included in other assets were \$13,495 and \$17,837 at December 31, 2000 and 2001, respectively. Upon completion and acceptance of customer owned tooling, reimbursable costs are recorded as accounts receivable. At December 31, 2000 and 2001, respectively, \$5,518 and \$4,566 were included in accounts receivable.

*Long-lived assets* - Property, plant and equipment are recorded at cost and depreciated or amortized using the straight-line or accelerated methods over the following expected useful lives:

Buildings and improvements	15 to 50 years
Machinery and equipment	
5 to 14 years	
Furniture and fixtures	
5 to 10 years	
Molds, cores and rings	
4 to 10 years	

Goodwill, which represents the excess of purchase price over the fair value of net assets acquired, is amortized over 30 years. Intangibles include trademarks, technology and intellectual property which are amortized over their useful lives which range from 5 years to 40 years. The Company evaluates the recoverability of long-lived assets based on undiscounted projected cash flows excluding interest and taxes when any impairment is indicated.

*Earnings per common share* - Net income per share is computed on the basis of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding each year. The number of shares used in the computation of per share data was 75,837,168 in 1999, 73,584,757 in 2000 and 72,558,743 in 2001. Diluted earnings per share includes the dilutive effect of stock options and other stock units. The impact of stock options

and other stock units in the computation of diluted earnings per share did not result in amounts different from basic earnings per share.

*Derivative financial instruments* Derivative financial instruments are utilized by the Company to reduce foreign currency exchange and interest rate risks. The Company has established policies and procedures for risk assessment and the approval, reporting and monitoring of derivative financial instrument activities. The Company does not enter into financial instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

The Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standard ( SFAS ) No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities , and SFAS No. 138, Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities an amendment of SFAS Statement No. 133, on January 1, 2001. SFAS No. 133 requires the transition adjustment resulting from adopting these Statements to be reported in net income or other comprehensive income, as appropriate, as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle. The transition adjustment to recognize the fair value of derivative instruments as of the date of adoption was not material.

Gains and losses on fair value hedges used to hedge currency fluctuations on transactions denominated in foreign currencies and offsetting losses and gains on hedged transactions are recorded in other-net in the

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Consolidated Statements of Income. The Company has entered into interest rate swaps on certain amounts of its fixed rate debt which qualify as fair value hedges. Changes in the fair value of the hedges are offset by corresponding changes to the carrying value of the long-term debt hedged.

Gains and losses in the fair value of instruments that are designated as and meet all the required criteria for a cash flow hedge, are recorded in accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss) and reclassified into earnings as the underlying hedged item affects earnings.

*Income taxes* Income tax expense is based on reported earnings before income taxes in accordance with the tax rules and regulations of the various taxing authorities where the Company's income is earned. The income tax rates imposed by these taxing authorities vary substantially. Taxable income may differ from income before income taxes for financial accounting purposes. To the extent that differences are due to revenue or expense items reported in one period for tax purposes and in another period for financial accounting purposes, an appropriate provision for deferred income taxes is made using enacted tax rates in effect for the year in which the differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance is recognized if it is anticipated that some or all of a deferred tax asset may not be realized. Deferred income taxes are not recorded on undistributed earnings of international affiliates based on the Company's intention that these earnings will continue to be reinvested.

*Product liability* The Company accrues costs for product liability at the time a loss is probable and the amount of loss can be estimated. Legal costs are expensed as incurred.

*Advertising expense* Expenses incurred for advertising include production and media and are generally expensed when incurred. Dealer-earned cooperative advertising expense is recorded when earned. Advertising expense for 1999, 2000 and 2001 was \$31,748, \$38,721 and \$38,067, respectively.

*Stock-based compensation* The Company accounts for employee stock option plans in accordance with Accounting Principles Board Opinion ( APB ) No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees. Additional disclosures required under SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation, are included in the Stock-Based Compensation note.

*Warranties* Estimated costs for product warranties are charged to operations at the time of sale. Warranty expense for 1999, 2000 and 2001 was \$7,590, \$7,420 and \$8,816, respectively.

*Use of estimates* The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect reported amounts of (1) revenues and expenses during the reporting period, and (2) assets and liabilities, as well as disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

*Revenue recognition* Revenues are recognized when goods are shipped to customers. Shipping and handling costs are generally recorded in cost of sales.

*Research and development* Costs are charged to expense as incurred and amounted to approximately \$39,900, \$99,500 and \$79,407 in 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

*Accounting pronouncements* In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) issued SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations . SFAS No. 141 changes the accounting for business combinations to eliminate the pooling-of-interests method and requires all business combinations completed after June 30, 2001 to be accounted for using the purchase method and also requires intangible assets that arise from contractual or other legal rights, or that are capable of being separated or divided from the acquired entity, be recognized separately from goodwill. Existing intangible assets and goodwill that were acquired in a prior purchase business combination must be evaluated and any necessary reclassifications must be made in order to conform with the new criteria in SFAS No. 141 for recognition apart from goodwill. The Company does not expect the adoption of this Statement to have any effect on its consolidated financial position or results of operations.

In June 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets. This Statement eliminates the amortization of goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives. Intangible assets with lives restricted by contractual, legal, or other means will continue to be amortized over their useful lives. Adoption of this Statement will also require the Company to reassess the useful lives of all intangible assets acquired, and make any necessary amortization period adjustments. Goodwill and other intangible assets not subject to amortization will be tested for impairment annually, or more frequently if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. For goodwill and other intangible assets acquired on or before June 30, 2001, the Company is required to adopt SFAS No. 142 on January 1, 2002. The Company has not yet determined the impact of the adoption of this Statement.

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In October 2001, the FASB issued SFAS No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets, which addresses financial accounting and reporting for the impairment or disposal of long-lived assets. While the Statement supersedes SFAS No. 121, Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to Be Disposed Of, it retains many of the fundamental provisions of that Statement. The pronouncement becomes effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001. The Company does not expect the adoption of this Statement to have a material effect on its consolidated financial position or results of operations.

**Table of Contents****Acquisition**

On October 27, 1999, the Company acquired The Standard Products Company ( Standard ) for consideration (including direct costs of the acquisition) of approximately \$594,139 plus \$270,000 for the assumption and retirement of Standard's debt. Standard became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. The operating results of Standard have been included in the consolidated financial statements of the Company since the date of acquisition.

