ALTMAN S Form 4	STEVEN R										
August 05, 2										OMB AP	PROVAL
FORM	<b>4</b> UNITED	STATES				AND EX , D.C. 20		NGE CO	OMMISSION	OMB Number:	3235-0287
Check th if no lon subject t Section Form 4 d	ger <b>STATEN</b> 16.	IENT O		NGES	IN			AL OWN	ERSHIP OF	Expires: Estimated a burden hour response	0
Form 5 obligation may con <i>See</i> Instr 1(b).	tinue. Section 17(	a) of the	Public U	Jtility l	Hol	ding Cor	npan	U	Act of 1934, 1935 or Section )		
(Print or Type	Responses)										
	Address of Reporting STEVEN R	Person <u>*</u>	Symbol			<b>d</b> Ticker or NC/DE [			5. Relationship of I Issuer	Reporting Perso	on(s) to
(Last)	(First) (I	Middle)	-			Transaction	QCU	/WI]	(Check	all applicable	)
5775 MOR	EHOUSE DR.		(Month/I 08/03/2	-	ar)				Director X Officer (give t below)		Owner r (specify
SAN DIEG	(Street) O, CA 92121-17	14	4. If Am Filed(Mo			6. Individual or Joi Applicable Line) _X_ Form filed by Ou Form filed by Mo Person	ne Reporting Per	son			
(City)	(State)	(Zip)	Tab	ole I - N	on-]	Derivative	Secu	rities Acqu	ired, Disposed of,	or Beneficiall	y Owned
1.Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deem Execution any (Month/D	Date, if	3. Transa Code (Instr.	8)	4. Securiti ord Dispose (Instr. 3, 4 Amount	ed of (		5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
Common Stock	08/03/2009			M	·	25,000	A A	\$ 33.01	157,088	Ι	by Trust
Common Stock	08/03/2009			S <u>(2)</u>		25,000	D	\$ 46.5486 (3)	5 132,088	I	by Trust $(1)$
Common Stock	08/03/2009			М		30,000	A	\$ 41.75	162,088	I	by Trust
Common Stock	08/03/2009			S <u>(2)</u>		30,000	D	\$ 46.5561 (4)	132,088	I	by Trust (1)

Μ

13,000 A \$41.75 145,088

I

08/03/2009

Common Stock							by Trust $(1)$
Common Stock	08/03/2009	S <u>(2)</u>	13,000 D	\$ 46.66 (5)	132,088	Ι	by Trust $(1)$
Common Stock	08/03/2009	М	43,000 A	\$ 43	175,088	Ι	by Trust $(1)$
Common Stock	08/03/2009	S <u>(2)</u>	43,000 D	\$ 46.66 (5)	132,088 <u>(6)</u>	I	by Trust $(1)$

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

# Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transactio Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of orDerivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exer Expiration D (Month/Day,	late	7. Title and A Underlying S (Instr. 3 and 4	Securit
				Code V	(A) (D)	Date Exercisable	Expiration Date	Title	Amo or Num of Sh
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 33.01	08/03/2009		М	25,000	(7)	06/30/2015	Common Stock	25,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 41.75	08/03/2009		М	30,000	(8)	11/11/2009	Common Stock	30,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 41.75	08/03/2009		М	13,000	(8)	11/11/2009	Common Stock	13,0
Non-Qualified Stock Option (right to buy)	\$ 43	08/03/2009		М	43,000	<u>(9)</u>	11/16/2010	Common Stock	43,(

# **Reporting Owners**

Reporting Owner Name / Address		Relation	nships	
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other

# ALTMAN STEVEN R 5775 MOREHOUSE DR. SAN DIEGO, CA 92121-1714

President

# Signatures

By: Noreen E. Burns, Attorney-in-Fact For: Steven R. Altman

\*\*Signature of Reporting Person

08/05/2009

Date

Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) Securities held by Steven R. Altman and Lisa J. Altman Ttees FBO The Altman Family Trust dtd. 8/21/92.
- (2) The transaction was conducted under a 10b5-1 Plan, as defined under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (3) The sale prices for this transaction ranged from \$46.445 to \$46.63. The filer hereby agrees to provide, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (4) The sale prices for this transaction ranged from \$46.46 to \$46.63. The filer hereby agrees to provide, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (5) The sale prices for this transaction ranged from \$46.46 to \$46.80. The filer hereby agrees to provide, upon request, full information regarding the number of shares sold at each separate price.
- (6) Includes 354 shares acquired under the Company's Employee Stock Purchase Plan on July 31, 2009.
- (7) The options vest 10% on the six month anniversary of the date of grant and the remaining balance vests monthly thereafter. The option is fully vested five years after the date of grant.
- (8) Employee stock options granted under the Company's 1991 Stock Option Plan. The options vest as to 1/60th of the total shares granted on each monthly anniversary beginning on December 12, 1999.
- (9) Employee stock options granted under the Company's 1991 Stock Option Plan. The options vest as to 10% of the total shares granted on May 17, 2001 and as to 1/60th of the total shares granted on each monthly anniversary beginning on June 17, 2001.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number. 2" face="Times New Roman" style="font-size:1.0pt;">

-0.5%

\* Calculation is not meaningful

The Company believes that this non-GAAP measure provides useful information to management and investors regarding financial and business trends relating to its financial condition and results of operations. The Company believes that this non-GAAP measure, in combination with the Company s financial results calculated in accordance with GAAP, provides investors with additional perspective regarding the impact of specified items on SG&A. The Company further believes that the specified items excluded from SG&A do not accurately reflect the underlying performance of its continuing operations for the period in which they are incurred, even though some of these excluded items may be incurred and reflected in the Company s GAAP financial results in the foreseeable future. The material limitation associated with the use of the non-GAAP financial measures is that the non-GAAP measures do not reflect the full economic impact of the Company s activities. The Company s non-GAAP measure is not prepared in accordance with GAAP, is not an alternative to GAAP financial information, and may be calculated differently than non-GAAP financial information disclosed by other companies. Accordingly, undue reliance should not be placed on non-GAAP information.

