

Industrie Natuzzi S.p.A. and Subsidiaries

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

At December 31, 2000 and 1999 and for each of the
years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2000
(With Independent Auditors' Report)

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Consolidated Balance Sheets

December 31, 2000 and 1999

(Expressed in millions of Italian lire, except as otherwise indicated)

Assets	2000	1999
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents (note 4)	183,174	312,648
Marketable debt securities (note 5)	51	50
Trade receivables, net (note 6)	271,525	220,190
Other receivables (note 7)	80,285	86,000
Inventories (note 8)	142,594	103,206
Unrealized foreign exchange gains (note 24)	4,069	-
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	555	705
Deferred income taxes (note 14)	3,532	7,751
Total current assets	685,785	730,550
Non current assets:		
Property plant and equipment (note 9 and 16)	352,254	295,858
Less accumulated depreciation (note 9)	(110,217)	(93,519)
Net property, plant and equipment	242,037	202,339
Treasury shares (note 19)	44,987	-
Other assets (note 10)	6,579	4,309
Deferred income taxes (note 14)	102	143
Total assets	979,490	937,341

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity**2000****1999****Current liabilities:**

Short-term borrowings (note 11)	5,243	938
Current portion of long-term debt (note 16)	645	1,197
Accounts payable-trade (note 12)	163,407	116,611
Accounts payable-other (note 13)	22,513	20,495
Allowance for unrealized foreign exchange losses (note 24)	-	2,545
Income taxes (note 14)	7,349	2,774
Salaries, wages and related liabilities (note 15)	21,629	16,751

Total current liabilities	220,786	161,311
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Long-term liabilities:

Employees' termination indemnity (note 3 (I))	38,440	33,618
Long-term debt (note 16)	473	1,118
Deferred income taxes (note 14)	470	1,743
Other liabilities	8,227	5,821

Minority interest (note 17)	1,543	1,557
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Shareholders' equity (note 19):

Share capital	7,191	7,184
Reserves	108,191	62,029
Additional paid-in capital	16,037	15,441
Retained earnings	578,132	647,519

Total shareholders' equity	709,551	732,173
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Commitments and contingent liabilities (notes 20 and 24)	-	-
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Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	979,490	937,341
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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Earnings

Years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

(Expressed in millions of Italian lire, except per share data)

	2000	1999	1998
Net sales (note 21)	1,333,084	1,091,689	1,066,173
Cost of sales (note 22)	(825,423)	(651,615)	(691,824)
Gross profit	507,661	440,074	374,349
Selling expenses	(211,016)	(164,467)	(171,345)
General and administrative expenses	(51,644)	(43,823)	(38,032)
Operating income	245,001	231,784	164,972
Other income, net (note 23)	(42,302)	(32,476)	20,810
Earnings before taxes and minority interest	202,699	199,308	185,782
Income taxes (note 14)	(49,344)	(39,441)	(46,335)
Earnings before minority interest	153,355	159,867	139,447
Minority interest	(90)	(305)	(148)
Net earnings	153,265	159,562	139,299
Basic earnings per share (note 3 (s))	2,685	2,776	2,434
Diluted earnings per share (note 3 (s))	2,685	2,776	2,433

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Shareholders' Equity

Years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

(Expressed in millions of Italian lire, except number of ordinary shares)

	Share capital		Reserves	Additional paid-in capital	Retained earnings	Total
	Number of ordinary shares	Amount				
Balances at December 31, 1997	56,878,800	7,110	62,241	9,238	526,829	605,418
Dividends distributed	-	-	-	-	(91,006)	(91,006)
Exercise of stock options	590,088	74	-	6,203	-	6,277
Exchange differences on translation of financial statements	-	-	-	-	(2,860)	(2,860)
Net earnings	-	-	-	-	139,299	139,299
Balances at December 31, 1998	57,468,888	7,184	62,241	15,441	572,262	657,128
Dividends distributed	-	-	-	-	(91,950)	(91,950)
Transfers	-	-	(212)	-	212	-
Exchange differences on translation of financial statements	-	-	-	-	7,433	7,433
Net earnings	-	-	-	-	159,562	159,562
Balances at December 31, 1999	57,468,888	7,184	62,029	15,441	647,519	732,173
Dividends distributed	-	-	-	-	(181,946)	(181,946)
Exercise of stock options	56,640	7	-	596	-	603
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements	-	-	-	-	4,281	4,281
Treasury shares acquired	(1,782,700)	-	44,987	-	(44,987)	-
Grants received net of taxes	-	-	638	-	-	638
Revaluation of fixed assets net of taxes	-	-	537	-	-	537
Net earnings	-	-	-	-	153,265	153,265
Balances at December 31, 2000	55,742,828	7,191	108,191	16,037	578,132	709,551

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

Years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998

(Expressed in millions of Italian lire)

	2000	1999	1998
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net earnings	153,265	159,562	139,299
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
• Depreciation and amortization	20,094	18,430	23,848
• Employees' termination indemnity	10,372	9,234	8,582
• Deferred income taxes	2,812	(3,692)	(1,150)
• Minority interest	90	305	148
• (Gain) loss on disposal of assets	(239)	2,579	202
• Change in provision for unrealized foreign exchange losses	(6,614)	2,327	(1,966)
Change in assets and liabilities:			
• Receivables, net	(45,620)	(33,785)	(23,165)
• Inventories	(39,388)	3,340	8,178
• Prepaid expenses and accrued income	150	867	(421)
• Other assets	(2,862)	(993)	(1,342)
• Accounts payable	48,957	172	11,871
• Income taxes	4,575	(15,098)	(1,490)
• Salaries, wages and related liabilities	4,878	185	(379)
• Other liabilities	2,406	1,640	764
• Employees' termination indemnity	(5,550)	(5,876)	(5,362)
Total adjustments	(5,939)	(20,365)	18,318
Net cash provided by operating activities	147,326	139,197	157,617

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

2000

1999

1998

Cash flows from investing activities:

Property, plant and equipment:

• Additions	(53,919)	(18,496)	(26,199)
• Disposals	857	1,323	447

Government grants received	734	-	-
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Marketable debt securities:

• Purchases	(1)	(71,960)	(17,018)
• Proceeds from maturities	-	-	3,284
• Proceeds from sales	-	86,142	1,757

Purchase of business, net of cash acquired	(1,107)	-	-
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Purchase of minority interest	(138)	(167)	-
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Net cash used investing activities	(53,574)	(3,158)	(37,729)
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Cash flows from financing activities:

Long-term debt repayments	(1,197)	(1,684)	(3,191)
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Short-term borrowings	4,305	(2,952)	2,094
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Exercise of stock options	603	-	6,277
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Treasury shares	(44,987)	-	-
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Dividends paid	(181,946)	(91,950)	(91,006)
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Dividends paid to minority shareholders	-	(108)	(99)
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Net cash used in financing activities	(223,222)	(96,694)	(85,925)
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Effect of translation adjustments on cash	(4)	92	(123)
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Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(129,474)	39,437	33,840
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Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year	312,648	273,211	239,371
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Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year	183,174	312,648	273,211
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Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:

Cash paid during the year for interest	409	370	970
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Cash paid during the year for income taxes	35,438	77,757	46,958
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See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

(Expressed in millions of Italian lire, except as otherwise indicated)

1 Description of business and Group composition

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Industrie Natuzzi S.p.A. ('Natuzzi' or the 'Company') and of its subsidiaries (together with the Company, the 'Group'). The Group's primary activity is the design, manufacture and marketing of contemporary and traditional leather and fabric-upholstered furniture.

