

ISHIHARA SANGYO KAISHA

Annual Report 2003

Year Ended March 31, 2003

ISK



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Consolidated Financial Highlights

For the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note)
	2003	2002	2003
For the years ended March 31,			
Net sales:			
Domestic	¥ 43,020	¥ 40,705	\$ 357,901
Overseas	52,854	51,812	439,719
Total	95,874	92,517	797,620
Sales classified by business segment:			
Inorganic chemicals	48,449	45,903	403,072
Organic chemicals	42,645	41,941	354,783
Other business	4,780	4,673	39,765
Total	95,874	92,517	797,620
Operating income	8,480	7,605	70,552
Net income	1,351	1,833	11,239
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	4,789	5,173	39,840
Research and development costs	5,667	6,350	47,150
At the year end			
Current assets	83,470	94,318	694,426
Total assets	146,912	160,525	1,222,227
Current liabilities	74,942	87,058	623,477
Shareholders' equity	45,671	43,533	379,961
Per share data			
Net income	¥ 3.70	¥ 5.02	\$ 0.03
Shareholders' equity	125.32	119.32	1.04
Number of employees (as of March 31)	1,814	1,863	—

Note: The U.S. dollar amounts in this report have been translated from the yen amounts, for convenience only, at ¥120.20 = U.S.\$1.00, the rate of exchange prevailing on March 31, 2003.

To Our Shareholders and Friends

It is a pleasure to present this annual report covering the performance of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha Group (ISK) for fiscal 2002, ended March 31, 2003.

The outlook for the global economy became increasingly uncertain due to such factors as falling world share prices and deflationary concerns. Although the economies of Asian nations, especially China, were solid, recovery in the United States failed to take hold as signs of a turnaround in the spring of 2002 were cut short by large corporate accounting scandals and crises in the Middle East. In Europe, meanwhile, the strengthening euro caused economies in the region to stagnate.

In Japan, ongoing structural reforms in the industrial sector led to increases in corporate bankruptcies and higher unemployment, while deflation and other factors reflected a severe economic climate.

Amid such challenging conditions in Japan and overseas, ISK strove to improve profitability and expand its business operations while pursuing reforms under its four-year structural improvement plan, which ended in March 2003. As a result, consolidated net sales in fiscal 2002 amounted to ¥95,874 million (US\$798 million), up 3.6% from fiscal 2001.

By segment, sales of inorganic chemicals recovered owing to improving demand for mainstay titanium dioxide and functional materials. We also cut costs at the Yokkaichi plant, which helped improve segment earnings. Both revenues and profits in the organic chemicals segment increased thanks to a significant rise in sales of agrochemicals in Europe.

The Group successfully lowered selling, general, and administrative expenses by concentrating and consolidating its R&D functions.

As a result, operating income grew 11.5%, to ¥8,480 million (US\$71 million). However, net income declined to ¥1,351 million (US\$11 million) due to extraordinary items, including a loss on devaluation of investments in securities and a foreign exchange loss.

During the year, we worked hard to slash interest-bearing liabilities under the four-year structural improvement plan. At the end of the year, which also coincided with the end of the period covered by the plan, we made ¥8.1 billion in bond repayments, thus reaching the plan's overall target of ¥35.0 billion in such repayments. We also made a Groupwide effort to improve profitability and strengthen our financial position—two key objectives of the plan. To improve profitability, we withdrew from unprofitable businesses in Japan and overseas and concentrated on core businesses. To strengthen our financial position, we disposed of non-performing assets and slashed interest-bearing liabilities, thus making great progress in our structural reform program for the Group. We were particularly successful in reinforcing the earnings foundation of our agrochemicals business. However, the earnings power of our inorganic chemicals business stagnated, preventing us from improving the profit structure of that segment as planned.

While reaping the benefits of the four-year structural improvement plan just ended, we have formulated a new medium-term management plan, covering the three-year period from April 2003 to March 2006. Under the new plan, we will strive to reach unattained goals of the old plan while also addressing new issues.

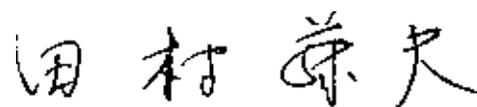
The new plan has two key objectives: (1) Build a robust earnings base for our titanium dioxide business, which is largely resilient to external economic conditions; and (2) Demonstrate our full potential to become a growth-oriented group of companies.

The business climate for ISK, both domestically and overseas, is characterized by increasing uncertainty and dramatic change. Facing these conditions, we must accelerate our decision-making processes and become more efficiency-oriented in order to win against global competition. To this end, we will target sustained growth and improved earnings by cutting costs and reinforcing our R&D activities, which will include establishing new businesses. To solidify our financial position, we will adopt a cash-flow-intensive management policy, shrink our asset base, and further reduce interest-bearing liabilities.

We have formed specific policies for each of our major business categories. In our titanium dioxide business, we will pursue reforms of our cost and business structure in order to restore profitability and strengthen our international competitiveness. In functional materials, we will seek to become a highly profitable, development-oriented company by continually introducing high-value-added products and targeting ongoing business growth. In agrochemicals, we will enter the second tier of the world market and reinforce our business in an effort to become one of the Top 3 companies in Japan.

To achieve sustained growth and progress over the long term, ISK will endeavor to enhance operating efficiency and reinforce international competitiveness. We are also aware of the importance of building a corporate governance system that focuses on maximizing shareholder value. To achieve such a system, we recognize that increasing the transparency, credibility, and soundness of management will be crucial. For this reason, we will work to elucidate lines of decision-making and business enforcement authority and clarify specific responsibilities. We will also reinforce internal controls and build a strong awareness of the importance of legal and ethical compliance. Crisis management will also play a key role, and to this end we will undertake more extensive risk management activities.

We look forward to the ongoing support and understanding of our shareholders and customers as we tackle the challenges ahead.



