

The Anthony Radcliffe Steamship Company, Limited

**Financial statements
for the year ended 30 November 1997
together with directors' and auditors' reports**

Registered number 38644



The Anthony Radcliffe Steamship Company, Limited

Directors' report for the year ended 30 November 1997

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 1997.

Principal activities and business review

The principal activities of the company comprise shipping and the holding of investments in subsidiary undertakings.

Results and dividend

During the year, the company made a profit after taxation of \$338,509 (1996 - \$346,974). The company's accumulated deficit thus decreased by this amount from \$14,249,129 to \$13,910,620.

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (1996 - nil).

Directors and their interests

The directors who served during the year are as shown below:

CJ Wright	(Chairman)
R J R Lee	
JC Engelhardtson	

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.

Directors' report for the year ended 30 November 1997 (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 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.

Currency of the financial statements

The financial statements are presented in US dollars.

Fixed assets

Information relating to changes in fixed asset investments is given in note 8 to the financial statements.

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

12 April 1999

Aldwych House
71 - 91 Aldwych
London WC2B 4HN

Auditors' report

London**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 page 6.

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. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

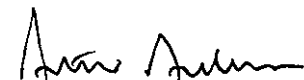
Basis of opinion

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 1997, and of its profit for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.



Arthur Andersen

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

1 Surrey Street
London
WC2R 2PS

12 April 1999

The Anthony Radcliffe Steamship Company, Limited

**Profit & loss account
for the year ended 30 November 1997**

(All amounts are in US Dollars)

	Notes	1997	1996
Turnover	2	102,757,660	99,562,373
Cost of sales		(102,243,871)	(99,064,563)
Gross profit		<u>513,789</u>	<u>497,810</u>
Other net operating expense / income	3	(6,939)	6,936
Operating profit		<u>506,850</u>	<u>504,746</u>
Investment income	4	286	13,126
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation		<u>507,136</u>	<u>517,872</u>
Taxation on ordinary activities	7	(168,627)	(170,898)
Profit for the financial year		<u>338,509</u>	<u>346,974</u>
Accumulated deficit, beginning of year		(14,249,129)	(14,596,103)
Accumulated deficit, end of year		<u><u>(13,910,620)</u></u>	<u><u>(14,249,129)</u></u>
 Statement of total recognised gains and losses			
Profit for the financial year		338,509	346,974
Cumulative translation reserve		1,755	510,665
Total recognised gains		<u><u>340,264</u></u>	<u><u>857,639</u></u>

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

The Anthony Radcliffe Steamship Company, Limited

**Balance sheet
as at 30 November 1997**

(All amounts are in US Dollars)

	Notes	1997	1996
Fixed assets			
Investments	8	1,357,339	1,356,700
		-----	-----
Current assets			
Debtors - due within one year	9	6,326,277	6,362,590
Debtors - due after more than one year	9	42,687,509	43,538,568
Cash at bank		16,059	16,359
		-----	-----
		49,029,845	49,917,517
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(369,596)	(200,930)
		-----	-----
Net current assets		48,660,249	49,716,587
		-----	-----
Total assets less current liabilities		50,017,588	51,073,287
		-----	-----
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	11	(63,287,766)	(64,680,219)
		-----	-----
Net liabilities	17	(13,270,178)	(13,606,932)
		=====	=====
Capital & reserves			
Called-up equity share capital	13	1,099	1,099
Share premium account	14	236,120	236,120
Cumulative translation reserve	14	348,283	350,038
Profit and loss account	14	(13,910,620)	(14,249,129)
		-----	-----
Shareholders' funds attributable to equity interests		(13,325,118)	(13,661,872)
		-----	-----
Called-up non-equity share capital	13	54,940	54,940
		-----	-----
Total shareholders' funds	15	(13,270,178)	(13,606,932)
		=====	=====

Approved by the board of directors on 12 April 1999.

CJ Wright

- Director



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

The Anthony Radcliffe Steamship Company, Limited

**Notes to the financial statements
for the year ended 30 November 1997**

(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.

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 on 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.