The subsidiaries included in the consolidation at December 31, 2000, together with the related percentages of ownership, are as follows:

Name	Percent of ownership	Share Capital	Registered office	Activity
Divani e Poltrone Italia S.r.l.	99.98	Lit. 3,700	Bari, Italy	(1)
Soft Cover S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 5,000	Bari, Italy	(1)
Spagnesi International S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 800	Bari, Italy	(1)
Spagnesi S.p.A.	99.95	Lit. 1,000	Quarrata, Italy	(1)
Creazioni Ellette S.p.A.	100.00	Lit. 2,500	Altamura, Italy	(1)
Style and Comfort S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 5,000	Bari, Italy	(1)
Natuzzi Bahia Ltd	97.99	Rial\$ 1.285.557	Bahia, Brazil	(1)
Italsofa Hong-Kong Ltd	80.00	US\$ 1	Hong-Kong, China	(1)
Natco S.p.A.	99.99	Lit. 8,500	Bari, Italy	(2)
I.M.P.E. S.p.A.	90.83	Lit. 1,500	Qualiano, Italy	(3)
Expan Italia S.r.l.	99.00	Lit. 90	Bari, Italy	(3)
Natex S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 90	Bari, Italy	(4)
Natuzzi Trade Service S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 27,000	Bari, Italy	(5)
Natuzzi Americas Inc.	100.00	US\$ 50,000	High Point, NC, USA	(5)
Nagest S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 90	Bari, Italy	(6)
Softaly S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 190	Bari, Italy	(7)
Finat Ltd	100.00	Lit. 1,000	Dublin, Ireland	(8)
Natuzzi Netherlands Holding	100.00	Euro 20.00	Amsterdam, Holland	(8)
Natuzzi Asia Limited	100.00	US\$ 13	Hong-Kong, China	(8)
D.L.S. S.r.l.	100.00	Lit. 90	Bari, Italy	(9)
Natuzzi Argentina	99.00	US\$ 12,000	Buenos Aires, Argentina	(10)

- (1) Manufacture and distribution
- (2) Intragroup leather dyeing and finishing
- (3) Production and distribution of polyurethane foam
- (4) Intragroup production of fibrefill down cushion and polyurethane shaping
- (5) Distribution
- (6) Intragroup accounting services
- (7) Intragroup building management
- (8) Intragroup cash management and treasury operations
- (9) In liquidation
- (10) Non operative

During 2000 the Company incorporated subsidiaries in Brazil and China. These subsidiaries will engage in the production of leather upholstery furniture that will be labelled “Italsofa”. The Company is building new production plants in these locations and these plants are expected to be in production by the end of December 2001.

In March 2000, the Company acquired 100% of a leather and fabric upholstered furniture manufacturing business, Style and Comfort S.r.l., for cash consideration of 1,107. The acquisition was accounted for using the purchase method. The acquisition resulted in a goodwill of 1,119, which represents the excess of purchase price over fair value of net assets. The fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed were as follows:

Current assets	292
Non-current assets, other than goodwill	293
Goodwill	1,119
Current liabilities	(380)
Non-current liabilities	(217)

Cash paid	1,107
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In addition, during 2000, the Company acquired the remaining interest of 1% in Creazioni Elleelle S.p.A. for a consideration of 138 in cash.

During 1999, the Company acquired all of the minority interest of Natex S.r.l. for a consideration of 167 in cash. Goodwill arising from that acquisition amounted to 146.

From 1998 to 2000, the Company liquidated Masternat S.r.l., Natuzzi Pacific Ltd. , Tecnolevante S.r.l. and Italiana de Sofa Franquiciados S.L..

2 Basis of preparation and principles of consolidation

The financial statements utilized for the consolidation are the statutory financial statements of each Group company at December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998. The 1999 and 1998 financial statements have been approved by the respective shareholders of the relevant companies. The 2000 financial statements have been approved only by the directors of the relevant companies.

The financial statements of subsidiaries are adjusted, where necessary, to conform to Natuzzi's accounting principles, which are consistent with Italian legal requirements governing financial statements considered in conjunction with established accounting principles promulgated by the Italian Accounting Profession and, in their absence, by the International Accounting Standards Committee. The consolidated financial statements are classified in accordance with the presentations generally used in international practice.

Established accounting principles in the Republic of Italy vary in certain significant respects from generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America. Application of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America would have affected results of operations for each of the years in the three-year period ended December 31, 2000 and shareholders' equity as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 to the extent summarized in Note 26 to the consolidated financial statements.

The consolidated financial statements include all affiliates and companies that Natuzzi directly or indirectly controls, either through majority ownership or otherwise. Control is presumed to exist where more than one-half of a subsidiary's voting power is controlled by the Company or the Company is able to govern the financial and operating

policies of a subsidiary or control the removal or appointment of a majority of a subsidiary's board of directors. Where an entity either began or ceased to be controlled during the year, the results of operations are included only from the date control commenced or up to the date control ceased.

The assets and liabilities of subsidiaries are consolidated on a line-by-line basis and the carrying value of intercompany investments held is eliminated against the related shareholder's equity accounts. The minority interests of consolidated subsidiaries are separately classified in the consolidated balance sheets and statements of earnings for all years presented. All intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

3 Summary of established accounting policies

The established accounting policies followed in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are outlined below.

a Foreign currency

Foreign currency transactions are recorded at the exchange rates applicable at the transaction dates. Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency are remeasured at year-end exchange rates, except for certain accounts receivable as discussed below. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the remeasurement of these assets and liabilities are included in other income (expense), net, in the statement of earnings.

Receivables being hedged by forward exchange contracts are remeasured using the related forward exchange rate. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the

remeasurement of hedged receivables are recognized in other income (expense), net, in the statements of earnings.

The financial statements of foreign subsidiaries for which the functional currency is not the Italian Lira are translated at (i) year-end exchange rate for assets and liabilities, (ii) historical exchange rates for share capital and reserves, and (iii) average exchange rates during the year for statements of earnings. The resulting exchange differences on translation are recorded as a direct adjustment to shareholders' equity.

b Forward exchange contracts

The Group enters into forward exchange contracts (known in Italian financial markets as domestic currency swaps) to manage its exposure to foreign currency risks. The accounting for forward exchange contracts depends on their use as follows:

- Forward exchange contracts used to hedge accounts receivable are considered when remeasuring the related balance sheet item at the contract rate. Foreign exchange gains and losses from the remeasurement of the accounts receivable at contract rate are recorded within other income, net, in the consolidated statements of earnings.
- Forward exchange contracts are used to hedge future sales if the sales are supported by sales orders and customer's indications of future purchases as of the balance sheet date which are confirmed by sales orders received within the earlier of four months after the year-end or the issuance of the consolidated financial statements. Unrealized gains and losses on these forward contracts are deferred.
- Unrealized gains and losses on forward exchange contracts not hedging any on-or off-balance sheet items are recorded in other income (expense), net, in the consolidated statements of earnings.

c Cash equivalents

The Group considers time deposits to be cash equivalents.

d Marketable debt securities

Marketable debt securities are valued at the lower of cost or market value determined on an individual security basis. A valuation allowance is established and recorded as a charge to other income, net, for unrealized losses on securities. Unrealized gains are not recorded until realized. Recoveries in the value of securities are recorded as part of other income, net, but only to the extent of previously recognized unrealized losses.

Gains and losses realized on the sale of marketable debt securities were computed based on a weighted-average cost of the specific securities being sold.