The following unaudited pro forma consolidated results of operations are presented as if the acquisition of Standard had occurred on January 1, 1999. Pro forma adjustments are included to give effect to depreciation, amortization of goodwill and intangible assets, interest expense on acquisition debt and certain other adjustments, together with related income tax effects.

	Year ended December 31, 1999	
	As Reported	Pro Forma As Adjusted
Net sales	\$2,196,343	\$3,120,329
Net earnings		
\$135,474	\$106,492	
Earnings per share		
\$1.79	\$1.40	

The pro forma net earnings and earnings per share for the year ended December 31, 1999 include a special charge recorded by Standard prior to the acquisition in the amount of \$15,300 net of taxes (\$.20 per share).

On January 28, 2000 the Company acquired Siebe Automotive ( Siebe ), the automotive fluid handling division of Invensys plc. Siebe manufactured automotive fluid handling systems, components, modules and sub-systems for sale to the world's automotive original equipment manufacturers and large Tier 1 automotive suppliers.

The Company financed the \$222,755 acquisition, including transaction costs and net of a \$28,000 post-closing purchase price adjustment, by issuing commercial paper. The Company's consolidated financial results and financial position subsequent to the date of the acquisition reflect Siebe operations. The purchase price was allocated to fixed assets, working capital, intangible assets and other liabilities as follows:

Net working capital acquired, exclusive of debt	\$20,857
Property, plant and equipment	
98,570	
Other non-current assets	
10,198	
Goodwill	
101,364	
<hr/>	
230,989	
Assumed debt and other liabilities	
(8,234)	
<hr/>	
Aggregate purchase price	
\$222,755	

In March and July of 2001, the Company completed the purchase of certain assets of Siebe's subsidiary in India and acquired certain assets of the tire retread business of The Hercules Tire & Rubber Company.

The acquisitions in 2000 and 2001 do not meet the thresholds for a significant acquisition and therefore no pro forma financial information is presented.

**Divestitures and Assets Held for Sale**

During 2000, the Company sold an automotive plastic trim production facility and Holm Industries, Inc. both of which were acquired as part of the Standard transaction. The pre-tax proceeds from the sales of these operations totaled \$109,990 and were used primarily to reduce commercial paper borrowings. Net sales and operating losses derived from these sold businesses were \$26,057 and \$659, respectively, in 1999 and \$90,665 and \$332, respectively, in 2000.

The Company is continuing its efforts to sell certain facilities in North America and Europe as part of its restructuring efforts within the Automotive segment. At December 31, 2000 and 2001, assets of \$14,800 and \$30,300 respectively, were classified as assets held for sale.



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**Restructuring**

In connection with the 1999 acquisition of Standard, a restructuring accrual of \$17,900 was recorded for employee separation costs and other exit costs relating to a plan for the reorganization and closing of certain manufacturing facilities in Europe.

During 2000, the Company accrued \$3,200 for employee separation and other exit costs to close Standard's automotive sealing plant in Kittanning, Pennsylvania. The plan called for the termination of 160 employees all of whom were terminated in 2000. This facility has been closed and is being held for sale.

The following table summarizes the activity in the restructuring accruals:

	Employee Separation Costs	Other Exit Costs	Total
Accrual at January 1, 2000	\$ 14,100	\$ 2,800	\$ 16,900
Restructuring accrual for closure of Kittanning automotive sealing plant			
1,900   1,300   3,200			
Cash payments in 2000			
(13,900)   (1,300)   (15,200)			
<hr/>			
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<hr/>			
Accrual at December 31, 2000			
2,100   2,800   4,900			
Cash payments in 2001			
(1,100)   (2,800)   (3,900)			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
Accrual at December 31, 2001			
\$1,000   \$   1,000			
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The balance in the restructuring accrual is to cover the remaining costs of severance and separation claims filed against the Company by former employees.

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During the fourth quarter of 2000, the Company approved a comprehensive restructuring plan to significantly improve efficiencies and reduce costs throughout its worldwide operations. As a result of this restructuring plan, the Company recorded a pre-tax charge of \$34,300, consisting of \$25,700 in employee separation costs, \$4,100 in other related exit costs and \$4,500 in asset impairments. The restructuring plan was to have affected 22 manufacturing and administrative operations and reduced headcounts by approximately 1,100 employees. During 2001, 19 facilities were closed or downsized and 801 employees were terminated. Also in 2001, the Company recognized a \$9,700 reversal of charges recorded for this initiative primarily from lower than expected employee severance costs, principally associated with the European initiatives. The remaining accrual at December 31, 2001 is to cover severance costs for the remaining 241 employees to be terminated under this plan and the closure of a North American sealing facility. The Company expects these remaining initiatives to be completed in 2002. The following table summarizes the activity related to the restructuring charge recorded in 2000:

	Employee Separation Costs	Other Exit Costs	Asset Impairments	Total
Original accrual	\$25,700	\$4,100	\$4,500	\$34,300
Write-off and write-down of assets to fair market value				
(4,500) (4,500)				
Cash payments				
(800) (800)				
<hr/>				
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<hr/>				
<hr/>				
Accrual at December 31, 2000				
24,900 4,100 29,000				
Cash payments				
(8,400) (600) (9,000)				
Adjustments to reserve				
(7,600) (2,100) (9,700)				
<hr/>				
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<hr/>				
<hr/>				
Accrual at December 31, 2001				
\$8,900 \$1,400 \$ 10,300				
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Also included in restructuring costs in the 2000 Consolidated Statement of Income is \$4,400 of employee separation costs at a tire production facility in the United Kingdom, employee relocation costs at an administrative site in North America and asset relocation and re-launch costs associated with the closing or consolidation of the Kittanning and European manufacturing facilities.

