

PUBLIC JOINT STOCK COMPANY

LATVIAN SHIPPING COMPANY
AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

**REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

31st DECEMBER 2003



LATVIAN SHIPPING COMPANY

PUBLIC STOCK COMPANY
LATVIAN SHIPPING COMPANY

Registered Office

2 Basteja Blvd
Riga LV 1807
Latvia

THE COUNCIL

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Chairman of the Council | - |
| Deputy Chairman of the Council | Girts Rungainis |
| Members of the Council: | Aldis Āķis |
| | Egīls Kietis |
| | Igors Skoks (until 30.05.2003) |
| | Jānis Ādamsons |
| | Māris Kaijaks |
| | Oļegs Stepanovs |
| | Vladimirs Solomatins |

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

| | |
|---|---|
| Chairman of the Board of Directors LSC President | Imants Vikmanis |
| Members of the Board of Directors | |
| Vice President | Valerijs Godunovs |
| | Alvis Akmens (from 30.05.2003) |
| | Aivars Enkuzens (from 30.05.2003) |
| | Gints Bukovskis (until 30.05.2003) |
| | Juris Kārlis Viktors Reinhards (until 30.05.2003) |

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT MR. IMANTS VIKMANIS

Performance in 2003

At the General Shareholders Meeting on 30 of May 2003 the new members of LSC Management Board were elected. Structural changes were made to improve the company's performance and cost effectiveness as well.

A working group was established to prepare LSC's future strategy. Leading shipping consultants were involved in the elaboration of the Group's Strategic Plan. The efforts of the working group resulted in a fleet renewal strategy which was approved by the General Shareholders' Meeting on 30.05.2003. The privatization process was completed in 2003 by selling all state owned shares to private investors and restructuring process which begun in 2002 was continued in 2003. The LSC shares are traded on the Riga Stock Exchange and the price was fluctuating from 20 to 39 santims per share. The biggest rise in share price was in September 2003.

LSC Group's profit in 2003 were U.S.\$ 15.4 million. The favourable tanker market situation and high scrap prices were the main contributors to these profits.

In compliance with LSC policy the Group performed its fleet valuation. Independent professional valuers estimates revealed significant difference between certain vessels market value and their book values. The difference was especially notable for the two *LPG* vessels. The vessels' estimated value in use also testifies to the value discrepancy. Therefore an impairment loss of U.S.\$ 10 million was recognised in respect of these gas carriers.

Taking into account LSC's ageing fleet, last year's trends in the world economy and the industry, as well as recent changes in the company itself, the Group's result for 2003 can be considered as positive.

Product Tankers

With its tonnage in the range of 6.300 to 68.500 DWT LSC Group's Product Tanker Fleet traded all over the world with a particularly strong presence in Northern Europe and West Africa. It generated more than 82 % of the Group's total Net Voyage Results.

At the beginning of 2003 LSC Product Tanker Fleet consisted of 36 vessels of single and double hull construction. 5 vessels were scrapped during the year. As a result the Fleet's tonnage reduced to 980.000 DWT, which is 180.000 DWT less compared to the beginning of 2003.

Due to an especially harsh winter in Europe the favourable market conditions with high freight rates and stable demand prevailed in the tanker segment during the first quarter of 2003. However, a plunge of rates, caused by the decreased oil product demand and planned maintenance works at many refineries, followed in the second quarter.

The third quarter was relatively stable and saw a switching of the Group's single hull tankers to carry light oil products in compliance with EC regulations, which bans the transportation of heavy fuel oil in single-hulled tankers to or from ports of the Member States. To comply with the requirement mentioned, the Group was forced to employ the older tonnage in the transportation of solely light oil products, thus losing part of its niche in the dark product market. The ballast tanks for three *Asari* type tankers were upgraded from single hull to double hull.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT MR. IMANTS VIKMANIS

Continued

A growth of freight rates (especially those in the dark product segment) was registered at the end of the year, and was explained by the oncoming winter season, creation of oil stocks, as well as fresh memories of the severe winter of 2002. The growth in the freight rates was caused also by Turkey introducing restrictions for vessels over 200m in length to transit the Bosphorus. Unfortunately, due to the above EC regulations, LSC Group was not able to make use of the favourable conditions prevailing in the market at the end of 2003.

To ensure the implementation of the Group's Fleet Renewal Programme, in December 2003 an Agreement was reached with 3 Maj shipyard in Croatia on the building of eight plus two 51.800 DWT product tankers. The first vessel is scheduled for delivery in summer 2006.

Reefers

At the beginning of 2003 the reefer fleet consisted of 13 ice-class vessels with a capacity varying from 262.000 to 387.000 cubic feet. The fleet was traditionally employed on banana and other fruit trades, as well as carrying frozen cargoes from Southern Hemisphere to Northern Europe. The net voyage result from reefer operations in 2003 was 9% of the whole LSC Group's net voyage results. One vessel out of 13 was under Bareboat Charter Agreement with a Purchase Option which was exercised in 2003.

As in previous years, 9 out of the 12 vessels were laid up during the low season.

On the whole, compared to 2002 the segment showed an increase in freight rates especially during winter months on the traditional routes to St. Petersburg because of the heavy ice situation in the Bay of Finland.

Implementing the strategy of the Group, seven Kurska type reefer vessels were sold at the end of 2003.

The increase of freight rates and the sale of Kurska type reefers resulted in a profitable 2003 year result for the reefer fleet.

LPG

LSC Group owns two modern 20.500 cubic meter LPG carriers. In 2003 the LPG Fleet generated 7% of the Group's total Net Voyage Results.

In 2003 both vessels remained members of the Scandigas Pool throughout the year, one of the largest in the world. Unfortunately, the traditional seasonal growth of LPG rates was lower than 15% projected at the end of 2002. Compared to 2002 the actual growth reached the level of 9 % only. The situation remained unfavourable throughout the summer and autumn. It was only in the last quarter that LPG rates developed in a positive way. The low level of the LPG rates still could be explained by the insufficient growth rate of trade volumes. During the second half of the year further consolidation of the LPG market participants (ship owners) took place: with the aim of income improvement a new pool was established by Norgas and Scandigas companies.

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT MR. IMANTS VIKMANIS

Continued

Dry Cargo

Time-chartering out of m/v Juris Avots resulted in a stable and predictable cash-flow for the whole year.

In June 2003 a time charter agreement was signed to charter m/v "Kaptan Burhanettin Isim" and a regular ro-ro service was started from Ventspils to Travemünde in Germany. Expenses relating to starting the liner service were the main reason for the results of the dry-cargo fleet.

In 2003 the net voyage result of dry-cargo fleet was 2% of the total LSC Group's net voyage results.

Other operations

Along with maritime transportation services rendered by the company the Group is also involved in other shipping-related activities. These are performed by LSC Group's subsidiaries. Considering the favourable tonnage tax regime adopted in Latvia at the end of the 2003, the m.t. Zoja 11 changed the flag to Latvian. The reflagging of the whole fleet is being considered.