### Signatures

SG&A decreased to 30.2 percent of net sales in fiscal 2009 from 31.8 percent in fiscal 2008. As shown in the above table, fiscal 2009 SG&A includes net foreign exchange losses of \$5.21 million, bad debt expense of \$5.71 million and insurance claim gains of \$2.78 million, which results in a net unfavorable impact to SG&A of \$8.14 million. Fiscal 2008 SG&A includes net foreign exchange gains of \$0.53 million and bad debt expense of \$0.48 million, which results in a net favorable impact to SG&A of \$0.04 million. Excluding the impact of these items from both years, SG&A as a percentage of net sales decreased 2.9 percentage points to 28.9 percent in fiscal 2009 compared to 31.8 percent in fiscal 2008. The underlying improvements in 2009 were primarily the result of:

• A decrease in advertising expenses, primarily in our grooming, skin care and hair care solutions category due to a strategic decision to better focus media advertising and promotional expenditures.

A decrease in variable selling expenses including royalties, sales commissions and outbound freight.

• Personnel expense other than distribution decreased primarily due to lower incentive compensation costs and insurance benefit costs. Incentive compensation costs were \$7.06 million lower in fiscal 2009, when compared to fiscal 2008 as a result of the impact of the Company s net loss, including the impairments discussed below, on certain management incentive plans.

Other impacts of a comprehensive cost reduction program which impacted a variety of other general and administrative expenses.

SG&A decreased to 31.8 percent of net sales in fiscal 2008 from 32.9 percent in fiscal 2007. The improvement over fiscal 2007 was largely due to our improved distribution cost structure and related lower costs associated with customer chargebacks, outbound freight cost improvements, and lower information technology outsourcing costs, partially offset by higher advertising and personnel expenses.

We continue to improve our operations and processes, which we believe will ultimately drive down costs. We believe that our competitive position and the long term health of our business depends on fulfillment and transportation excellence. As our operations with our retailers, especially large retailers, become increasingly intertwined, the breadth and complexity of services we must render in order to earn more shelf space and, thus, increase market share, escalate. Consequently, it has become increasingly more expensive to do business with our customers and we expect this trend to continue. Our Mississippi distribution center operations have grown to a level where we may experience capacity constraints during our peak shipping season, which occurs during our third fiscal quarter each year. Due to these and other factors, we expect distribution costs improvements to continue to moderate in fiscal 2010.

#### Operating income by segment before impairment and gain

Operating income by segment before impairment and gain for fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007 was as follows:

	Fiscal Y	lear I	Ended (in the	ousan	ds)	%	of Net Sales (1)	% Change		
	2009		2008		2007	2009	2008	2007	09/08	08/07
Personal Care	\$ 41,432	\$	42,523	\$	42,530	9.3%	8.7%	8.5%	-2.6%	0.0%
Housewares	25,626		31,401		27,886	14.6%	19.1%	20.3%	-18.4%	12.6%
Total operating income before impairment and gain	\$ 67,058	\$	73,924	\$	70,416	10.8%	11.3%	11.1%	-9.3%	5.0%

(1) Percentages by segment are computed as a percentage of the segments net sales.

#### Personal Care

The Personal Care segment s operating income before impairment and gain decreased \$1.09 million, or 2.6 percent, for fiscal 2009 compared to fiscal 2008, and was essentially flat, for fiscal 2008 compared to fiscal 2007.

The decrease in operating income before impairment and gain in fiscal 2009 when compared to fiscal 2008, was primarily due to sales declines, an overall increase in cost of sales and foreign exchange losses which were partially offset by SG&A cost reductions and a one-time insurance claim gain.

The slight operating income decrease in fiscal 2008 when compared to fiscal 2007, was primarily due to sales declines and an overall increase in cost of sales, which were partially offset by lower SG&A costs.

#### Explanation of Responses:

#### Housewares

The Housewares segment s operating income before impairment and gain decreased \$5.78 million, or 18.4 percent, for fiscal 2009 compared to fiscal 2008, and increased \$3.52 million, or 12.6 percent, for fiscal 2008 compared to fiscal 2007.

The operating income decrease in fiscal 2009 when compared to fiscal 2008 resulted from higher cost of goods and the bad debt expense arising from the Linens bankruptcy, partially offset by the impact of sales increases.

The operating income increase in fiscal 2008 when compared to fiscal 2007, was primarily due to sales increases, partially offset by higher cost of goods and rising distribution costs due to the increased complexity of product handling being required by the segment s customers.

Operating income before impairment and gain for each operating segment is computed based on net sales, less cost of sales and any SG&A associated with the segment. The SG&A used to compute each segment s operating profit are

comprised of SG&A directly associated with the segment, plus overhead expenses that are allocable to the operating segment.

