NACCO Materials Handling Group Limited

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2003 together with directors' and auditors' reports

Registered number: 1020654

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The directors present their annual report on the affairs of the group, together with the financial statements and auditors' report, for the year ended 31 December 2003.

Principal activity and business review

The principal activity of the group continues to be the manufacture and marketing of forklift trucks.

Results and dividends

The results of the group are as follows:

	1,000
Retained profit brought forward	58,095
Profit for the financial year	3,252
Retained profit carried forward	61,347

COOO

The directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend (2002 - £Nil).

Turnover for the year increased by £15 million to £269 million, and the group recorded profit after tax of £3.25 million. (2002 – £5.1 million)

The main component of the profit deterioration was currency, partially offset by trading, grant income and lower interest expense. Manufacturing re-structuring plans are in place to reduce costs.

Directors and their interests

The directors of the company during the year were as follows:

Reginald R. Eklund Geoffrey D. Lewis Richard Close Jeffrey C Mattern

None of the directors have any beneficial interest in the share capital of the company

Charitable and political contributions

During the year the group made charitable donations of £1,914 (2002 - £6,633). There were no political contributions in either year.

Supplier payments policy

It is the company's policy that payments to suppliers are made in accordance with those terms and conditions agreed between the company and it's suppliers, provided that all trading terms and conditions have been complied with.

At 31 December 2003, the company had an average of 55 days purchases outstanding in trade creditors.

Employee consultation

The group places considerable value on the involvement of its employees and has continued its practice of keeping them informed on matters affecting them as employees and on the various factors affecting the performance of the group.

Disabled employees
Applications for employees
applicant concerned.
employment with the
training, career development other employees. Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled every effort is made to ensure that their employment with the group continues and that appropriate training is arranged. It is the policy of the group that training, career development and promotion of disabled persons should, as far as possible, be identical to that of

Flagship House

Reading Road North

Fleet

Hampshire

GU51 4WD

By order of the Board, African

Anthony J O'Connell

April 30, 2004

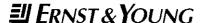
Secretary

In respect of the financial statements of NACCO Materials Handling Group Limited

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and group and of the profit or loss of the group 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 group will continue in business.

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



Independent Auditors' Report

To the members of NACCO Materials Handling Group Ltd.

We have audited the group's accounts for the year ended 31 December 2003 which comprise the Consolidated Profit and Loss Account, Consolidated Balance Sheet, Company Balance Sheet, Consolidated Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses and the related notes 1 to 21. These accounts have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with Section 235 of the Companies Act 1985. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

As described in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities the company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with applicable United Kingdom law and accounting standards. Our responsibility is to audit the accounts in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and United Kingdom Auditing Standards.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the accounts give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the Directors' Report is not consistent with the accounts, if the company has not kept proper accounting records, if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit, or if information specified by law regarding directors' remuneration and transactions with the group is not disclosed.

We read the Directors' Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with United Kingdom 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 accounts. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the accounts, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the group's circumstances, 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 accounts 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 accounts.

Opinion

In our opinion the accounts give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company and of the group as at 31 December 2003 and of the profit of the group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Ernst & Young LLP / Registered Auditor

Glasgow

April 30, 2004

	Notes	2003 £000	2002 £000
Turnover			
Continuing operations	2	268,853	253,819
Cost of sales		(235,123)	(216,247)
Gross profit		33,730	37,572
Other operating expenses	3	(29,582)	(31,224)
Operating profit		4,148	6,348
Interest receivable and similar income	4	69	426
Interest payable and similar charges	5	(219)	(1,045)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	6	3,998	5,729
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8	(746)	(663)
Profit for the financial year	16	3,252	5,066
The movement on reserves is disclosed in note 16 to the financial	statements.		
Consolidated statement of total recognised gains and For the year ended 31 December 2003	nd losses		
]		2003 £000	2002 £000
Profit for the financial year		3,252	5,066
Foreign currency translation differences		150	115