Outlook

Although a positive upward trend in freight rates has been noticed in the very end of 2003, there are no grounds to believe in the long-term perspective thereof, considering historically high order books at world shipyards and tightening regulatory regime for oil transportation. The European Union regulations that came into force on 21st October 2003 will accelerate the phase-out process of single-hull tankers and ban the transportation of heavy grades of fuel in single-hull vessels within the EU. Any eventual decrease in demand for maritime transportation services will in the first place affect the oldest part of the fleet, since the charterers prefer modern, reliable and safe tonnage.

The restriction by the EU on limiting the employment of single hull vessels will in the short term cause LSC to reduce its fleet size. However, implementation of the Fleet Renewal Programme will enable the Group to develop and preserve its market share, since it is economically sounder to maintain a younger and smaller tonnage, than an older but a larger fleet. Furthermore, a reorganization of the Group begun in 2002, which will enable LSC to reduce its overheads, thus making a positive impact on the Company's future performance. Similarly, all subsidiaries are being reviewed in 2003 to assess their contribution to the Group.

Implementing the Fleet Renewal Programme agreements were signed in February 2004 for purchasing three 2003 built 37.000 DWT modern product tankers for delivery mid 2004 as well as a contract with Hyundai Mipo shipyard in Korea was signed to build four 37.000 DWT product tankers with delivery in 2007.

Imants Vikmanis
President and Chairman of the Board of Directors of LSC,

Riga, Latvia
March 26, 2004

STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Board of Directors prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group and of the results of the Group for that period in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards. In preparing those financial statements, they:

- ♦ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ♦ make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ♦ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Group will continue in business.

The Board of Directors is responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Company and Group and enable them to ensure that financial statements drawn up from them comply with International Financial Reporting Standards. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Group and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Imants Vikmanis
Chairman of the Board of Directors



Riga, Latvia
March 26, 2004

**REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
LATVIAN SHIPPING COMPANY & ITS SUBSIDIARIES**

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheet of Latvian Shipping Company & its Subsidiaries as at 31st December 2003 (the Group) and the related consolidated statements of income, cash flows and changes in shareholders' equity for the year then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the financial position of the group as at 31st December 2003 and of the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

St. Paul's House,
London, EC4P 4BN



MOORE STEPHENS

Chartered Accountants

March 26, 2004

CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Expressed in US \$ '000s)

| | Note | 2003 | 2002 |
|--|------|------------------|--------------------|
| Voyage income | | 193,693 | 170,892 |
| Voyage costs | | (63,432) | (49,032) |
| Net Voyage Result | | 130,261 | 121,860 |
| Vessel Operating costs | | (80,218) | (75,186) |
| Vessel Operating Result before Depreciation | | 50,043 | 46,674 |
| Vessel depreciation | | (22,272) | (26,523) |
| Vessel Operating Profit | | 27,771 | 20,151 |
| Vessel impairments and provisions | 9 | (10,000) | (55,550) |
| Administration expenses | 4 | (11,460) | (13,693) |
| Gain on sale of assets | | 9,059 | 813 |
| Operating Profit / (Loss) | | 15,370 | (48,279) |
| Interest income | | 624 | 838 |
| Exchange rate profit/(loss) | | 2,702 | (1,420) |
| Interest expenses | | (3,415) | (4,867) |
| Income from associates | 11 | 15 | 5 |
| Other financial items | 6 | 18 | (679) |
| Net Financial Items | | (56) | (6,123) |
| Profit / (Loss) before Taxation | | 15,314 | (54,402) |
| Taxation | 7 | 25 | (36) |
| Profit / (Loss) after Taxation | | 15,339 | (54,438) |
| Minority interest | 20 | 59 | (9) |
| Net Profit/(Loss) for the Year | | 15,398 | (54,447) |
| Earnings per share | 8 | US\$ 0,08 | US\$ (0,27) |

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET AT 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Expressed in US \$ '000s)

| | Note | 2003 | 2002 |
|--|------|----------------|----------------|
| <u>ASSETS</u> | | | |
| LONG TERM ASSETS | | | |
| Fleet | 9 | 281,430 | 337,100 |
| Other fixed assets | 10 | 7,982 | 7,852 |
| Assets under construction | | 173 | 1 |
| Investments | 11 | 84 | 579 |
| TOTAL LONG TERM ASSETS | | 289,669 | 345,532 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Inventories | 12 | 4,389 | 8,024 |
| Finance lease receivables | 13 | - | 221 |
| Accounts receivable and prepayments | 14 | 22,884 | 22,125 |
| Available-for-sale investments | 15 | 2,204 | 2,180 |
| Bank and cash balances | | 78,548 | 27,162 |
| TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS | | 108,025 | 59,712 |
| TOTAL ASSETS | | 397,694 | 405,244 |
| <u>SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY & LIABILITIES</u> | | | |
| SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | | |
| Share capital | | 362,319 | 362,319 |
| Translation reserve | | (13,557) | (14,996) |
| Retained earnings | | (78,811) | (94,209) |
| TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY | | 269,951 | 253,114 |
| MINORITY INTEREST | | 620 | 802 |
| LONG TERM LIABILITIES | | | |
| Long term portion of bank loans | 16 | 99,200 | 112,280 |
| Provision for deferred taxation | 17 | 30 | 48 |
| Provisions | 18 | 560 | 778 |
| TOTAL LONG TERM LIABILITIES | | 99,790 | 113,106 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Current portion of bank loans | 16 | 13,080 | 13,080 |
| Accounts payable | 19 | 14,253 | 25,142 |
| TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 27,333 | 38,222 |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES | | 127,123 | 151,328 |
| TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY & LIABILITIES | | 397,694 | 405,244 |

These Financial Statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 26 March, 2004
and signed on its behalf by



Imants Vikmanis
President of LSC



Valerij Godunovs
Vice President of LSC

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2003**
(Expressed in US \$ '000s)

| | Share Capital | Translation Reserve | Retained Earnings | Total |
|---|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|----------|
| Balance at 1 st January 2002 | 362,319 | (19,056) | (35,916) | 307,347 |
| Net Loss for the year | - | - | (54,447) | (54,447) |
| Dividends | - | - | (3,846) | (3,846) |
| Currency translation differences | - | 4,060 | - | 4,060 |
| Balance at 31 st December 2002 | 362,319 | (14,996) | (94,209) | 253,114 |
| Balance at 1 st January 2003 | 362,319 | (14,996) | (94,209) | 253,114 |
| Net Profit for the year | - | - | 15,398 | 15,398 |
| Currency translation differences | - | 1,439 | - | 1,439 |
| Balance at 31 st December 2003 | 362,319 | (13,557) | (78,811) | 269,951 |

In the statutory financial statements LVL 3,213,363 (US\$ 5,939,673) has been transferred from retained earnings to a non-distributable reserve representing the parent company's share of profits of subsidiaries and associates which have not yet been paid up to the parent company by way of dividend. In addition at the annual general meeting the share of profits of the subsidiaries and associates for 2003 of LVL 13,933,068 (US\$ 25,754,285) less proposed dividends will be transferred to this non-distributable reserve.