During the first quarter of fiscal 2007, we completed the transition of our Housewares segment s operations to our internal operating systems and our new distribution facility in Southaven, Mississippi. For fiscal 2007, we allocated expenses totaling \$12.75 million to the Housewares segment, some of which were previously absorbed by the Personal Care segment.

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we completed the consolidation of our domestic appliance inventories into the Southaven facility. During fiscal 2007, we conducted an evaluation of our shared cost allocation methodology given the structural and process changes that were taking place in our operations, and changed our methodology in the first quarter of fiscal 2008. We believe the new method better reflects the economics of our newly consolidated operations.

The table below summarizes and compares the expense allocations made to the Housewares segment over the last three fiscal years:

#### **Housewares Segment Expense Allocation**

#### (dollars in thousands)

		(New M		(Prior Method)	
	20	09	2008		2007
Distribution expense	\$	15,382	\$ 14,031	\$	7,541
Other operating and corporate overhead expense		7,142	6,901		5,212
Total allocated expenses	\$	22,524	\$ 20,932	\$	12,753
Expense allocation as a percentage of Housewares segment s net sales:					
Distribution and sourcing expense		8.8%	8.5	%	5.5%
Other operating and corporate overhead expense		4.1%	4.2	%	3.8%
Total allocated expenses		12.8%	12.89	%	9.3%

#### Impairment charges

Annual Impairment Testing in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2009 - The Company performed its annual impairment tests of its goodwill and trademarks during the first quarter of fiscal 2009. This resulted in non-cash impairment charges of \$7.76 million (\$7.61 million after tax) on certain intangible assets associated with our Personal Care segment recognized during the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The charges were recorded in the Company s consolidated statements of operations as a component of operating income (loss). The impairment charges reflected the amounts by which the carrying values of the associated assets exceeded their estimated fair values at the time of the analysis. The fair values of the assets were primarily determined using estimated future discounted cash flow models (DCF Models) over five years and a terminal period. This approach was used for the indefinite-lived trademarks and licenses, the reporting units, and the Company as a whole. The DCF Models use a number of assumptions including expected future cash flows from the assets, volatility, risk free rate, and the expected life of the assets, the determination of which require significant judgments from management. In determining the assumptions to be used, the Company considers, among other things, the existing rates on Treasury Bills, yield spreads on assets with comparable expected lives, historical volatility of the Company s common shares and that of comparable companies and general economic and industry trends. The decline in the fair value of the affected trademarks described above resulted from lower sales expectations on certain lower volume brands as a result of management s strategic decision to reduce advertising and other resources dedicated to those brands, combined with a lower overall expectation of net sales driven by our near-term outlook for the economy and projected declines in consumer retail spending levels.

### Explanation of Responses:

Additional Impairment Testing in the Fourth Quarter of Fiscal 2009 As a result of the continued deterioration of economic conditions during the second half of fiscal 2009, the Company evaluated the impact of these conditions and other developments on its reporting units to assess whether impairment indicators were present that would require interim impairment testing. During the latter half of the third quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company s total market capitalization began to decline below the Company s consolidated shareholders equity balance at November 30, 2008. When the Company s total market capitalization remains below its consolidated shareholders equity balance for a sustained period of time, this may be an indicator of potential impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets. Because this condition continued throughout the balance of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company determined that the carrying amount of our goodwill and other intangible assets might not be recoverable and performed additional impairment testing as of February 28, 2009.

In the tables and discussion that follow, we use the terms market participant discount rate , terminal period , and terminal year revenue growth rates . The market participant discount rate is the weighted average cost of capital derived from a composite of similar companies that are in similar lines of business and serving similar distribution channels. Inputs in the computation of the weighted average cost of capital are a risk free rate of return (we used long-term U.S. Treasury rates), a market risk premium (which represents the return on equity required by investors in similar types of businesses), an unsystematic risk premium (which accounts for the hypothetical risk facing investors in the reporting unit), the after tax cost of debt, and the average weights of debt and equity for similar companies. The terminal period is the annual forecast used after the explicit forecast period that reflects a stable level of operations and is assumed to continue in perpetuity at the terminal year revenue growth rate and is used to determine the continuing value of the cash flows into perpetuity. The terminal year revenue growth rate represents the revenue growth rate expected to continue in perpetuity.

The Company s traditional impairment test methodology used primarily DCF Models. The Company expanded its traditional impairment test methodology to give weight to other methods that provide additional observable market information and that management believes reflect the current risk level being incorporated into market prices, in order to corroborate the fair values of each of the Company s reporting units. These other methods included the Subject Company Stock Price Method, the Guideline Public Company Method, and the Mergers and Acquisitions Method (together, the Market Models ). The Subject Company Stock Price Method uses the same revenue and earnings valuation multiples embedded in the Company s common share price, including an appropriate control premium, as a basis for estimating the separate values of each of the Company s reporting units. The Guideline Public Company Method uses a composite of revenue and earnings multiples derived as of the valuation date from a group of publicly traded companies that are in similar lines of business and serving similar distribution channels as a basis for estimating the separate values, including appropriate control premiums for each of the Company s reporting units. The Mergers and Acquisitions Method uses the revenue and earnings multiples embedded in a group of representative business acquisition transactions, to the extent that comparable transactions are available, as a basis for estimating the separate values of each of the Company s reporting units. For each of the methods used, considerable management judgment is necessary in reaching a conclusion regarding the reasonableness of fair value estimates, evaluating the most likely impact of a range of possible external conditions, considering the resulting operating changes and their impact on estimated future cash flows, determining the appropriate discount factors to use, and selecting and weighting appropriate comparable market level inputs.