Fujio Tamura

President

Business Overview

INORGANIC CHEMICALS

Titanium Dioxide and Functional Materials

Our mainstay titanium dioxide business benefited from healthy overseas demand, especially in China and other parts of Asia. Sales on a volume basis also increased owing to aggressive efforts by our salespeople. Although prices of titanium dioxide improved throughout the world, prices in yen terms remained at previous-year levels due to the yen's appreciation. The sales situation in Japan, meanwhile, remained difficult amid the stagnating domestic economy.

Sales of functional materials were strong owing to increased sales to IT-related companies and higher demand for titanium dioxide for catalytic use stemming from stricter nitrogen oxide emission standards in the United States.

Consequently, sales in this segment—covering sales of titanium dioxide, functional materials, and other inorganic chemicals—amounted to ¥48,449 million (US\$403 million), up ¥2,546 million. Operating income grew ¥378 million, to ¥3,251 million (US\$27 million).

ORGANIC CHEMICALS

Agrochemicals, Organic Intermediates, and Pharmaceuticals

The global agrochemical industry saw continued mergers and consolidation among North American and European companies, giving further impetus to the trend of increased domination by several major firms. In Japan, the operating environment for the agrochemical business grew more severe, due to industrial reorganization and other factors. In response, we focused on in-house development of highly profitable chemicals with a strong competitive edge.

In the year under review, we achieved significantly higher sales in Europe of Nicosulfuron, a herbicide, and Fluazinam, a fungicide. Sales of Ranman, a newly developed fungicide, also were solid. Sales of products made by FMC Corporation, a U.S. company with

whom ISK formed an alliance in the previous fiscal year, were strong, making a full-scale contribution to segment revenue.

Despite the absence of royalty income, sales in this segment rose ¥704 million, to ¥42,645 million (US\$355 million), and operating income also rose ¥258 million, to ¥7,166 million (US\$60 million).

In the year under review, we consolidated all of our agrochemical-related R&D activities in the Kusatsu Central Research Institute in an effort to maximize R&D efficiency. In addition, we reduced the business scope of Ishihara Argentina S.A., which sells agrochemicals in Argentina, following the collapse of the financial and economic systems in that nation in 2001.

OTHER BUSINESSES

Our other businesses are carried out mainly by Japanese construction and trading company subsidiaries. Fiscal 2002 sales rose ¥107 million,

to ¥4,780 million (US\$40 million), and operating income slipped ¥242 million, to ¥667 million (US\$6 million).

Consolidated Balance Sheets*As of March 31, 2003 and 2002*

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 1)
	2003	2002	2003
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and time deposits (Notes 5 and 13)	¥ 17,911	¥ 20,259	\$ 149,014
Short-term investments (Notes 3 and 5)	136	216	1,132
Trade receivables:			
Notes	4,207	5,118	35,001
Accounts	29,777	31,456	247,726
	33,984	36,574	282,727
Less allowance for doubtful receivables	(1,432)	(1,998)	(11,913)
Trade receivables, net	32,552	34,576	270,814
Inventories (Note 4)	26,790	32,767	222,879
Deferred income taxes (Note 8)	1,552	956	12,907
Other current assets	4,529	5,544	37,680
Total current assets	83,470	94,318	694,426
Investments and advances			
Investments in securities (Notes 3 and 5)			
Unconsolidated subsidiaries and affiliates	3,369	3,465	28,024
Other	4,870	5,481	40,520
Total investments in securities	8,239	8,946	68,544
Long-term loans	108	186	900
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(0)	(0)	(0)
Long-term loans, net	108	186	900
Deferred income taxes (Note 8)	4,844	3,079	40,298
Other	1,109	1,410	9,227
Total investments and advances	14,300	13,621	118,969
Property, plant and equipment, at cost (Note 5)			
Land	5,836	5,858	48,554
Buildings and structures	44,634	45,222	371,328
Machinery and equipment	100,739	107,203	838,098
Construction in progress	983	1,146	8,173
	152,192	159,429	1,266,153
Less accumulated depreciation	(103,691)	(107,654)	(862,651)
Property, plant and equipment, net	48,501	51,775	403,502
Other assets	641	811	5,330
Total assets	¥146,912	¥160,525	\$1,222,227

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 1)
	2003	2002	2003
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity			
Current liabilities			
Short-term bank loans (Note 5)	¥ 43,761	¥ 46,999	\$ 364,072
Current portion of long-term debt (Note 5)	6,600	13,974	54,912
Trade payables:			
Notes	4,213	4,049	35,048
Accounts	12,585	12,549	104,705
	16,798	16,598	139,753
Accrued income taxes	125	204	1,039
Accrued expenses	3,718	5,265	30,933
Other current liabilities	3,940	4,018	32,768
Total current liabilities	74,942	87,058	623,477
Long-term liabilities			
Long-term debt (Note 5)	17,487	21,540	145,482
Accrued retirement benefits for employees (Note 7)	4,470	3,921	37,185
Accrued retirement benefits for directors and corporate auditors	900	858	7,489
Deferred income taxes (Note 8)	329	197	2,733
Other	2,857	3,171	23,771
Total long-term liabilities	26,043	29,687	216,660
Contingent liabilities (Note 12)			
Minority interests	256	247	2,129
Shareholders' equity			
Common stock:			
Authorized: 1,000,000,000 shares			
Issued: 369,757,510 shares in 2003 and 2002	42,029	42,029	349,655
Capital surplus (Note 9)	5,235	5,235	43,556
Retained earnings (Note 9)	2,452	1,101	20,399
Surplus arising from land revaluation (Note 10)	100	98	832
Net unrealized holding loss on securities	(260)	(1,262)	(2,158)
Translation adjustments	(1,609)	(1,447)	(13,387)
Less treasury stock, at cost:			
5,321,501 shares in 2003 and 4,925,543 shares in 2002	(2,276)	(2,221)	(18,936)
Total shareholders' equity	45,671	43,533	379,961
Total liabilities and shareholders' equity	¥146,912	¥160,525	\$1,222,227

