## Contents

2 Financial highlights - continuing operations
3 Financial highlights - group
4 Commentary
6 Leadership structure
7 Consolidated balance sheet
8 Consolidated income statement
9 Consolidated cash flow statement
10 Consolidated changes in equity statement
11 Notes to the financial statements
12 Presentation
38 Operational segmental balance sheet
40 Operational segmental income statement
42 Trading segmental analysis
44 Definitions
44 Contact details

## Financial highlights - continuing operations

|  |  | Six months to 28 February 2005 | Six months to 29 February 2004 | Year to 31 August 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income Statement |  |  |  |  |
| Turnover | R'000 | 4378101 | 3506154 | 7394151 |
| Gross profit | R'000 | 907600 | 745117 | 1537609 |
| Profit before interest and taxation | R'000 | 208997 | 222063 | 332656 |
| Headline earnings | R'000 | 130450 | 137804 | 248068 |
| Balance Sheet |  |  |  |  |
| Ordinary shareholders' interest | R'000 | 1346194 | 1698700 | 1372697 |
| Long-term liabilities | R'000 | 222703 | 298392 | 259730 |
| Total assets | R'000 | 3032197 | 3178148 | 3133634 |
| Performance |  |  |  |  |
| Turnover growth | \% | 24.9 | 38.2 | 28.6 |
| Comparable stores turnover growth - South Africa | \% | 9.2 | 8.1 | 8.1 |
| Gross profit growth | \% | 21.8 | 21.4 | 26.8 |
| Gross profit margin | \% | 20.7 | 21.1 | 20.8 |
| Inventory turn | times | 5.6 | 5.6 | 5.6 |
| Return on total assets (annualised) | \% | 7.9 | 8.4 | 8.4 |
| Return on shareholders' interest (annualised) | \% | 17.8 | 19.0 | 19.1 |
| Net interest-bearing debt to shareholders' funds at period end Statistics | \% | 32.6 | 18.0 | 25.4 |
| Number of permanent employees |  | 8817 | 7218 | 9011 |
| Number of stores - company owned |  | 680 | 602 | 681 |
| Number of stores - franchised |  | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Trading area - company owned | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | 234897 | 216996 | 231037 |
| Share Statistics |  |  |  |  |
| Number of shares in issue (gross) | '000 | 368554 | 359186 | 361205 |
| Number of shares in issue (net of treasury shares) | '000 | 338813 | 359186 | 345391 |
| Weighted average number of shares in issue | '000 | 340627 | 355092 | 353571 |
| Weighted average diluted number of shares in issue | '000 | 346993 | 360429 | 363046 |
| Headline earnings per share - undiluted | cents | 38.3 | 38.8 | 77.0 |
| Headline earnings per share - diluted | cents | 37.6 | 38.2 | 75.0 |
| Distribution per share - interim | cents | 11.2 | 12.5 | 35.0 |
| Distribution cover | times | 3.4 | 3.1 | 2.2 |
| Share price - closing | cents | 830 | 695 | 770 |
| Net asset value per share | cents | 365 | 473 | 380 |
| Net tangible asset value per share | cents | 338 | 441 | 351 |
| Market capitalisation (gross) | R'000 | 3058998 | 2496343 | 2781279 |
| Market capitalisation (net of treasury shares) | R'000 | 2812148 | 2496343 | 2659511 |
| Weighted price earnings ratio |  | 11.6 | 9.6 | 10 |