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

2. Segment information

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 / (income):

	1997	1996
Selling and administrative expenses	6,939	18,248
Other operating income	-	(25,184)
	<u>6,939</u>	<u>(6,936)</u>

4. Investment income

	1997	1996
Interest receivable on amounts due from other group undertaking	<u>286</u>	<u>13,126</u>

5. Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

This is stated after charging/(crediting):

	1997	1996
Auditors' remuneration - audit fees	5,000	6,120
Foreign exchange losses / (gains)	<u>1,939</u>	<u>(25,184)</u>

Other than the directors (see note 6), the company had no employees (1996 - none).

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

6. Directors' remuneration

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

	1997	1996
Executive remuneration	373,850	360,539
Other emoluments (including pension contributions)	163,140	39,132
	<u>536,990</u>	<u>399,671</u>

The directors' remuneration shown above (excluding pensions and pension contributions) included amounts paid to the chairman of \$ nil (1996 - \$nil) and highest paid director of \$373,850 (1996 - \$360,539).

The number of directors who were members of pension schemes was as follows:

	1997 Number	1996 Number
Money purchase schemes	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

None of the above amounts was paid by the company.

7. Taxation on ordinary activities

The tax charge for the year comprises:

	1997	1996
UK corporation tax at 33% (1996 - 33%)	<u>168,627</u>	<u>170,898</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

8. 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	1997	1996
Stolt Llandaff SA - Panama	Dormant	-	-
Stolt-Nielsen Inter Europe Service Inc - Liberia	Ship operating	500	500
Deltank Ltd - England	Non-trading	146,445	146,184
Stolt-Nielsen Shipping Ltd - England	Ship agency	251,981	251,531
Interchem Shipping Ltd - England	Non-trading	1	1
Stolt Tank Containers Ltd - England	Tank containers	165	164
Stolt Tank Containers (1992) Ltd - England	Dormant	165	164
Sea Farm Europe Limited - England	Fish farming	2,346,000	2,346,000
		<u>2,745,257</u>	<u>2,744,544</u>
Less: amounts written off		(1,387,918)	(1,387,844)
		<u>1,357,339</u>	<u>1,356,700</u>

The movements during the year were as follows :

	1997
Balance, beginning of year	1,356,700
Exchange adjustments	639
Balance, end of year	<u>1,357,339</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

9. Debtors

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

	1997	1996
Amounts falling due within one year		
Trade debtors	6,225,993	6,170,659
Prepayments and accrued income	-	20,383
Income tax recoverable	100,284	100,284
Other debtors	-	71,264
	<u>6,326,277</u>	<u>6,362,590</u>
Amounts falling due after more than one year		
Amounts owed by other group undertakings	42,687,509	43,538,568
	<u>49,013,786</u>	<u>49,901,158</u>

10. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

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

	1997	1996
Accruals	10,039	10,000
Taxation	359,557	190,930
	<u>369,596</u>	<u>200,930</u>

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

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

	1997	1996
Amounts due to other group undertakings	<u>63,287,766</u>	<u>64,680,219</u>

12. Deferred tax

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

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

13. Called-up share capital

Authorised, allotted, called-up and fully paid:

	1997	1996
536 ordinary equity shares of £1 each	1,099	1,099
536 deferred non-equity shares of £50 each	54,940	54,940
	<u>56,039</u>	<u>56,039</u>

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.

14. Reserves

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

	1997	1996
Distributable		
Profit and loss account	(13,910,619)	(14,249,129)
Cumulative translation reserve	348,282	350,038
Non-distributable		
Share premium account	236,120	236,120
	<u>(13,326,217)</u>	<u>(13,662,971)</u>

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

15. Reconciliation of movements in shareholders' funds

	1997	1996
Profit for the financial year	338,509	346,974
Movement on cumulative translation reserve	(1,755)	510,665
	<u>336,754</u>	<u>857,639</u>
Opening shareholders' funds	(13,606,932)	(14,464,571)
Closing shareholders' funds	<u>(13,270,178)</u>	<u>(13,606,932)</u>

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

16. Guarantees and other financial commitments

a) Capital and lease commitments

At the end of the year the company had no capital commitments (1996 - nil) and had no lease commitments (1996 - nil).

b) Contingent liabilities

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

17. 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.

18. Parent undertakings

At 30 November 1997, 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.