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Income

For the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 1)
	2003	2002	2003
Net sales (Note 15)	¥95,874	¥92,517	\$797,620
Cost of sales (Note 6)	69,388	66,068	577,270
Gross profit	26,486	26,449	220,350
Selling, general and administrative expenses (Note 6)	18,006	18,844	149,798
Operating income (Note 15)	8,480	7,605	70,552
Other income:			
Interest and dividend income	224	336	1,860
Gain on sales of property, plant and equipment	2	15	19
Gain on sales of investments in securities	—	195	—
Foreign exchange gain	—	171	—
Other	326	1,204	2,711
	552	1,921	4,590
Other expenses:			
Interest expense	2,032	2,472	16,903
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	716	283	5,955
Loss on devaluation of investments in securities	1,903	1,229	15,832
Foreign exchange loss	1,295	—	10,777
Other	3,562	3,346	29,637
	9,508	7,330	79,104
(Loss) income before income taxes and minority interests	(476)	2,196	(3,962)
Income taxes (Note 8):			
Current	379	412	3,154
Deferred	(2,215)	(96)	(18,432)
Minority interests	9	47	77
Net income	¥ 1,351	¥ 1,833	\$ 11,239

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

For the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 1)
	2003	2002	2003
Cash flows from operating activities			
(Loss) income before income taxes and minority interests	¥ (476)	¥ 2,196	\$ (3,962)
Adjustments to reconcile (loss) income before income taxes and minority interests to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	5,043	5,417	41,959
Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment	626	160	5,207
Loss on devaluation and sales of investments in securities	1,947	1,239	16,196
Foreign exchange loss (gain)	833	(722)	6,932
Loss (gain) on sales of investments in securities	14	(195)	116
Provision for retirement benefits	591	446	4,913
Interest and dividend income	(224)	(336)	(1,860)
Interest expense	2,032	2,472	16,903
Equity in loss of affiliated companies	315	283	2,620
Other	(262)	1,182	(2,184)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Receivables	2,274	3,134	18,918
Inventories	5,724	255	47,621
Other current assets and other operating assets	556	997	4,628
Payables	299	(1,888)	2,489
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	(580)	(3,397)	(4,825)
Subtotal	18,712	11,243	155,671
Interest and dividends received	215	528	1,787
Interest paid	(2,070)	(2,452)	(17,218)
Income taxes paid	(415)	(342)	(3,450)
Net cash provided by operating activities	16,442	8,977	136,790
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(3,616)	(3,631)	(30,079)
Increase in investments in securities	(663)	(420)	(5,518)
Proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	28	385	233
Proceeds from sales of investments in securities	217	849	1,803
Increase in long-term loans	(22)	(23)	(181)
Decrease in long-term loans	96	82	800
Other, net	(27)	1,860	(226)
Net cash used in investing activities	(3,987)	(898)	(33,168)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Decrease in short-term bank loans, net	(3,165)	(1,543)	(26,334)
Proceeds from long-term debt	2,660	3,160	22,130
Repayment of long-term debt	(5,851)	(6,227)	(48,674)
Repayment of bonds	(8,100)	(14,335)	(67,388)
Other, net	(55)	(8)	(460)
Net cash used in financing activities	(14,511)	(18,953)	(120,726)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	(242)	377	(2,009)
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(2,298)	(10,497)	(19,113)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	20,199	30,696	168,043
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year (Note 13)	¥17,901	¥20,199	\$148,930

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

For the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002

1. Basis of Preparation of Consolidated Financial Statements

Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. (the "Company") and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries maintain their accounts and records in accordance with accounting principles and practices generally accepted and applied in Japan. Its overseas consolidated subsidiaries maintain their accounts in conformity with the requirements of their countries of domicile. The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been compiled from the consolidated financial statements prepared by the Company as required by the Securities and Exchange Law of Japan, which may differ in certain material respects from accounting principles and practices generally accepted in countries and jurisdictions other than Japan.

The translation of yen amounts into U.S. dollar amounts is included solely for convenience, as a matter of arithmetic computation only, at the rate of ¥120.20 = U.S.\$1.00, the approximate rate of exchange in effect on March 31, 2003. This translation should not be construed as a representation that yen have been, could have been, or could in the future be, converted into U.S. dollars at the above or any other rate.

Certain amounts in the prior year's financial statements have been reclassified to conform to the current year's presentation.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Principles of Consolidation and Accounting for Investments in Unconsolidated Subsidiaries and Affiliates

The accompanying consolidated financial statements for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 consist of the accounts of the Company, ISK Bioscience K.K., ISK Singapore Pte. Ltd., the ISK Americas Incorporated Group (6 subsidiaries), ISK Biosciences Europe S.A., ISK Taiwan Co., Ltd., Ishihara Argentina S.A., Ishihara Tecno Corporation, Ishihara Enterprise & Co. Inc., ISK Engineering Corporation and ISK Distribution Service Co. Ltd.

Concord Research Center, Inc., which was included in the consolidated financial statements of ISK Americas Incorporated for the previous year, was closed during the year ended March 31, 2003.

All significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The overseas consolidated subsidiaries are consolidated on the basis of fiscal periods ending December 31, which differs from the year end of the Company. As a result, adjustments have been made for any significant intercompany transactions which took place during the period between the year ends of these overseas consolidated subsidiaries and the year end of the Company.

The Company's remaining subsidiaries have not been consolidated because they are not significant in terms of total assets, retained earnings, net sales and net income. The investments in significant affiliates have been stated at their underlying net equity after the elimination of intercompany profit. Investments in unconsolidated subsidiaries and the remaining affiliated companies are stated at cost.

(b) Foreign Currency Translation

Foreign currency transactions

All monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into yen amounts at the rates of exchange in effect at the balance sheet date, except that receivables and payables hedged by qualified forward foreign exchange contracts are translated at their corresponding contract rates. All other assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at their historical rates.