After determining the fair value of our reporting units using the DCF Models and the Market Models, the Company assigned weights to the valuation methods used based on management s assessment of the extent to which the current economic environment affects each reporting unit s value. Management believes that each method used has relative merits and that by using multiple methods, particularly in times of economic uncertainty, a better estimate of fair value is determined. Current accounting literature defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In applying weights to the various methods, the Company believes that its DCF Models capture management s estimate regarding the results of its future prospects and its internal valuation for each reporting unit. However, we also believe there is currently a divergence between management s expectations for its reporting units prospects and the market s expectations based on

observable market information. Accordingly, management believes that the Market Models could more accurately reflect the value that a buyer would assign to the reporting units in the current economic environment. Because fair value needs to consider the value of a company from both the buy side and the sell side of a potential transaction, the weights we assigned to the DCF Models and the Market Models attempted to balance this divergence in points of view. We believe that the market has embedded significant discounts for risk into its valuations, and that the weightings we have assigned attempt to recognize the appropriate risk premiums the market would assign to each reporting unit. In the future, the weightings assigned to the valuation methods may change as a result of changes in our business or market conditions.

The impairment testing for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 was performed using an updated outlook for the Company's reporting units completed in connection with its annual planning process. This outlook included downward adjustments to certain future expected revenues and increases in the market participant discount rates, when compared to the projections and discount rates upon which our annual impairment tests were prepared during the first fiscal quarter of 2009. The Company decreased its expected revenues in response to the reduction in consumer spending during the second half of fiscal 2009 and its expectation that depressed spending levels would persist into fiscal 2010. Our projections assumed a continued but decelerating economic contraction through the first half of fiscal 2011, an economic recovery beginning in the second half of fiscal 2011 and general economic growth returning to slightly above mean levels in fiscal years 2012 through 2014. Additionally, the Company increased the market participant discount rates used in its analysis because management believes that the lending market and the restrained liquidity in the current environment have increased the cost of capital. In determining the extent to which to change its assumptions, management considered consumer spending trends and the anticipated impact on each reporting unit as well as the market cost of capital for comparable companies for each reporting unit. The rates used in our projections are management s estimate of the most likely results over time, given a wide range of potential outcomes. The assumptions and estimates used in our impairment testing involve significant elements of subjective judgment and analysis by the Company is management. While we believe that these assumptions are reasonable, unanticipated events and circumstances may occur that may cause actual results to differ materially from projected results based on these assumptions and estimates.

During its evaluation of goodwill in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company determined that the carrying values of the Personal Care segment s Appliances and Accessories and Grooming, Skin Care and Hair Care Solutions reporting units exceeded their fair values; consequently, further steps needed to be taken to determine the amounts by which goodwill and other intangible assets that were impaired. The Company then reviewed the fair values of the individual reporting unit s indefinite-lived intangibles for potential impairment. The review used the lower of: (1) the carrying value, and (2) the fair value using DCF Models under the relief from royalty method for trademarks, or using DCF Models under the excess earnings method for indefinite-lived licenses. The discount rate utilized to value our indefinite-lived assets was one percent higher than the associated reporting unit s market participant discount rate in order to reflect the higher rate of return that would likely be required when the associated trademark or license is sold as a separate asset. In our case, after first recognizing additional impairments of indefinite-lived intangibles, we determined that 100 percent of recorded goodwill in our appliances and accessories reporting unit was impaired.

In total, we recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$99.51 million (\$99.06 million after tax) in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009. This consisted of non-cash, pre-tax impairment charges of \$46.49 million against goodwill and \$2.75 million against a trademark in our Personal Care segment s Appliances and Accessories reporting unit and \$50.27 million against certain trademarks and an indefinite-lived license held by our Grooming, Skin Care and Hair Care Solutions reporting unit. The impairment for these reporting units was due to a decrease in the fair value of forecasted cash flows, and other market conditions reflecting the continued deterioration of the domestic and global economies and the declines in retail sales activity.

After we recorded the impairments discussed above, and reviewed all other long-lived assets of each reporting unit for potential impairment, the carrying values in our Personal Care segment reporting units still exceed their estimated fair values. Management believes these differences are within an acceptable range because:

• Estimates of fair value are inherently imprecise and typically fall within a reasonable range of all potential estimates.

• Conditions within the financial markets surrounding the evaluation date were extremely volatile and fair values in relatively short periods of time before and after the evaluation date produced estimates of fair market value for the Company as a whole which were significantly higher than the fair market value we reconciled to for the purposes of our review (See table below entitled: Range of Estimates of Fair Value of Helen of Troy ); and

• For the Personal Care segment s reporting units, all goodwill has been written off and all indefinite-lived intangibles have been reduced to their latest individual fair value estimates.