## Financial highlights - group

|  |  | Six months to 28 February 2005 | Six months to 29 February 2004 | Year to 31 August 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income Statement |  |  |  |  |
| Turnover | R'000 | 4378101 | 4160805 | 8048802 |
| Gross profit | R'000 | 907600 | 954858 | 1747350 |
| Profit before interest and taxation | R'000 | 208997 | 262484 | 155116 |
| Headline earnings | R'000 | 130450 | 162973 | 270634 |
| Balance Sheet |  |  |  |  |
| Ordinary shareholders' interest | R'000 | 1346194 | 1698700 | 1372697 |
| Long-term liabilities | R'000 | 222703 | 298392 | 259730 |
| Total assets | R'000 | 3032197 | 3178148 | 3133634 |
| Cash Flow |  |  |  |  |
| Net cash flow (to)/from operating activities | R'000 | (271 183) | (18934) | 218962 |
| Net interest paid | R'000 | 26512 | 36295 | 59778 |
| Capital expenditure | R'000 | 72376 | 91109 | 160349 |
| Depreciation and amortisation (excluding goodwill amortisation) | R'000 | 52449 | 60071 | 109021 |
| Turnover growth | \% | 5.2 | 21.4 | 9.2 |
| Comparable stores turnover growth - South Africa | \% | 9.2 | 8.1 | 8.1 |
| Gross profit growth | \% | (4.9) | 3.5 | (0.5) |
| Gross profit margin | \% | 20.7 | 22.9 | 21.7 |
| Inventory turn | times | 5.6 | 6.5 | 5.6 |
| Return on total assets (annualised) | \% | 7.9 | 8.9 | 8.2 |
| Return on shareholders' interest (annualised) | \% | 17.8 | 17.9 | 18.2 |
| Net interest-bearing debt to shareholders' funds at period end Statistics | \% | 32.6 | 22.5 | 25.4 |
| Number of permanent employees |  | 8817 | 7218 | 9011 |
| Number of stores - company owned |  | 680 | 602 | 681 |
| Number of stores - franchised |  | 15 | 15 | 15 |
| Trading area - company owned | $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | 234897 | 216996 | 231037 |
| Share Statistics |  |  |  |  |
| Number of shares in issue (gross) | '000 | 368554 | 359186 | 361205 |
| Number of shares in issue (net of treasury shares) | '000 | 338813 | 359186 | 345391 |
| Weighted average number of shares in issue | '000 | 340627 | 355092 | 353571 |
| Weighted average diluted number of shares in issue | '000 | 346993 | 360429 | 363046 |
| Headline earnings per share - undiluted | cents | 38.3 | 45.9 | 76.5 |
| Headline earnings per share - diluted | cents | 37.6 | 45.2 | 74.5 |
| Distribution per share | cents | 11.2 | 12.5 | 35.0 |
| Distribution cover | times | 3.4 | 3.7 | 2.2 |
| Share price - closing | cents | 830 | 695 | 770 |
| Share price - high | cents | 990 | 799 | 799 |
| Share price - low | cents | 725 | 670 | 660 |
| Net asset value per share | cents | 365 | 473 | 380 |
| Net tangible asset value per share | cents | 338 | 441 | 351 |
| Market capitalisation (gross) | R'000 | 3058998 | 2496343 | 2781279 |
| Market capitalisation (net of treasury shares) | R'000 | 2812148 | 2496343 | 2659511 |
| Weighted price earnings ratio |  | 11.6 | 8.1 | 10.1 |
| Volume of shares traded | '000 | 78456 | 100346 | 163031 |
| Percentage of shares traded | \% | 23.0 | 28.3 | 46.1 |
| Free float | \% | 98.3 | 97.5 | 97.6 |

## Commentary

## Financial performance

The group increased turnover from continuing operations by $24.9 \%$ to R 4.4 billion in the six-month period, with the retail brands growing $29.2 \%$ and wholesale distribution increasing by $36.1 \%$ including sales to group companies. The year-on-year comparison of the group's performance has been impacted by the inclusion of the pharmacy operations for the current period and not for the corresponding period in 2004.

However, the results were adversely impacted by a $28.1 \%$ decline in operating profit in the core Clicks brand from R177.5 million to R127.7 million. This is attributable to a loss in pharmacy of R38.0 million for the period, turnover growth being slightly below expectations, higher than budgeted stock shrinkage and increased expenses.

The pharmacy losses are mainly in the smaller and nonintegrated pharmacies and can largely be ascribed to the reduction in margin from the low dispensing fee prescribed by the medicine pricing regulations.

Discom continued its return to sustainable profitability and the Entertainment Division more than doubled operating profit in the period.

New United Pharmaceutical Distributors (UPD), the group's wholesale distributor, also achieved a strong increase in earnings.

The Clicks performance contributed to a decline in the group's operating profit from continuing operations of 5.9\% from R222.1 million to R209.0 million.

Diluted earnings per share for the group declined 14.5\% to 37.2 cents per share and diluted headline earnings per share reduced by $16.8 \%$ to 37.6 cents per share. The results of New Clicks Australia were included for four months in the previous year.

This performance is in line with the trading statement issued on 6 April 2005.

## Trading performance

## Retail brands

Turnover in Clicks, including pharmacy, increased by $35.6 \%$ for the six-month period. When the contribution
from the pharmacy operations is excluded, the core Clicks brand increased turnover by $8.4 \%$.

Margins in Clicks declined owing to the lower than budgeted turnover growth, higher than expected shrinkage, as well as the change in the margin mix with the introduction of lower margin dispensary and healthcare products and slower sales of high margin imported lifestyle merchandise.

Pharmacy turnover held steady but continues to report trading losses owing to the impact of the pricing regulations referred to above and the under-performance of smaller pharmacies that have not yet been integrated into Clicks stores.

The pharmacy model is proving successful in the large Clicks stores where dispensaries have been introduced, reflected in higher front shop turnover through increased footfall. The group is continuing to implement its pharmacy plans and has to date integrated 37 stores. A further 23 are expected to be operational by the end of the financial year.

The legislative uncertainty in the pharmacy sector continues and the group has continued to follow the legal process in order to obtain a more equitable arrangement for retail pharmacy. We await the outcome of the Constitutional Court hearing which took place in midMarch. During the period the group adopted the R26/26\% dispensing fee in order to meet competitive pressures.

African beauty and hair care specialist, Discom, increased turnover by $8.6 \%$. The strong increase in profit from R2.7 million in the previous year to R14.6 million was driven by improved margin, reduced shrinkage and tight expense control. The brand increased sales of higher margin toiletries and electrical appliances.

The Entertainment division, comprising Musica and CD Wherehouse, recorded a $24.1 \%$ increase in turnover, which was boosted by a particularly strong performance over the festive season. Operating profit increased 113.1\% to R23.3 million, despite margin pressure owing to the top 20 CD pricing strategy and a change in mix to lower margin DVD and gaming merchandise.