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

3,402

5,181

Total recognised gains relating to the year

Consolidated balance sheet As at 31 December 2003

	Notes	2003 £000	2002 £000
Fixed assets		2000	2000
Tangible assets	9	19,139	20,586
Investments	10	3,484	3,484
		22,623	24,070
Current assets			
Stocks	11	19,691	17,777
Debtors		·	
- Amounts falling due within one year	12	80,505	78,956
- Amounts falling due after more than one year	12	1,240	1,170
Cash at bank and in hand		32,312	13,268
		133,748	111,171
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(88,621)	(70,363)
ONet current assets		45,127	40,808
Total assets less current liabilities		67,750	64,878
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(2,985)	(3,627)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	8c	(816)	(704)
Net assets		63,949	60,547
Capital and reserves			
Called-up equity share capital	15	2,100	2,100
Profit and loss account	16	61,347	58,095
Foreign currency investment translation reserve	16	502	352
Equity shareholders' funds	17	63,949	60,547

Signed on behalf of the Board

Richard Close

Director

April 30, 2004

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

Company balance sheet As at 31 December 2003

	Notes	2003 £000	2002 £000
Fixed assets			
Investments	10	5,171	5,171
Current assets			
Debtors	12	39,807	39,807
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	(1,865)	(1,698)
Net assets	_	43,113	43,280
Capital and reserves			
Called-up equity share capital	15	2,100	2,100
Profit and loss account	16	41,013	41,180
SEquity shareholders' funds	17 -	43,113	43,280
Signed on behalf of the Board Richard Close			

Richard Close Director

April 30, 2004

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

1 Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies, all of which have been applied consistently throughout the year and 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, as defined in the Companies Act 1985 S256.

b) Cash flow statement

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from the requirement of FRS 1 (Revised) to prepare a cash flow statement as 90% or more of the voting rights are controlled within the group, and consolidated financial statements including the results of the company are available to the public.

c) Basis of consolidation

The group financial statements consolidate the financial statements of NACCO Materials Handling Group Limited and all its subsidiary undertakings up to 31 December 2003. The acquisition method of accounting has been adopted. The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of in the year are included in the consolidated profit and loss account from the date of acquisition or up to the date of disposal. Goodwill arising on the acquisition of subsidiary undertakings and businesses, representing any excess of the fair value of the consideration given over the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities acquired, is capitalised and written off on a straight line basis over its useful economic life, which is twenty years. Provision is made for any impairment.

Goodwill arising on acquisitions in the year ended 31 December 1998 and earlier periods was written off to reserves in accordance with the accounting standard then in force. As permitted by the current accounting standard the goodwill written off to reserves has not been reinstated in the balance sheet. On disposal or closure of a previously acquired business, the attributable amount of goodwill previously written off to reserves is included in determining the profit or loss on disposal.

The company's result for the financial year, determined in accordance with S230 of the Companies Act 1985, was a loss of £167,000 (2002 – £ Nil).

d) Turnover

Group turnover comprises the value of sales (net of trade discounts and VAT) of goods and services rendered in the normal course of business.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

e) Tangible fixed assets

Land and buildings are shown at original historical cost as set out in note 9. Other tangible fixed assets are shown at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for diminution in value.

Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold buildings

37.5 - 40 years

Machinery, equipment and tooling

3 - 15 years

Furniture and fittings

3 - 10 years

f) Investments

Fixed asset investments are shown at cost less amounts written off. Provisions are made for any diminution in value.

g) Stocks and work in progress

Stocks and work in progress are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost incurred in bringing each product to its present location and condition is based on:

Raw materials and consumables

purchase cost on a first-in, first-out basis, including applicable

transport costs.

Work in progress and finished goods

cost of direct materials and labour plus a reasonable proportion of

manufacturing overheads based on normal levels of activity.

Net realisable value is based on estimated normal selling price less further costs expected to be incurred to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete, slow-moving or defective items where appropriate.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

h) Taxation

Corporation tax payable is provided on taxable profits at the current rate.

The taxation liabilities of certain group companies are reduced wholly or in part by the surrender of losses by fellow group companies. The tax benefits arising from group relief are recognised in the financial statements of the surrendering and receipting companies.