Revenue and expense items arising from transactions denominated in foreign currencies are generally translated into yen at the exchange rates in effect at the respective transaction dates. Foreign exchange gain or loss is credited or charged to income in the year in which such gain or loss is recognized for financial reporting purposes.

Financial statements of overseas consolidated subsidiaries

The balance sheets accounts of the overseas consolidated subsidiaries are translated into yen at the rates of exchange in effect at the balance sheet date except that the components of shareholders' equity are translated at their historical rates. Revenue and expense accounts are translated at the average rates of exchange in effect during

the year. Differences resulting from translating financial statements denominated in foreign currencies have not been included in the determination of net income but are reported as translation adjustments as a component of shareholders' equity.

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalent

For the purposes of the consolidated statements of cash flows for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002, cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and in banks and other highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less when purchased.

(d) Inventories

Inventories of the Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries are valued at cost determined by the weighted average method. Inventories of the overseas consolidated subsidiaries are stated at the lower of cost or market, the cost of inventories at ISK Singapore Pte. Ltd. being determined by the moving average method and the cost of those at other subsidiaries, by the average method.

(e) Investments in Securities

Securities are classified into three categories: trading securities, held-to-maturity debt securities and other securities in accordance with "Accounting Standard for Financial Instruments" issued by the Business Accounting Deliberation Council of Japan.

Under this standard, trading securities are carried at fair value. Gain and loss, both realized and unrealized, are charged to income. Held-to-maturity debt securities are carried at amortized cost. Marketable securities classified as other securities are carried at fair value, with any changes in unrealized holding gain or loss, net of the applicable income taxes, reported as a separate component of shareholders' equity. Non-marketable securities classified as other securities are carried at cost. Cost of securities sold is determined by the moving average method.

(f) Derivatives and Hedging Activities

Derivative financial instruments are utilized by the Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries principally in order to manage risk arising from adverse fluctuation in foreign currency exchange rates and interest rates. The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries have established a control environment which includes policies and procedures for risk assessment, including an assessment of the effectiveness of the hedging, and for the approval, reporting and monitoring of transactions involving derivatives. The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries do not hold or issue derivatives for speculative trading purposes.

The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries are exposed to certain market risk arising from their forward foreign exchange contracts and interest-rate options positions. The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries are also exposed to the risk of credit loss in the event of non-performance by the counterparties to the currency and interest-rate contracts; however, they do not anticipate nonperformance by any of these counterparties, all of whom are financial institutions with high credit ratings.

Derivatives are carried at fair value with any changes in unrealized gain or loss credited or charged to income, except for those which meet the criteria for deferral hedge accounting under which unrealized gain or loss is deferred as an asset or liability.

(g) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation of the respective assets is recognized primarily by the straight-line method.

Costs for maintenance, repairs and minor renewals are charged to income as incurred; major renewals and betterments are capitalized.

(h) Research and Development Costs and Computer Software

Research and development costs are charged to income as incurred. Expenditures relating to computer software developed for internal use are charged to income as incurred, except if these are deemed to contribute to the generation of future income or cost savings. Such expenditures are capitalized as assets and amortized by the straight-line method over their useful lives, generally a period of 5 years.

(i) Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries have provided allowances for doubtful receivables based on their historical experience of bad debts on ordinary receivables plus an additional estimate of probable specific doubtful accounts from customers experiencing financial difficulties.

The allowance for doubtful accounts of the overseas consolidated subsidiaries has been provided at an estimated aggregate amount of their probable bad debts.

(j) Leases

The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries lease certain equipment under non-cancelable lease agreements referred to as finance leases. Finance leases other than those which transfer the ownership of the leased property to the Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries are accounted for as operating leases.

The overseas consolidated subsidiaries lease certain equipment under non-cancelable lease agreements. These leased assets are generally classified and accounted for either as finance or operating leases in conformity with the accounting principles and practices accepted in the countries in which they are incorporated.

(k) Retirement Benefits

The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries have defined benefit pension plans and retirement benefit plans. The retirement benefit plans provide for lump-sum payments to eligible employees upon retirement determined by reference to their basic salary, years of service and certain other factors.

In accordance with "Accounting Standard for Retirement Benefits" issued by the Business Accounting Deliberation Council of Japan, accrued retirement benefits are provided based on the amount of the projected benefit obligation reduced by the pension plan assets at fair value at the balance sheet date. The net retirement benefit obligation at transition of ¥6,506 million (\$54,126 thousand) is being amortized by the straight-line method over 15 years.

Actuarial gain or loss is amortized in the year following the year in which gain or loss is recognized, principally by the straight-line method over the estimated average remaining years of service of the employees participating in the plans.

Directors and corporate auditors are not covered by these plans. Accrued retirement benefits for directors and corporate auditors have been recorded at an amount equal to an estimate of the amounts payable to them if they retired at the balance sheet date.

The overseas consolidated subsidiaries do not have pension plans such as those of the Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries.

(l) Income Taxes

Income taxes are calculated based on taxable income and charged to income on an accrual basis. Certain temporary differences exist between taxable income and income reported for financial statement purposes which enter into the determination of taxable income in a different period. The Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries recognize the tax effect of such temporary differences in their consolidated financial statements.