The Body Shop lifted turnover by 15.7\%, although comparable store growth was down $3.3 \%$. The opening of new stores has negatively affected turnover of stores in nearby locations. Operating profit declined $23.7 \%$ owing to increased expenses and reduced margins.

## Wholesale distribution

UPD increased turnover by $36.1 \%$ to R1.4 billion. This strong growth can be attributed to increased support from independent pharmacies that have moved away from single channel distributors, continued growth from Clicks Pharmacy and increased sales to private hospitals. Operating profit increased by $38.3 \%$ to R40.7 million. Although the margin was impacted by the introduction of single exit pricing, this was largely neutralised by increased sales volumes. UPD continues to be well managed, evidenced by the increase in expenses being contained to 4.4\%.

## Capital management

The group recommenced its share repurchase programme from the start of the new financial year in September 2004, buying back an additional 13.9 million shares for R126.5 million. The last trade was conducted on 20 December 2004. A total of 26.9 million shares have been repurchased for R225.3 million at an average price of R8. 37 since the programme was initiated and these shares are being held in a subsidiary company as treasury shares. The share repurchase programme has positively impacted headline earnings per share and the group's return on equity.

## Prospects

Addressing the performance of Clicks and Pharmacy is the main priority for the group. Areas of under-performance in Clicks have been identified by the new management team under the leadership of Michael Harvey and strategies are being implemented to address each of these issues. However, it will take time before the full benefit of these actions is reflected in the performance of the brand.

The performance of the integrated Clicks/pharmacy stores supports the pharmacy business model that both front and back shop sales will increase once a dispensary is introduced into a Clicks store.

The integration process is being accelerated and the longterm aim of the group is to open a dispensary in most Clicks stores. This is dependent on the granting of licences.

Discom is expected to improve profitability as it further entrenches its value proposition and positioning as the leading African beauty and lifestyle retailer. The Entertainment division will continue its aggressive pricing and promotional strategy, and the brand is developing further innovative strategies to grow turnover following the anniversary of the implementation of the top 20 CD pricing strategy in April.

UPD will be actively pursuing volume growth and expansion of its client base as it looks to capitalise on consolidation in the industry. The outlook for increased profitability is positive.

The re-engineering of the enterprise-wide information systems is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2005 . The new systems platform will lead to more efficient merchandise management - including stock flow, availability and shrinkage control - and is expected to enhance both brand performance and customer service. The implementation will also lead to improved and more timeous reporting by the group.

## Dividend declaration

The board of directors has declared an interim cash dividend of 11.2 cents per share payable on Monday, 27 June 2005 to shareholders recorded in the register of the company at the close of business on Friday, 24 June 2005. The last day to trade ("cum" the dividend) in order to participate in the dividend will be Friday, 17 June 2005 and the shares will trade "ex dividend" from the commencement of business on Monday, 20 June 2005. The record date will be Friday, 24 June 2005.

Share certificates may not be dematerialised or rematerialised between Monday, 20 June 2005 and Friday, 24 June 2005, both dates inclusive.

## Leadership Structure

## Board of Directors

## Non-executive <br> Executive

David Nurek, Robert Lumb, Eliot Osrin, Lucia Swartz, Peter Swartz, Allen Zimbler Trevor Honneysett, Raymond Godfrey

## Management

Group Operations
Raymond Godfrey
Group Merchandise Leader
Monica Goertz
Organisational Development
Mike Harvey
Head of Retail
Brand Leader - Clicks
Grant Heynes
Brand Leader - Discom
Trevor Honneysett
Group Leader
Colin Robb
Brand Leader - Entertainment Division
André Vermeulen
Finance Leader
Kevin Vyvyan-Day
Head of Distribution
Head of UPD

## Consolidated Balance Sheet

| R'000 | As at 28 February 2005 | As at <br> 29 February 2004 | $\begin{array}{r} \text { As at } \\ 31 \text { August } \\ 2004 \end{array}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Assets |  |  |  |
| Non-current assets | 869929 | 1259991 | 859687 |
| Property, plant and equipment | 674630 | 636269 | 659347 |
| Trademarks | 3605 | 6780 | 3930 |
| Goodwill | 98390 | 106898 | 98280 |
| Deferred taxation assets | 70012 | 80998 | 71676 |
| Loans | 23292 | 429046 | 26454 |
| Current assets | 2162268 | 1918157 | 2273947 |
| Inventories | 1504872 | 1187893 | 1411339 |
| Accounts receivable | 575880 | 414207 | 443762 |
| Taxation prepaid | - | - | 8442 |
| Cash on hand | 81516 | 316057 | 410404 |
| Total assets | 3032197 | 3178148 | 3133634 |
| Equity and liabilities |  |  |  |
| Capital and reserves | 1346194 | 1698700 | 1372697 |
| Ordinary share capital | 3685 | 3592 | 3612 |
| Share premium | 954097 | 897781 | 907107 |
| Treasury shares held | (249 787) | - | (122 981) |
| Non-distributable reserve | 28341 | 38033 | 28942 |
| Distributable reserves | 609858 | 759294 | 556017 |
| Non-current liabilities | 236985 | 325723 | 278500 |
| Loans payable | 222703 | 298392 | 259730 |
| Deferred taxation liabilities | 14282 | 27331 | 18770 |
| Current liabilities | 1449018 | 1153725 | 1482437 |
| Accounts payable | 1227483 | 1041803 | 1390084 |
| Short-term borrowings | 131705 | 6944 | 8710 |
| Loans payable | 84022 | 76190 | 80819 |
| Taxation payable | 5808 | 28788 | 2824 |
| Total equity and liabilities | 3032197 | 3178148 | 3133634 |