During the fourth quarter of 2001, the Company approved a restructuring plan to improve efficiencies and reduce costs in its North American operations. As a result of this restructuring plan, the Company recorded a pre-tax charge of \$9,100, consisting of \$4,600 in employee separation costs, \$600 in other related exit costs and \$3,900 in asset impairments. This restructuring plan will principally affect four manufacturing and administrative facilities and reduce headcounts by approximately 385 employees. The Company has targeted the fourth quarter of 2002 for completion of the plan. The following table summarizes the activity related to the restructuring charge recorded in 2001:

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	Employee Separation Costs	Other Exit Costs	Asset Impairments	Total
Original accrual	\$4,600	\$ 600	\$ 3,900	\$ 9,100
Write-off and write-down of assets to fair market value				
(3,900)		(3,900)		
Cash payments				
(600)		(600)		
<hr/>				
<hr/>				
<hr/>				
<hr/>				
Accrual at December 31, 2001				
\$4,000	\$600	\$	\$4,600	
<hr/>				
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Also included in restructuring costs in the 2001 Consolidated Statement of Income is \$1,800 of employee separation costs not associated with the above initiatives, \$1,000 in non-accruable employee costs, \$5,600 in costs associated with asset relocation and re-launch costs associated with the closing or consolidation of the Kittanning, Rocky Mount and European manufacturing facilities and \$848 in other exit costs.

**Inventories**

Under the LIFO method, inventories have been reduced by approximately \$52,476 and \$46,565 at December 31, 2000 and 2001, respectively, from current cost which would be reported under the first-in, first-out method. Approximately 68 percent and 77 percent of the Company's inventories have been valued under the LIFO method at December 31, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

**Debt**

On December 21, 2001 the Company amended and restated the credit agreement (the Agreement) with a group of eight banks, reducing the credit commitments from \$350,000 to \$250,000. The Agreement, as amended, provides up to \$125,000 in credit facilities until August 31, 2006 and an additional \$125,000 in credit facilities until August 31, 2002 with provisions for extending the credit facilities beyond these dates upon approval of the bank group. The Agreement contains a provision allowing the borrower to increase the credit commitments back to \$350,000 through the addition of new lending institutions or an increase of commitments by existing banks. The credit facilities also support issuance of commercial paper. There were no borrowings under these credit facilities and no commercial paper outstanding at December 31, 2001. The loans may be denominated in either U.S. Dollars or certain other currencies based upon Eurodollar interest rates or the agent bank's base rate. In addition, the terms of the Agreement permit the Company to request bid rate loans from banks participating in the Agreement. Borrowings under the Agreement bear a margin linked to the Company's long-term credit ratings from Moody's and Standard & Poor's. There are no compensating

balances required and the facility fees are not material.

In August 2001 a Canadian subsidiary of the Company entered into a \$125,000 loan agreement with Market Street Funding Corporation, an affiliated company of PNC Bank NA, which is secured by certain trade accounts receivable. In August 2001, \$90,000 was advanced under the loan agreement with a maturity date of August 2006. Interest on the loan is a floating rate, based on the average commercial paper rates of Market Street Funding Corporation.

The Company has \$400,000 available under a \$1,200,000 universal shelf registration at December 31, 2001. Securities that may be issued under this shelf registration include debt securities, preferred stock, fractional interests in preferred stock represented by depositary shares, common stock, and warrants to purchase debt securities, common stock or preferred stock.

The 6.55 percent notes are placed directly with three insurance companies and are unsecured. Principal payments of \$12,500 are required each December through 2003.

In December 2001, the Company repurchased \$23,665 of the 7.25 percent notes due in December 2002 and the presentation below is shown as the net amount of debt due to outside holders of the notes. The carrying value of the 7.75 percent notes has been reduced by \$4,846, the fair value of the related interest rate swap.

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The following table summarizes the long-term debt of the Company at December 31, 2000 and 2001:

	2000	2001
7.25% notes due 2002	\$ 225,000	\$ 201,335
7.75% notes due 2009		
350,000	345,154	
8% notes due 2019		
225,000	225,000	
7.63% notes due 2027		
200,000	200,000	
6.55% notes due 2002 through 2003		
37,500	25,000	
Canadian floating rate note due 2006		
90,000		
Capitalized leases and other		
14,653	12,806	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
	1,052,153	1,099,295
Less current maturities		
15,193	217,161	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
	\$1,036,960	\$882,134
<hr/>		
<hr/>		

The maturities of long-term debt through 2006 are as follows:

2002	\$ 217,161
2003	
14,945	
2004	
1,523	
2005	
413	
2006	
90,004	

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The Company's debt agreements require it to maintain, among other things, certain financial ratios. Retained earnings of \$206,593 at December 31, 2001 are available for the payment of cash dividends and purchases of the Company's common shares.

The Company and its subsidiaries also have, from various banking sources, approximately \$50,800 of available short-term lines of credit of which \$15,300 is outstanding at December 31, 2001, at rates of interest approximating euro-based interest rates. The amounts available and outstanding vary based on exchange rates.

The weighted average interest rate of short-term notes payable at December 31, 2000 and 2001 was 7.2 percent and 5.5 percent, respectively.

Interest paid on debt during 1999, 2000 and 2001 was \$24,140, \$97,177, and \$90,474, respectively. The amount of interest capitalized was \$1,491, \$1,022, and \$503 during 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Company's financial instruments as of December 31 are as follows:

	2000		2001	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Cash and cash equivalents	\$45,795	\$45,795	<b>\$71,835</b>	<b>\$71,835</b>
Notes payable				
(154,997) (154,997)	<b>(15,875)</b>	<b>(15,875)</b>		
Current portion of long-term debt				
(15,193) (15,193)	<b>(217,161)</b>	<b>(223,061)</b>		
Long-term debt				
(1,036,960) (920,360)	<b>(882,134)</b>	<b>(856,934)</b>		
Derivative financial instruments				
(214) (214)	<b>(2,053)</b>	<b>(2,053)</b>		

The derivative financial instruments include fair value and cash flow hedges of foreign currency exposures and fair value hedges of fixed rate debt. Exchange rate fluctuations on the foreign-denominated intercompany loans and obligations are offset by the change in values of the fair value foreign currency hedges. The notional amount of these derivative instruments at December 31, 2000 and 2001 was \$25,400 and \$253,000, respectively. The counterparties to each of these agreements are major commercial banks. Management believes that the probability of losses related to credit risk on investments classified as cash and cash equivalents is remote.

