Financial statements for the year ended 30 November 1999 together with directors' and auditors' reports

Registered number 38644

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Directors' report for the year ended 30 November 1999

The directors present their annual report on the affairs of the company together with the financial statements and auditors' report for the year ended 30 November 1999.

Principal activities and business review

The principal activities of the company comprise shipping and the holding of investments in subsidiary undertakings. The directors expect the general level of activity to remain the same in the future.

Results and dividend

During the year, the company made a profit after taxation of \$6,929,902 (1998 \$904,048). The company's accumulated deficit thus decreased by this amount from \$13,006,572 to \$6,076,670.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (1998 nil).

Directors and their interests

The directors who have served since 1 December 1998 are as shown below:

CJ Wright

(chairman)

RJR Lee

JC Engelhardtsen

None of the directors held a beneficial interest in the issued share capital of the company, nor of any of its subsidiary undertakings.

Directors' responsibilities

The directors are required by company law to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company at the end of the financial year and of the profit or loss for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the directors are required to:

- * select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- * make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- * state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- * prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business for the foreseeable future.

Directors' report for the year ended 30 November 1999 (continued)

Directors' responsibilities (continued)

The directors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Auditors

The directors will place a resolution before the annual general meeting to reappoint Arthur Andersen as auditors for the ensuing year.

By order of the board

R Wilson

Company Secretary

25 September 2000

Aldwych House 71 - 91 Aldwych London WC2B 4HN

Auditors' report

To the shareholders of The Anthony Radcliffe Steamship Company, Limited

We have audited the financial statements on pages 4 to 12 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on pages 6 and 7.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described on pages 1 and 2 the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibilities as independent auditors are established in the United Kingdom by statute, the Auditing Practices Board and by our profession's ethical guidance.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the circumstances of the company, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the company's affairs as at 30 November 1999, and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Arthur Anderson

Arthur Andersen Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

1 Surrey Street London WC2R 2PS

25 September 2000

Profit & loss account for the year ended 30 November 1999

(All amounts are in US Dollars)

	Notes	1999	1998
Turnover	2	110,079,113	110,199,017
Cost of sales		(109,528,717)	(109,648,022)
Gross profit		550,396	550,995
Other net operating expenses	3	(6,233)	(6,504)
Operating profit		544,163	544,491
Profit on sale of fixed asset investment	9	1,346,000	-
Investment income	4	-	1,470,433
Interest expense	5	-	(1,470,433)
Release of provision against amounts owed by other group undertakings		5,039,739	-
Profit on ordinary activities			
before taxation	6	6,929,902	544,491
Taxation on ordinary activities	8	-	359,557
Profit for the financial year		6,929,902	904,048
Accumulated deficit, beginning of year		(13,006,572)	(13,910,620)
Accumulated deficit, end of year		(6,076,670)	(13,006,572)
Statement of total recognised gains and losses			
Profit for the financial year		6,929,902	904,048
Cumulative translation reserve		403,944	(142,519)
Total recognised gains		7,333,846	761,529

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this profit and loss account and statement of total recognised gains and losses.

Balance sheet as at 30 November 1999

(All amounts are in US Dollars)

	Notes	1999	1998
Fixed assets Investments	9	340,576	1,352,979
Current assets			
Debtors - due within one year Debtors - due after more than one year	10 10	7,161,445 20,027,316	6,663,681 45,979,129
		27,188,761	52,642,810
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	11	(3,388)	(8,782)
Net current assets		27,185,373	52,634,028
Total assets less current liabilities		27,525,949	53,987,007
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	12	(32,700,752)	(66,495,656)
Net liabilities	18	(5,174,803)	(12,508,649)
Capital & reserves			
Called-up equity share capital Share premium account Cumulative translation reserve Profit and loss account	14 15 15 15	1,099 236,120 609,708 (6,076,670)	1,099 236,120 205,764 (13,006,572)
Shareholders' funds attributable to equity interes	sts	(5,229,743)	(12,563,589)
Called-up non-equity share capital	14	54,940	54,940
Total shareholders' funds	16	(5,174,803)	(12,508,649)

Approved by the board of directors on 25 September 2000.