## Consolidated Income Statement

| for the six months ended 28/29 February | Continuing Operations |  | Discontinued Operations |  | Group |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| R'000 | 2005 | 2004 | \% change | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | \% change |
| Turnover | 4378101 | 3506154 | 24.9 | 654651 | 4378101 | 4160805 | 5.2 |
| Cost of merchandise | 3470501 | 2761037 | 25.7 | 444910 | 3470501 | 3205947 | 8.3 |
| Gross profit | 907600 | 745117 | 21.8 | 209741 | 907600 | 954858 | (4.9) |
| Other revenue | 266113 | 248738 | 7.0 | 71278 | 266113 | 320016 | (16.8) |
| Other expenditure | 964716 | 771792 | 25.0 | 240598 | 964716 | 1012390 | (4.7) |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 52449 | 52012 | 0.8 | 8059 | 52449 | 60071 | (12.7) |
| Occupancy costs | 139216 | 110629 | 25.8 | 60972 | 139216 | 171601 | (18.9) |
| Employment costs | 437679 | 334152 | 31.0 | 107887 | 437679 | 442039 | (1.0) |
| Other operating costs | 333212 | 269555 | 23.6 | 62495 | 333212 | 332050 | 0.3 |
| Profit on sale of Australian operations | - | - |  | (4 477) | - | (4 477) |  |
| Profit on sale of Intercare | - | (587) |  | - | - | (587) |  |
| Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 2160 | 546 |  | 361 | 2160 | 907 |  |
| Goodwill amortised | - | 5485 |  | 5301 | - | 10786 |  |
| Profit before interest and taxation | 208997 | 222063 | (5.9) | 40421 | 208997 | 262484 | (20.4) |
| Net interest paid | $(26512)$ | (30 978) | (14.4) | (5 317) | (26 512) | (36 295) | (27.0) |
| Interest paid - normal operations | $(26512)$ | (30 978) | (14.4) | ( 5 317) | $(26512)$ | (36 295) | (27.0) |
| Interest accrued - Purchase Milton \& Associates (PM\&A) | - | $24986$ |  | - |  | $24986$ |  |
| Provision against interest accrued - PM\&A | - | (24 986) |  | - | - | (24986) |  |
| Net profit before taxation | 182485 | 191085 | (4.5) | 35104 | 182485 | 226189 | (19.3) |
| Taxation | 53547 | 58561 | (8.6) | 11012 | 53547 | 69573 | (23.0) |
| Profit attributable to shareholders | 128938 | 132524 | (2.7) | 24092 | 128938 | 156616 | (17.7) |
| Adjustment for: |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Profit on sale of Australian operations | - | - |  | (4 477) | - | (4 477) |  |
| Profit on sale of Intercare | - | (587) |  | - | - | (587) |  |
| Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 1512 | 382 |  | 253 | 1512 | 635 |  |
| Goodwill amortised | - | 5485 |  | 5301 | - | 10786 |  |
| Headline earnings | 130450 | 137804 | (5.3) | 25169 | 130450 | 162973 | (20.0) |
| Headline earnings per share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - undiluted | 38.3 | 38.8 | (1.3) | 7.1 | 38.3 | 45.9 | (16.6) |
| - diluted | 37.6 | 38.2 | (1.6) | 7.0 | 37.6 | 45.2 | (16.8) |
| Earnings per share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - undiluted | 37.9 | 37.3 | 1.6 | 6.8 | 37.9 | 44.1 | (14.1) |
| - diluted | 37.2 | 36.8 | 1.1 | 6.7 | 37.2 | 43.5 | (14.5) |
| Shares in issue | 368554 | 359186 | 2.6 | 359186 | 368554 | 359186 | 2.6 |
| Weighted average number of shares | 340627 | 355092 | (4.1) | 355092 | 340627 | 355092 | (4.1) |
| Weighted average diluted number of shares | 346993 | 360429 | (3.7) | 360429 | 346993 | 360429 | (3.7) |