No impairment charges were required for our Housewares segment as this reporting unit s estimated fair value of total net assets including recorded goodwill, trademarks and other intangible assets, exceeded their carrying values as of the date of the evaluation. We acquired the Housewares reporting unit on June 1, 2004. Since that time it has experienced annual growth rates ranging from 6.9 to 26.0 percent with an average annual compound revenue growth rate of 15 percent over the last five years. This reporting unit has generated operating income as a percentage of net sales ranging from 14.6 to 27.9 percent over the last five years, which is significantly higher than comparable percentages in our other reporting units. While considering the relative strength of Housewares reporting unit s revenue and earnings metrics, we assumed a normal range of new product introductions and line extensions in the reporting unit based on historical levels, and that benefits from operating leverage will continue to allow for compound earnings growth rates that are appreciably higher than compound revenue growth rates. Although the Housewares reporting unit did not incur impairments based on our fourth quarter fiscal 2009 analysis, it may be subject to future goodwill impairments. The annual average compound earnings growth rate needed to avoid having a goodwill impairment charge is approximately 11 percent. If the annual average compound earnings growth rate falls below 11 percent over the five year forecast period, the Housewares reporting unit would incur a goodwill impairment charge, and depending on the severity of the drop, could incur impairment charges to its indefinite-lived trademark. Additionally, assuming all other factors were to remain constant, if the market participant discount rate were to increase by 1 percent, the Housewares reporting unit would incur a goodwill impairment charge. For both the goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets in the Housewares segment, the recoverability of these amounts is dependent upon achievement of the Company s projections and the continued execution of key initiatives related to revenue growth and improved profitability. However, changes in business conditions and assumptions could potentially require future adjustments to these asset valuations. The Company will continue to monitor its reporting units for any triggering events or other signs of impairment. The Company believes that its long-term growth strategy for the Housewares segment supports its fair value conclusions.

The table below summarizes the results of the latest impairment test:

### CARRYING VALUES AND ESTIMATED FAIR VALUES OF REPORTING UNITS

(in thousands)

		Personal Ca	C		scal Year En	ded F	ebruary 28, 200 Housewares Se				
	ppliances and ccessories	% of Total Assets		and Hair Care Solutions	% of Total Assets		Segment Total (2)	% of Total Assets	Co	nsolidated Total	% of Total Assets
Intangible assets before fourth quarter impairments: Goodwill	\$ 46,490	13.6%	\$	-	0.0%	\$	166,131	38.7%	\$	212,621	23.1%
Other indefinite-lived intangible assets Other definite-lived intangible	8,850	2.6%		90,634	60.5%		75,554	17.6%		175,038	19.0%
assets Total intangible assets of each	7,081	2.1%		1,854	1.2%		12,702	3.0%		21,637	2.3%
reporting unit	\$ 62,421	18.3%	\$	92,488	61.7%	\$	254,387	59.2%	\$	409,296	44.4%
Total assets before fourth quarter impairment Total liabilities other than debt Carrying value of each reporting	\$ 341,250 (60,684)	100.0% -17.8%	\$	149,854 (9,484)	100.0% -6.3%	\$	429,717 (30,446)	100.0% -7.1%	\$	920,821 (100,614)	100.0% -10.9%
unit before impairment Less: Indefinite-lived intangible	280,566	82.2%		140,370	93.7%		399,271	92.9%		820,207	89.1%
asset impairments Goodwill impairments Carrying value of each reporting	(2,750) (46,490)	-0.8% -13.6%		(50,274)	-33.5%		-	-		(53,024) (46,490)	-5.8% -5.0%
unit after impairment	\$ 231,326	67.8%	\$	90,096	60.1%	\$	399,271	92.9%	\$	720,693	78.3%
Estimated fair value as of February 28, 2009	\$ 226,000		\$	71,000		\$	407,000		\$	704,000	
Reported carrying value after impairment as a percent of estimated fair value	102.4%			126.9%			98.1%			102.4%	
Significant assumptions used to determine fair values (by reporting unit):											
Terminal year growth rates Market participant discount	2.5%			2.5%			3.5%				
rates (cost of capital) Royalty rates used to compute	12.9%			13.1%			13.5%				
the value of trademarks Control premiums used	2.5% 20.6%			4.0% - 6.5% 26.5%			5.3% 37.1%				
Weighting of discounted cash flow models Weighting of market comparables and market	10.0%			10.0%			50.0%				
transactions	90.0%			90.0%			50.0%				
Sensitivity of estimated fair values:											
	\$ 222,000		\$	70,000		\$	386,000		\$	678,000	

Fair values in the event of a 1 percent increase in market participant discount rates							
Fair values in the event future revenues in each year only achieve 95 percent of their projected totals	\$ 221,000	\$	70,000	\$	388,000	\$	679,000

(1) Percentages of total assets shown are before impairment.

(2) The total assets of the Housewares Segment includes \$75 million of cash set aside to retire debt scheduled to mature on June 29, 2009.

The control premium we used for each reporting unit was determined from widely used published studies using the median premium over market capitalization that market participants paid for controlling interest targets within a comparable standard industrial classification group. Management believes the Housewares reporting unit has a higher control premium because of the fundamentals of the unit combined with relatively more attractive fundamentals for its industry as a whole when compared to the relative fundamentals of our other reporting units. We believe that the Housewares reporting unit also has relatively higher potential for domestic and international growth through existing product categories and expansion into allied categories than our other reporting units. Furthermore, this reporting unit has generated operating income as a percentage of net sales ranging from 14.6 to 27.9 percent over the last five years, which is significantly higher than comparable percentages in our other reporting units and would support a higher control premium.

