

Group profit and loss account

for the year ended 31 March 2004

	Notes	2004 Before Exceptional Items £m	2004 Exceptional Items (Note 5) £m	2004 Total £m	2003 (Restated) (Note 1) £m
Turnover		7,548	–	7,548	7,108
Continuing operations		7,279	–	7,279	5,435
Discontinued operations		269	–	269	1,673
Cost of sales	4	(4,273)	–	(4,273)	(4,092)
Gross profit		3,275	–	3,275	3,016
Net operating expenses before goodwill charge		(2,458)	(5)	(2,463)	(2,408)
Goodwill charge		(193)	–	(193)	(162)
Net operating expenses	4	(2,651)	(5)	(2,656)	(2,570)
Operating profit		624	(5)	619	446
Continuing operations		624	(5)	619	430
Discontinued operations		–	–	–	16
Share of operating profit of BL Universal PLC (joint venture) – discontinued operations		18	–	18	26
Share of operating profit of associated undertakings – continuing operations		46	–	46	44
Trading profit		688	(5)	683	516
Profit on disposal of shares in Burberry – continuing operations		–	157	157	161
Disposal of home shopping and Reality businesses – discontinued operations:					
Provision for loss on disposal		–	–	–	(210)
Realised loss on disposal		–	(246)	(246)	–
Less: utilisation of 2003 provision for loss on disposal		–	210	210	–
		–	(36)	(36)	–
Loss on sale of interest in BL Universal PLC – discontinued operations		–	(5)	(5)	–
Loss on sale of other businesses – continuing operations		–	(53)	(53)	–
Profit on ordinary activities before interest		688	58	746	467
Net interest	6			(54)	(58)
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation	7			692	409
Tax on profit on ordinary activities	8			(192)	(141)
Profit on ordinary activities after taxation	9			500	268
Equity minority interests				(27)	(17)
Profit for the financial year				473	251
Dividends	10			(271)	(232)
Retained profit for the financial year				202	19
Earnings per share	11				
– Basic				47.4p	25.1p
– Diluted				47.0p	25.0p
Earnings per share before amortisation of goodwill and exceptional items	11				
– Basic				60.7p	47.8p
– Diluted				60.1p	47.5p