Realized gains and losses are charged to other income (expense), net.

e Accounts receivable and payable

Receivables are stated at nominal value net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. Payables are stated at face value.

f Inventories

Raw materials are stated at the lower of cost (determined under the specific cost method for leather hides and under the weighted-average method for other raw materials) or replacement cost. Goods in process and finish goods are valued at the lower of production cost or net realizable value.

g Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment is stated at historical cost,

except for buildings which were revalued in 1983, 1991 and 2000 according to Italian revaluation laws. Maintenance and repairs are expensed; significant improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the useful life of the related assets. The cost or valuation of fixed assets is depreciated on the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets (refer to note 9).

h Other assets

Other assets in the consolidated financial statements primarily include trademarks and patents, goodwill and certain deferred costs. These assets are stated at the lower of amortized cost or recoverable amount. The carrying amount of other assets are reviewed to determine if they are in excess of their recoverable amount, based on undiscounted cash flows, at the consolidated balance sheet date. If the carrying amount exceeds the recoverable amount, the asset is written down to the recoverable amount.

Trademarks and goodwill are amortized on a straight-line basis over a period of five years.

i Impairment of Long-lived Assets

The Company reviews long-lived assets, including intangible assets, for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to future net cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If such assets are considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured by the amount by which the carrying amount of the assets exceeds the fair value of the assets. Estimated fair value is generally based on either appraised value or measured by discounted estimated future cash flows.

Accordingly, actual results could vary significantly from such estimates.

j Income taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss. Deferred tax assets are reduced by a valuation allowance to an amount that is more likely than not to be realized. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

k Government grants

Capital grants from government agencies are recorded when there is reasonable assurance that the grants will be received and that the Group will comply with the conditions applying to them. Capital grants are recorded, net of tax, within reserves in shareholders' equity.

The capital grants are part of the Italian government's investment incentive program, under which the Group receives amounts generally equal to a percentage of the aggregate investment made by the Group in the construction of new manufacturing facilities, or in the improvement of existing facilities, in designated areas of the country.

Cost reimbursement grants relating to training and other personnel costs are credited to income when received from government agencies.

l Employees' termination indemnities

Termination indemnities represent amounts accrued for each Italian employee that are due and payable upon termination of employment determined in accordance with applicable labor laws. The Group accrues the full amount of employees' vested benefit obligation as determined by such laws for termination indemnities.

The expense recorded for termination indemnities for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 was 10,372, 9,234 and 8,582, respectively.

The number of workers employed by the Group totalled 3,700 and 3,492 at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

m Net sales

Revenue (or sales) is recognized when significant risks and rewards in respect of ownership are transferred to the customer: that is when title passes. Revenue is recognized when the following criteria are met: persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists; the price to the buyer is fixed and determinable; and collectibility of the sales price is reasonable assured.

Revenues are recorded net of returns and discounts. Sales returns are estimated and provided for in the year of sales. Such allowances are made based on historical trends. The Company has the ability to make a reasonable estimate of future returns due to large volume of homogeneous transactions and historical experience.

n Shipping costs

Shipping and handling costs incurred to transport products to customers are included in selling expenses.

o Advertising costs

Advertising costs are expensed in the periods incurred. Advertising expenses recorded for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 were 34,203, 20,722 and 22,918, respectively.

p Commission expense

Commissions payable to sales representatives and the related expenses are recorded at the time shipments are made by the Group to customers. Commissions are not paid until payment for the related sale's invoice is remitted to the Group by the customer.

q Contingencies

Liabilities for loss contingencies are recorded when it is probable that an asset has been impaired or a liability has been incurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated.

r Use of estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with established accounting policies requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

s Earnings per share

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing net earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders by the

weighted-average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share include the effects of possible issuance of ordinary shares under share options in the determination of the weighted-average number of ordinary share outstanding during the period. The following table provides the amounts used in the calculation of earnings per share:

	2000	1999	1998
Net earnings attributable to ordinary shareholders	153,265	159,562	139,299
Weighted-average number of ordinary shares outstanding during the year	57,087,391	57,468,888	57,223,018
Increase resulting from assumed conversion of share options	-	-	29,834
Weighted-average number of ordinary shares and potential shares outstanding during the year	57,087,391	57,468,888	57,252,852

4 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are composed of the following items:

	2000	1999
Cash on hand	95	33
Bank accounts in Italian lire	168,891	267,425
Bank accounts in foreign currency	14,188	28,949
Time deposits in Italian lire	-	16,241
Total	183,174	312,648

Time deposits have various maturities extending for 1999 through January 17, 2000.

5 Marketable debt securities

Details regarding marketable debt securities are as follows:

	2000	1999
Foreign corporate bonds	13	12
Italian government bonds	38	38
Total	51	50

Further information regarding the Group's investments in marketable debt securities is as follows:

2000	Cost	Gross unrealized		Fair value
		Gains	Losses	
Foreign corporate bonds	13	-	-	13
Italian government bonds	38	-	-	38
Total	51	-	-	51

1999	Cost	Gross unrealized		Fair value
		Gains	Losses	
Foreign corporate bonds	12	-	-	12
Italian government bonds	38	-	-	38
Total	50	-	-	50

	2000	1999	1998
Proceeds from sales	-	86,142	1,757
Realized gains	-	-	363
Realized losses	-	(2,804)	(114)

The contractual maturity of the Group's marketable debt securities at December 31, 2000 is between 1 – 5 years.

6 Trade receivables, net

Trade receivables are analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999
North American customers	131,961	102,082
Other foreign customers	81,094	75,150
Domestic customers	60,976	47,979
Trade bills receivable	6,111	5,260
Total	280,142	230,471
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(8,617)	(10,281)
Total trade receivables, net	271,525	220,190

Trade receivables are due primarily from major retailers selling directly to customers.

No account receivable from any customer at December 31, 2000 and 1999 exceeded 20,000. The Company has insured its collection risk in respect of approximately 80% of accounts receivable outstanding balances and, estimates an allowance for doubtful accounts based on insurance in place, the credit worthiness of its customers as well as general economic conditions.

The following table provides the movements in the allowance for doubtful accounts:

	2000	1999	1998
Balance, beginning of year	10,281	10,315	8,354
Charges-bad debt expense	739	478	4,278
Reductions-write off of uncollectible accounts	(2,403)	(512)	(2,317)
Balance, end of year	8,617	10,281	10,315

Trade receivables denominated in foreign currencies at December 31, 2000 and 1999 and, where applicable, translated at the rate of the related domestic currency swaps, totalled 196,017 (207,479 translated at year-end exchange rates) and 160,597 (174,827 translated at year-end exchange rates), respectively. These receivables consist of the following:

	2000	1999
U.S. dollars	126,693	100,818
British pounds	13,493	8,882
Canadian dollars	9,669	5,873
German marks	9,586	11,435
Australian dollars	8,117	9,290
French francs	5,753	4,030
Belgian francs	3,453	2,773
Spanish pesetas	3,189	2,498
Dutch guilders	3,367	2,233
Other currencies	12,697	12,765
Total	196,017	160,597

7 Other receivables

Other receivables are analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999
VAT	59,185	62,144
Government grants	6,583	6,441
Receivable from tax authorities	3,528	8,635
Advances to suppliers	4,798	4,207
Other	6,191	4,573
Total	80,285	86,000

The VAT receivable includes value added taxes and interest thereon reimbursable to various companies of the Group. While currently due at the balance sheet date, the collection of the VAT receivable may extend over a maximum period of up to two years.