The authorized issued and fully paid share capital of the company is 200,000,000 shares of 1 Lat each. 199,990,000 shares are publicly traded shares at Riga Stock Exchange. 10,000 of the shares (non-voting) have been allocated to Board Members.

**CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2003**
(Expressed in US \$ '000s)

| | Note | 2003 | 2002 |
|---|------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Cash Inflow from Operations | 23 | 50,684 | 29,725 |
| Returns on Investments and Servicing of Finance | | | |
| Interest received | | 548 | 1,033 |
| Interest paid | | (3,824) | (5,259) |
| Dividends received | | - | 648 |
| Sale of shares | | - | 50 |
| Taxation | | | |
| Corporate taxes paid | | (225) | (174) |
| Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities | | 47,183 | 26,023 |
| Investing Activities | | | |
| Purchase of other fixed assets | | (357) | (638) |
| Prepaid financing expenses | | - | (351) |
| Purchase of available-for-sale investments | | (57) | (532) |
| Proceeds on sale of available-for-sale investments | | 1,165 | - |
| Proceeds on sale of assets | | 23,656 | 2,057 |
| Charter payments for finance lease receivables | | 238 | 2,882 |
| Drydock expenditure | | (4,191) | (12,895) |
| Assets under construction and on order | | (172) | (2) |
| Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow) from Investing Activities | | 20,282 | (9,479) |
| Cash Inflow before Financing Activities | | 67,465 | 16,544 |
| Financing Activities | | | |
| Bank loans repaid | | (13,080) | (17,359) |
| Dividends paid | | - | (3,846) |
| Net Cash Outflow from Financing Activities | | (13,080) | (21,205) |
| Increase/(decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents | | 54,385 | (4,661) |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents : | | | |
| at 1st January | | 24,163 | 28,824 |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents : | | | |
| at 31st December | | 78,548 | 24,163 |

Cash at 31 December 2003 includes a blocked deposit of U.S.\$ 2,4 million to comply with certain loan covenants. See also Note 16.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

1. Accounting Policies

(a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with and comply with International Financial Reporting Standards. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, as modified by the revaluation of the Group's fleet and properties and investments available-for-sale.

The shipping activity accounts for substantial part of the turnover of the Group and therefore the lay out of the Consolidated Income Statement is adapted thereto. This reporting form is less suitable for the non-shipping activities of the Group and the result of these activities before Financial Items are recorded as "Administration Expenses". See Note 4.

The Financial Statements are prepared in U.S. dollars as this is widely accepted as the standard trading currency in the shipping world and is the predominant currency used by the Group in its day to day operations and capital expenditure.

(b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated income statement and balance sheet include the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiary undertakings made up to 31st December 2003. The results of subsidiaries sold or acquired are included in the Consolidated Income Statement up to, or from, the date control passes. All intra-group transactions, including chartering of vessels and fleet support, have been eliminated on consolidation.

The Group's share of profits less losses of associated undertakings is included in the Consolidated Income Statement, and the Group's share of their net assets is included in the consolidated balance sheet. These amounts are taken from the latest audited financial statements of the undertakings concerned.

Assets and liabilities of entities in the group denominated in foreign currencies are translated into US dollars at rates of exchange ruling at the end of the financial year and the results of foreign entities are translated at the average rate of exchange for the year. Differences on exchange arising from retranslating the opening net investment in subsidiary companies, and from the translation of the results of those companies at the average rate of exchange, are taken to the "Translation reserve" in shareholders' equity. On disposal of the foreign entity, such translation differences are recognised in the Consolidated Income Statement as part of the gain or loss on sale.

On acquisition, the assets and liabilities of a subsidiary are measured at their fair values at the date of acquisition. Any excess (deficiency) of the cost of acquisition over (below) the fair values of the identifiable net assets acquired is recognized as goodwill (negative goodwill).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

1. Accounting Policies *(Continued)*

Goodwill arising on consolidation represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of a subsidiary, associate or jointly controlled entity at the date of acquisition. Goodwill is recognized as an asset and amortized on a straight-line basis over its estimated useful life.

Goodwill arising on the acquisition of an associate is included within the carrying amount of the associate. Goodwill arising on the acquisition of subsidiaries and jointly controlled entities is presented separately in the balance sheet.

On disposal of a subsidiary, associate or jointly controlled entity, the attributable amount of unamortized goodwill is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

Negative goodwill represents the excess of the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of a subsidiary, associate or jointly controlled entity at the date of acquisition over the cost of acquisition. Negative goodwill is released to income based on an analysis of the circumstances from which the balance resulted. To the extent that the negative goodwill is attributable to losses or expenses anticipated at the date of acquisition, it is released to income in the period in which those losses or expenses arise. The remaining negative goodwill is recognized as income on a straight-line basis over the remaining average useful life of the identifiable acquired depreciable assets. To the extent that such negative goodwill exceeds the aggregate fair value of the acquired identifiable non-monetary assets, it is recognized in income immediately.

(c) Voyage income

Sales include gross freight and hire receivable, demurrage and time-charter hires.

(d) Voyage costs/ Vessel operating costs

Voyage costs include the costs related to vessels that operate in the spot market, where the owner carries costs like bunkers and port expenses. For vessels operating on time charter, these costs are carried by the charterer.

Vessel operating costs are costs related to the running of the vessels like crew, repairs, equipment, insurance and dry-docking costs.

(e) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash at bank and in hand, cash on board vessels/in hand, and short term deposits which do not exceed three months maturity on the date of placement less overdrafts.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

1. Accounting Policies *(Continued)*

(f) Fixed assets and depreciation

Fleet

The Group's fleet was initially recorded at valuation, carried out in 1991 (when the Latvian Shipping Company came into existence in its current form taking over vessels from the former Soviet Fleet), or for subsequent additions at cost.

Where the carrying amount of an asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount at the balance sheet date, the impairment is recognized down to its recoverable amount, being the higher of its market value and value in use. Market values are prepared by professional independent valuers and discounted value in use calculations are prepared by management.

Depreciation has been provided on the basis that the book value of the vessels, less an estimated scrap value of US \$ 100 per lightweight ton, is written off on a straight line basis over the remainder of their anticipated useful lives, taken to be between 23 - 26 years from date of building.

The part of the cost of a new vessel or newly acquired vessel representing that element which will be utilized over the period to the next dry docking is amortised over the remaining period to the expected next drydocking (also see accounting policy (i)).

Other fixed assets

Buildings are initially stated at cost and subsequently management's valuation supported by a professional valuation in 1997, less accumulated depreciation.