For our Personal Care segment s reporting units, we assigned a weight of 10 percent to our DCF Models and a weight of 90 percent to our Market Models. We utilized a lower weight on the DCF Models with respect to our Personal Care segment s reporting units because of declines in revenue and relatively flat operating income percentages in these units over the last three years. Additionally, considering the current economic environment, we believe it is likely that market participants will discount any forecasts that show revenue growth over the intermediate term, even though we believe these forecasts to be reasonable. Conversely, for our Housewares reporting unit, we assigned a weight of 50

percent to both our DCF Models and our Market Models because our Housewares reporting unit has shown positive revenue growth and comparatively higher operating income percentages over the same term, which we believe makes its current forecast of moderate revenue growth more acceptable to market participants. In addition, when we computed values under the various approaches, there was significantly less disparity between our DCF Model and Market Model estimates in the Housewares reporting unit than the disparities that existed in the Personal Care reporting units. Accordingly, we believe the higher weighting afforded the Housewares DCF Model estimates was relevant and appropriate in describing its relative contribution to the Company s overall fair market value.

Management believes that a significant portion of the recent decline in the Company s common share price in the period of time surrounding February 28, 2009 is related to the deterioration in general economic conditions, a loss of consumer confidence, and instability in the financial markets, and is not reflective of the combined underlying future cash flows of the reporting units. The analysis below shows the impact recent stock price fluctuations have had on the Company s estimated fair market value and compares this to the estimated fair market value of the common shares implied by the total estimated fair market value of all of the reporting units we used in our impairment analysis.

#### RANGE OF ESTIMATES OF FAIR VALUE OF HELEN OF TROY

#### (in thousands, except share values)

	N	At ovember 30, 2008	At February 28, 2009	At April 30, 2009	Implied By the Sum of the Fair Values of Each Reporting Unit
Market price of Helen of Troy s Stock (minority shareholder value)	\$	15.66	\$ 10.04	\$ 15.95	\$ 12.54
x Weighted average control premium (1)		30.2 %	30.2 %	30.2 %	30.2%
Controlling interest value of Helen of Troy s Stock		20.39	13.07	20.77	16.32
Number of shares outstanding at November 30, 2008 (2)		30,142	30,142	30,142	30,142
Controlling interest value of Helen of Troy s Equity		614,575	394,019	625,956	492,000
Outstanding debt at November 30, 2008		212,000	212,000	212,000	212,000
Indicated fair market value of Helen of Troy	\$	826,575	\$ 606,019	\$ 837,956	\$ 704,000

(1) The relative weighted average of the median control premiums for each reporting unit, financial buyers only, using comparable industry information from current published control premium studies

(2) This is the latest balance of outstanding shares that would have been used by market participants as reported on Form 10Q for the fiscal quarter ended November 30, 2008.

*Annual Impairment Testing in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2008* - The Company performed its annual impairment tests of its goodwill and trademarks during the first quarter of fiscal 2008. No impairment charge was recorded during the first quarter of fiscal 2008 as the estimated fair value of the indefinite-lived trademarks and licenses, reporting unit net assets, and the Company s estimated enterprise value exceeded their respective carrying values as of the date of the evaluation.

Additional Impairment Testing in the Third Quarter of Fiscal 2008 - In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we re-introduced the newly formulated Epil-Stop® product line. During the second and third quarters of fiscal 2008, our Epil-Stop® brand of hair depilatory products lost placement in certain mass discount and drug channels due to low consumer response. We experienced a high rate of customer sales returns for the product line. In response to these circumstances, in the third quarter of fiscal 2008, we conducted a strategic review of the Epil-Stop® trademark. We also evaluated the future potential of our TimeBlock® brand in light of our recent experience with Epil-Stop®. From these reviews, we concluded that the future undiscounted cash flows associated with these trademarks were insufficient to recover their carrying

### Explanation of Responses:

values. We also believed that any significant additional investments in these brands would not generate potential returns in line with the Company s investment expectations. Accordingly, we recorded pre-tax impairment charges totaling \$4.98 million (\$4.88 million after tax) representing the carrying value of these trademarks. We continue to hold these trademarks for use.

Annual Impairment Testing in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2007 - The Company performed its annual impairment tests of its goodwill and trademarks during the first quarter of fiscal 2007. No impairment charge was recorded during the first quarter of fiscal 2007 as the estimated fair value of the indefinite-lived trademarks and licenses, reporting unit net assets, and the Company s estimated enterprise value exceeded their respective carrying values as of the date of the evaluation.

#### Gain on sale of land

On September 9, 2007, we sold 16.5 acres of raw land adjacent to our El Paso, Texas office and distribution center. The land was sold for \$6.00 million, less selling costs of \$0.39 million and resulted in a pre-tax gain on the sale of \$3.61 million.

#### Interest expense and Other income (expense):

Interest expense decreased to \$13.69 million in fiscal 2009 compared to \$15.03 million in fiscal 2008. The overall decrease was due to the retirement of \$3.00 million of long-term debt during the year and the full year impact of \$35.00 million of debt previously retired in the prior year. Interest expense decreased to \$15.03 million in fiscal 2008 compared to \$17.91 million in fiscal 2007. The overall decrease was due to the retirement of \$35.00 million of long-term debt during the year and the impact of lower overall interest rates on our outstanding debt.