The receivable from tax authorities represents taxes paid in excess of the amounts due in Italy and interest thereon.

8 Inventories

Inventories are analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999
Leather	58,055	36,574
Other raw materials	33,629	29,927
Goods in process	23,761	19,310
Finished products	27,149	17,395
Total	142,594	103,206

9 Property, plant and equipment and accumulated depreciation

Fixed assets are listed below together with accumulated depreciation.

2000	Cost or valuation	Accumulated depreciation	Annual rate of depreciation
Land	13,201	-	-
Industrial buildings	175,241	28,251	3 - 10%
Machinery and equipment	111,244	57,473	11.5 - 25%
Office furniture and equipment	26,169	18,858	12 - 20%
Transportation equipment	6,459	4,100	20 - 25%
Leasehold improvements	1,913	1,535	10 - 20%
Construction in progress	7,790	-	-
Advances to suppliers	10,237	-	-
Total	352,254	110,217	

1999	Cost or valuation	Accumulated depreciation	Annual rate of depreciation
Land	9,661	-	-
Industrial buildings	156,755	23,299	3 - 10%
Machinery and equipment	95,202	48,345	11.5 - 25%
Office furniture and equipment	23,810	16,425	12 - 20%
Transportation equipment	5,513	4,114	20 - 25%
Leasehold improvements	1,636	1,336	10 - 20%
Advances to suppliers	3,281	-	-
Total	295,858	93,519	

10 Other assets

Other assets consist of the following:

	2000	1999
Trademarks	20,464	21,811
Goodwill	2,767	2,770
Others	10,607	8,509
Total, gross	33,838	33,090
Less accumulated amortization	(27,259)	(28,781)
Total, net	6,579	4,309

11 Short-term borrowings

Short-term borrowings consist of the following:

	2000	1999
Bank overdrafts	5,243	938

The weighted average interest rates on the above-listed short-term borrowings are as follows:

	2000	1999
Bank overdrafts	5.2%	4.1%
Export financing	-	10.7%

Credit facilities available to the Group, including amounts guaranteed under surety bonds, amounted to approximately 362,000 and 281,000 at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively. The unused portion of these facilities amounted to approximately 344,000 and 265,500 at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

12 Accounts payable-trade

Accounts payable-trade totalling 163,407 and 116,611 at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively, represent principally amounts payable for purchases of goods and services in Italy and abroad, and includes 38,848 and 15,663 at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively, denominated in foreign currencies.

13 Accounts payable-other

Accounts payable-other are analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999
Withholding taxes on payroll	6,683	6,298
Withholding taxes other	205	129
Cooperative advertising and quantity discount	7,240	7,057
Provision for returns and other discounts	5,220	4,108
Payable to customers for returns and financial discounts	2,399	2,234
Other	766	669
Total	22,513	20,495

14 Taxes on income

Italian companies are subject to two income taxes:

	2000	1999	1998
IRPEG (state tax)	37.00%	37.00%	37.00%
IRAP (regional tax)	4.25%	4.25%	4.25%

The IRPEG tax is a state tax and it is calculated on the taxable income determined on the income before taxes modified to reflect all temporary and permanent differences regulated by the tax law. In 1997 dual income tax was introduced for the purpose of encouraging companies to use equity rather than debt finance. A first portion of the taxpayer's taxable income is calculated by applying an interest rate percentage (based on the return on government and private sector bonds) to the net increase in shareholders' equity of such taxpayer, subject to certain restrictions. This portion is subject to IRPEG at the reduced rate of 19.00%. The remaining profit will be subject to tax at the ordinary IRPEG tax rate (at present 37.00%).

On December 23, 2000, the Italian Parliament approved law 388 which reduces IRPEG tax rate from 37.00% to 36.00% for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2001, and from 36.00% to 35.00% for fiscal years beginning on or after January 1, 2003. As a result, the Company adjusted the effect of changes in IRPEG tax rates on net deferred tax assets during the year ended December 31, 2000. These changes in tax rates resulted in a decrease of net deferred tax assets by 156 as of December 31, 2000.

IRAP is a regional tax and each Italian Region has the power

to increase the rate of 4.25% by a maximum of 1.00%. In general, the taxable base of IRAP is a form of gross profit determined as the difference between gross revenues (excluding interest and dividend income) and direct production costs (excluding labor costs, interest expenses and other financial costs).

Under Italian investment incentive schemes for under-industrialized regions, certain of the Group's operating entities are currently entitled to enjoy a full exemption from IRPEG and a significant part of IRAP for ten years. A very significant portion of the Group's consolidated earnings before minority interest in 2000, 1999 and 1998 is derived from companies entitled to some extent to the aforementioned exemptions, the most significant of which presently are not due to expire until 2002. See the table below for the effect of such exemptions on the Group's 2000, 1999 and 1998 income tax charge.

Approximately 99.9%, 98.9% and 95.2% respectively, of the Group's consolidated earnings before taxes were generated by its domestic Italian operations during 2000, 1999 and 1998.

The effective income tax rates for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 were 24.3%, 19.8% and 24.9%,

respectively. The actual income tax expense differs from the 'expected' income tax expense (computed by applying the state tax of 37% to income before income taxes and minority interest) as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Expected income tax charge at full tax rates	74,999	73,744	68,739
Effects of:			
• Tax exempt income	(42,157)	(48,261)	(32,613)
• Aggregate effect of different tax rates in foreign jurisdictions	(62)	(449)	(2,295)
• Tax effect of change in tax rates	(156)	-	-
• Effect of net change in valuation allowance established against deferred tax assets	(301)	226	878
• Non-deductible expenses and others	2,116	2,948	2,803
• Italian regional tax	14,905	11,233	8,823
Actual tax charge	49,344	39,441	46,335

Total taxes for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 were allocated as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Earnings from operations	49,344	39,441	46,335
Shareholders' equity, for deferred taxes on government grants (excluding minority interest)	175	-	-
	49,519	39,441	46,335

Income taxes on earnings, which primarily relate to Italian operations, are further analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Current taxes	46,532	43,133	47,485
Deferred taxes	2,812	(3,692)	(1,150)
Total	49,344	39,441	46,335

Total income taxes for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 were allocated as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Italian State tax	34,192	27,746	36,770
Italian Regional tax	14,905	11,233	8,823
Tax of foreign subsidiaries	247	462	742
Total	49,344	39,441	46,335

Tax years for Italian companies are open from 1994 and subject to review pursuant to Italian tax laws.

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at December 31, 2000 and 1999 are presented below:

	2000	1999
Deferred tax assets:		
• Provision for unrealized foreign exchange losses	-	4,678
• Allowance for doubtful accounts	2,905	3,553
• Provision for returns and discounts	2,057	1,656
• Provision for termination indemnities of sales representatives	1,788	1,741
• Provision for contingent liabilities	1,147	370
• Tax loss carryforwards	824	524
• Other temporary differences	1,856	2,064
Total gross deferred tax assets	10,577	14,586
• Less valuation allowance	(4,552)	(4,962)
Net deferred tax assets	6,025	9,624
Deferred tax liabilities:		
• Government grants related to capital expenditures	(2,631)	(3,286)
• Other temporary differences	(230)	(187)
Total deferred tax liabilities	(2,861)	(3,473)
Net deferred tax assets	3,164	6,151

Due to changes in Italian tax laws in 2000, provision for unrealized foreign exchange losses are tax deductible.

A valuation allowance has been established principally for the allowance for doubtful accounts, provision for termination indemnities of sales representatives and for contingencies of certain subsidiaries.

