

Selected financial data for the Company are presented in the table below and should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements and notes included herein.

Selected Financial Data

(In thousands, except per share amounts)

Years Ended March 31,	2002 ⁽¹⁾	2001 ⁽²⁾	2000 ⁽³⁾	1999 ⁽⁴⁾	1998 ⁽⁵⁾
Operating Results:					
Net sales	\$ 1,636,047	\$ 1,628,901	\$ 1,542,334	\$ 1,561,218	\$ 1,447,990
Depreciation and amortization ⁽⁶⁾	72,945	86,754	89,308	87,926	76,670
Special charges (recoveries), net	—	3,643	(2,829)	(1,000)	4,950
Operating income	125,033	107,949	106,731	112,996	118,948
Interest expense, net	47,013	60,207	57,560	60,298	53,290
Discount on securitization of trade receivables	4,846	1,303	—	—	—
Other income, net	1,382	242	17,862	26,621	1,940
Income taxes	29,806	20,718	31,551	34,437	29,989
Cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle	(59,000)	—	(590)	—	—
Net earnings (loss)	(10,415)	28,223	38,283	51,924	40,540
Basic earnings (loss) per share	\$ (.15)	\$.43	\$.55	\$.74	\$.59
Diluted earnings (loss) per share	\$ (.15)	\$.42	\$.54	\$.72	\$.57
Balance Sheet Data:					
Working capital	\$ 82,212	\$ 53,690	\$ 189,194	\$ 165,416	\$ 141,276
Total assets	1,717,057	1,581,290	1,739,331	1,698,472	1,641,474
Current portion of long-term debt	2,456	72,945	20,071	19,645	12,150
Long-term debt	764,124	620,664	857,422	847,841	830,845
Other non-current liabilities	30,343	22,446	28,998	23,585	36,842
Stockholders' equity ⁽⁷⁾	503,086	496,849	472,507	470,945	426,873
Capital expenditures	\$ 58,297	\$ 65,910	\$ 65,211	\$ 101,638	\$ 124,725

(1) As discussed in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and in the notes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, the results for fiscal 2002 include: (a) a non-cash after-tax charge of \$59 million as the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle for the write-down of goodwill to its fair value; (b) a litigation charge of \$8.5 million (\$5.7 million after-tax) related to the Praxair litigation settlement; and (c) a net non-recurring gain of \$1.9 million (\$120 thousand after-tax) related to divestitures and a write-down of a business held for sale to its net realizable value.

(2) As discussed in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and in the notes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, the results for fiscal 2001 include: (a) net special charges of \$3.6 million (\$2.3 million after-tax), (b) litigation charges, net, of \$5.3 million (\$3.4 million after-tax), and (c) asset impairments associated with two equity affiliates of \$700 thousand after-tax. The decrease in working capital was partially attributable to a trade receivables securitization program entered into during fiscal 2001 and the classification of \$50 million of medium-term notes maturing September 2001 as a component of "Current Liabilities." Cash proceeds of approximately \$73.2 million from the securitization program were used to reduce long-term debt.

(3) As discussed in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and in the notes to the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements, the results for fiscal 2000 include: (a) special charge recoveries of \$2.8 million (\$1.7 million after-tax), (b) divestiture gains of \$17.5 million (\$8.6 million after-tax), (c) a litigation charge of \$7.5 million (\$4.8 million after-tax), (d) an inventory write-down of \$3.8 million (\$2.2 million after-tax), and (e) an after-tax charge of \$590 thousand representing a change in accounting principle.

(4) The results for fiscal 1999 include: (a) special charge recoveries of \$1.0 million (\$575 thousand after-tax), (b) divestiture gains of \$25.5 million (\$15 million after-tax), and (c) a \$1.8 million after-tax non-recurring gain relating to insurance proceeds recorded by an equity affiliate.

(5) The results for fiscal 1998 include: (a) special charges of \$22.4 million (\$14.3 million after-tax) which consisted of severance, exit costs for the closure of duplicate facilities, the impairment write-down of property, equipment and related goodwill and a write-down related to the divestiture of several non-core businesses, offset by a one-time net gain related to an acquisition break-up fee of \$3 million (\$1.9 million after-tax), (b) a non-recurring gain of \$14.5 million (\$9.4 million after-tax) from the partial recovery of refrigerant losses, and (c) a non-recurring gain of \$1.5 million (\$980 thousand after-tax) on the sale of a non-core business.

(6) Fiscal 2002 excludes the amortization of goodwill in accordance with SFAS 142.

(7) The Company has not paid any dividends on its common stock.