Fixed assets are being depreciated on a straight-line basis at the following rates:

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Buildings | 1 - 10 % per annum |
| Machinery and equipment | 5 - 33,33 % per annum |
| Other assets | 14,29 - 50 % per annum |

Maintenance, repairs and improvements to other fixed assets are expensed in the year they are incurred. Improvements to other fixed assets are capitalised only if they are considered to extend the assets originally assessed useful life or capacity.

Provisions are established where there is uncertainty of ownership or when there is a possible impairment in value in the asset.

Where the carrying amount of an asset is greater than its estimated recoverable amount, it is written down to its recoverable amount.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

1. Accounting Policies *(Continued)*

(g) Investments

Associate investments are accounted for under the equity method where the group can exercise significant influence over the financial and operating policy decisions of the investee.

Investments, which are not associates, are classified as available-for-sale. Assets available-for-sale are measured at their fair values at balance sheet date. All gains and losses from revaluation and disposal of these securities are reported in the Consolidated Income Statement.

(h) Currency translation

Monetary assets and liabilities of the Group denominated in currencies other than US dollars are translated at the Bank of Latvia's rate of exchange ruling on the balance sheet date. Transactions denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the exchange rate ruling on the date of the transaction, or an approximation thereto. All gains and losses arising from such foreign exchange differences are taken to the income statement in the year in which they arise.

(i) Dry-docking and special surveys

The cost of dry-dockings are capitalised and then written off over the following 30 months representing the normal time between dry-dockings.

(j) Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realizable value, where cost is calculated on a first in first out basis, and comprise bunkers, luboils, victualling and slop chest stocks, materials and spares. Where necessary, provision is made for obsolete, slow moving and defective stock.

(k) Trade receivables

Trade receivables are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful receivables based on a review of all outstanding amounts at the year end. Bad debts are written off when identified.

In addition to specific provisions a general provision is made against demurrages. The overall provision is re-assessed at the end of each year for its reasonableness and adjusted where necessary. This provision is offset against trade receivables in the balance sheet.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

1. Accounting Policies *(Continued)*

(l) Voyages in progress

Credit is made in the Consolidated Income Statement for all hire receivable to the balance sheet date in respect of voyages in progress while hire receivable that relates to the next accounting period is deferred. The pro-rata share of expenses in respect of voyages in progress that relate to the current year is also included in the Income Statement while expenses that relates to the next accounting period are deferred. Full provision is made for any losses known or expected on voyages in progress at the balance sheet date.

(m) Trade payables

Trade payables are stated at their nominal values.

(n) Deferred taxation

Deferred income tax is provided in full, using the liability method, on temporary differences arising between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts in the financial statements. The principal temporary differences arise from depreciation on fleet, property, plant and equipment and tax losses carried forward. Tax rates enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date are used to determine deferred income tax.

Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that future taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

(o) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events, it is probable that a payment will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate of the obligation can be made.

(p) Fair Values

The Company's financial assets and liabilities are stated at fair value. Fair value represents the amount at which an asset could be exchanged or liability settled on an arms length basis. Where in the opinion of management, the fair values of financial assets and liabilities differ materially from their book values, such fair values are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

(q) Finance lease receivables

When vessels are bareboat chartered out with the charterer having an option to purchase at the end of the charter period, the vessels are held at the present value of future charter payments and the purchase price. The difference between the gross receivables and the present value of the receivables is recognised as unearned finance income. Finance income is recognised over the term of the lease using the net investment method, which reflects a constant periodic rate of return.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

2. Corporate Structure

The subsidiary undertakings, all of which are effectively controlled by the Company, are stated below. All are wholly-owned except where indicated.

| Name | Country of Incorporation | Activity /Vessels |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Latmar Holdings Corporation | Liberia | Holding company |
| Abava Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.v. "Abava" |
| Amata Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.v. "Amata" |
| Apollo Holdings Corporation | Cayman Islands | m.t. "Mar" |
| Cape Wind Trading Company | Liberia | m.t. "Indra" |
| Clipstone Navigation S. A. | Liberia | m.t. "Inga" |
| Dawnlight Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Estere" |
| Juris Avots Shipping Co. | Cyprus | m.v. "Juris Avots" |
| Kriti Sea Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Indra" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Latgale Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.t. "Latgale" |
| Latmar Services Ltd. | England | Provision of maritime services (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Latreefers Inc. | Liberia | Reefer Newbuildings (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Latmar Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Mar" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Limetree Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.t. "Riga" |
| New Spring Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.v. "Komponists Caikovskis" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Noella Maritime Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Janis Sudrabkalns" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Radar Shipping Ltd. | Liberia | Former owner of m.t. "Pablo Neruda" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Renda Maritime Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Renda" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Rhodos Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Charterer (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Rundale Shipping Co. | Cyprus | m.t. "Rundale" |
| Sagewood Trading Inc. | Liberia | Former owner of m.t. "Zaks Diklo" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Samburga Shipping Co. | Cyprus | m.t. "Samburga" |
| Saturn Trading Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Lielupe" |
| Scanreefer Navigation Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Amata" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Scanreefer Marine Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Abava" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| S. Tomskis Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.v. "Skulptors Tomskis" |
| S. Tomskis Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Skulptors Tomskis" (<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Viktorio Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Viktorio Kodovilja" |
| Zemgale Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.t. "Zemgale" |
| Wilcox Holdings Ltd. | Liberia | m.t. "Pols Robsons" |
| World Reefer Corporation | Liberia | Former owner of m.t. "Mate Zalka" (<i>Dormant</i>) |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

2. Corporate Structure (Continued)

| Name | Country of Incorporation | Activity /Vessels |
|--|--------------------------|---|
| Lattanker Holdings Corporation | Liberia | Intermediate holding company |
| Antonio Gramsi Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Antonio Gramsi" |
| Dauids Sikeiross Shipping Corporation | Liberia | Former owner of m.t. "Dauids Sikeiross" (Dormant) |
| Dzons Rids Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Dzons Rids" |
| Hose Marti Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Hose Marti" |
| Imanta Shipping Company Ltd. | Malta | m.t. "Dubulti" |
| Klements Gotvalds Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Klements Gotvalds" |
| Majori Shipping Company Ltd. | Malta | m.t. "Majori" |
| Pablo Neruda Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Talava Shipping Company Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.t. "Talava" (Dormant) |
| Reeferlat Holdings Corporation | Liberia | Intermediate holding company |
| Akademikis Artobolevskis Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Akademikis Artobolevskis Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Dormant |
| Akademikis Bocvars Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Akademikis Bocvars Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Akademikis Bocvars" (Dormant) |
| Akademikis Celomejs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Akademikis Celomejs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Akademikis Celomejs" (Dormant) |
| Akademikis Hohlovs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Ventlines Shipping Limited | Malta | Liner activities |
| Aristarhs Belopolskis Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Dormant |
| Belgoroda Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Belgoroda Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Belgoroda" (Dormant) |
| Fjodors Bredihins Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Ivans Kulibins Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Ivans Polzunovs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Kamilo Sjenfuegoss Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Kamilo Sjenfuegoss Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Kamilo Sjenfuegos" (Dormant) |
| Kurska Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Kurska Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Kurska" (Dormant) |
| Mihails Lomonosovs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Nikolajs Koperniks Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Pavels Parenago Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Pavels Sternbergs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |
| Pure Shipping Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Dormant |
| Pure Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Pure" (Dormant) |
| Vasilijs Fesenkovs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | In liquidation |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Continued)