The valuation allowance for deferred tax assets as of December 31, 2000 and 1999 was 4,552 and 4,962, respectively. The net change in the total valuation allowance for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999 was a decrease of 410 and an increase of 406, respectively. In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, management considers whether it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The ultimate realization of deferred tax assets is dependent upon the generation of future taxable income during the periods in which those temporary differences become deductible. Management considers the scheduled reversal of deferred tax liabilities, projected future taxable income, and the tax planning strategies in making this assessment. Based upon the level of historical taxable income and projections for future taxable income over the periods during which the deferred tax assets are deductible, management believes it is more likely than not that the Company will realize the benefits of these deductible differences, net of the existing valuation allowances at December 31, 2000. The amount of the deferred tax asset considered realizable, however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income during the carryforward period are reduced.

Net deferred income tax assets is included in the consolidated balance sheets as follows:

2000	Current	Non current	Total
Gross deferred tax assets	6,755	3,822	10,577
Valuation allowance	(2,394)	(2,158)	(4,552)
Net deferred tax assets	4,361	1,664	6,025
Deferred tax liabilities	(829)	(2,032)	(2,861)
Net deferred tax assets (liabilities)	3,532	(368)	3,164

1999	Current	Non current	Total
Gross deferred tax assets	11,401	3,185	14,586
Valuation allowance	(2,851)	(2,111)	(4,962)
Net deferred tax assets	8,550	1,074	9,624
Deferred tax liabilities	(799)	(2,674)	(3,473)
Net deferred tax assets (liabilities)	7,751	(1,600)	6,151

The tax loss carryforwards of the Group total 2,288 and expire as follows:

2002	828
2003	439
2004	68
2005	953
Total	2,288

Losses may be carried forward for five years from the year of declaration for offset against IRPEG taxes only.

See note 23 for a description of the tax liability settlement effected in 1999, and note 26(f) for the difference between Italian GAAP and US GAAP in reporting such tax settlement.

15 Salaries, wages and related liabilities

Salaries, wages and related liabilities are analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999
Salaries and wages	10,678	9,747
Social contribution	8,555	6,673
Vacation accrual	2,396	331
Total	21,629	16,751

16 Long-term debt

Long-term debt is repayable in semi-annual installments with 645, 312 and 161 maturing in the years ended December 31, 2001, 2002 and 2003, respectively. Interest rates on long-term debt range from 3.7% to 7.3% at December 31, 2000 and 1999. All long-term debt is secured by mortgages on the Group's properties for a total of 8,000.

17 Minority interest

Minority interest shown in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2000 of 1,543 (1,557 at December 31, 1999)

includes 58 pertaining to the majority shareholders of the Group (53 at December 31, 1999).

18 Employee stock option plan

In February 1994 the Company adopted an employee stock option plan (the “Plan”) pursuant to which managers and certain key employees of the Group may be granted options to purchase an aggregate of up to 1,680,000 ordinary shares from the Company at an exercise price per share equal to 95% of the May 1993 initial public offering price, or 10,637.5 per share (U.S. dollars 5.11 at December 31, 2000 exchange rate). Employees receiving options may exercise such options over four years during exercise periods from May 15 to May 31, as follows: (i) with respect to 25% of the options, in the year in which they were granted; (ii) with respect to 35% of the options, in the second year thereafter; and (iii) with respect to the remaining 40% of the options, in the fourth year thereafter. Following each exercise period, the Company must seek shareholder approval, of at least 50% plus one share of outstanding shares, to increase its capital and to comply with certain requirements of Italian law, after which the ordinary shares may be delivered. The shareholder approval is considered prefatory as Mr. Natuzzi and his family own more than 50% of the outstanding shares.

A summary of the status of the Plan as of December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998, and changes during the years ended on those dates is presented below:

	2000	
	Shares	Exercise price
Outstanding at the beginning of the year	56,640	10,637.5
Granted	-	10,637.5
Exercised	(56,640)	10,637.5
Forfeited	-	-
Outstanding at the end of the year	-	10,637.5
Options exercisable at year-end	-	
Weighted-average remaining contractual life	-	

1999

	Shares	Exercise price
Outstanding at the beginning of the year	56,640	10,637.5
Granted	-	-
Exercised	-	-
Forfeited	-	-
Outstanding at the end of the year	56,640	10,637.5
Options exercisable at year-end	-	
Weighted-average remaining contractual life	0.42 years	

1998

	Shares	Exercise price
Outstanding at the beginning of the year	636,240	10,637.5
Granted	19,240	10,637.5
Exercised	(590,088)	10,637.5
Forfeited	(8,752)	10,637.5
Outstanding at the end of the year	56,640	10,637.5
Options exercisable at year-end	-	
Weighted-average remaining contractual life	1.42 years	

The 590,088 Ordinary Shares with respect to which options were exercised in 1998 included 534,448 and 36,400 Ordinary Shares in respect of options granted to employees in 1994 and 1996, respectively, as well as 19,240 Ordinary Shares in respect of options received as a one-time bonus in 1998. In addition, options with respect to 56,640 ordinary shares were exercised in 2000 by employees who received options in 1996.

19 Shareholders' equity

The share capital is owned as follows:

	2000	1999
Mr. Pasquale Natuzzi	45.3%	45.4%
Miss Anna Maria Natuzzi	2.4%	2.4%
Mrs. Annunziata Natuzzi	2.4%	2.4%
Public investors	46.8%	49.8%
Treasury shares	3.1%	-
	100.0%	100.0%

An analysis of the reserves follows:

	2000	1999
Treasury shares reserve	44,987	-
Legal reserve	2,151	2,151
Monetary revaluation reserve	2,602	2,065
Governmental grants reserve	58,451	57,813
Total	108,191	62,029

In July 2000, the shareholders of the Company approved a share repurchase program to buy-back up to 4 million shares or 100,000. As of December 31, 2000, the Company had repurchased 1,782,700 shares at an average price of US\$11.3 per share or 44,987. Under Italian GAAP, the purchase of shares was accounted for as a non-current assets and an amount equal to the cost of shares acquired was reclassified from retained earnings to an undistributed treasury shares reserve.

Italian law requires that 5% of net income of the parent company and each of its consolidated subsidiaries be retained as a legal reserve, until this reserve is equal to 20% of the issued share capital of each relevant company. The legal reserve may be utilized to cover losses and the portion which exceeds 20% of the issued share capital is distributable as dividends. The combined legal reserves totalled 7,075 and 7,020 at December 31, 2000 and 1999, respectively.

As of December 31, 2000, taxes that would be due on distribution of the portion of shareholders' equity equal to unremitted earnings of foreign subsidiaries is approximately 400. The Group has not provided for such taxes as the likelihood of distribution is remote and such earnings are deemed to be permanently reinvested.

As of December 31, 2000, there are no taxes due on distribution of the portion of shareholders equity equal to retained earnings and governmental grants reserve.

The cumulative translation adjustment included in shareholders' equity related to translation of the Group's foreign assets and liabilities at December 31, 2000 and 1999 was a credit of 11,886 and 7,605, respectively.

20 Commitments and contingent liabilities

Several companies of the Group lease manufacturing facilities under non-cancellable lease agreements with expiration dates through 2006. Rental expense recorded for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 was 1,996, 1,608 and 1,984, respectively. As of December 31, 2000, minimum annual rental commitments are as follows:

2001	1,624
2002	1,534
2003	1,215
2004	1,078
2005	1,037
Thereafter	366
Total	6,854

Some banks have provided guarantees at December 31, 2000 to secure the payments to several suppliers of leather and fabric hides amounting to 13,891 (14,927 at December 31, 1999). These guarantees are unsecured and have various maturities extending through December 31, 2001.