## Consolidated Cash Flow Statement

| R'000 | Six months to 28 February 2005 | Six months to 29 February 2004 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cash effects of operating activities |  |  |
| Cash (utilised)/generated by operations (see note 1 below) | $(124$ 631) | 108595 |
| Net interest paid | (26 512) | (36 295) |
| Taxation paid | (44 943) | (37 719) |
| Cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities | (196 086) | 34581 |
| Distributions to ordinary shareholders | (75 097) | $(53515)$ |
| Net cash effects of operating activities | (271 183) | (18934) |
| Cash effects of investing activities |  |  |
| Investment in property, plant and equipment to maintain and expand operations | (72 376) | (91 109) |
| Cashflow on disposal of Australian operations | - | 335131 |
| Cashflow on disposal of Intercare | - | (6778) |
| Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 2808 | 1014 |
| Loans raised/(repaid) | 3162 | (80 876) |
| Acquisition of goodwill | (110) | (203) |
| Net cash effects of investing activities | (66 516) | 157179 |
| Cash effects of financing activities |  |  |
| Shareholders' funds raised | 47274 | 23679 |
| Share issue expenses | (211) | - |
| Purchase of treasury shares | (127 423) | - |
| Long-term borrowings - raised | - | 5002 |
| Long-term borrowings - repaid | (33 824) | - |
| Net cash effects of financing activities | (114 184) | 28681 |
| Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents | (451 883) | 166926 |
| Sale of Australian operations and Intercare | - | (4 137) |
| Adjustment for foreign exchange fluctuation | - | 120 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period | 401694 | 146204 |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of period | (50 189) | 309113 |
| Note to the cash flow statement |  |  |
| 1. Cash (utilised)/generated by operating activities |  |  |
| Profit before interest and tax | 208997 | 262484 |
| Non cash items: |  |  |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 52449 | 60071 |
| Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 2160 | 907 |
| Profit on sale of discontinued operations | - | (5064) |
| Goodwill amortised | - | 10786 |
| Exchange rate movement | - | 92 |
| Forex profit | - | (4 931) |
|  | 263606 | 324345 |
| Increase in accounts receivable | (132 118) | (90 929) |
| Decrease in accounts payable | (162 586) | (17 006) |
| Increase in inventories | (93 533) | (107 815) |
|  | (124 631) | 108595 |

## Consolidated Changes in Equity Statement

| R'000 | Number of shares ('000) | Share capital | Share premium | Treasury shares | Nondistributable reserve | Distributable reserves | Total |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Balance at 31 August 2003 | 354118 | 3541 | 874153 | - | 73722 | 657094 | 1608510 |
| Shares issued in respect of options | 5068 | 51 | 23748 | - | - | - | 23799 |
| Share issue expenses written off |  | - | (120) | - | - | - | (120) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve realised |  | - | - | - | (35 689) | - | (35 689) |
| Profit for the period |  | - | - | - | - | 156616 | 156616 |
| Prior period adjustment |  | - | - | - | - | (901) | (901) |
| Distributions |  | - | - | - | - | (53 515) | (53 515) |
| Balance at 29 February 2004 | 359186 | 3592 | 897781 | - | 38033 | 759294 | 1698700 |
| Shares issued in respect of options | 2019 | 20 | 9401 | - | - | - | 9421 |
| Share issue expenses written off |  | - | (75) | - | - | - | (75) |
| Acquisition of Share Trust | (2 809) | - | - | (22 804) | - | - | (22 804) |
| Treasury shares purchased | (13005) | - | - | (100 177) | - | - | (100 177) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve realised |  | - | - | - | (37) | - | (37) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve |  | - | - | - | 246 | - | 246 |
| Deferred tax on write-off of intangible assets |  | - | - | - | (9 300) | 9300 | - |
| Loss for the period |  | - | - | - | - | (168 268) | (168 268) |
| Distributions |  | - | - | - | - | (44 309) | (44 309) |
| Balance at 31 August 2004 | 345391 | 3612 | 907107 | (122 981) | 28942 | 556017 | 1372697 |
| Shares issued in respect of options | 7349 | 73 | 47201 | - | - | - | 47274 |
| Share issue expenses written off |  | - | (211) | - | - | - | (211) |
| Treasury shares purchased | (13 927) | - |  | (126 806) | - | - | (126 806) |
| Foreign currency translation reserve |  | - | - | - | (601) | - | (601) |
| Profit for the period |  | - | - | - | - | 128938 | 128938 |
| Distributions |  | - | - | - | - | (75097) | (75097) |
| Balance at 28 February 2005 | 338813 | 3685 | 954097 | (249 787) | 28341 | 609858 | 1346194 |

## Notes

## Accounting policies

These financial results have been prepared in accordance with South African Statements of Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, and the accounting policies used are consistent with those applicable for the 2004 annual financial statements except in the case of goodwill which is no longer amortised but is subject to an annual impairment test.

Discontinued operations
Discontinued operations comprise New Clicks Australia (Proprietary) Limited, which was disposed of with effect from 28 December 2003.

## Continuing operations

Continuing operations include the results of Purchase Milton and Associates (Proprietary) Limited, Milton and Associates (Proprietary) Limited, J\&G Purchase and Associates (Proprietary) Limited and Leon Katz (Proprietary) Limited, collectively referred to as "Pharmacy", from 1 March 2004. Accordingly, the comparative six months to 29 February 2004 excludes the results of Pharmacy.

## Change in comparatives

An amount of R17.3 million has been reallocated from cost of merchandise to sales in 2004. This amount relates to discounts granted by UPD which were previously included in cost of merchandise. The reallocation was necessary in order to correctly state the group's turnover.