2. Corporate Structure (Continued)

| Name | Country of Incorporation | Activity /Vessels |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| Latalpha Holdings Corporation | Liberia | Intermediate holding company |
| Ak. Vavilovs Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.v. "Akademikis Vavilovs" |
| Ak. Zavarickis Shipping Co. Ltd. | Malta | m.v. "Akademikis Zavarickis" |
| Delacroix Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.v. "Akademikis Vavilovs" (Dormant) |
| Dzintari Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Dzintari" |
| Griva Maritime Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Zanis Griva" |
| Kasira Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Kasira" (Dormant) |
| Kemeri Navigation Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Kemeri" |
| Mahoe Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.v. "Perle" (Dormant) |
| O. Vacietis Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Ojars Vacietis" |
| Perle Reefer Shipping Company Ltd. | Malta | Former owner of m.v. "Perle" (Dormant) |
| Pinewood Shipping Corporation | Liberia | Gas Carrier – m.t. "Kurzeme" |
| Ringmare Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.v. "Akademikis Zavarickis" (Dormant) |
| Rosewood Shipping Corporation | Liberia | Gas Carrier – m.t. "Vidzeme" |
| Ventspils Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | Former owner of m.t. "Ventspils" (Dormant) |
| Latstrand Holdings Corporation | Liberia | Intermediate holding company |
| Arctic Seal Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Asari" |
| Atlantic Leader Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Ropazi" |
| Faroship Navigation Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Pumpuri" |
| Gaida Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Gaida" |
| Gevostar Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Bulduri" |
| Tangent Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Zoja I" |
| Zoja Shipping Company Ltd. | Cyprus | m.t. "Zoja II" |
| Latvian Shipping Corporation | Liberia | Holding company |
| Michelle Finance Corporation | Liberia | Investment Company (Dormant) |
| Razna Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Razna" |
| Taganroga Shipping Corporation | Liberia | m.t. "Taganroga" |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Continued)

2. Corporate Structure (Continued)

| Name | Country of Incorporation | Activity /Vessels |
|--|--------------------------|--|
| Balt Dutch Holding N.V. (60%) | N. Antilles | Holding Company |
| Balt - Dutch Shipping Agencies B.V.(55.5%) | Netherlands | Shipping Agents |
| Crewing Agency Ltd. | Latvia | Crewing and Seafarers Training Services |
| Kristaps Insurance Ltd. | Bermuda | Insurance |
| Latvian - Finnish Maritime Agency Ltd.* | Latvia | Shipping Agents |
| Marine Service Center Ltd. | Latvia | Consulting |
| Port Service Ltd. | Latvia | Rent Service |
| Santomar Holdings Co. Ltd. | Cyprus | Investment Holding Company(<i>Dormant</i>) |
| Ship Management Ltd. | Latvia | Ship management |
| Ship Repair Base Ltd. | Latvia | Ship repair service |
| Crown Navigation Inc. | Marshall Islands | Dormant Company |

* During the year the remaining 40% of the shares of Latvian - Finnish Maritime Agency Ltd. was acquired. Negative goodwill which arose on the transaction was recognised immediately in the consolidated income statement.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Continued)

3. Segment Information

The types of vessels are the basis on which the Group reports its primary segment information.

| Year ended 31 December 2003 | | | | | |
|--|---------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|
| US \$ '000s | Tankers | Reefers | LPG | Dry Cargo | Total |
| Voyage income | 154,943 | 24,833 | 9,354 | 4,563 | 193,693 |
| Vessel Operating Profit/(Loss) | 25,444 | (659) | 3,411 | (425) | 27,771 |
| Vessel impairments | - | - | (10,000) | - | (10,000) |
| Gain on sale of assets | 5,745 | 3,220 | - | - | 8,965 |
| Unallocated sale of assets | | | | | 94 |
| Segment result | 31,189 | 2,561 | (6,589) | (425) | 26,830 |
| Unallocated corporate expenses | | | | | (11,460) |
| Operating Profit | | | | | 15,370 |
| Net Financial Items | | | | | (56) |
| Profit before Taxation | | | | | 15,314 |
| Taxation | | | | | 25 |
| Profit after Taxation | | | | | 15,339 |
| Minority interest | | | | | 59 |
| Net Profit for the Year | | | | | 15,398 |
| Segment assets | 240,417 | 20,974 | 51,513 | 2,401 | 315,305 |
| Unallocated assets | | | | | 82,389 |
| Total assets | | | | | 397,694 |
| Segment liabilities | 90,646 | 1,373 | 33,541 | 335 | 125,895 |
| Unallocated liabilities | | | | | 1,228 |
| Total liabilities | | | | | 127,123 |
| Other segment items | | | | | |
| Drydocking expenditure | 4,191 | - | - | - | 4,191 |
| Depreciation | 16,153 | 2,907 | 2,902 | 310 | 22,272 |
| Drydocking deferred expenditure amortization | 10,970 | 1,552 | 374 | 164 | 13,060 |

The Group's principal place of business is 2 Basteja Boulevard, Riga LV 1807, Latvia.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Continued)

3. Segment Information (Continued)

| Year ended 31 December 2002 | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|-----------------|------------|-----------------|
| US \$ '000s | Tankers | Reefers | LPG | Dry Cargo | Total |
| Voyage income | 133,948 | 27,036 | 8,344 | 1,564 | 170,892 |
| Vessel Operating Profit/(Loss) | 21,823 | (3,225) | 1,321 | 232 | 20,151 |
| Vessel impairments | (29,000) | (2,550) | (16,000) | - | (47,550) |
| Gain on sale of assets | 550 | (1) | - | 279 | 828 |
| Unallocated sale of assets | | | | | (15) |
| Segment result | (6,627) | (5,776) | (14,679) | 511 | (26,586) |
| Unallocated corporate expenses | | | | | (13,693) |
| Unallocated provisions | | | | | (8,000) |
| Operating Loss | | | | | (48,279) |
| Net Financial Items | | | | | (6,123) |
| Loss before Taxation | | | | | (54,402) |
| Taxation | | | | | (36) |
| Loss after Taxation | | | | | (54,438) |
| Minority interest | | | | | (9) |
| Net Loss for the Year | | | | | (54,447) |
| Segment assets | 269,638 | 38,778 | 64,745 | 2,515 | 375,676 |
| Unallocated assets | | | | | 29,568 |
| Total assets | | | | | 405,244 |
| Segment liabilities | 97,579 | 3,602 | 39,614 | 110 | 140,905 |
| Unallocated liabilities | | | | | 10,423 |
| Total liabilities | | | | | 151,328 |
| Other segment items | | | | | |
| Drydocking expenditure | 10,160 | 1,793 | 942 | - | 12,895 |
| Depreciation | 19,337 | 3,229 | 3,688 | 269 | 26,523 |
| Drydocking deferred expenditure amortization | 13,600 | 1,612 | 509 | 164 | 15,885 |