### Preferred Stock Purchase Rights

Each stockholder is entitled to the right to purchase 1/100th of a newly-issued share of Series A preferred stock of the Company, for each common share owned, at an exercise price of \$135. The rights will be exercisable only if a

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person or group (i) acquires beneficial ownership of 15 percent or more of the Company's outstanding common stock (Acquiring Person), or (ii) subject to extension of the date by the Board of Directors of the Company, commences a tender or exchange offer which upon consummation would result in such person or group beneficially owning 15 percent or more of the Company's outstanding common stock (ten days following the date of announcement of (i) above, the Stock Acquisition Date).

If any person becomes an Acquiring Person, or if an Acquiring Person engages in certain self-dealing transactions or a merger transaction in which the Company is the surviving corporation and its common stock remains outstanding, or an event occurs which results in such Acquiring Person's ownership interest being increased by more than one percent, then each right not owned by such Acquiring Person or certain related parties will entitle its holder to purchase a number of shares of the Company's Series A preferred stock (or in certain circumstances, Company common stock, cash, property, or other securities of the Company) having a value equal to twice the then current exercise price of the right. In addition, if, following the Stock Acquisition Date, the Company (i) is acquired in a merger or other business combination and the Company is not the surviving corporation, (ii) is involved in a merger or other business combination transaction with another person after which all or part of the Company's common stock is converted or exchanged for securities, cash or property of any other person, or (iii) sells 50 percent or more of its assets or earning power to another person, each right (except rights that have been voided as described above) will entitle its holder to purchase a number of shares of common stock of the ultimate parent of the Acquiring Person having a value equal to twice the then current exercise price of the right.

The Company will generally be entitled to redeem the rights at one cent per right, subject to adjustment in certain events, payable in cash or shares of the Company's common stock at any time until the tenth business day following the Stock Acquisition Date.

**Stock-Based Compensation***Stock Options*

SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation* requires, if APB Opinion No. 25 is followed, disclosure of pro forma information regarding net income and earnings per share determined as if the Company accounted for its employee stock options under the fair value method. The fair value for these options was estimated at the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions:

	1999	2000	2001
Risk-free interest rate	5.6%	6.8%	<b>4.9%</b>
Dividend yield	1.5%	1.6%	<b>2.3%</b>
Expected volatility of the Company's common stock	0.238	0.245	<b>0.269</b>
Expected life in years	6.3	5.6	<b>5.5</b>

The weighted-average fair value of options granted in 1999, 2000 and 2001 was \$6.64, \$3.93, and \$3.52, respectively. For purposes of pro forma disclosures, the estimated fair value of options is amortized to expense over the options' vesting period. The Company's reported and pro forma information follows:

	1999	2000	2001
Net income:			
Reported			
\$135,474	\$96,734	<b>\$18,166</b>	
Pro forma			
132,322	91,514	<b>13,095</b>	
Basic earnings per share:			
Reported			
\$1.79	\$1.31	<b>\$0.25</b>	



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Pro forma

1.75 1.24 **0.18**

Diluted earnings per share:

Reported

\$1.79 \$1.31 **\$0.25**

Pro forma

1.74 1.24 **0.18**

The Company's 1998 and 2001 incentive compensation plans allow the Company to grant awards to key employees in the form of stock options, stock awards, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, performance units, dividend equivalents and other awards. The 1986 and 1996 incentive stock option plans and the 1998 and 2001 incentive compensation plans provide for granting options to key employees to purchase common shares at

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prices not less than market at the date of grant. Options under these plans may have terms of up to ten years becoming exercisable in whole or in consecutive installments, cumulative or otherwise. The plans allow the granting of nonqualified stock options which are not intended to qualify for the tax treatment applicable to incentive stock options under provisions of the Internal Revenue Code. Options which were outstanding at December 31, 2001 under these plans have a term of ten years and become exercisable 50 percent after the first year and 100 percent after the second year.

The 1998 employee stock option plan allowed the Company to make a nonqualified option grant to substantially all of its employees to purchase common shares at a price not less than market at the date of grant. Options granted under this plan have a term of ten years and are exercisable in full beginning three years after the date of grant.

The Company's 1991 nonqualified stock option plan provides for granting options to directors who are not current or former employees of the Company to purchase common shares at prices not less than market at the date of grant. Options granted under this plan have a term of ten years and are exercisable in full beginning one year after the date of grant.

Summarized information for the plans follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Available For Grant
<hr/>			
January 1, 1999			
Outstanding	2,059,934	\$20.99	
<i>Exercisable</i>	<i>589,697</i>	<i>21.33</i>	
Granted	590,653	22.46	
Exercised	(18,294)	14.22	
Cancelled	(140,692)	21.82	
<hr/>			
December 31, 1999			
	3,435,977		
Outstanding	2,491,601	21.34	
<i>Exercisable</i>	<i>792,098</i>	<i>21.61</i>	
Granted	1,587,075	12.60	
Exercised	(29,600)	9.11	
Cancelled	(243,880)	19.79	
<hr/>			
December 31, 2000			
	1,970,157		
Outstanding	3,805,196	17.89	

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*Exercisable* 1,083,421 22.01

Granted 1,276,947 13.46

Exercised (39,100) 12.63

Expired (46,100) 15.19

Cancelled (284,650) 16.96

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December 31, 2001  
5,832,026

Outstanding 4,712,293 16.82

*Exercisable* 2,778,196 19.37

The weighted average remaining contractual life of options outstanding at December 31, 2001 is 8.3 years. Segregated disclosure of options outstanding at December 31, 2001 is as follows:

	Range of Exercise Prices	
	Less than \$20.00	Equal to or greater than \$20.00
Options outstanding	2,709,321	2,002,972
Weighted average exercise price	\$13.20	\$21.71
Remaining contractual life	9.7	6.3
Options exercisable	775,224	2,002,972
Weighted average exercise price	\$13.30	\$21.71

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### *Restricted Stock Units*

Under the 1998 Incentive Compensation Plan, restricted stock units may be granted to officers and other key employees. Deferred compensation related to the restricted stock units is determined based on the fair value of the Company's stock on the date of grant and is amortized to expense over the vesting period.

In 1999 the Company granted 49,210 restricted stock units with a weighted average fair value of \$16.50 per unit and vesting periods of one to two years. In 2001, the Company granted 3,836 restricted stock units with a weighted average fair value of \$13.47 per unit and vesting periods of one and two years. The grants provide for accrual of dividend equivalents. At December 31, 2001, 44,903 restricted stock units were outstanding.