3. Short-Term Investments and Investments in Securities

Marketable securities classified as held-to-maturity debt securities and other securities at March 31, 2003 and 2002 were as follows:

(a) Held-to-maturity debt securities

	Millions of yen						Thousands of U.S. dollars		
	2003			2002			2003		
	Carrying value	Estimated fair value	Unrealized gain	Carrying value	Estimated fair value	Unrealized loss	Carrying value	Estimated fair value	Unrealized gain
Securities whose fair value exceeds their carrying value	¥10	¥10	¥0	¥—	¥—	¥—	\$84	\$84	\$0
Securities whose carrying value exceeds their fair value	—	—	—	10	10	0	—	—	—
Total	¥10	¥10	¥0	¥10	¥10	¥ 0	\$84	\$84	\$0

(b) Other securities

	Millions of yen						Thousands of U.S. dollars		
	2003			2002			2003		
	Acquisition cost	Carrying value	Unrealized gain (loss)	Acquisition cost	Carrying value	Unrealized gain (loss)	Acquisition cost	Carrying value	Unrealized gain (loss)
Securities whose carrying value exceeds their acquisition cost:									
Equity securities	¥ 656	¥ 986	¥ 330	¥ 720	¥ 901	¥ 181	\$ 5,454	\$ 8,198	\$ 2,744
Subtotal	656	986	330	720	901	181	5,454	8,198	2,744
Securities whose acquisition cost exceeds their carrying value:									
Equity securities	3,511	2,926	(585)	4,948	3,532	(1,416)	29,212	24,347	(4,865)
Debt securities	—	—	—	50	50	—	—	—	—
Other	3	2	(1)	3	2	(1)	24	14	(10)
Subtotal	3,514	2,928	(586)	5,001	3,584	(1,417)	29,236	24,361	(4,875)
Total	¥4,170	¥3,914	¥(256)	¥5,721	¥4,485	¥(1,236)	\$34,690	\$32,559	\$(2,131)

(c) A breakdown of other securities whose market value was not determinable at March 31, 2003 and 2002 is as follows:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars
	2003	2002	2003
Bonds held to maturity	¥136	¥ 156	\$1,132
Other securities	947	1,045	7,877

(d) The proceeds from sales of, and gross realized gain and loss on, other securities for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 are summarized as follows:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars
	2003	2002	2003
Proceeds from sales	¥ 1	¥6	\$ 6
Gross realized gain	—	0	—
Gross realized loss	14	2	116

(e) The carrying value of held-to-maturity debt securities and debt securities classified as other securities at March 31, 2003 is summarized as follows:

	Thousands of	
	Millions of yen	U.S. dollars
	Bonds	Bonds
Due in one year or less	¥136	\$1,132

4. Inventories

Inventories at March 31, 2003 and 2002 are summarized as follows:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of
	2003	2002	U.S. dollars
Finished goods	¥16,136	¥19,780	\$134,238
Work in process	3,132	3,864	26,060
Raw materials and supplies	7,522	9,123	62,581
	¥26,790	¥32,767	\$222,879

5. Short-Term Bank Loans and Long-Term Debt

The average annual interest rates on short-term bank loans for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 were 1.5% and 1.6%, respectively.

Long-term debt including the current portion at March 31, 2003 and 2002 consisted of the following:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of
	2003	2002	U.S. dollars
Loans from banks (secured)	¥18,433	¥21,657	\$153,356
Loans from banks (unsecured)	5,654	5,757	47,038
5.7% yen bonds due 2003	—	8,100	—
	24,087	35,514	200,394
Less amounts due within one year	(6,600)	(13,974)	(54,912)
	¥17,487	¥21,540	\$145,482

Loans from banks and other financial institutions with interest rates in 2003 ranging from 1.0% to 5.8%, due through 2017, and in 2002, ranging from 1.0% to 5.8%, due through 2017:

The aggregate annual maturities of long-term debt subsequent to March 31, 2003 are summarized as follows:

Year ending March 31,	Millions of yen	Thousands of
		U.S. dollars
2004	¥ 6,600	\$ 54,912
2005	4,459	37,100
2006	4,007	33,334
2007	3,165	26,334
2008	2,731	22,719
2009	3,125	25,995
	¥24,087	\$200,394

At March 31, 2003 and 2002, the following assets were pledged as collateral to secure the above short-term bank loans and long-term debt:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of
	2003	2002	U.S. dollars
Cash and time deposits	¥ —	¥ 10	\$ —
Investments in securities including short-term investments	3,735	5,390	31,076
Property, plant and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation ...	35,977	37,436	299,306
All assets of ISK Singapore Pte. Ltd. (except for certain property, plant and equipment)	10,107	12,337	84,086
	¥49,819	¥55,173	\$414,468

6. Research and Development Costs

Research and development costs included in manufacturing costs and selling, general and administrative expenses for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 totaled ¥5,667 million (\$47,150 thousand) and ¥6,350 million, respectively.

7. Retirement Benefits

The following table sets forth the funded and accrued status of the retirement benefit plans and the amounts recognized in the consolidated balance sheets at March 31, 2003 and 2002 for the Company's and the consolidated subsidiaries' defined benefit plans:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of
	2003	2002	U.S. dollars
Retirement benefit obligation	¥10,473	¥10,470	\$87,132
Plan assets at fair value	(275)	(348)	(2,290)
Unfunded retirement benefit obligation	10,198	10,122	84,842
Unrecognized net retirement benefit obligation at transition	(5,205)	(5,639)	(43,303)
Unrecognized actuarial loss	(523)	(562)	(4,354)
Accrued retirement benefits	¥ 4,470	¥ 3,921	\$37,185

The components of retirement benefit expenses for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 were as follows:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of
	2003	2002	U.S. dollars
Service cost	¥ 527	¥ 490	\$ 4,381
Interest cost	246	320	2,050
Expected return on plan assets	(14)	(14)	(116)
Amortization of retirement benefit obligation at transition	434	434	3,608
Amortization of unrecognized actuarial loss (gain)	33	(2)	276
Retirement benefit expenses	¥1,226	¥1,228	\$10,199

The assumptions used in accounting for the defined benefit plans for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 were as follows:

	2003	2002
Discounted rate	2.5%	2.5%
Expected rate of return on plan assets	4.0%	4.0%

8. Income Taxes

Income taxes applicable to the Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries consist of corporation, inhabitants' and enterprise taxes. The statutory tax rate in Japan for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 was, in the aggregate, approximately 40.8%.