VAT reimbursed by tax authorities during 2000 and in prior years is secured by surety bonds for 12,031 (31,731 at December 31, 1999) from certain financial institutions. These surety bonds are unsecured and will expire after a maximum period of up to two years or when the tax authorities perform the final review of VAT claim requests.

In December 1996, the Company and the 'Contract Planning Service' of the Italian Ministry of the Budget

signed a 'Program Agreement' with respect to the 'Natuzzi 2000 project'. In connection with this project, the Natuzzi Group has planned a multi-faceted program of industrial investments for the production of upholstered furniture. Investments are projected to total approximately 571,500. According to the agreement, the Italian government will contribute 281,600. Receipt of the Italian governments funds is based upon, among other things, the Group constructing facilities in accordance with certain specifications and maintaining a minimum number of employees.

During 1997 the Group received under the aforementioned project capital grants for 52,549. Capital expenditures under the Natuzzi 2000 project amounted to approximately

163,000 at December 31, 2000 (134,000 at December 31, 1999). The capital grants are secured by surety bonds for 50,423 from a bank. These surety bonds are unsecured and will expire when the Italian Ministry of Budget releases the final approvals of all investments made.

The Italian tax authorities are currently auditing the corporate income tax returns and VAT declarations for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 1999 filed by two subsidiaries enjoying full exemption from IRPEG and IRAP for the aforementioned years.

The Group is also involved in a number of claims and legal actions arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the ultimate disposition of these

matters, after considering amounts accrued, will not have a material adverse effect on the Group's consolidated financial position or results of operations.

21 Segmental and geographical information

The Group operates in a single industry segment, that is, the design, manufacture and marketing of contemporary and traditional leather and fabric upholstered furniture. It offers a wide range of upholstered furniture for sale, manufactured in production facilities located in Italy.

The net sales of upholstered furniture analyzed by coverings are as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Leather upholstered furniture	1,083,768	918,993	913,142
Fabric upholstered furniture	134,730	95,842	81,988
Total	1,218,498	1,014,835	995,130

Within leather and fabric upholstered furniture, the Company offers furniture in the following categories: stationary furniture, sectional furniture, motion furniture, sofa beds and lounge chairs.

The following tables provide information about net sales of upholstered furniture and of long-lived assets by geographical location. Net sales are attributed to countries based on the location of customers. Long-lived assets consist of property, plant and equipment

Sales of upholstered furniture

	2000	1999	1998
United States	569,748	444,344	437,930
Italy	133,746	117,860	94,796
England	83,531	56,318	55,777
Germany	69,993	76,208	75,356
Belgium	42,033	41,378	39,288
Canada	41,596	25,313	21,900
The Netherlands	40,979	38,739	41,632
Australia	24,591	30,894	38,605
France	21,832	16,142	24,329
Other countries (none greater than 5%)	190,449	167,639	165,517
	1,218,498	1,014,835	995,130

Long lived assets

	2000	1999
Italy	189,636	154,323
United States of America	51,060	48,016
Brazil	1,341	-
Total	242,037	202,339

In addition, the Group also sells minor amounts of excess polyurethane foam, leather by-products and miscellaneous furniture pieces (coffee table, lamps and rugs) which, for 2000, 1999 and 1998 totalled 114,586, 76,854 and 71,043, respectively.

No single customer accounted for more than 5% of net sales in 2000, 1999 or 1998.

22 Cost of sales

Cost of sales is analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Opening inventories	103,206	106,546	114,724
Purchases	588,190	419,149	453,415
Labor	169,607	148,417	141,621
Third party manufacturers	69,574	47,557	53,184
Other manufacturing costs	37,440	33,152	35,426
Closing inventories	(142,594)	(103,206)	(106,546)
Total	825,423	651,615	691,824

23 Other income (expense), net

Other income (expense), net is analyzed as follows:

	2000	1999	1998
Interest income	12,750	11,335	14,041
Interest expense and bank commissions	(1,158)	(1,257)	(1,961)
Interest income, net	11,592	10,078	12,080
Gains (losses) on foreign exchange, net	(58,784)	(24,463)	4,445
Unrealized exchange gains (losses) on domestic currency swaps	4,069	(2,545)	(218)
Gains (losses) on foreign exchange	(54,715)	(27,008)	4,227
Gains (losses) on securities, net	-	(2,804)	249
Other, net	821	(12,742)	4,254
Total	(42,302)	(32,476)	20,810

The gains (losses) on foreign exchange are related to the following:

	2000	1999	1998
Net realized gains (losses) on domestic currency swaps	(62,259)	(21,088)	418
Net realized gains on accounts receivable and payables	9,818	8,708	1,893
Net unrealized gains (losses) on accounts receivable and payables	(6,343)	(12,083)	2,134
Total	(58,784)	(24,463)	4,445

Other, net consists of the following:

	2000	1999	1998
Tax liabilities settlement	-	(18,190)	-
Employment incentive grants	-	1,457	1,128
Other	821	3,991	3,126
Total	821	(12,742)	4,254

Tax liabilities settlement

During 1998, the Italian tax authorities conducted an audit of the corporate income tax return and VAT declarations for the year ended December 31, 1992 – 1996, of a subsidiary enjoying full exemption from IRPEG and ILOR (regional tax until 1997 and replaced by IRAP effective January 1, 1998) for the aforementioned years. As a result of the audit, the tax authorities concluded that a portion of the taxable income generated by this subsidiary was not eligible for exemption from ILOR and assessed taxes in the amount of Lit 23,0 billion (excluding penalties and interest, estimated to be approximately Lit 14,0 billion). On May 24, 1999, the tax authorities raised additional tax claims on the basis of even more restrictive interpretations of fiscal rules related to such tax exemption. As a consequence, based on the advice of tax counsel, the Company decided to settle the claims, including assessed taxes and penalties, raised by the tax authorities for all open matters with respect to fiscal years 1992 – 1996 for a payment of 18,190. As a result of such settlement, a cost of 18,190 has been charged to consolidated statement of earnings for the year ended December 31, 1999, and was included in other income (expense), net. The table below gives a further breakdown of the tax liabilities settlement:

Income taxes (Ilor)	14,408
VAT	599
Penalties	3,183
Total	18,190

Employment incentive grants

The Company and certain subsidiaries, on the basis of regional laws, received from the regional agencies employment incentives in the form of grants for new permanent employees and subsidies of up to 100% of the cost of training courses for permanent and temporary employees. The incentives received were related to prior years. For the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998 these incentives amounted 1,457 and 1,128, respectively.

24 Financial instruments and risk management

A significant portion of the Group's net sales, but only approximately 30% of its costs, are denominated in currencies other than the lira, in particular the U.S. dollar. The remaining costs of the Group are denominated principally in lire. Consequently, a significant portion of the Group's net revenues are exposed to fluctuations in the exchange rates between the lira and such other currencies. The Group uses forward exchange contracts (known in Italy as domestic currency swaps) to reduce its exposure to the risks of short-term declines in the value of its foreign currency-denominated revenues. The Group uses such domestic currency swaps to protect the value of its foreign-currency denominated revenues, and not for speculative or trading purposes.