### **Common Stock**

There were 18,560,362 common shares reserved for grants under compensation plans and contributions to the Company's Thrift and Profit Sharing and Pre-Tax Savings plans at December 31, 2001. The Company matches contributions made by participants to these plans in accordance with a formula based upon the financial performance of the Company. Matching contributions are directed to the Company Stock Fund and they must remain invested in that fund until an employee has attained three years of service with the Company. Once an employee has attained three years of service, any matching contributions may be transferred to any of the other investment funds offered under the plans.

### **Pensions and Postretirement Benefits Other than Pensions**

The Company and its consolidated subsidiaries have a number of plans providing pension, retirement or profit-sharing benefits for substantially all domestic employees. These plans include defined benefit and defined contribution plans. The Company has an unfunded, nonqualified supplemental retirement plan covering certain employees whose participation in the qualified plan is limited by provisions of the Internal Revenue Code.

For defined benefit plans, benefits are generally based on compensation and length of service for salaried employees and length of service for hourly employees. Effective January 1, 2002, a new hybrid pension plan covering all salaried domestic employees was established. Current employees meeting certain requirements were grandfathered in the previous defined benefit programs. The new pension plan resembles a savings account. Amounts are credited based on a combination of age, years of service and percentage of earnings. A cash out option is available upon termination or retirement.

The Company's general funding policy is to contribute amounts deductible for U.S. federal income tax purposes or amounts as required by local statute. Employees of certain of the company's foreign operations are covered by either contributory or non-contributory trustee pension plans.

Participation in the Company's defined contribution plans is voluntary and participants' contributions are limited based on their compensation. The Company matches certain plan participants' contributions up to various limits. Certain Company contributions are dependent on operating performance. Expense for these plans was \$12,829, \$18,326 and \$6,149 for 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

The Company currently provides certain retiree health care and life insurance benefits covering substantially all domestic salary and hourly employees. If the Company does not terminate such benefits, or modify coverage or eligibility requirements, substantially all of the Company's domestic employees may become eligible for these benefits upon retirement if they meet certain age and service requirements. The Company has reserved the right to modify or terminate such benefits at any time, subject to applicable terms and conditions contained in union agreements for non-salary participants. In recent years benefit changes have been implemented throughout the Company.

The following tables disclose information related to the Company's defined benefit plans and other postretirement benefits:

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	Pension Benefits		Other Postretirement Benefits	
	2000	2001	2000	2001
<b>Change in benefit obligation:</b>				
Benefit obligation at January 1	\$736,779	<b>\$786,025</b>	\$235,676	<b>\$265,919</b>
Divestiture		<b>(619)</b>		
Service cost - employer	27,199	<b>28,244</b>	5,420	<b>5,836</b>
Service cost - participants	2,189	<b>2,002</b>		
Interest cost	54,065	<b>57,931</b>	17,473	<b>19,672</b>
Actuarial (loss) gain	10,311	<b>4,594</b>	19,200	<b>36,758</b>
Amendments	4,751	<b>(35,365)</b>	5,301	
Benefits paid	(36,006)	<b>(44,763)</b>	(16,547)	<b>(18,356)</b>
Foreign currency exchange rate effect	(13,263)	<b>(4,250)</b>	(604)	<b>(330)</b>
<hr/>				
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Benefit obligation at December 31	\$786,025	<b>\$793,799</b>	\$265,919	<b>\$309,499</b>
<hr/>				
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<hr/>				
<hr/>				
<b>Change in plans' assets:</b>				
Fair value of plans' assets at January 1	\$719,371	<b>\$735,073</b>	\$	<b>\$</b>
Divestiture		<b>(607)</b>		
Actual return on plans' assets				

46,846 **(21,295)**  
 Employer contributions  
 16,084 **41,475**  
 Participant contributions  
 2,189 **2,002**  
 Benefits paid  
 (36,006) **(44,763)**  
 Other disbursements  
**(374)**  
 Foreign currency exchange rate effect  
 (13,411) **(4,857)**

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Fair value of plans' assets at December 31  
 \$735,073 **\$706,654** \$ \$

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Funded status of the plans  
 \$(50,952) **\$(87,145)** \$(265,919) **\$(309,499)**  
 Unrecognized actuarial loss  
 67,899 **162,792** 56,798 **91,037**  
 Unrecognized prior service cost  
 11,941 **(28,390)** 5,645 **4,137**  
 Unrecognized net transition obligation  
 2,461 **1,374**  
 Adjustment for minimum liability  
 (44,051) **(77,196)**

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Net amount recognized  
 \$(12,702) **\$(28,565)** \$(203,476) **\$(214,325)**

Amounts recognized in the balance sheets:

Prepaid expenses, deferred income taxes and assets held for sale

\$(209) **\$1,051** \$ \$

Intangibles and other assets

45,321 **51,823**

Accrued liabilities

(4,043) (13,301) **(16,568)**

Postretirement benefits other than pensions

(190,175) **(197,757)**

Other long-term liabilities

(53,771) **(81,439)**

Net amount recognized

\$(12,702) **\$(28,565)** \$(203,476) **\$(214,325)**

Assumptions as of December 31:

Discount rate

7.50% **7.25%** 7.50% **7.25%**

Expected return on plan assets

9.64% **9.69%**

Rate of compensation increase

5.25% **4.79%**

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At December 31, 2001 the weighted average assumed annual rate of increase in the cost of health care benefits (health care cost trend rate) was 9.0 percent per year for 2002 through 2004 and 6.0 percent per year for 2005 and thereafter.

Pension Benefits			Other Postretirement Benefits		
1999	2000	2001	1999	2000	2001

Components of net periodic benefit cost:

Service cost	\$24,872	\$27,199	<b>\$28,244</b>	\$4,782	\$5,420	<b>\$5,836</b>
Interest cost	43,668	54,065	<b>57,931</b>	14,104	17,473	<b>19,672</b>
Expected return on plan assets	(56,251)	(67,877)	<b>(69,742)</b>			
Amortization of transition obligation	1,088	1,088	<b>1,088</b>			
Amortization of prior service cost	5,357	5,902	<b>5,043</b>	396	475	<b>1,508</b>
Recognized actuarial loss	3,410	3,122	<b>3,979</b>	244	1,142	<b>2,054</b>

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Net periodic benefit cost	\$22,144	\$23,499	<b>\$26,543</b>	\$19,526	\$24,510	<b>\$29,070</b>
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The projected benefit obligation, accumulated benefit obligation and fair value of plan assets for the pension plans with accumulated benefit obligations in excess of plan assets were \$243,738, \$238,364 and \$204,077, respectively, at December 31, 2000 and \$235,675, \$232,241 and \$191,133, respectively, as of December 31, 2001.