The difference between the statutory tax rate and the effective tax rate for the year ended March 31, 2002 is reconciled as follows:

	2002
Statutory tax rate	40.8%
Permanently nondeductible expenses	14.4
Permanently nontaxable dividends	(2.6)
Per capita portion of inhabitants' taxes	2.6
Foreign income taxes	3.2
Valuation allowance	(45.8)
Effect of differences in tax rates of consolidated subsidiaries ...	(1.1)
Unrealized profit on intercompany transactions	2.9
Effective tax rate	14.4%

A reconciliation of the difference between the statutory income tax rate and the effective tax rate for the year ended March 31, 2003 has not been presented because a loss before income taxes and minority interests was recorded.

Deferred income taxes reflect the net tax effect of the temporary differences between the carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and the corresponding amounts for income tax purposes. The significant components of the Company and consolidated subsidiaries' deferred tax assets and liabilities at March 31, 2003 and 2002 are summarized as follows:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars
	2003	2002	2003
Deferred tax assets:			
Tax loss carryforward	¥15,610	¥15,467	\$129,867
Retirement benefits	1,370	1,018	11,402
Unrealized profit on intercompany transactions	838	838	6,976
Write-downs of marketable and investment securities	409	120	3,402
Accrued expenses	182	203	1,513
Write-downs of inventories	161	177	1,343
Accrued bonuses	160	142	1,328
Write-downs of property, plant and equipment	141	2,116	1,170
Other	1,265	1,960	10,523
Gross deferred tax assets	20,136	22,041	167,524
Valuation allowance	(12,828)	(16,869)	(106,722)
Total deferred tax assets	7,308	5,172	60,802
Deferred tax liabilities:			
Property, plant and equipment	1,234	1,316	10,272
Other	7	17	58
Total deferred tax liabilities	1,241	1,333	10,330
Net deferred tax assets	¥ 6,067	¥ 3,839	\$ 50,472

On March 31, 2003, Cabinet Order No. 9 entitled "Reform of a Portion of Local Tax Law" was issued and this reform will apply to fiscal years beginning after April 1, 2004. As a result, the statutory income tax rate to be used for the calculation of deferred income taxes arising from temporary differences which are expected to be realized or settled after April 1, 2004 was changed to 39.5% from 40.8%. The effect of this change in rate was to decrease deferred tax assets and income taxes – deferred by ¥139 million (\$1,154 thousand).

11. Leases

The following pro forma amounts represent the acquisition costs, accumulated depreciation and net book value of the leased assets as of March 31, 2003 and 2002, which would have been reflected in the consolidated

9. Capital Surplus and Retained Earnings

The Commercial Code of Japan (the "Code") provides that an amount equal to at least 10% of the amounts to be disbursed as distributions of earnings be appropriated to the legal reserve until the sum of the legal reserve and capital surplus equals 25% of the common stock account. The Code also stipulates that, to the extent that the sum of the capital surplus account and the legal reserve exceeds 25% of the common stock account, any such excess is available for appropriation by resolution of the shareholders. No legal reserve has been included in retained earnings at March 31, 2003 or 2002.

Effective April 1, 2002, the Company and its domestic consolidated subsidiaries adopted Financial Accounting Standards No. 1, "Accounting Standards for Treasury Stock and Reversal of Legal Reserves." The effect of the adoption of this standard on the consolidated statement of income for the year ended March 31, 2003, was immaterial.

10. Land Revaluation

At March 31, 2002, a domestic affiliate, which has been accounted for by the equity method, revalued its land held for business use in accordance with the "Land Revaluation Law" and the "Amended Land Revaluation Law." As a result of this revaluation by the affiliate, the Company recognized the portion attributable to the Company's interest in the unrealized gain on land revaluation and this has been accounted for as "surplus arising from land revaluation" under shareholders' equity in the consolidated balance sheets at March 31, 2003 and 2002.

balance sheets if finance lease accounting had been applied to the finance leases currently accounted for as operating leases:

	Millions of yen			Thousands of U.S. dollars					
	2003	2002	2003	2003	2002	2003			
	Acquisition costs	Accumulated depreciation	Net book value	Acquisition costs	Accumulated depreciation	Net book value			
Machinery and equipment	¥4,394	¥1,972	¥2,422	¥3,705	¥1,481	¥2,224	\$36,558	\$16,404	\$20,154

Lease payments relating to finance leases accounted for as operating leases for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 amounted to ¥709 million (\$5,901 thousand) and ¥551 million, respectively. Depreciation of the leased assets computed by the straight-line method over the respective lease terms for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 amounted to ¥709 million (\$5,901 thousand) and ¥551 million, respectively.

Future minimum lease payments (including the interest portion thereon) subsequent to March 31, 2003 for finance leases accounted for as operating leases are summarized as follows:

Year ending March 31,	Millions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars
2004	¥ 736	\$ 6,122
2005 and thereafter	1,686	14,032
	¥2,422	\$20,154

Future minimum lease payments (including the interest portion thereon) subsequent to March 31, 2003 for operating leases are summarized as follows:

Year ending March 31,	Millions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars
2004	¥346	\$2,880
2005 and thereafter	380	3,163
	¥726	\$6,043

12. Contingent Liabilities

At March 31, 2003, the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries were contingently liable for the following:

	Millions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars
Trade notes receivable discounted with banks	¥199	\$1,651
As guarantor for borrowings of unconsolidated subsidiaries	259	2,156
	¥458	\$3,807

13. Supplemental Information to Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

A reconciliation between cash and cash equivalents in the consolidated statements of cash flows and cash and time deposits in the consolidated balance sheets as of March 31, 2003 and 2002 is presented as follows:

	Millions of yen		Thousands of U.S. dollars
	2003	2002	2003
Cash and time deposits	¥17,911	¥20,259	\$149,014
Time deposits with a maturity in excess of three months	(10)	(60)	(84)
Cash and cash equivalents	¥17,901	¥20,199	\$148,930

14. Amounts per Share

	Yen		U.S. dollars
	2003	2002	2003
Net income	¥ 3.70	¥ 5.02	\$0.03
Net assets	125.32	119.32	1.04

15. Segment Information

Business segments

The Company and its consolidated subsidiaries' operations are classified into 3 segments as follows:

Inorganic chemicals

This segment's business involves titanium dioxide and functional materials which are value-added products designed to take advantage of the characteristics of titanium dioxide, magnetic materials and other inorganic chemicals.