The Group is operating on worldwide basis. However, because of difficulty to determine the geographical segment in shipping industry no such information is provided.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

4. Administration expenses

| | US \$ '000s | |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Staff Costs | (7,537) | (10,464) |
| Travel and Transport | (616) | (636) |
| Occupation and Repairs | (1,497) | (1,240) |
| IT and Communication | (638) | (683) |
| Professional Fees | (1,129) | (991) |
| Advertising and Marketing | (592) | (430) |
| Other Income and Costs | 1,805 | 2,260 |
| Property and Land Tax | (122) | (103) |
| Movements in Provision of claims and other | (241) | (342) |
| Depreciation | (893) | (1,064) |
| TOTAL | (11,460) | (13,693) |

5. Employment Costs and Staff Numbers

| | 2003 | | 2002 | |
|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| | US \$ '000 | Number | US \$ '000 | Number |
| Shore based staff | 6,402 | 283 | 9,182 | 404 |
| Seamen* | 26,817 | 921 | 28,561 | 1,231 |
| | 33,219 | 1,204 | 37,743 | 1,635 |

The average number and employment costs of shore based staff includes employees of the Parent Company and 100% owned subsidiaries.

* the number of seamen are those employed as at the end of the year.

6. Other Financial Items

| | US \$ '000s | |
|--|-------------|--------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Gain on disposal of available –for-sale investment | 602 | - |
| Negative Goodwill | 151 | - |
| Mortgage fee and insurance | (71) | (75) |
| Prepaid financing expenses amortization | (98) | (111) |
| Bank charges | (566) | (493) |
| TOTAL | 18 | (679) |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

7. Taxation

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Deferred income tax of current year | 18 | (11) |
| Corporate income tax of current year | 7 | (25) |
| TOTAL | 25 | (36) |
| Profit/ (Loss) before tax | 15,314 | (54,402) |
| Tax calculated at tax rate of 19 % (2002-22%) | 2,910 | (11,968) |
| Income and expenses not subject to corporate income tax | (38) | 17,172 |
| Profit of subsidiaries and associates | (4,632) | (449) |
| Effect of the changes in tax rates | 397 | 1,145 |
| Increase/(Decrease) of unrecognized deferred tax asset | 1,338 | (1,275) |
| Utilization of previously unrecognized deferred tax asset | - | (4,589) |
| Tax charge for the year | (25) | 36 |

Corporate income tax is payable in Latvia at a rate of 19% (2004: 15%) on the profits of Latvian companies for the year, as adjusted in accordance with local fiscal regulations. The only foreign group companies directly subject to corporate income tax are Latmar Services Ltd. (England), Santomar Holdings Company Ltd. (Cyprus) and Balt-Dutch Shipping Agencies B.V. (Netherlands).

In previous years the parent company has had a tax loss. Tax losses in the parent company can be carried forward and utilized against future profits for up to five years.

Tax losses are available to offset against future taxable profit in the parent company from the previous years as follows:

| Year | LVL'000s Losses | Expires |
|------|--------------------|---------|
| 1999 | 51 | 2004 |
| 2000 | 39 | 2005 |
| 2001 | 2 | 2006 |
| 2002 | - | 2007 |
| 2003 | 4,519 | 2008 |
| | <u>4,611</u> | |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

8. Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the net profit or loss attributable to shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

| | 2003 | 2002 |
|---|-----------|-------------|
| Net profit / (loss) for the year attributable to shareholders | 15,398 | (54,447) |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue (thousands) | 200,000 | 200,000 |
| Basic earnings/(loss) per share | US\$ 0,08 | US\$ (0,27) |

9. Fleet

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Net Book Value | 272,073 | 318,265 |
| Drydocking deferred expenditure | 9,357 | 18,835 |
| | <u>281,430</u> | <u>337,100</u> |

| | US \$ '000s | | |
|---|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Valuation/ Cost | Depreciation | Net Book Value |
| At 1st January 2003 | 602,034 | (283,769) | 318,265 |
| Depreciation charge for the year | - | (22,272) | (22,272) |
| Impairment | - | (10,000) | (10,000) |
| Disposals | (23,536) | 9,616 | (13,920) |
| At 31st December 2003 | <u>578,498</u> | <u>(306,425)</u> | <u>272,073</u> |

During 2003 the Group sold all 7 "Kurska" type reefer vessels and 5 tankers: m.t. "Janis Sudrabkalns", m.t. "Pablo Neruda", m.t. "Mate Zalka", m.t. "Davids Sikeiross" and m.t. "Talava". The title to one reefer that was included under finance leases receivable as at 31st December 2002 was transferred to the bareboat charterer when the purchase option on the expiry of the charter was exercised. No other changes to the fleet took place during 2003.

The Group has 2 gas carrier vessels, whose carrying amount is greater than its market value provided by professional valuers. According to accounting policy (f), Management has estimated the value in use of these vessels by assessing its net present value from operations. This calculation was done applying an annual discount rate of 9%. The calculation shows that an impairment loss of U.S.\$ 10,0 million in respect of the 2 gas carriers is to be recognized as at 31st December 2003.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

9. Fleet *(Continued)*

Part of the fleet (with net book value of U.S.\$ 210,0 million) has been used as security for bank loans. See note 16 for details.

The number of vessels in the fleet, at the year-end is:

| | <u>2003</u> | <u>2002</u> |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|
| Tankers | 31 | 36 |
| Reefers | 5 | 13 |
| Dry cargo | 1 | 1 |
| LPG fleet | 2 | 2 |
| TOTAL | <u>39</u> | <u>52</u> |

Total dead-weight Tonnage

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-------------------------|
| 31 st December 2003 | Dwt | <u><u>1,067,924</u></u> |
| 31 st December 2002 | Dwt | <u><u>1,305,816</u></u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

9. Fleet *(Continued)*

At 31st December 2003 the group fleet comprises:

| | <u>Year of Building</u> | Dwt |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Product Tankers: | | |
| 1. Antonio Gramsci | 1978 | 39,870 |
| 2. Asari | 1984 | 28,750 |
| 3. Bulduri | 1983 | 28,750 |
| 4. Dubulti | 1982 | 29,610 |
| 5. Dzintari | 1985 | 17,585 |
| 6. Dzons Rids | 1978 | 39,870 |
| 7. Estere | 1989 | 28,610 |
| 8. Gaida | 1991 | 41,465 |
| 9. Hose Marti | 1978 | 39,870 |
| 10. Indra | 1994 | 33,115 |
| 11. Inga | 1990 | 28,610 |
| 12. Kemeru | 1985 | 17,610 |
| 13. Klements Gotvalds | 1978 | 39,870 |
| 14. Latgale | 2001 | 68,467 |
| 15. Lielupe | 1979 | 39,870 |
| 16. Majori | 1980 | 29,690 |
| 17. Mar | 1990 | 28,610 |
| 18. Ojars Vacietis | 1985 | 16,341 |
| 19. Pols Robsons | 1978 | 39,870 |
| 20. Pumpuri | 1987 | 28,610 |
| 21. Razna | 1984 | 6,269 |
| 22. Riga | 2001 | 68,467 |
| 23. Ropazi | 1985 | 16,341 |
| 24. Rundale | 1977 | 17,025 |
| 25. Samburga | 1976 | 17,125 |
| 26. Taganroga | 1983 | 6,297 |
| 27. Viktorio Kodovilja | 1976 | 40,030 |
| 28. Zanis Griva | 1985 | 17,585 |
| 29. Zemgale | 2001 | 68,467 |
| 30. Zoja I | 1986 | 28,610 |
| 31. Zoja II | 1987 | 28,610 |
| | | <u><u>979,869</u></u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