Assumed health care cost trend rates for Other Postretirement Benefits have a significant effect on the amounts reported. A one-percentage-point change in assumed health care cost trend rates would have the following effects:

	One Percentage Point	
	Increase	Decrease
Increase (decrease) in total service and interest cost components	\$ 500	\$(440)
Increase (decrease) in the postretirement benefit obligation 8,475 (7,436)		

The Company has a Voluntary Employees Beneficiary Trust and Welfare Benefits Plan (VEBA) to fund health benefits for eligible active and retired domestic employees. The pre-funded amount at December 31, 2000 and 2001 was \$15,664 and \$18,414, respectively.

### Income Taxes

Components of income before income taxes:

	1999	2000	2001
U.S.	\$210,718	\$ 143,426	\$(29,339)
Foreign			
4,779 16,730 <b>58,497</b>			
Total	\$215,497	\$160,156	<b>\$29,158</b>

The provision for income taxes consists of the following:

	1999	2000	2001
Current:			
Federal			

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\$68,678 \$53,974 **\$2,289**  
State and local  
8,171 6,789 **1,258**  
Foreign  
2,938 7,535 **29,593**

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79,787 68,298 **33,140**  
Deferred:

Federal  
(1,082) (3,998) **(9,538)**  
State and local  
1,287 (878) **(5,606)**  
Foreign  
31 **(7,004)**

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236 (4,876) **(22,148)**

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\$80,023 \$63,422 **\$10,992**

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A reconciliation of income tax expense to the U.S. statutory rate is as follows:

	1999	2000	2001
Income tax provision @ 35%	\$75,424	\$56,055	<b>\$10,205</b>
State and local income tax, net of federal income tax effect			
6,148 3,842 <b>(2,791)</b>			
Amortization of nondeductible goodwill			
727 5,424 <b>5,022</b>			
U.S. tax credits			
(1,969) (3,400) <b>(3,130)</b>			
Foreign sales corporation benefit			
(1,300) (1,400) <b>(1,570)</b>			
Difference in effective tax rates of international operations			
1,317 1,679 <b>2,115</b>			
Other net			
(324) 1,222 <b>1,141</b>			
<hr/>			
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Actual income tax provision			
\$80,023 \$63,422 <b>\$10,992</b>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
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Effective income tax rate			
37.1% 39.6% <b>37.7%</b>			
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Payments for income taxes in 1999, 2000 and 2001 were \$77,961, \$90,683 and \$28,092, respectively.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities result from differences in the basis of assets and liabilities for tax and financial statement purposes. Significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities at December 31 are as follows:

	2000	2001
<b>Deferred tax assets:</b>		
Other postretirement benefits		
\$99,722	<b>\$110,151</b>	
Net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards		
46,462	<b>68,122</b>	
All other items		
18,116	<b>34,837</b>	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
Total deferred tax assets		
164,300	<b>213,110</b>	
<b>Deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Property, plant and equipment		
(124,185)	<b>(130,827)</b>	
Pension benefits		
(17,482)	<b>(17,293)</b>	
All other items		
(35,889)	<b>(41,569)</b>	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
Total deferred tax liabilities		
(177,556)	<b>(189,689)</b>	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
(13,256)	<b>23,421</b>	
Valuation allowance		
(23,839)	<b>(25,030)</b>	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
Net deferred tax liabilities		
\$(37,095)	<b>\$ (1,609)</b>	
<hr/>		

The net deferred tax liabilities in the Consolidated Balance Sheets are as follows:

	2000	2001
Current assets	\$25,352	<b>\$18,403</b>
Non-current liabilities (62,447) <b>(20,012)</b>		
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
Net deferred tax liability		
\$(37,095) <b>\$(1,609)</b>		
<hr/>		
<hr/>		

The Company has not provided deferred income taxes on approximately \$125,000 of undistributed earnings of international affiliates which will continue to be reinvested. It is not practicable to determine the amount of additional U.S. income taxes that could be payable upon

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remittance of these earnings since taxes payable would be reduced by foreign tax credits based upon income tax laws and circumstances at the time of distribution.

At December 31, 2001, the Company has future tax benefits of \$68,122 related to various foreign and state net operating losses and other tax credit carryforwards, some of which can be carried forward indefinitely while others will expire from 2002 through 2021. Approximately \$21,000 of these tax benefits relate to carryovers assumed with acquisitions. A valuation allowance of \$13,800 was recorded on these purchased net operating loss carryforwards and, to the extent such benefits are realized, the benefits will be recorded as an adjustment to goodwill. The carryforwards for which no valuation allowance has been established will be realized based upon forecasted future earnings resulting in future taxable income and the implementation of certain tax strategies. The increase in the valuation allowance in 2001 was attributable to losses and credits in jurisdictions where realization was less certain based upon forecasted future earnings.

**Lease Commitments**

The Company rents certain manufacturing facilities and equipment under long-term leases expiring at various dates. Rental expense for operating leases was \$16,350, \$31,287 and \$36,107 for 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively.

Future minimum payments for all non-cancelable operating leases, in aggregate of \$124,180, are as follows:

2002	\$ 17,360
2003	
13,687	
2004	
11,423	
2005	
9,877	
2006	
9,103	
Thereafter	
62,730	

**Commitments and Contingent Liabilities**

The Company has had pending against it 32 separate class action lawsuits and two individual lawsuits with similar allegations filed in 30 separate state courts, plus the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. One of the class action lawsuits purports to represent a national class. The lawsuits, all of which were filed under the auspices of the same group of plaintiffs attorneys, assert claims under the respective states consumer protection and deceptive trade practices statutes, and comparable commercial law and other theories. They allege that the Company used certain materials and procedures in its process of manufacturing steel-belted radial tires which could have rendered a portion of the tires unsafe, and failed to disclose those practices to purchasers of its tires. The suits were brought on behalf of all persons (excluding those who have sustained personal injury and/or property damage as a result of the alleged unlawful practices) in the respective states who purchased steel-belted radial tires manufactured by the Company from 1985 to the present, and still retain those tires. The lawsuits generally seek, on behalf of each class member, relief sufficient to secure replacement of their tires, statutory, compensatory and punitive damages, costs and attorneys fees. The Company removed each of the actions to Federal court. Certain of the actions have been remanded to state courts, while others have been transferred by the Federal Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation to the U. S. District Court for the Southern District of Ohio for consolidated pre-trial handling.