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date where transactions or events have occurred at that date that will result in an obligation to pay more, or a right to pay less tax, with the exception of deferred tax assets which are recognised only to the extent that the directors consider that it is more likely than not that there will be suitable taxable profits from which the future reversal of the underlying timing differences can be deducted.

Deferred tax is measured on an undiscounted basis at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the periods in which

timing differences reverse, based on tax rates and laws enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

i) Leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Assets held under finance leases and other similar contracts, which confer rights and obligations similar to those attached to owned assets, are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are depreciated over their useful lives. The capital elements of future lease obligations are recorded as liabilities, while the interest elements are charged to the profit and loss account over the period of the leases to produce a constant rate of charge on the balance of capital repayments outstanding.

i) Pensions

The pension obligations of the group are met by payments to pension plans, which are vested in trustees nominated by the group for the benefit of employees and their dependants. Contributions to the pension plans, which are based on actuarial valuations, are dealt with in the profit and loss account.

The group has not opted for the early adoption of FRS17 Retirement Benefits, however the disclosures required under FRS17 are given in note 18.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

k) Foreign currency translation

In the financial statements of individual undertakings, transactions denominated in foreign currencies are recorded in the local currency at actual exchange rates as of the date of the transaction.

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies at the year end are translated to sterling at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date or at the rate pertaining to the appropriate contract where forward currency contracts exist. Any gain or loss arising from a change in exchange rates subsequent to the date of the transaction is reported as an exchange gain or loss in the profit and loss account.

For the purposes of consolidation the closing rate method is used, under which translation gains or losses are shown as a movement on reserves. Profit and loss accounts of overseas subsidiary undertakings are translated at the average exchange rate.

I) Grants

Grants relating to investment in fixed assets are credited to the deferred income account and released to income in equal annual instalments over the useful lives of the assets to which they relate.

Employment and training grants are credited to income in the year in which they are earned, in so far as their eventual collection is reasonably assured.

m) Related party transactions

The company has taken advantage of the exemption allowed by FRS 8 from not having to provide details of transactions with fellow group undertakings.

2 Turnover

The geographical analysis of the group's turnover by destination is as follows:

2003	2002
£000	£000
155,162	159,789
73,672	61,777
40,019	32,253
268,853	253,819
	£000 155,162 73,672 40,019

All turnover and operating results derive from the group's principal activity in Europe. The net assets are based in Europe.

	3 Other operating expenses		
		2003	2002
		£000	£000
	Selling and marketing expenses	25,273	24,262
	Administrative expenses	4,495	3,834
	Other operating (income)/expense	(192)	3,128
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	6	<u>.</u>
		29,582	31,224
	4 Interest receivable and similar income		
		2003	2002
		£000	£000
, _	Interest receivable		
NO	- from other group undertakings	69	426
ERNST& YOUNG	5 Interest payable and similar charges		
<i>∞</i> ≥	diameter payable and ominal only goo	2003	2002
LS		£000	£000
2	- To other group undertakings	5	48
	On mance leases	36	50
iii	- On bank loans and overdrafts, and other loans	178	947
		219	1,045

6 Profit on ordinary activities before taxation

Profit on ordinary activities before taxation is stated after charging/(crediting) the following amounts:

	2003 £000	2002 £000
Revenue grants received	(1,000)	-
Amortisation of government grants	(777)	(928
Depreciation on tangible fixed assets		
- owned	3,121	4,115
- held under finance leases	487	485
Hire of plant and equipment	70	82
Operating lease rentals - Plant and machinery	821	720
- Land and buildings	590	574
Auditors' remuneration - audit fees	118	102
Loss on exchange	2,448	9
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	6	-

7 Staff costs	2002	2002
	2003 £000	2002 £000
Employee aggregate remuneration (including executive directors) during the year amounted to:		2000
Wages and salaries	33,985	31,177
Social security costs	3,348	2,862
Other pension costs	1,262	1,420
	38,595	35,459
The average monthly number of persons employed by the group during the year analysis of the persons employed by the group was as follows:	was 1,424 (2002 – 1,3	73). An
	2003	2002
	Number	Number
Manufacturing	791	751
Administration and selling	633	622
	1,424	1,373
Directors' remuneration:		
The remuneration of directors was as follows:		
	2003	2002
	£000	£000
Emoluments	269	261
Company contributions to money purchase pension schemes	11	11
	280	272
The number of directors who were members of pension schemes was as follows	:	
	2003 Number	2002 Number
Money purchase pension schemes	1	1