The Group is exposed to credit risk in the event that the counter-parties to the domestic currency swaps fail to perform according to the terms of the contracts. The contract amounts of the domestic currency swaps described below do not represent amounts exchanged by the parties and, thus, are not a measure of the exposure of the Group through its use of those financial instruments. The amounts exchanged are calculated on the basis of the contract amounts and the terms of the financial instruments, which relate primarily to exchange rates. The immediate credit risk of the Group's domestic currency swaps is represented by the unrealized gains on the contracts. Management of the Group enters into contracts with creditworthy counter-parties and believes that the risk of material loss from such credit risk to be remote. The table below summarizes in Italian lire equivalent the contractual amounts of forward exchange contracts used to hedge principally future cash flows from accounts receivable and sales orders at December 31, 2000 and 1999:

	2000	1999
U.S. dollars	318,271	283,375
British pounds	40,404	36,810
Canadian dollars	25,747	15,112
Australian dollars	18,010	22,385
Japanese yen	12,126	9,130
Swiss francs	3,747	3,437
Greek dracma	-	1,162
Total	418,305	371,411

At December 31, 2000, these forward exchange contracts had a net unrealized loss of 7,801, of which 11,462 related to accounts receivable, 408 related to existing sales commitments and (4,069) related to anticipated commitments at year-end. The Company recorded all those amounts, except for 408 relating to existing sales commitments.

At December 31, 1999, the forward exchange contracts had a net unrealized loss of 27,815, of which 14,230 related to accounts receivable, 11,040 related to existing sales commitments and 2,545 related to anticipated commitments at year - end. The Company recorded all these amounts, except for 11,040 relating to existing sales commitments.

The following table presents information regarding the contract amount in Italian lire equivalent amounts and the estimated fair value of all of the Group's forward exchange contracts. Contracts with unrealized gains are presented as 'assets' and contracts with unrealized losses are presented as 'liabilities'.

	2000		1999	
	Contract amount	Fair value	Contract amount	Fair value
Assets	163,944	6,341	10,971	48
Liabilities	254,361	(14,142)	360,440	(27,863)
	418,305	(7,801)	371,411	(27,815)

25 Fair value of financial instruments

The following table summarizes the carrying value and the estimated fair value of the Group's other financial instruments:

	2000		1999	
	Carrying value	Fair value	Carrying value	Fair value
Assets:				
• Marketable debts securities	51	51	50	50
Liabilities:				
• Long-term debt	1,118	1,070	2,315	2,248

Cash and cash equivalents, receivables, payables and short-term borrowings approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these instruments.

Market value for quoted marketable debt securities is represented by the securities exchange prices at year-end. Market value for unquoted securities is represented by the prices of comparable securities, taking into consideration interest rates, duration and credit standing of the issuer.

Fair value of the long-term debt is estimated based on cash flows discounted using current rates available to the Company for borrowings with similar maturities.

The carrying value of forward exchange contracts is determined based on the unrealized loss and gain of such contracts recorded in the consolidated financial statements. Fair value of forward exchange contracts is determined by using exchange rates at year-end.

26 Application of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America

The established accounting policies followed in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements (Italian GAAP) vary in certain significant respects from those generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP).

Those differences which have a material effect on net earnings and/or shareholders' equity are as follows:

- (a) Certain property, plant and equipment have been revalued in accordance with Italian laws. The revalued amounts are depreciated for Italian GAAP purposes. US GAAP does not allow for such revaluations, and depreciation is based on

historical costs. The revaluation primarily relates to industrial buildings.

- (b) In the application of US GAAP, the Group has classified its investment portfolio as securities available for sale, which are those securities that may be sold prior to maturity as part of asset and liability management or in response to other factors but are not trading securities. Such securities are carried at fair value, and any changes in fair value are recorded in a separate component of shareholders' equity, net of applicable deferred taxes. Under Italian GAAP, all current asset investments are stated at the lower of cost or market value on an individual security basis.
- (c) The Company in connection with its hedging activities employing forward exchange contracts defers net unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses related to future sales for which commitments are received at the balance sheet date. The Company defines such commitments for Italian GAAP purposes as sales orders on hand and customers' indications of future purchases as of the balance sheet date which are confirmed by sales orders within a designated time period. Unrealized gains and losses on forward exchange contracts not designated to cover accounts receivable or future sales commitments are recognized in earnings. See notes 3 (a) and (b) for the Group's accounting policy.

Under US GAAP, generally both unrealized foreign exchange gains and losses from foreign currency transactions are recognized in the consolidated statement of earnings unless prescriptive hedging criteria are met. The Company's accounting policy for US GAAP purposes is that unrealized gains and losses on forward exchange contracts are deferred only for such contracts designated to cover firmly committed transactions supported by sales orders on hand. Accordingly, under US GAAP, unrealized gains and losses on forward exchange contracts designated to cover

anticipated future sales which are not supported by sales orders on hand as of the balance sheet date are credited or charged to the consolidated statement of earnings.

(d) Government grants related to capital expenditures are recorded, net of tax, within reserves in shareholders' equity. For US GAAP purposes, such grants would be classified as a reduction of the cost of the related fixed asset or as a deferred credit and amortized to income over the estimated useful lives of the assets. The adjustments to net income represent the annual amortization of the capital grants based on the estimated useful life of the related fixed assets. The adjustments to shareholders' equity are to reverse the amounts of capital grants credited directly to equity for Italian GAAP purposes, net of the amounts of amortization of such grants for US GAAP purposes. In 1995 and 1997, the Group received certain grants relating to fixed assets acquired between 1989 and

1997 with various useful lives. For US GAAP purposes, the Group is amortizing such grants over the remaining useful lives of the assets to which the grants relate.

(e) The Company does not record the compensation cost resulting from the granting of share options. For US GAAP purposes, this intrinsic value (resulting from the excess of the market price of the underlying shares at the date of grant over the exercise price) is being recognized as compensation cost in the consolidated statement of earnings over the vesting period of the options. For US GAAP purposes, in 2000, 1999 and 1998 the Company recorded a charge of 321, 307 and 1,322, respectively.

(f) Included in other income (expense), net in the consolidated statement of earnings for the year ended December 31, 1999 is the cost of a tax liability settlement (see note 23) as indicated below:

Income taxes (Ilor)	14,408
VAT	599
Penalties	3,183
Total	18,190

Under US GAAP, the cost of 14,408 would be classified as income taxes. As a consequence, "earnings before taxes and minority interest" and "income taxes" in the consolidated statement of earnings for the year ended December 31, 1999 would be 213,716 and 53,849, respectively.

(g) As indicated in note 19, during 2000 the Company repurchased its ordinary shares for a cash consideration of 44,987. Under Italian GAAP, the purchase of these shares was accounted for as non-current assets and under US GAAP, the cost of the acquired shares is reflected as a reduction from shareholders' equity.