On October 26, 2001, the Company entered into a Stipulation of Settlement and Release of all of the class action lawsuits, without any admission of liability, resulting in a charge of \$54.6 million (\$33.9 million net of tax). Prior to settlement, \$17.6 million of legal and professional and tire storage costs were incurred related to the class action litigation. Certain parties have sought to have the settlement nullified. According to the terms of the Stipulation of Settlement and Release, the Company will provide (i) a five-year Enhanced Warranty Program offering a free replacement tire for an Adjustable Separation on an Eligible Cooper Tire or an alternative dispute resolution system; (ii) some modifications to final tire inspections; and (iii) a consumer education program to promote tire safety. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay plaintiffs legal expenses as part of the settlement. In addition, the Company has agreed to pay plaintiffs legal expenses as part of the settlement. Out of potentially millions of class members, only 156 chose to opt out of the Settlement. Those who opted out can pursue any legal rights they may

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have against the Company in separate individual lawsuits, any one of which the Company believes is unlikely to have a material adverse effect on the Company's results of operations, cash flow or financial position.

Preliminary judicial approval of the Settlement has been received. If final approval is received, the litigation will be fully resolved, unless appealed. There were 18 objectors to the Settlement. None objected to the structure of the Settlement, but only to the content, coverage and amount of attorney's fees. A fairness hearing regarding the Settlement was held in the Superior Court of New Jersey, Middlesex County on January 29 and 30, 2002. The Court has not yet rendered its decision as to the fairness of the Settlement.

The Company is also a defendant in unrelated product liability and other actions in Federal and state courts throughout the United States in which plaintiffs assert monetary damages. If the plaintiffs in certain of those actions recovered the damages sought, the impact could be material to the Company's results of operations, cash flows, or financial position. The Company believes that such a result is unlikely. The Company does not believe any liability it may have for these matters will be material to its results of operations, cash flows or financial position.

**Cumulative Other Comprehensive Loss**

The cumulative balances of each component of other comprehensive loss in the accompanying statements of stockholders' equity are as follows:

	1999	2000	2001
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Cumulative currency translation adjustment	\$ 793	\$(31,240)	<b>\$(40,813)</b>
Unrealized gains on marketable securities and changes in fair value of derivatives:			
Unrealized net gains during the period, net of tax			
<b>1,599</b>			
Less: reclassification adjustment for amounts included in net income, net of tax effect			
<b>(1,138)</b>			
Minimum pension liability, net of tax effect			
(6,846) (22,402) <b>(44,038)</b>			
_____			
_____			
_____			
 \$ (6,053) \$(53,642) <b>\$(84,390)</b>			
_____			
_____			
_____			

**Accrued Liabilities**

Accrued liabilities at December 31 are as follows:

	2000	2001
Payroll	\$56,666	<b>\$53,088</b>
Class action settlement		
<b>37,840</b>		
Other		
161,355		<b>131,575</b>
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
	\$218,021	<b>\$222,503</b>
<hr/>		
<hr/>		

**Other long-term liabilities**

Other long-term liabilities at December 31 are as follows:

	2000	2001
Minimum pension liability	\$44,051	<b>\$77,196</b>
Class action settlement		
<b>8,614</b>		
Nonqualified executive plans		
16,298	<b>4,872</b>	
Other		
15,442	<b>15,520</b>	
<hr/>		
<hr/>		
	\$75,791	<b>\$106,202</b>
<hr/>		
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**Other Income net**

The components of other income net for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 are as follows:

	1999	2000	2001
	_____	_____	_____
Foreign currency losses	\$(2,064)	\$(2,631)	<b>\$(1,224)</b>
Minority interest gains			
778 4,479	<b>2,579</b>		
Interest income			
2,111 2,575	<b>3,295</b>		
Gains on sales of non-manufacturing assets			
	<b>8,263</b>		
Other			
37 713	<b>706</b>		
_____			
_____			
_____			
\$862 \$5,136	<b>\$13,619</b>		
_____			
_____			
_____			

The non-manufacturing assets included a corporate aircraft and two tire distribution facilities.

**Business Segments**

The Company has two reportable segments Tire and Automotive. The Company's reportable segments are each managed separately because they offer different products requiring different marketing and distribution strategies.

The Tire segment produces automobile, truck and motorcycle tires and inner tubes which are sold nationally and internationally in the replacement tire market to independent dealers, wholesale distributors and large retail chains and supplies equipment and materials to the tread rubber industry.

The Automotive segment produces sealing systems, hose and hose assemblies, active and passive vibration control systems and fluid handling systems primarily for the global automotive original equipment manufacturers.

In 2000, Automotive revenues derived from two customers approximated \$487,000 and \$367,000 or 14 percent and 11 percent, respectively, of consolidated net sales. Automotive revenues from these same two customers approximated \$455,000 and \$356,000 or 14 percent and 11 percent, respectively, of consolidated net sales in 2001. No customers exceeded 10 percent of consolidated net sales in 1999.