An amount of R63.8 million has been reallocated from expenditure to other revenue. This amount relates to advertising recoveries that were previously included in other expenses. This reallocation was necessary in order to correctly state the group's other income and to be consistent with the 2004 annual report.

An amount of R76.2 million has been reallocated from loans payable classified as non-current liabilities to loans payable classified as current liabilities in 2004. This amount relates to the current portion of long-term loans. The reallocation was necessary in order to correctly reflect the maturity profile of the group's borrowings.

In the prior year an amount of R23.7 million was erroneously included in investing activities, this has now been corrected and is classified under financing activities.

For segmental reporting purposes, Link Investment Trust and New United Pharmaceutical Distributors, which were previously reported as separate segments, have been combined into a single segment referred to as United Pharmaceutical Distributors. Comparatives have been restated accordingly.



## Review of the period

- Disappointing performance from Clicks
- Low inflation \& deflationary environment

- Continued uncertainty in pharmacy pricing environment
- Pharmacy continues to record losses
- Large front shop integrated pharmacy stores proving the pharmacy model
- Pharmacy integration gathers momentum
... pharmacy strategy remains intact











## Clicks - performance: shrinkage

- Deteriorating shrinkage trend, particularly in inland stores
- Over-extended regional spans of control
- In-store disciplines \& controls
- Prevailing industrial relations environment
- Irregular flow of stock around promotions


## Clicks - performance: expenses

- Increased IT \& store refurbishment costs
- Employment costs up
- Rising advertising costs to drive promotional activity


## Clicks - performance: stock

- Stock turn up from 5.66 to 5.79 , due to inclusion of pharmacy
- Not an optimal stock turn
- Impacted by new healthcare ranges
- High stock levels impacted shrinkage
- Irregular flow of stock for promotions




## Clicks - addressing performance (continued)

- Address shrinkage
- reduce spans of control
- manage stock flows more efficiently
- in-store controls
- Pharmacy
- accelerate integration or closure of remaining nonintegrated pharmacies at least possible cost
- ensuring the success of pharmacy from a margin mix perspective


Strategy unchanged - "a dispensary in every store"


## Discom - performance

- New management team - all internal appointments
- Strong increase in profit driven by improved margin \& reduced shrinkage
- Shift in mix to higher margin categories of toiletries \& electrical appliances
- Expenses well below sales growth
- Strong performance from inland division
- Closed 8 stores, opened 10 stores (including 3 mall stores) \& relocated 2 stores
- Entrenched hair care strategy



## Discom - action plans

- New management team to continue current strategy
- Further improve operating profit
- Strengthening focus on African beauty \& lifestyle
- Implementation of perpetual counting stock control at store level
- Implementation of merchandise management system module of JDA



## Entertainment - performance

- Strong turnover growth, boosted by exceptional December sales
- Margin down - top 20 CD promotion \& changing margin mix to DVD \& gaming
- Shrinkage continues to improve
- Introduced digital downloading via website
- Radically changed pricing perception in industry
- Converted 2 stores to 'urban' model


## Entertainment - action plans

- Continue aggressive pricing \& promotions
- Challenge to improve turnover post anniversary of top 20 CD promotion in April
- Convert further 17 stores to urban model
- DVD-only store opportunities



## The Body Shop - action plans

- Focus on sales growth from existing stores no further store openings planned
- Year-round gifting strategy launched
- Selective price increases to reduce margin pressure
- ClubCard benefits to be discontinued from July
- Expense control - reduce marketing \& staff expenditure \& rental reductions
- Reduce stock holdings


## Retail - conclusion

- Focus on Clicks
- Pharmacy integration
- business efficiencies
- Continue the current strategies in Discom \& Entertainment



## UPD - impact of legislation

- Negotiated logistics fees with manufacturers
- Medicine prices lower
- Reduced margin
- Upswing in business from single channel distributors


## UPD - performance

- Turnover increased by $36 \%$
- Strong growth in sales from independent pharmacies moved from single channel distributors to UPD
23 - Continued growth in turnover from Clicks Pharmacy
- Hospital business increased strongly
- Sales to doctors declined due to dispensing regulations
- Margin impacted by single exit pricing - largely neutralised by increased sales volumes
- Expenses tightly controlled at $4.4 \%$ increase


## UPD - action plans

- Increase volumes \& capitalise on industry consolidation
- Continued focus on service \& delivering value added services
- Continual tight management of expenses \& debtors' book


## Distribution - conclusion



- Continue to grow UPD client base \& share of existing client base
- Optimise efficiencies in distribution for the group


## The next six months ... and beyond

- Address performance of Clicks brand - priority no 1
- Accelerate pharmacy integration into Clicks
- Maintain momentum in UPD \& other retail brands
- Manage expenses \& shrinkage in Clicks
- Continue to adapt to low inflation environment
- Systems implementation to deliver greater efficiencies
- Improve ROE through
- efficient capital management
- ongoing improvement in margin \& mix
- enhanced performance of retail brands