9. Fleet *(Continued)*

| | <u>Year of Building</u> | <u>Dwt</u> |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| LPG fleet | | |
| 1. Kurzeme | 1997 | 23,469 |
| 2. Vidzeme | 1997 | 23,469 |
| | | <u>46,938</u> |
| Reefers | | |
| 1. Abava | 1992 | 6,366 |
| 2. Akademikis Vavilovs | 1985 | 7,673 |
| 3. Akademikis Zavarickis | 1986 | 7,673 |
| 4. Amata | 1991 | 6,232 |
| 5. Skulptors Tomskis | 1986 | 7,673 |
| | | <u>35,617</u> |
| Dry Cargo | | |
| 1. Juris Avots | 1983 | 5,500 |
| | | <u>5,500</u> |
| TOTAL DWT | | <u><u>1,067,924</u></u> |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

10. Other Fixed Assets

| | US \$ '000s | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| | Buildings | Containers | Machinery and Equipment | Total |
| Valuation/cost | | | | |
| At 1 st January 2003 | 8,380 | 5 | 7,527 | 15,912 |
| Additions | - | - | 357 | 357 |
| Reclassification | - | - | (48) | (48) |
| Disposals during the year | (3) | - | (1,108) | (1,111) |
| Exchange differences | 820 | 1 | 743 | 1,564 |
| At 31st December 2003 | 9,197 | 6 | 7,471 | 16,674 |
| Depreciation | | | | |
| At 1 st January 2003 | 1,716 | 5 | 5,926 | 7,647 |
| Charge for the year | 146 | - | 746 | 892 |
| Released on disposal | (3) | - | (1,039) | (1,042) |
| Reclassification | - | - | (25) | (25) |
| Exchange differences | 176 | 1 | 595 | 772 |
| At 31st December 2003 | 2,035 | 6 | 6,203 | 8,244 |
| Accumulated impairment | | | | |
| At 1 st January 2003 | 413 | - | - | 413 |
| At 31 st December 2003 | 448 | - | - | 448 |
| Net book value | | | | |
| At 31st December 2003 | 6,714 | - | 1,268 | 7,982 |
| At 31st December 2002 | 6,251 | - | 1,601 | 7,852 |

The title to some of the properties held by the Company has yet to be registered with the Land Registry of the Republic of Latvia. In view of the difficulties of obtaining adequate documentation concerning each property and its previous ownership, the Company will seek a decision of the relevant authorities, which may take a long time. This is a common situation in Latvia at the present time and executive management does not expect this to pose a difficulty.

One of the buildings, which was included in the Company's balance sheet at early stage of privatization was fully provided for, because legal title was registered on behalf of Ministry of Finance. According to legal advisers opinion there is minimal possibility that legal title will be passed to the Company.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

11. Investments

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---|-------------|------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Investments in associated undertakings (note 11(a)) | 80 | 59 |
| Available-for-sale investments (note 11 (b)) | 4 | 520 |
| TOTAL | 84 | 579 |

11.(a) The investment in associated undertakings, comprises:

| <u>Name</u> | <u>Percentage Holding</u> | <u>Country of Incorporation</u> |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Lord World Travel Ltd. (dormant) | 50% | Gibraltar |
| Via Una Ltd. | 45% | Latvia |

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---------------------------|-------------|-----------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| At the beginning of year | 59 | 749 |
| Disposals | - | (50) |
| Share of Profits | | |
| Profit for the year | 15 | 5 |
| Dividends received | - | (648) |
| Translation reserve | 6 | 3 |
| At the end of year | 80 | 59 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Continued)

11. Investments (Continued)

11.(b) Available-for-sale investments:

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---------------------------|-------------|------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| At the beginning of year | 520 | 478 |
| Exchange differences | - | 37 |
| Additions | - | 5 |
| Disposal | (516) | - |
| At the end of year | 4 | 520 |

Available-for-sale investments are:

| Name (Holding %) | Country of Incorporation | Activity |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| Silver Star Agencies B.V. (6,5%) | Netherlands | Agency |
| Aviva Investments Ltd. (30%) | Republic of Ireland | Termination of participation |
| Transterminal Ltd. (50%) | Russia | In liquidation |

The investments in Ventamarine, Inmarsat Ventures plc., Shipping Trading and Transport B.V., Star Alliance Shipping Sarl, BTV Shipping and Agencies GmbH. were sold in 2003.

12. Inventories

| | US \$ '000s | |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Ship and shore spares | 1,487 | 1,538 |
| Bunkers | 1,243 | 3,989 |
| Consumables | 2,114 | 2,719 |
| Provision against inventories | (455) | (222) |
| TOTAL | 4,389 | 8,024 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003
(Continued)

13. Finance lease receivables

| | US \$ '000s | |
|--|-------------|------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Gross receivables – bareboat charter hire: | | |
| Within 1 year | - | 221 |
| Less unearned future finance income | - | - |
| Current receivables | - | 221 |

One reefer vessel m.v. “Akademikis Artobolevskis” was delivered to bareboat charterer in 2003 when the purchase option on expiry of the charter was exercised.

14. Accounts receivable and prepayments

| | US \$ '000s | |
|-------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Trade debtors | 16,108 | 15,915 |
| Other debtors | 1,251 | 1,289 |
| Claims receivable | 309 | 1,107 |
| Prepayments | 5,216 | 3,814 |
| TOTAL | 22,884 | 22,125 |

Trade debtors are shown net of doubtful debt provisions of US\$ 5,6 million. (2002 US\$ 4,3 million)

The five largest customers represent 67% (2002: 28%) of trade debtors as at 31 December 2003.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

15. Available-for-sale investments

| | US \$ '000s | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Opening net book value | 2,180 | 1,525 |
| Addition | 57 | 532 |
| Disposal | (28) | - |
| (Decrease)/Increase in market value | (10) | 123 |
| Exchange differences | 5 | - |
| Closing net book value | 2,204 | 2,180 |

The available-for-sale investments are principally units in single bond fund held by Kristaps Insurance Ltd.