CJ Wright - Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this balance sheet.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 30 November 1999

(All amounts are in US Dollars)

1. Statement of accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies, all of which have been applied consistently during the year and which are consistent with the preceding year, is set out below.

a) Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards.

b) Investments in subsidiary undertakings

In the company's financial statements, investments in subsidiary undertakings are stated at cost less amounts written off.

Under the provisions of section 228 of the Companies Act 1985, the company is exempt from preparing consolidated financial statements as it is a wholly owned subsidiary of a company incorporated within the European Union, Stolt-Nielsen Holdings BV. The company is included in the consolidated accounts of Stolt-Nielsen SA, a company incorporated in Luxembourg.

Under the provisions of Financial Reporting Standard No 1, the company has not prepared a cash flow statement as the accounts of Stolt-Nielsen SA include a consolidated cash flow statement.

c) Taxation

Corporation tax payable is provided on any taxable profits at the current rate. The corporation tax liability of this company and fellow group undertakings is reduced where possible by the surrender of losses between group undertakings for no consideration.

Deferred taxation (which arises from differences in the timing of the recognition of items in the financial statements and by the tax authorities) has been calculated using the liability method. Deferred tax is provided on those timing differences which will probably reverse at the rates of tax expected to be in force at the time of reversal. Deferred tax is not provided on timing differences which, in the opinion of the directors, will probably not reverse. The amount of all deferred tax, including that which will probably not reverse, is shown in the notes to the financial statements.

d) Foreign currency

In the financial statements of the company, transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded in US dollars at the actual exchange rates on the date of the transaction or, where appropriate, at the rate of exchange in a related forward exchange contract. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year end are reported at the rates of exchange prevailing at the year end. Any gain or loss arising from a change in exchange rates subsequent to the date of the transaction is included as an exchange gain or loss in the profit and loss account or, in the case of gains or losses arising on the retranslation of investments and related long term intercompany balances, as a movement in the cumulative translation reserve.

e) Turnover

Turnover comprises the value of sales (excluding VAT, similar taxes and trade discounts) of goods and services in the normal course of business.

1. Statement of accounting policies (continued)

f) Related party transactions

As permitted by Financial Reporting Standard No. 8, the company has not disclosed transactions with entities that are part of the Stolt-Nielsen SA group because it is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Stolt-Nielsen SA, which prepares consolidated accounts which are publicly available.

2. Segment information

Turnover all relates to the shipping business. An analysis of turnover by geographical area has been omitted as, in the directors' opinion, this would be seriously prejudicial to the interests of the company.

3. Other net operating expenses:	1999	1998
Selling and administrative expenses	6,233	6,504
4. Investment income	1999	1998
Interest receivable on amounts due from other group undertaking	-	1,470,433
5. Interest expense	1999	1998
Interest payable on amounts due to other group undertaking	-	1,470,433
6. Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		
This is stated after charging:		
	1999	1998
Auditors' remuneration - audit fees	5,589	5,638

Other than the directors (see note 7), the company had no employees (1998 none).

7. Directors' remuneration

Directors' remuneration was paid by subsidiaries in respect of one director of the company as follows:

	1999	1998
Executive remuneration	195,861	397,947
Contributions to money purchase pension schemes	-	170,206
	195,861	568,153
The number of directors who were members of pension scl	hemes was as follows:	1998
Money purchase schemes	1	1

None of the above amounts were paid by the company.

8. Taxation on ordinary activities

The tax credit / (charge) for the year comprises:

	1999	1998
UK corporation tax at 32.5% (1998 33%)	-	-
Adjustments re prior years	-	359,557
	-	359,557

No tax charge arises in respect of the current year due to the availability of group relief from other group undertakings.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

9. Fixed asset investments

The company has an interest in the ordinary share capital of the following subsidiary undertakings (the subsidiaries are directly held and wholly owned unless otherwise indicated):