## Operational Segmental Balance Sheet



| Total |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| 2005 | 2004 |
| R'000 | R'000 |
| 869929 | 1259991 |
| 674630 | 636269 |
| 3605 | 6780 |
| 98390 | 106898 |
| 70012 | 80998 |
| - | - |
| 23292 | 429046 |
| 2162268 | 1918157 |
| 1504872 | 1187893 |
| 575880 | 414207 |
| 81516 | 316057 |
| 3032197 | 3178148 |
| 1346194 | 1698700 |
| 3685 | 3592 |
| 954097 | 897781 |
| (249 787) | - |
| 28341 | 38033 |
| 609858 | 759294 |
| 236985 | 325723 |
| 222703 | 298392 |
| 14282 | 27331 |
| 1449018 | 1153725 |
| 1227483 | 1041803 |
| 131705 | 6944 |
| 84022 | 76190 |
| 5808 | 28788 |
| 3032197 | 3178148 |

## Operational Segmental Income Statement

|  | SA Retail |  | UPD |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 |
| For the six months ended 28/29 February | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 |
| Turnover | 3175160 | 2458183 | 1425882 | 1047971 |
| Cost of merchandise | 2382894 | 1805138 | 1310155 | 955899 |
| Gross profit | 792266 | 653045 | 115727 | 92072 |
| Other revenue | 241316 | 215750 | 24797 | 32988 |
| Other expenditure | 864902 | 671101 | 99814 | 100691 |
| Depreciation and amortisation | 50015 | 49322 | 2434 | 2690 |
| Occupancy costs | 134055 | 105635 | 5161 | 4994 |
| Employment costs | 391034 | 290642 | 46645 | 43510 |
| Other operating costs | 287606 | 225097 | 45606 | 44458 |
| Profit on sale of Australian operations | - | - | - | - |
| Profit on sale of Intercare | - | (587) | - | - |
| Loss/(profit) on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 2192 | 544 | (32) | 2 |
| Goodwill amortised | - | 448 | - | 5037 |
| Profit/(loss) before interest and taxation | 168680 | 197694 | 40710 | 24369 |
| Net interest paid | $(26524)$ | (30711) | 12 | (267) |
| Interest (paid)/received - normal operations | $(26524)$ | (30 711) | 12 | (267) |
| Interest accrued - Purchase Milton \& Associates (PM\&A) | - | 24986 | - | - |
| Provision against interest accrued - PM\&A | - | (24 986) | - | - |
| Profit/(loss) before taxation | 142156 | 166983 | 40722 | 24102 |
| Taxation | 45804 | 53879 | 7861 | 4682 |
| Profit/(loss) attributable to ordinary shareholders | 96352 | 113104 | 32861 | 19420 |
| Adjustment for: |  |  |  |  |
| Profit on sale of Australian operations | - | - | - | - |
| Profit on sale of Intercare | - | (587) | - | - |
| Loss/(profit) on disposal of property, plant and equipment | 1534 | 380 | (22) | 1 |
| Goodwill amortised | - | 448 | - | 5037 |
| Headline earnings/(loss) | 97886 | 113345 | 32839 | 24458 |


| Intragroup |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Elimination | Total SA |  | Australia2004 | Total |  |
| 2005 | 2005 | 2004 |  | 2005 | 2004 |
| R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 |
| (222 941) | 4378101 | 3506154 | 654651 | 4378101 | 4160805 |
| (222 548) | 3470501 | 2761037 | 444910 | 3470501 | 3205947 |
| (393) | 907600 | 745117 | 209741 | 907600 | 954858 |
| - | 266113 | 248738 | 71278 | 266113 | 320016 |
| - | 964716 | 771792 | 240598 | 964716 | 1012390 |
| - | 52449 | 52012 | 8059 | 52449 | 60071 |
| - | 139216 | 110629 | 60972 | 139216 | 171601 |
| - | 437679 | 334152 | 107887 | 437679 | 442039 |
| - | 333212 | 269555 | 62495 | 333212 | 332050 |
| - | - | - | (4 477) | - | (4 477) |
| - | - | (587) | - | - | (587) |
| - | 2160 | 546 | 361 | 2160 | 907 |
| - | - | 5485 | 5301 | - | 10786 |
| (393) | 208997 | 222063 | 40421 | 208997 | 262484 |
| - | (26 512) | (30 978) | (5 317) | $(26512)$ | (36 295) |
| - | $(26512)$ | (30 978) | (5 317) | $(26512)$ | (36 295) |
| - | - | 24986 | - | - | 24986 |
| - | - | (24 986) | - | - | (24 986) |
| (393) | 182485 | 191085 | 35104 | 182485 | 226189 |
| (118) | 53547 | 58561 | 11012 | 53547 | 69573 |
| (275) | 128938 | 132524 | 24092 | 128938 | 156616 |
| - | - | - | (4 477) | - | (4 477) |
| - | - | (587) | - | - | (587) |
| - | 1512 | 381 | 253 | 1512 | 634 |
| - | - | 5485 | 5301 | - | 10786 |
| (275) | 130450 | 137803 | 25169 | 130450 | 162972 |