7 Staff costs (continued)

Highest paid director:

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The above amounts for remuneration include the following in respect of the highest paid director:

	2003 £000	2002 £000
Emoluments	269	261
Company contributions to money purchase scheme	11	11
	280	272
8 Tax		
a) Tax on profit on ordinary activities The tax charge is based on the loss for the year and comprises:	2003 £000	2002 £000
Current tax:		
- UK corporation tax		
- Current tax on income for the period	1281	619
- Adjustment in respect of previous periods	(775)	
	506	619
- Foreign tax	127	109
Total current tax	633	728
Deferred tax:		
- UK deferred tax	113	(65)

746

663

Tax on profit on ordinary activities

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b) Factors affecting the tax charge for the period

The tax assessed on the profit on ordinary activities for the period is lower than the standard rate of corporation tax in the UK.

The differences are explained below.

i ne differences are explained below.		
	2003 £000	2002 £000
Profit on ordinary activities before tax	3,998	5,729
Profit on ordinary activities multiplied by standard rate of corporation tax in the UK of		
30% (2002: 30%)	1,199	1,719
Effect of:		
Disallowed expenses and non taxable income	150	36
Depreciation in excess of capital allowances	208	527
Other timing differences	(170)	(554)
Adjustments in respect of previous periods	(775)	-
Utilisation of tax losses	-	(1,023)
Tax losses	-	-
Higher taxes on overseas earnings	21	23
Overseas tax losses		<u>-</u>
Current tax charge for the period	633	728

(

•	Group	
	2003	2002
	£000	£000
Included in provisions for liabilities and charges	816	704
Accelerated capital allowances Other timing differences	2,010 (1,194)	2,314 (1,610)
Tax losses		-
	816	704

	Group	
	2003 £000	2002 £000
Beginning of year Adjustments in respect of prior years	704	769
Adjustments in respect of prior years	150	(769
Profit and loss account current year	(38)	1,050
Estimated recoverable losses	-	(346

d) Factors affecting future tax charge

The directors are not aware of any significant factors that will affect future tax charges at the balance sheet date.

9 Tangible fixed assets

The following are included in the net book value of tangible fixed assets:

Group	2003 £000	2002 £000
Land and buildings	9,627	10,025
Machinery, equipment and tooling	9,290	10,271
Furniture and fittings		290
Net tangible fixed assets	19,139	20,586

The movement in the year was as follows:

The movement in the year was as lonows.				
Cost Beginning of year	Freehold land and buildings £000	Machinery, equipment and tooling £000	Furniture and fittings £000	Total £000
Cost				
Beginning of year	20,031	64,276	1,044	85,351
Exchange adjustment	-	43	-	43
Additions	376	1,798	27	2,201
Disposals	-	(778)	-	(778)
End of year	20,407	65,339	1,071	86,817
Depreciation				
Beginning of year	10,006	54,005	754	64,765
Exchange adjustment	-	37	-	37
Charge for year	774	2,739	95	3,608
Disposals	-	(732)		(732)
End of year	10,780	56,049	849	67,678
Net book value				
Beginning of year	10,025	10,271	290	20,586
End of year	9,627	9,290	222	19,139

9 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Leased assets included in the above are as follows:

Machinery, equipment and tooling £000

Net book value

Beginning of year

1,543

End of year

1,056

Freehold land amounting to £641,000 (2002 - £641,000) has not been depreciated.