16. Bank Loans

| | US \$ '000s | |
|--|----------------|----------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Total outstanding | 112,280 | 125,360 |
| Repayments due within next twelve months | (13,080) | (13,080) |
| Long term balance | 99,200 | 112,280 |

The loans are denominated in U.S.\$ and are advanced to the Group's single vessel companies. Both Latvian Shipping Company and Latmar Holdings Corporation are guarantors of these secured debts. These guarantees have been given in the normal course of business.

They are repayable in semi-annual and quarterly instalments and carry interest at a margin linked to U.S.\$ LIBOR.

As security the lenders have mortgages of vessels together with common assignments and pledges.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

16. Bank Loans *(Continued)*

The loans are scheduled to be repaid as follows:

| Year | U.S.\$ million |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 2004 | 13,1 |
| 2005 | 13,1 |
| 2006 | 13,1 |
| 2007 | 39,0 |
| 2008 | 4,0 |
| 2009 until 2011 | 30,0 |

According to the loan agreement the borrower must maintain a certain borrowing to collateral ratio. As at 31st December 2003 US\$ 2,4 million has been placed in a blocked deposit account to maintain the required ratio. The ratio is reviewed on a semi-annual basis.

17. Provision for Deferred Taxation

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---|-------------|-------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Total Deferred Tax: | | |
| Deferred tax liabilities at 1 st January | 48 | 37 |
| Income statement | (18) | 11 |
| Deferred tax liabilities at 31 st December | 30 | 48 |
| Excess of tax allowances over depreciation | 423 | 456 |
| Other temporary differences | (215) | (283) |
| Tax losses | (1,698) | (307) |
| Unrecognised deferred tax asset | 1,520 | 182 |
| Deferred tax liabilities at 31 st December | 30 | 48 |

In the event of distributing off-shore profits, dividends received will be taxable. No such provision for tax has been made.

The calculation of deferred taxation indicates a deferred tax asset arising on taxable losses. The recoverability of the deferred tax asset is dependent on future trading profits of Latvian resident companies.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

18. Provisions

| | Vacation | Other | Total |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-------|-------|
| At 1 st January 2003 | 499 | 279 | 778 |
| Additional provisions | 293 | - | 293 |
| Utilised during the year | (315) | (269) | (584) |
| Exchange differences | 61 | 12 | 73 |
| At 31 st December 2003 | 538 | 22 | 560 |

19. Accounts payable

| | US \$ '000s | |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Bank overdrafts | - | 2,999 |
| Trade creditors | 5,664 | 8,299 |
| Other creditors | 2,607 | 3,184 |
| Accrued expenses | 4,461 | 8,338 |
| Deferred income | 1,521 | 2,322 |
| TOTAL | 14,253 | 25,142 |

20. Minority interest

| | US \$ '000s | |
|--|-------------|----------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Balt Dutch Holding N.V. | 6 | (7) |
| Latvian - Finnish Maritime Agency Ltd. | (65) | 16 |
| | (59) | 9 |

21. Contingent Liabilities

- (a) There are some legal claims against the company submitted by the ex-employees in respect of compensation. Having received legal advice from professional lawyers, the management of the Company is in opinion that these claims will be refused by the court. Therefore no provision have been made against these claims.
- (b) During the normal course of business, the Group as at the year-end had claims outstanding with suppliers and insurance companies. Certain claims are under investigation and were not yet approved at the balance sheet date. However, based on experience, Management has no reason to believe that these amounts will not be recoverable. In the normal course of business the Group also receives claims for underperformances, however Management is of the opinion that there is no unprovided material liability at the balance sheet date.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

22. Capital commitments

In December 2003 an Agreement was reached with 3 Maj shipyard in Croatia on the building of eight plus two 51.800 DWT product tankers. Price of each tanker will be between US\$ 30-35 million. The first vessel is scheduled for delivery in summer 2006.

23. Cash Flow from Operations

| | US \$ '000s | |
|---|---------------|----------------|
| | 2003 | 2002 |
| Profit/(Loss) before taxation | 15,314 | (54,402) |
| Adjustments for items not involving net liquid funds | | |
| Depreciation | 23,164 | 27,587 |
| Prepaid financing expenses amortisation | 98 | 111 |
| Profit on sale of fixed assets | (9,059) | (813) |
| Share of profits of associates | (15) | 5 |
| Drydocking deferred expenditure amortization | 13,060 | 15,885 |
| Other provisions, accruals and impairments of vessels | 6,316 | 39,643 |
| Currency translation difference | 621 | 1,554 |
| Interest payable | 3,415 | 4,867 |
| Interest receivable | (624) | (838) |
| Gain on disposal of available-for-sale investments | (602) | - |
| Negative Goodwill | (151) | - |
| | 51,537 | 33,599 |
| Movement in net working capital – net of provisions | | |
| Inventories | 3,635 | (1,002) |
| Accounts receivable | (779) | 3,021 |
| Accounts payable | (4,195) | (5,720) |
| Investments | 486 | (173) |
| | (853) | (3,874) |
| Cash Inflow from Operations | 50,684 | 29,725 |

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - 31ST DECEMBER 2003

(Continued)

24. Related Party Transactions

During the year the group entered into transactions with the associated companies described in note 11. These transactions were at an arms-length price and on fully commercial terms. In view of this the management consider that no separate disclosure is required.

25. Risk Management and Fair Values

The Group has a policy of regularly reviewing its approach to risk management. Where the Management believes the fair value of financial assets has reduced, after consultation with the relevant specialists, a provision will be made in the financial statements.

(a) Foreign Exchange Risk

The Group operates both in Europe and the Americas' and is thus exposed to foreign exchange risk. The majority of the Group's income is denominated in US \$. These financial statements are produced in US \$ as this is the universally accepted trading currency in the shipping business.

The principal transaction exposure is against Latvian Lats, because local Latvian employment costs and many repairs are denominated in Lats. It is Group policy not to keep large sums in Latvian Lats in order to minimize exposure to currency fluctuations.

(b) Interest Rate Risk

The Group is exposed to interest rate risk through its debts.

These are related mainly to variable rate of interest on its US \$ loan finance. Interest rate exposure is managed by monitoring the market and fixing the interest rate for longer periods and where possible also by matching the term of deposits of the Group's cash funds to the interest re-pricing dates of the loans. According to loan agreements the Group has the right to fix interest rates for up to 12 months.

(c) Currency Risk

During the year some free cash was converted into EURO and placed on term deposits with the Company's servicing banks to minimize potential losses from US \$ weakening.

26. Post Balance Sheet Events

(a) One tanker vessel (m.t. "Viktorio Kodovilja") was sold at a profit during February 2004.

(b) Implementing the Fleet Renewal Programme, further agreements were signed in February 2004 at prevailing market rates to purchase three 2003 built 37.000 DWT modern product tankers for delivery mid 2004 as well as a contract with Hyundai Mipo shipyard in Korea to build four 37.000 DWT product tankers with delivery expected to be in 2007.