The calculation of net earnings and shareholders' equity substantially in conformity with US GAAP is as follows:

Reconciliation of net earnings:

	2000	1999	1998
Net earnings under Italian GAAP	153,265	159,562	139,299
Adjustments to reported income:			
(a) Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	103	78	77
(b) Marketable debt securities	-	-	(76)
(c) Unrealized gains (losses) on foreign exchange	4,268	(12,789)	8,398
(d) Government grants	2,993	2,917	3,782
(e) Employee share option compensation	(321)	(307)	(1,322)
Effect of minority interests on US GAAP adjustments	(2)	(2)	(2)
Tax effect of US GAAP adjustments	(2,034)	4,262	(3,776)
Approximate net earnings in conformity with US GAAP	158,272	153,721	146,380
Basic earnings per share in conformity with US GAAP	2,772	2,675	2,558
Diluted earnings per share in conformity with US GAAP	2,772	2,675	2,557

Reconciliation of shareholders' equity:

	2000	1999
Shareholders' equity under Italian GAAP	709,551	732,173
(a) Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	(1,541)	(784)
(c) Unrealized losses on foreign exchange	(239)	(4,507)
(d) Government grants	(43,432)	(45,612)
(g) Treasury shares	(44,987)	-
Effect of minority interests on US GAAP adjustments	4	6
Tax effect of US GAAP adjustments	3,936	5,472
Approximate shareholders' equity in conformity with US GAAP	623,292	686,748

Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation

The Company has elected to continue to apply the provisions of Accounting Principles Board ('APB') Opinion No. 25, Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees, and provide the pro forma disclosure provisions of SFAS No. 123, Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation. The weighted-average fair value of each option granted by the Company during 1996 was estimated on the grant date at 62,500 using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions: dividend yield of 0.6%; expected volatility of 25%; risk-free interest rate of 7.29%; and expected lives of 2.55 years. Had compensation cost for the Company's Plan, for US GAAP purposes, been determined consistent with SFAS No. 123, the Company's US GAAP net earnings and earnings per share for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 would approximate the actual amounts presented in the reconciliation.

Comprehensive Income

The Company has adopted SFAS No. 130, Reporting Comprehensive Income, which established standards for the reporting and presentation of comprehensive income and its components in a full set of financial statements. Comprehensive income/(loss) generally encompasses all changes in shareholders' equity (except those arising from transactions with owners). The Company's comprehensive income differs from net income only by the amount of the exchange differences on translation of financial statements charged to shareholders' equity for the period. Comprehensive income and accumulated other comprehensive income for the years ended December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 were as follows:

	Comprehensive income	Accumulated other comprehensive income
Beginning balance	-	3,032
Comprehensive income		
Net earnings under US GAAP	146,380	
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements	(2,860)	(2,860)
Total comprehensive income	143,520	
Balance at December 31, 1998		172
Comprehensive income		
Net earnings under US GAAP	153,721	
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements	7,433	7,433
Total comprehensive income	161,154	
Balance at December 31, 1999		7,605
Comprehensive income		
Net earnings under US GAAP	158,272	
Exchange difference on translation of financial statements	4,281	4,281
Total comprehensive income	162,553	
Balance at December 31, 2000		11,886

Accounting Standards Issued not yet adopted

SFAS No. 133:

Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 133 “Accounting for Derivative Instrument for Hedging Activities” as amended by SFAS No. 137, “Accounting for Derivative Instrument Hedging Activities-Deferral of Effective Date of FASB Statement No. 133” and SFAS No. 138, “Accounting for Certain Derivative Instrument and Certain Hedging Activities”, (together SFAS 133), is effective for the Company as of January 1, 2001.

SFAS 133 established comprehensive accounting and reporting standards for derivative instruments and hedging activities. SFAS 133 requires that an entity record all freestanding derivatives and certain embedded derivatives, as either assets or liabilities in the statement of financial position. This statement also defines and allows companies to apply hedge accounting to its designated derivatives under certain instances, provided an entity meets the strict documentation criteria of SFAS 133. It also requires that all derivatives be marked to market on an ongoing basis. Along with the derivatives, in the case of qualifying hedges, the underlying hedged items, are also to be marked to market. These market value adjustments are to be included either in the income statement or other comprehensive income, depending on the nature of the hedged transaction.

The Company will adopt SFAS 133 on January 1, 2001 and record its derivatives, on that date, at fair market value as a cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle in the year ending December 31, 2001. Based on managements review, the Company will not currently qualify for hedge criteria under SFAS 133. As a result, the Company will account for all its derivative financial instruments at their fair value with all prospective changes reported in the US GAAP net earnings.

Adoption of SFAS 133 will result in cumulative after tax expense of approximately 11,700 to the US GAAP net earnings. Adoption will also impact US GAAP shareholders' equity, and may have a material effect on future US GAAP net earnings.

SFAS No. 140:

In September 2000, the FASB issued SFAS No. 140, Accounting for Transfers and Servicing of Financial Assets and Extinguishments of Liabilities, which replace SFAS No. 125. The Statement revised the standards of accounting for securitizations and other transfers of financial assets and collateral and requires certain disclosures. SFAS No. 140 is effective for recognition and reclassification of collateral for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2000, with restatement required for previous periods for comparative purposes. Disclosures about securitization and collateral accepted need not be reported for period ending on or before December 15, 2000, for which financial statements are presented for comparative purposes. SFAS No. 140 is effective for transfers and servicing of financial assets and extinguishments of liabilities occurring after March 31, 2001. Application of this statement will not have a significant impact on the financial statements of the Company.

27 Subsequent event

Effective January 1, 2001, Natuzzi Americas, Inc., a 100% subsidiary of the Company located in North Carolina, USA, changed from operating as an exclusive sales and collection agent for the Company to becoming an exclusive distributor of the Company's products in USA. Consequently, revenues in 2001 for USA will be recognized at the time of shipment of Company's products from Natuzzi Americas, Inc.

Board of Directors

(At June 30, 2001)

Pasquale Natuzzi	Chairman of the Board of Directors
Giuseppe Desantis	Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors
Giambattista Massaro	Director
Gianluca Monteleone	Director
Stelio Campanale	Director
Armando Branchini	Outside Director
Claudio Dematté	Outside Director
Pietro Gennaro	Outside Director
Giuseppe Russo Corvace	Outside Director
Cataldo Sferra	Outside Director
Enrico Vitali	Outside Director

Management

(At June 30, 2001)

Pasquale Natuzzi	Chief Executive Officer
Giuseppe Desantis	Vice Chairman
Stelio Campanale	General Counsel
Giuseppe Catalano	Legal Affairs Manager
Giovanni Costantino	Vice President of Research & Development, Industrialization and Quality
Vito Dagostino	Purchasing Manager
Gaetano De Cataldo	Executive Vice President for Natuzzi Americas
Nicola Dell'Edera	Finance Manager
Gaetano Del Re	Production Engineering Manager
Michele D'Ercole	Manager of Leather and Dyeing Operations NatCo Company
Giuseppe Firrao	Communication Manager
Cesare Laberinti	Manager of Polyurethane Foam Operations IMPE Company
Valeria Lanzillotta	Sales Manager Asia Pacific
Nicola Lassandro	Manager of Management Information Systems
Stefano Lorizio	Production Manager
Dino Lorusso	President of Natuzzi Americas
Willy Lo Savio	Lay-out and Corporate Image Manager
Nicola Masotina	Sales Manager for Franchising in Italy Divani & Divani
Giambattista Massaro	Vice President of Purchasing and Logistics
Bruno Mele	Global Product Manager
Tommaso Melodia	Corporate Affairs Manager
Giovanni Mercadante	Accounting Manager
Ottavio Milano	Control and Internal Auditing Manager
Gianluca Monteleone	Vice President of Marketing
Anna Maria Natuzzi	Product Manager for Europe
Annunziata Natuzzi	Human Resources Manager
Filippo Petrera	Quality Manager
Salvatore Ragazzo	Director and Wood Trim Product Manager Spagnesi S.p.A.
Giuseppe Stano	Sales Administration Manager
Vito Testini	Production Manager-Italsofa Bahia
Giuseppe Trevisoi	Logistics Manager
Emanuele Valente	Transportation Manager
Antonio Ventricelli	Production Manager-Natuzzi Asia Company

Board of Internal Auditors

Francesco Venturelli - President
Ferdinando Canaletti
Costante Leone

Independent Auditors

KPMG S.p.A.

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