10 Fixed asset investments

The following are included in the net book value of fixed asset investments:

	Group		Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Subsidiary undertakings	-	-	47,241	47,241
Write down in subsidiary undertakings	<u> </u>		(44,148)	(44,148)
	-	-	3,093	3,093
Other investments	3,484	3,484	2,078	2,078
	3,484	3,484	5,171	5,171

Principal investments:

The company holds the entire issued share capital of the following companies, all of which principally affected the profits or losses and net assets of the group:

Principal subsidiary undertakings	Country of registration	Principal activity
NACCO Materials Handling Limited	England	Marketing and manufacture of forklift trucks
Hyster France SARL	France	Distribution of forklift trucks
Yale Germany GmbH	Germany	Distribution of forklift trucks
Yale France Manutention SARL	France	Distribution of forklift trucks

The write down in subsidiary undertakings is a result of the special resolution to wind up the following non-trading subsidiary undertakings of the group in a member's voluntary liquidation; Yale Europe Materials Handling Limited; NACCO Materials Handling (Scotland) Limited; NACCO Materials Handling (N.I.) Limited; Yale Financial Services Limited and Yale Property Trading Co Limited.

Other investments:

The other investments relate to a 5% interest in the ordinary share capital of NACCO Materials Handling SRL £380k. A company registered in Italy whose principal activity is the manufacture of forklift trucks.

The other investments relate to an 11% interest in the ordinary share capital of NMHG Sarl £1,698k. A company registered in France whose principal activity is the distribution and selling of forklift trucks.

NACCO Materials Handling Ltd currently owns 60.4% of the issued share capital of NMHG Mauritius Ltd. However, a series of actions are planned that will reduce this holding to below 50%. Accordingly, this subsidiary has been excluded from the consolidated accounts on the grounds that the majority interest is effectively being held for resale. The investment continues to be accounted for at cost.

NMHG Mauritius Ltd prepare accounts to 31 December although audited accounts to 31 December 2003 are not yet available. The unaudited management accounts of NMHG Mauritius Ltd show share capital and reserves of \$152,000 at 31 December 2003 and a loss for the year then ended of \$3,045,000.

The company also owns the entire issued share capital of NACCO Materials Handling Group (UK) Pension Company Limited, which amounts to £2.

11 Stocks

	Group	
	2003	2002
	£000	£000
Raw materials, consumables and work in progress	11,955	11,273
Finished goods	1,765	987
Goods in transit	5,971	5,517
	19,691	17,777

In the opinion of the directors there is no material difference between the replacement cost and the balance sheet value of the stocks.

12 Debtors

	Group		Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Amounts falling due within one year:				
Trade debtors	44,076	41,605	-	-
Amounts owed by other group undertakings	29,617	34,567	39,807	39,807
VAT	5,168	1,725	_	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,644	1,059	-	-
	80,505	78,956	39,807	39,807
Amounts falling due after more than one year:				<u> </u>
Pension scheme	1,240	1,170		<u>-</u>

Amounts owed by other group undertakings are repayable on demand and are non-interest bearing.

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Company	/	
	2003	2002	2003	2002	
	£000	£000	£000	£000	
Bank loans and overdrafts	19,624	8,045	-	-	
Trade creditors	42,214	35,534	-	-	
Amounts owed to other group undertakings	13,746	12,056	1,865	1,698	
Other creditors			-	-	
- corporation tax	673	1,175	-	-	
- other taxation and social security	1,095	938	_	-	
Accruals and deferred income					
- grants	681	777	-	-	
- other	10,588	11,838	-	-	
	88,621	70,363	1,865	1,698	

14 Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year		
	Group	
	2003	2002
	5000	£000
Long term incentive accrual	887	847
Deferred income – government grants	2,098	2,780
	2,985	3,627
15 Called-up equity share capital		
	2003	20
	2000	93

16 Reserves

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

	Group		Comp	any
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Distributable				
- profit and loss account	61,347	58,095	41,013	41,180
Non-distributable				
- foreign currency translation reserve	502	352	-	-
Total range (no		50.445		
Total reserves	61,849	58,447	41,013	41,180

The movement on reserves was as follows:

	Group		Company
	Profit and loss account £000	Foreign currency reserve £000	Profit and loss account £000
Beginning of year	58,095	352	41,180
Translation of foreign subsidiary undertakings	-	150	-
Profit/(loss) for the financial year	3,252		(167)
End of year	61,347	502	41,013

17 Reconciliation of movement in equity shareholders' funds

The movement in shareholders' funds was as follows:

	Group		Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Opening shareholders' funds	60,547	55,366	43,280	43,280
Profit/(loss) for the financial year	3,252	5,066	(167)	-
Foreign currency translation differences	150	115	-	-
Closing shareholders' funds	63,949	60,547	43,113	43,280

18 Pension arrangements

SSAP 24

The company contributes to a UK pension scheme, the NMHG UK Retirement Plan, which has two sections, a defined benefits (DB) section providing benefits based on service and final pensionable salary, and a defined contribution (DC) section which provides benefits equal in value to the accumulated contributions. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the company, being invested by professional investment managers.