Organic chemicals

This segment's business involves agrochemicals, organic intermediates and active pharmaceutical ingredients.

Other businesses

This segment principally involves industries which trade and distribute the Company's goods, construct chemical plants, rent real estate, and so forth.

A summary of financial information by business segment for the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 is as follows:

	Millions of yen				
	2003				
	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other businesses	Eliminations /corporate	Consolidated
Sales and operating income:					
Net sales:					
Outside customers	¥48,449	¥42,645	¥ 4,780	¥ —	¥ 95,874
Intersegment	—	—	8,906	(8,906)	—
Total sales	48,449	42,645	13,686	(8,906)	95,874
Operating expenses	45,198	35,479	13,019	(6,302)	87,394
Operating income	¥ 3,251	¥ 7,166	¥ 667	¥ (2,604)	¥ 8,480
Total assets	¥60,090	¥45,315	¥12,319	¥29,188	¥146,912
Depreciation and amortization	3,672	908	86	319	4,985
Capital expenditures	2,200	384	70	(99)	2,555

Until the year ended March 31, 2002, net income per share was computed based on the net income reported in the consolidated statements of income and the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during each year, and amounts per share of net assets were computed based on the net assets reported in the consolidated balance sheets and the number of shares of common stock outstanding at each balance sheet date.

In accordance with a new accounting standard for earnings per share which became effective April 1, 2002, net income per share for the year ended March 31, 2003 has been computed based on the net income available for distribution to shareholders of common stock and the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the year, and amounts per share of net assets at March 31, 2003 has been computed based on the net assets available for distribution to the shareholders of common stock and the number of shares of common stock outstanding at the year end.

The basic financial data for the computation of basic net income per share based on the above standard for the year ended March 31, 2003 are summarized as follows:

	Millions of yen	Thousands of U.S. dollars
Information on basic net income per share:		
Net income	¥1,351	\$11,239
Deduction from net income:		
Bonuses to directors and statutory auditors	—	—
Adjusted net income attributable to shareholders of common stock	¥1,351	\$11,239

Weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during 2002 364,675,952 shares

If the Company had adopted the new standard for the year ended March 31, 2002, net assets per share at March 31, 2002 and basic net income per share for the year ended March 31, 2002, would have remained unchanged.

	Millions of yen				
	2002				
	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other businesses	Eliminations /corporate	Consolidated
Sales and operating income:					
Net sales:					
Outside customers	¥45,903	¥41,941	¥ 4,673	¥ —	¥ 92,517
Intersegment	—	—	10,685	(10,685)	—
Total sales	45,903	41,941	15,358	(10,685)	92,517
Operating expenses	43,030	35,033	14,449	(7,600)	84,912
Operating income	¥ 2,873	¥ 6,908	¥ 909	¥ (3,085)	¥ 7,605
Total assets	¥71,021	¥46,853	¥13,388	¥29,263	¥160,525
Depreciation and amortization	3,985	918	92	367	5,362
Capital expenditures	3,642	912	36	(259)	4,331

	Thousands of U.S. dollars				
	2003				
	Inorganic chemicals	Organic chemicals	Other businesses	Eliminations /corporate	Consolidated
Sales and operating income:					
Net sales:					
Outside customers	\$403,072	\$354,783	\$ 39,765	\$ —	\$ 797,620
Intersegment	—	—	74,092	(74,092)	—
Total sales	403,072	354,783	113,857	(74,092)	797,620
Operating expenses	376,025	295,167	108,308	(52,432)	727,068
Operating income	\$ 27,047	\$ 59,616	\$ 5,549	\$ (21,660)	\$ 70,552
Total assets	\$499,917	\$376,997	\$102,483	\$242,830	\$1,222,227
Depreciation and amortization	30,551	7,555	713	2,655	41,474
Capital expenditures	18,304	3,192	586	(825)	21,257

Unallocable operating expenses consisting primarily of the Company's expenses relating to general affairs totaled ¥2,378 million (\$19,781 thousand) for the year ended March 31, 2003 and ¥2,553 million for the year ended March 31,

2002. These have been included in "Eliminations/corporate." Corporate assets principally consisted of the Company's cash and time deposits and investments in securities.

Geographical segments

Geographical segments are determined in conformity with geographic proximity and the Company's business bases, as follows:

Asia: Singapore, Taiwan
 America: United States, Argentina
 Europe: Belgium

	Millions of yen					
	2003					
	Japan	Asia	America	Europe	Eliminations /corporate	Consolidated
Sales and operating income:						
Net sales:						
Outside customers	¥ 62,193	¥ 9,513	¥8,971	¥15,197	¥ —	¥ 95,874
Intersegment	24,638	2,645	76	57	(27,416)	—
Total sales	86,831	12,158	9,047	15,254	(27,416)	95,874
Operating expenses	74,676	12,548	9,361	14,926	(24,117)	87,394
Operating income (loss)	¥ 12,155	¥ (390)	¥ (314)	¥ 328	¥ (3,299)	¥ 8,480
Total assets	¥114,579	¥19,334	¥5,832	¥ 9,037	¥ (1,870)	¥146,912

Millions of yen						
2002						
	Japan	Asia	America	Europe	Eliminations /corporate	Consolidated
Sales and operating income:						
Net sales:						
Outside customers	¥ 63,951	¥ 8,229	¥ 9,242	¥11,095	¥ —	¥ 92,517
Intersegment	19,384	3,224	715	66	(23,389)	—
Total sales	83,335	11,453	9,957	11,161	(23,389)	92,517
Operating expenses	73,132	10,848	10,125	10,754	(19,947)	84,912
Operating income (loss)	¥ 10,203	¥ 605	¥ (168)	¥ 407	¥ (3,442)	¥ 7,605
Total assets	¥126,556	¥21,584	¥ 8,063	¥ 6,562	¥ (2,240)	¥160,525