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The accounting policies of the reportable segments are consistent with those described in the Significant Accounting Policies note to the financial statements. Corporate administrative expenses are allocated to segments based principally on assets, employees and sales. The following table presents financial information:

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	1999	2000	2001
<b>FINANCIAL</b>			
Revenues			
Tire	\$1,557,110	\$1,802,607	<b>\$1,704,623</b>
Automotive	643,642	1,698,519	<b>1,477,409</b>
Eliminations and other	(4,409)	(28,754)	<b>(27,330)</b>
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
Consolidated	2,196,343	3,472,372	<b>3,154,702</b>
Segment profit			
Tire	176,389	183,865	<b>73,192</b>
Automotive	62,691	68,616	<b>39,001</b>
Corporate	(5,959)		
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
Operating profit	239,080	252,481	<b>106,234</b>
Other net	862	5,136	<b>13,619</b>
Interest expense	(24,445)	(97,461)	<b>(90,695)</b>
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
<hr/>			
Income before income taxes	215,497	160,156	<b>29,158</b>
Depreciation and amortization expense			

Tire  
 100,120 107,886 **110,065**  
 Automotive  
 25,457 80,895 **79,428**  
 Corporate  
**794**

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Consolidated  
 125,577 188,781 **190,287**  
 Segment assets

Tire  
 1,391,340 1,439,221 **1,345,711**  
 Automotive  
 1,235,966 1,393,854 **1,263,334**  
 Corporate and other  
 130,339 63,598 **155,205**

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Consolidated  
 2,757,645 2,896,673 **2,764,250**  
 Expenditures for long-lived assets

Tire  
 111,384 107,598 **74,863**  
 Automotive  
 38,433 93,768 **58,482**  
 Corporate  
**2,942**

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Consolidated  
 149,817 201,366 **136,287**

Geographic information for revenues, based on country of origin, and long-lived assets follows:

GEOGRAPHIC

Revenues

	North										
America	\$1,995,197	\$2,917,048	<b>\$2,624,283</b>	Europe	199,397	489,473	<b>472,204</b>	Other	1,749	65,851	<b>58,215</b>

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Consolidated	2,196,343	3,472,372	<b>3,154,702</b>	Long-lived assets				North			
America	1,023,709	1,058,265	<b>983,128</b>	Europe	172,236	188,876	<b>188,022</b>	Other	31,124	38,255	<b>34,924</b>

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Consolidated 1,227,069 1,285,396 **1,206,074**

Sales from the U. S. amounted to \$1,930,436, \$2,560,604 and \$2,306,416 in 1999, 2000 and 2001, respectively. Shipments of domestically-produced products to customers outside the U. S. approximated eight percent of net sales in 1999, 2000 and 2001.

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**REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS**

The Board of Directors

Cooper Tire & Rubber Company

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company as of December 31, 2000 and 2001, and the related consolidated statements of income, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the index at Item 14 (a). These financial statements and schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Those standards 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, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Cooper Tire & Rubber Company at December 31, 2000 and 2001, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2001, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP  
ERNST & YOUNG LLP

Toledo, Ohio  
February 6, 2002

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**SELECTED QUARTERLY DATA**

(Unaudited)

(Dollar amounts in thousands except per-share amounts.)

	2000			
	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Net sales	\$922,265	\$ 886,652	\$ 843,607	\$ 819,848
Gross profit				
134,681 145,279 117,392 135,205				
Net income				
31,502 35,475 23,420 6,337				
Basic and diluted earnings per share				
.42 .48 .32 .09				
Dividend per share				
.105 .105 .105 .105				
Stock price high				
16.0000 14.6875 12.7500 10.9375				
low				
9.5000 11.0625 9.5625 9.1875				
Revenues from external customers:				
Tire				
\$445,344 \$410,420 \$482,039 \$464,804				
Automotive				
484,679 484,925 368,231 360,684				
Eliminations and other				
(7,758) (8,693) (6,663) (5,640)				
Net sales	\$922,265	\$886,652	\$843,607	\$819,848

Segment profit:

Tire(a)

\$45,109 \$42,104 \$51,469 \$45,183

Automotive(b)

27,096 41,082 8,583 (8,145)

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Operating profit

72,205 83,186 60,052 37,038

Interest expense

(23,922) (25,376) (23,589) (24,574)

Other net

3,359 362 1,915 (500)

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Income before income taxes

\$51,642 \$58,172 \$38,378 \$11,964

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2001

Net sales	\$757,614	\$829,040	\$791,458	\$776,590
Gross profit				
96,118	118,969	113,107	101,816	
Net income				
3,648	18,338	(19,512)	15,692	
Basic and diluted earnings per share				
.05	.25	(.27)	.22	
Dividend per share				



.105 .105 .105 .105  
 Stock price high  
 14.24 14.20 17.43 16.63  
 low  
 10.75 10.55 12.69 12.50

Revenues from external customers:

Tire  
 \$388,235 \$433,438 \$461,757 \$421,193  
 Automotive  
 376,788 403,623 335,914 361,084  
 Eliminations and other  
 (7,409) (8,021) (6,213) (5,687)

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Net sales  
 \$757,614 \$829,040 \$791,458 \$776,590

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Segment profit:

Tire (c)  
 \$16,204 \$26,527 \$(9,276) \$39,737  
 Automotive (d)  
 10,271 23,659 51 5,020  
 Corporate  
 (1,482) (1,242) 588 (3,823)

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Operating profit  
 24,993 48,944 (8,637) 40,934  
 Interest expense  
 (23,290) (23,364) (22,349) (21,692)  
 Other net

4,115 3,667 (370) 6,207


Income before income taxes  
 \$5,818 \$29,247 \$(31,356) \$25,449


The common stock of the Company (CTB) is traded on the New York Stock Exchange.

(a) Includes \$5,674 of restructuring charges, of which \$2,648 were in the fourth quarter.

(b) Includes \$33,025 of restructuring charges, of which \$30,557 were in the fourth quarter and \$19,001 of operating losses at closed and sold facilities, of which \$10,730 were in the first quarter. (c) Includes \$1,602 of restructuring charges and \$72,194 of class action costs, of which \$63,707 were in the third quarter. (d) Includes \$7,046 of restructuring charges.



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COOPER TIRE & RUBBER COMPANY

SCHEDULE II VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS  
 Years ended December 31, 1999, 2000 and 2001

	Balance at Beginning of Year	Additions		Balance at End of Year
		Charged To Income	Business Acquisitions (a) Deductions	
Allowance for doubtful accounts:				
1999				
	\$4,806,000	\$1,526,904	\$3,784,000	\$797,904
				\$9,319,000
2000				
	\$9,319,000	\$2,581,865	\$3,221,000	\$4,121,865
				\$11,000,000
2001				
	\$11,000,000	\$6,008,949	\$0	\$3,850,419
				\$13,158,530



(a) Accounts charged off during the year, net of recoveries of accounts previously charged off.

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