Contributions to the Plan are charged to the Profit and Loss account so as to spread the cost of pensions over the service lives of the employees contributing to the schemes. The contributions for the DB section of the NMHG Plan are determined by a qualified actuary and are reviewed at least once every three years. The most recent actuarial valuation of the Plan was as at 5 April 2001.

The actuarial assumptions which have the most significant effect on the results of the valuation are those relating to investment performance and the rates of increase of salaries and pensions. Due to the long term nature of the liabilities it is necessary to view this relationship over a considerable period of time. The actuarial valuations reflect the long term historical relationship of investment returns and salary increases and it was assumed that, on average, investment returns on new investments would be 2.5% per annum higher than increases in salaries. It was assumed that pensions in payment accrued after 5 April 1997 increase in line with the assumed rate of inflation of 2.5% per annum (reflecting the statutory requirement that pension accrued after 5 April 1997 must increase in line with inflation subject to a maximum of 5%).

The most recent valuation of the NMHG Plan (DB section) using methods and assumptions consistent with SSAP 24 disclosures, determined that the actuarial value of the assets were sufficient to cover 97% of the benefits that had accrued to members allowing for future increases in earnings.

The pension charge for the year was £1,262,000 (2002 - £1,420,000) after taking credit of £8,000 (2002 - £6,000) for the expected return on the group opening prepayment position.

The pension charge to the defined benefit scheme was £1,040,000 (2002 - £1,060,000) and the defined contribution scheme was £222,485 (2002 - £359,810).

FRS17 Retirement Benefits

Additional disclosures regarding the group's defined benefit pension scheme are required under the transitional provisions of FRS 17 Retirement Benefits and these are set out below.

The actuarial valuation described above has been updated at 31 December 2003 by a qualified actuary using revised assumptions that are consistent with the requirements of FRS 17. Investments have been valued, for this purpose, at fair value.

The major assumptions used for the actuarial valuation were:

	2003 % pa	2002 %pa	2001 %pa
Inflation	2.60	2.25	2.50
Rate of increase in salaries	4.10	3.75	4.00
Rate of increase of pensions in payment	2.60	2.25	2.50
Rate of increase for deferred pensioners	2.60	2.25	2.50
Discount rate	5.60	5.75	5.75

Scheme assets and expected rate of return

	20	03	200	2	200	1
	Fair value £000	Expected rate of return %pa	Fair value £000	Expected rate of return %pa	Fair value £000	Expected rate of return %pa
Equities	31,860	8.2	26,490	8.5	34,300	7.75
Bonds	3,090	4.8	2,740	4.5	3,400	5.00
Total	34,950		29,230		37,700	

The following amounts at 31 December 2003 were measured in accordance with the requirements of FRS17.

	At 31 December 2003 £000	At 31 December 2002 £000	At 31 December 2001 £000	
Fair value of scheme assets Actuarial value of scheme liabilities	34,950 (52,900)	29,230 (45,600)	37,700 (45,800)	
Deficit in the scheme Related deferred tax asset	(17,950) 5,385	(16,370) 4,900	(8,100) 2,430	_
Pension liability	(12,565)	(11,470)	(5,670)	· · · · ·

The movement in the Company's share of the defined benefits section deficit during the year is made up as follows:

Deficit at end of year	(17,950)	(16,370)
Actuarial losses	(1,440)	(8,610)
Net return	(200)	240
Employers contributions	1,110	1,250
Current service cost	(1,050)	(1,150)
Deficit at beginning of year	(16,370)	(8,100)
Movement in deficit during the year:	£000	£000
	2003	2002