## Trading Segmental Analysis

|  | Total SA |  | Clicks incl. Pharmacy |  | Discom |  | Entertainment |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 |
| For the six months ended 28/29 February | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 |
| Balance sheet |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Property, plant and equipment (incl. trademarks) | 678235 | 643049 | 181771 | 151296 | 60622 | 61074 | 32591 | 34881 |
| Inventories* | 1504872 | 1187893 | 749895 | 558016 | 148817 | 137741 | 137289 | 109798 |
| Other assets | 849090 | 1347206 | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total assets | 3032197 | 3178148 | 931666 | 709312 | 209439 | 198815 | 169880 | 144679 |
| Income statement |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turnover | 4378101 | 3506154 | 2295682 | 1693253 | 491241 | 452164 | 352978 | 284333 |
| Operating profit/(loss) (after allocation) | 211157 | 227507 | 127703 | 177521 | 14583 | 2693 | 23288 | 10929 |
| Ratios |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Operating profit margin (after allocation) \% | 4.8 | 6.5 | 9.0 | 10.5 | 3.0 | 0.6 | 6.6 | 3.8 |
| Selling price inflation (local product only) \% |  |  | (0.5) | 3.6 | 0.7 | 4.1 |  |  |
| Number of stores |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - company owned | 680 | 602 | 335 | 264 | 179 | 178 | 136 | 139 |
| - franchised | 15 | 15 | 14 | 14 | 1 | 1 | - | - |
| Weighted trading area $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ | 234897 | 216996 | 166019 | 144258 | 50111 | 49680 | 17064 | 21904 |
| Weighted annual sales per $\mathrm{m}^{2}$ R | 25232 | 21146 | 25812 | 21910 | 18299 | 16990 | 38613 | 24231 |
| Number of permanent employees | 8817 | 7218 | 5093 | 3724 | 1805 | 1529 | 570 | 567 |


| The Body Shop |  | Style |  | UPD |  | Shared Services |  | Intragroup Elimination |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 | 2004 | 2005 |
| R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 | R'000 |
| 11837 | 8567 | 1368 | - | 70686 | 73123 | 319360 | 314108 | - |
| 3422 | 2343 | 1355 | - | 234588 | 173895 | 232399 | 206100 | (2 893) |
| - | - | - | - | 304311 | 197000 | 544779 | 1150206 | - |
| 15259 | 10910 | 2723 | - | 609585 | 444018 | 1096538 | 1670414 | (2 893) |
| 32901 | 28433 | 2358 | - | 1425882 | 1047971 | - | - | (222 941) |
| 5556 | 7282 | (258) | (327) | 40678 | 29409 | - | - | (393) |
| 16.9 | 25.6 |  |  | 2.9 | 2.8 |  |  |  |
| 27 | 21 | 3 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| - | - | - |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1474 | 1154 | 229 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 41666 | 45992 | 19221 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 69 | 80 | 19 |  | 527 | 602 | 734 | 716 |  |

## Definitions

## Continuing operations

The operations of the group excluding the Australian operations.
Diluted headline earnings per share
Headline earnings divided by the diluted weighted average number of shares in issue for the period.
Discontinued operations
The Australian operations, which were sold in December 2003.
Distribution cover
Headline earnings for the period divided by the distributions for the period.
Distribution per share
Distribution per share for the full year is the actual interim cash dividend paid and the final cash dividend declared expressed as cents per share. Distribution per share for the interim period is the interim cash dividend declared expressed as cents per share.
Gross profit margin
Gross profit expressed as a percentage of turnover.
Headline earnings
Net profit for the period adjusted for the after tax effect of goodwill and other items of a capital nature.
Headline earnings per share
Headline earnings divided by the weighted average number of shares in issue for the period.
Inventory turn
Turnover for the period divided by closing inventory at period end.

## Market capitalisation

The market price per share at period end multiplied by the number of shares in issue at period end.
Net asset value per share
Net assets at period end divided by the number of shares in issue at period end.
Net tangible asset value per share
Net assets at period end, less intangible assets such as goodwill and trademarks, divided by the number of shares in issue at period end.
Net interest-bearing debt to shareholders' funds at the end of the period
Interest-bearing debt at the end of the period divided by shareholders' funds at the end of the period.
Percentage of shares traded
The number of shares traded as a percentage of the weighted number of shares in issue.
Price earnings ratio
The market price per share at period end divided by headline earnings per share.
Return on shareholders' interest
Headline earnings expressed as a percentage of the average ordinary shareholders' interest for the period.
Return on total assets
Headline earnings expressed as a percentage of the average total assets for the period.
Shareholders' interest
Ordinary share capital, share premium and reserves.

## Weighted average number of shares

The number of shares in issue, increased by shares issued during the period, weighted on a time basis for the period during which they have participated in the income of the group.

## Weighted average diluted number of shares

The weighted average number of shares, adjusted for the effects of all dilutive potential ordinary shares.

## Contact Details

| South Africa | Tel | Cell | E-mail |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Tier 1 Investor Relations | $+27(0) 217023102$ | $+27(0) 825558721$ | don@tier1ir.co.za |
| Don Bowden | $+27(0) 217023173$ | $+27(0) 837033131$ | sue@tier1ir.co.za |
| Sue Hemp | $+27(0) 217023171$ | $+27(0) 824681507$ | graeme@tier1ir.co.za |

New clicks holdings interim results 2005