Name and country of incorporation / registration	Activity	1999	1998
Stolt Llandaff SA - Panama	Dormant	-	-
Stolt-Nielsen Inter Europe Service Inc - Liberia	Ship operating	500	500
Deltank Ltd - England	Non-trading	139,575	144,658
Stolt-Nielsen Shipping Ltd - England	Ship agency	240,161	248,906
Interchem Shipping Ltd - England	Non-trading	1	1
Stolt-Nielsen Transportation Group Ltd - England	Tank containers	157	163
Stolt Tank Containers (1992) Ltd - England	Dormant	157	163
Stolt Sea Farm Holdings Limited (formerly Sea Farm Europe Limited) - England	Fish farming	-	2,346,000
		380,551	2,740,391
Less: amounts written off		(39,975)	(1,387,412)
		340,576	1,352,979
The movements during the year were as follows:			1999
Balance, beginning of year Disposals – cost Disposals – amounts written off in prior years Exchange adjustments			1,352,979 (2,346,000) 1,346,000 (12,403)
Balance, end of year			340,576

On 21 October 1999, the company sold its shares in Stolt Sea Farm Holdings Limited to a fellow Stolt-Nielsen SA group company for \$2,346,000 generating a book gain of \$1,346,000.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

10. Debtors

The following are included in the net book value of debtors:

	1999	1998
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors Tax recoverable	6,791,751 369,694	6,293,987 369,694
Amounts falling due after more than one year	7,161,445	6,663,681
Amounts owed by other group undertakings	20,027,316	45,979,129
	27,188,761	52,642,810

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

The following amounts are included in creditors falling due within one year:

Accruals	3,388	8,782
	1999	1998

12. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

The following amounts are included in creditors falling due after more than one year:

	1999	1998
Amounts due to other group undertakings	2,700,752	66,495,656

13. Deferred tax

No deferred taxation, either provided or unprovided, arises in the financial statements.

14. Called-up share capital

Authorised, allotted, called-up and fully paid:

Authorised, anotted, caned-up and fully paid:	1999	1998
536 ordinary equity shares of £1 each 536 deferred non-equity shares of £50 each	1,099 54,940	1,099 54,940
	56,039	56,039

The company's deferred shares are non-voting and carry a fixed non-cumulative dividend at the rate of 5% per annum for any financial year in respect of which the net profits available for distribution exceed £10 million. Holders of the deferred shares are entitled, on a winding up, to a return of the capital paid up after £100,000 has been distributed to each of the ordinary shareholders.

15. Reserves

Of the total reserves shown in the balance sheet, the following amounts are regarded as distributable or otherwise:

	1999	1998
Distributable Profit and loss account Cumulative translation reserve		(13,006,572) 205,764
Non-distributable Share premium account	236,120	236,120
	(5,230,842)	(12,564,688)

The profit and loss account will be distributable only when the balance moves from deficit to surplus.

16. Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	1999	1998
Profit for the financial year Movement on cumulative translation reserve	6,929,902 403,944	904,048 (142,519)
	7,333,846	761,529
Opening shareholders' funds	(12,508,649)	(13,270,178)
Closing shareholders' funds	(5,174,803)	(12,508,649)

17. Guarantees and other financial commitments

a) Capital and lease commitments

At the end of the year the company had no capital commitments (1998 nil) and had no lease commitments (1998 nil).

b) Contingent liabilities

At the end of the year, the company had not guaranteed the obligations of any affiliated undertakings.

18. Continuing parent company support

The company has substantial advances from other group undertakings. The future solvency of the company is dependent upon these advances not requiring repayment since the company does not have sufficient assets to cover the amounts payable. The company's intermediate parent company, Stolt Parcel Tankers Inc, has guaranteed all of the debts and obligations of the company and has undertaken to provide financial support to ensure that the company continues in existence. The directors have considered the financial position of the company and have concluded that it is able to meet its liabilities to third party creditors as they fall due.

19. Parent undertakings

At 30 November 1999, the company was a direct subsidiary undertaking of Stolt-Nielsen Holdings BV, a company incorporated in the Netherlands. The company's ultimate parent undertaking was Stolt-Nielsen SA, a company incorporated in Luxembourg.

The only group in which the results of the company and its subsidiary undertakings are consolidated is that headed by Stolt-Nielsen SA. The consolidated financial statements of this group are available from Stolt-Nielsen Limited, Aldwych House, 71-91 Aldwych, London WC2B 4HN.