Reconciliation of net assets and reserves under FRS17 are as follows:

ž	2003	2002	2001
20	£000	£000	£000
> Net assets as stated in the balance sheet	63,949	60,547	55,366
Adjusted for:			
Net pension asset	(1,240)	(1,170)	(980)
Deferred tax thereon	372	351	294
Adjusted net assets	63,081	59,728	54,680
Retirement benefits liability – net pension liability	(12,565)	(11,470)	(5,670)
Net assets including retirement benefit liability	50,516	48,258	49,010

	2003 £000	2002 £000	2001 £000
Profit and loss reserve as stated in the balance sheet	61,347	58,095	53,029
Adjusted for: Net pension asset (SSAP 24) net of deferred tax	(868)	(819)	(686)
Adjusted profit and loss reserve	60,479	57,276	52,343
Retirement benefits liability	(12,565)	(11,470)	(5,670)
Profit and loss reserve including retirement benefits liability	47,914	45,806	46,673

SThe	amounts charged to income and expenditure were as follows:		
_	amounte originate to moonie and experience were as remove.	2003 £000	2002 £000
⊒J E RNST&YOU	Current service cost Past service cost	1,050	1,150 -
	Charge to operating profit	1,050	1,150
iil)	Expected return on pension plan assets Interest on pension plan liabilities	(2,370) 2,570	(2,810) 2,570
	Charge to financing cost	200	(240)
	Charge to profit and loss account	1,250	910

Contributions of £1,110,000 (2002: £1,250,000) have been paid over in 2003. The Company has agreed to contribute at the rate of 12.7% of pensionable pay together with additional contributions amounting to £16,000 a month from April 2002 until the results of the next actuarial valuation, due on 5th April 2004 have been finalised.

As the plan is closed to new entrants the current service cost is expected to increase in future years as a percentage of pensionable pay.

Analysis of amounts recognised in statement of total recognised gains and losses:

	2003	2002
	£000	£000
Actual return less expected return on pension plan assets	3,520	(10,790)
Experience gains arising on plan liabilities	(1,160)	980
Changes in assumptions underlying the present value of plan liabilities	(3,800)	1,200
Total actuarial loss recognised	(1,440)	(8,610)

Percentage of plan liabilities

Difference between the expected and actual return on plan assets:		
Difference between the expected and actual return on plan assets.		
Amount (£000)	3,520	(10,790)
Percentage of plan assets	10%	37%

The experience gains and losses for the years ended 31 December 2003 and 2002 were as follows:

Percentage of plan liabilities	2%	2%
Total amount recognised in the statement of total recognised and losses:	sed gains	
Amount (£000)	(1,440)	(8,610)

19%

3%

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

19 Guarantees and financial commitments

a) Capital commitments

At the end of the year, the group had capital commitments of £3,426,423 (2002 - £626,807).

b) Contingent liabilities

The group has contingent liabilities in respect of:

- i. Guarantees issued for bids and performance bonds of £68,800 (2002 £48,674).
- ii. Guarantees and indemnities in respect of VAT, duty and leases £1,900,000 (2002 £1,900,000).
- iii. Cross guarantees on overdrafts and other liabilities of certain other group undertakings for an unlimited amount.

c) Lease commitments

The group has entered into leases in respect of land and buildings and plant and equipment. The minimum annual

nuai
2002
£000
-
56
533
441
1,030

20 Ultimate parent company

The ultimate parent company is NACCO Industries Inc., a company incorporated in the state of Delaware, United States of America.

The only group in which the results of NACCO Materials Handling Group Limited and its subsidiary undertakings are consolidated is that headed by NACCO Industries Inc., whose principal place of business is 5875 Landerbrook Drive, Mayfield Heights, Ohio 44124. The consolidated financial statements are available at that address.

21 Related party transactions

During the year the group purchased in the ordinary course of business £9,865,828 (2002 - £11,061,779) of raw materials from Sumitomo NACCO, a joint venture controlled by NACCO Inc. At the year end the group had a creditor balance of £2,573,630 with Sumitomo NACCO (2002 - £2,715,758) included within trade creditors.