Thousands of U.S. dollars						
2003						
	Japan	Asia	America	Europe	Eliminations /corporate	Consolidated
Sales and operating income:						
Net sales:						
Outside customers	\$517,415	\$ 79,141	\$74,629	\$126,435	\$ —	\$ 797,620
Intersegment	204,972	22,004	634	476	(228,086)	—
Total sales	722,387	101,145	75,263	126,911	(228,086)	797,620
Operating expenses	621,267	104,389	77,878	124,175	(200,641)	727,068
Operating income (loss)	\$101,120	\$ (3,244)	\$ (2,615)	\$ 2,736	\$ (27,445)	\$ 70,552
Total assets	\$953,240	\$160,845	\$48,516	\$ 75,185	\$ (15,559)	\$1,222,227

Unallocable operating expenses consisting primarily of the Company's expenses relating to general affairs totaled ¥2,378 million (\$19,781 thousand) for the year ended March 31, 2003 and ¥2,553 million for the year ended March 31, 2002. These have been included in "Eliminations/

corporate."

Corporate assets principally consisted of the Company's cash and time deposits, and investments in securities.

Overseas net sales

The regions are determined in conformity with geographic proximity and the Company's business activities, as follows:

Asia: China, Taiwan, South Korea, Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore

America: United States, Canada, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico

Europe: Germany, Holland, France, Great Britain, Belgium, Italy, Eastern Europe and the Middle East

Other: Australia, New Zealand, Africa

Millions of yen					
2003					
	Asia	America	Europe	Other	Total
Overseas net sales	¥18,569	¥15,160	¥18,514	¥611	¥52,854
Consolidated net sales					95,874
Overseas net sales as a percentage of consolidated net sales	19.4%	15.8%	19.3%	0.6%	55.1%

Millions of yen					
2002					
	Asia	America	Europe	Other	Total
Overseas net sales	¥16,449	¥17,549	¥17,326	¥488	¥51,812
Consolidated net sales					92,517
Overseas net sales as a percentage of consolidated net sales	17.8%	19.0%	18.7%	0.5%	56.0%

Thousands of U.S. dollars					
2003					
	Asia	America	Europe	Other	Total
Overseas net sales	\$154,483	\$126,125	\$154,026	\$5,085	\$439,719
Consolidated net sales					797,620
Overseas net sales as a percentage of consolidated net sales	19.4%	15.8%	19.3%	0.6%	55.1%

Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity

For the years ended March 31, 2003 and 2002

	Millions of yen							
	Number of shares of common stock	Common stock	Capital surplus	Retained earnings	Surplus arising from land revaluation	Net unrealized holding gain (loss) on securities	Translation adjustments	Treasury stock, at cost
Balance at March 31, 2001	369,757,510	¥42,029	¥5,235	¥ 278	¥ —	¥ 14	¥(2,402)	¥(2,213)
Net income for the year ended March 31, 2002 ...	—	—	—	1,833	—	—	—	—
Decrease in retained earnings resulting from restructuring of U.S. subsidiaries	—	—	—	(1,010)	—	—	—	—
Surplus arising from land revaluation	—	—	—	—	98	—	—	—
Unrealized holding loss on securities	—	—	—	—	—	(1,276)	—	—
Translation adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	955	—
Increase in treasury stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(8)
Balance at March 31, 2002	369,757,510	¥42,029	¥5,235	¥1,101	¥ 98	¥(1,262)	¥(1,447)	¥(2,221)
Net income for the year ended March 31, 2003 ...	—	—	—	1,351	—	—	—	—
Surplus arising from land revaluation	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Unrealized holding gain on securities	—	—	—	—	—	1,002	—	—
Translation adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	(162)	—
Increase in treasury stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(55)
Balance at March 31, 2003	369,757,510	¥42,029	¥5,235	¥2,452	¥100	¥ (260)	¥(1,609)	¥(2,276)

	Thousands of U.S. dollars (Note 1)							
	Number of shares of common stock	Common stock	Capital surplus	Retained earnings	Surplus arising from land revaluation	Net unrealized holding gain (loss) on securities	Translation adjustments	Treasury stock, at cost
Balance at March 31, 2002	369,757,510	\$349,655	\$43,556	\$ 9,160	\$812	\$(10,500)	\$(12,035)	\$(18,475)
Net income for the year ended March 31, 2003 ...	—	—	—	11,239	—	—	—	—
Surplus arising from land revaluation	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—
Unrealized holding gain on securities	—	—	—	—	—	8,342	—	—
Translation adjustments	—	—	—	—	—	—	(1,352)	—
Increase in treasury stock	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	(461)
Balance at March 31, 2003	369,757,510	\$349,655	\$43,556	\$20,399	\$832	\$(2,158)	\$(13,387)	\$(18,936)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the consolidated financial statements.



Report of Independent Auditors

The Board of Directors
Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. and consolidated subsidiaries as of March 31, 2003 and 2002, and the related consolidated statements of income, shareholders' equity, and cash flows for the years then ended, all expressed in yen. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion independently on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards, procedures and practices generally accepted and applied in Japan. Those standards, procedures and practices require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. and consolidated subsidiaries at March 31, 2003 and 2002, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles and practices generally accepted in Japan.

The U.S. dollar amounts in the accompanying consolidated financial statements with respect to the year ended March 31, 2003 are presented solely for convenience. Our audit also included the translation of yen amounts into U.S. dollar amounts and, in our opinion, such translation has been made on the basis described in Note 1.

June 27, 2003

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shin Nihon & Co." is positioned to the right of the date.

See Note 1 which explains the basis of preparation of the consolidated financial statements of Ishihara Sangyo Kaisha, Ltd. and consolidated subsidiaries under Japanese accounting principles and practices.

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