Other income (expense) was \$2.44, \$3.75 and \$2.64 million in fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The following schedule shows key components of other income (expense):

	Fiscal Year Ended (in thousands)							% of Net Sales (1)	% Change		
	20	)09	20	800	20	07	2009	2008	2007	09/08	08/07
Other income (expense):											
Interest income	\$	2,719	\$	3,573	\$	1,965	0.4%	0.5%	0.3%	-23.9%	81.8%
Realized and unrealized gain (losses) on											
securities		(201)		(189)		2	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	6.3%	*
Litigation settlement gain, net				104		450	0.0%	0.0%	0.1%	*	-76.9%
Miscellaneous other income (expense), net		(80)		260		226	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	*	15.0%
Total other income (expense)	\$	2,438	\$	3,748	\$	2,643	0.4%	0.6%	0.4%	-35.0%	41.8%

\* Calculation is not meaningful

(1) Sales percentages are computed as a percentage of total net sales.

Interest income decreased to \$2.72 million in fiscal 2009 compared to \$3.57 million in fiscal 2008 due to our liquidation of \$41.18 million of ARS and reinvestment of the funds into more liquid investments with comparatively lower interest rates and an overall decrease in interest rates available in financial markets. Interest income increased to \$3.57 million in fiscal 2008 compared to \$1.97 million in fiscal 2007 due to increasing levels of invested cash and higher interest rates earned on our mix of investments.

### Explanation of Responses:

Income tax expense:

Our fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007 income tax expense (benefit) was \$5.33, (\$0.24) and \$5.06 million, respectively. In any given year, there may be significant transactions or events that are incidental to our core businesses and that by a combination of their nature and jurisdiction, can have a disproportionate impact on our reported effective tax rates. Without these transactions, the trend in our effective tax rates would follow a more normalized pattern. The following table shows the comparative impact of these items on our pre-tax earnings, tax expense and effective tax rates, for each of the years covered by this report:

#### IMPACT OF SIGNIFICANT ITEMS ON EFFECTIVE TAX RATES

#### (dollars in thousands)

(		2009		Years Ende	d Last Day of 2008	February		2007	
	Pre-tax	Tax	Effective Tax	Pre-tax	Tax	Effective	Pre-tax	Tax	Effective
	Earnings	Expense	Rate	Earnings	Expense	Tax Rate	Earnings	Expense	Tax Rate
Pre-tax earnings (loss) and tax expense (benefit), as reported	\$ (51,465)	\$ 5,328	*	\$61,273	(\$236)	-0.4%	\$55,147	\$5,060	9.2%
Tax benefit from HK IRD Settlement, including interest income and reversal of penalties	-			-	7,950	*		192	*
Tax benefit from IRS settlement, including interest and penalties	-	461	*	-	1,363	*	-	-	-
Net operating loss valuation allowance	-	-	-	-	(977)	*	-	-	-
Impairment charges	107,274	608	0.6%	4,983	100	2.0%	-	-	-
Gains on sale of land	-	-	-	(3,609)	(1,364)	37.8%	(422)	(143)	34.0%
Gains on litigation settlements	-	-	-	(104)	(2)	2.0%	(450)	(9)	2.0%
Charge to allowance for doubtful accounts due to customer bankruptcy	3,876	1,360	35.1%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on casualty insurance settlements Pre-tax earnings and tax	(2,702)	(67)	2.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-
expense, without significant items	\$ 56,983	\$ 7,690	13.5%	\$62,543	\$6,834	10.9%	\$54,275	\$5,100	9.4%

\* Calculation is not meaningful

Excluding the impact of significant items, there is a trend of more of our income being taxed in higher tax rate jurisdictions, including the U.S. Pre-tax earnings and tax expense without significant items may be non-GAAP financial measures as contemplated by SEC Regulation G, Rule 100. A reconciliation of these measures to their applicable GAAP based measures is provided above, and an explanation of their nature and limitations, are furnished on page 54.

#### Net Earnings:

Net earnings in fiscal 2009 decreased by \$118.30 million when compared to fiscal 2008. In addition to a decline in sales and increasing cost of sales, a significant amount of this decline is due to the unfavorable impact of significant items in fiscal 2009, including: the effects of intangible impairment charges of \$107.27 million (\$106.67 million after tax) and a charge to bad debt of \$3.88 million (\$2.52 million after tax) associated with the Linens bankruptcy, partially offset by \$0.46 million in benefits of a tax settlement and a \$2.70 million (\$2.64 million after tax) gain on casualty insurance settlements. This compares to the favorable impact of significant items in fiscal 2008, including: the benefits of various tax settlements, a gain on a litigation settlement and a gain on the sale of land, partially offset by impairment charges and a tax valuation allowance on a net operating loss in Brazil. Excluding these items from both years, fiscal 2009 net earnings decreased by \$6.42 million or 11.5 percent when compared to fiscal 2008, and fiscal 2009 earnings per diluted share decreased to \$1.59 as compared to \$1.75 in fiscal 2008. The remaining decline in earnings without significant items of \$0.16 per diluted share is a result of the impact of global economic, and other factors referred to previously. The following table shows the comparative impact of these items on our net earnings (loss), and basic and diluted earnings per share for each of the years covered by this report:

#### IMPACT OF SIGNIFICANT ITEMS ON NET EARNINGS (LOSS) AND EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE

(dollars in thousands, except per share data)																
		Fiscal Years Ended 2009 2008				2007	Basic Ear		gs (Loss) l 2008	Per		Diluted Ear 2009 [1]	rnin	gs (Loss) 2008	Per	Share 2007
		2009		2008		2007	2009		2000		2007 2	009[1]		2008		2007
Net earnings (loss) as																
reported	\$	(56,793)	\$	61,509	\$	50,087 \$	(1.88)	\$	2.01	\$	1.66 \$	(1.88)	\$	1.93	\$	1.58
Tax benefit of various tax settlements		(461)		(9,313)		(192)	(0.02)		(0.31)		(0.01)	(0.02)		(0.29)		(0.01)
Net operating loss		(101)		(),010)		(1)=)	(0.02)		(0.01)		(0101)	(0102)		(0.27)		(0.01)
valuation allowance		-		977		-	-		0.03		-	-		0.03		-
Impairment charges, net of taxes		106,666		4,883		_	3.54		0.16		_	3.50		0.15		-
Gain on sale of land,		100,000		1,000			0.01		0110			0100		0110		
net of taxes		-		(2,245)		(279)	-		(0.07)		(0.01)	-		(0.07)		(0.01)
Charge to allowance for doubtful accounts																
due to customer																
bankruptcy, net of		2.516					0.08					0.08				
taxes Gain on litigation		2,510		-		-	0.08		-		-	0.08		-		-
settlement, net of																
taxes Gain on casualty		-		(102)		(441)	-		-		(0.01)	-		-		(0.01)
insurance settlement,																
net of taxes		(2,635)		-		-	(0.09)		-		-	(0.09)		-		-
Earnings without significant items	\$	49,293	\$	55,709	\$	49,175 \$	1.63	\$	1.82	\$	1.63 \$	1.59	\$	1.75	\$	1.55
significant nems	φ	77,295	φ	55,709	φ	т),175 ф	1.05	φ	1.02	φ	1.05 ¢	1.39	φ	1.75	φ	1.55
Weighted average common		1	ting													
Basic and diluted earnings reported	(loss)	per share, as					30,173		30 531		30 122	30,173		31 798		31 717
Basic and diluted earnings	per sh	are without signi	ficant	items			30,173		30,531		30,122	31,019		31,798		31,717
reported			ficant	items			30,173 30,173		30,531 30,531		30,122 30,122	30,173 31,019		31,798 31,798		31,717 31,717

# [1] Dilutive shares used to compute earnings per share as reported in fiscal 2009 excludes the impact of options to purchase common shares as these would be anti-dilutive due to the net loss.

The tables shown above entitled Impact of Significant Items on Effective Tax Rates and Impact of Significant Items on Net Earnings (Loss) and Earnings (Loss) per Share report non-GAAP pre-tax earnings, tax expense, earnings and earnings per share data which exclude specified significant items. Non-GAAP pre-tax earnings, tax expense, earnings and earnings per share data, as discussed in the preceding tables, may be considered non-GAAP financial information as contemplated by SEC Regulation G, Rule 100. The preceding tables reconcile these measures to their corresponding GAAP-based measures presented in our consolidated statements of operations. The Company believes that its non-GAAP pre-tax earnings, tax expense, earnings and earnings per share data provides useful information to management and investors regarding financial and business trends relating to its financial condition and results of operations. The Company believes that this non-GAAP pre-tax earnings, tax expense, earnings and earnings per share data, in combination with the Company s financial results calculated in accordance with GAAP, provides investors with additional perspective regarding the impact of certain significant items on pre-tax earnings, tax expense, earnings and earnings per share. The Company also believes that these non-GAAP measures facilitate a more direct comparison of its performance of its continuing operations for the period in which they are incurred, even though some of these excluded items may be incurred and reflected in the Company s GAAP financial results in the foreseeable future. The material limitation associated with the use of the non-GAAP pre-tax is that the non-GAAP measures do not reflect the full economic impact of the Company s activities. The Company s non-GAAP pre-tax

earnings, tax expense, earnings and earnings per share data is not prepared in accordance with GAAP, is not an alternative to GAAP financial information and may be calculated differently than non-GAAP financial information disclosed by other companies. Accordingly, undue reliance should not be placed on non-GAAP information.

### FINANCIAL CONDITION, LIQUIDITY, AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Selected measures of our liquidity and capital resources for fiscal years ended 2009 and 2008 are shown below:

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	2009	2008	
Accounts Receivable Turnover (Days) (1)	68.3	69.3	
Inventory Turnover (Times) (1)	2.3	2.4	
Working Capital (in thousands)	\$224,201	\$276,304	
Current Ratio	2.3 : 1	3.3:1	
Ending Debt to Ending Equity Ratio (2)	41.7%	37.8%	
Return on Average Equity (1)	-10.0%	11.4%	

(1) Accounts receivable turnover, inventory turnover, and return on average equity computations use 12 month trailing sales, cost of sales or net earnings components as required by the particular measure. The current and four prior quarters ending balances of accounts receivable, inventory, and equity are used for the purposes of computing the average balance component as required by the particular measure.

(2) Debt is defined as all debt outstanding at the balance sheet date. This includes the sum of the following lines on our consolidated balance sheets: Current portion of long-term debt and Long-term debt, less current portion. For further information regarding this financing, see Notes (5) and (7) to our consolidated financial statements and our discussion below under Financing Activities.

#### **Operating Activities:**

Operating activities provided \$21.93 million of cash during fiscal 2009 compared with \$109.91 million in fiscal 2008. The decrease in operating cash flow was due to the combination of lower earnings after adding back non-cash impairment charges, higher inventory and lower payables and accrued liabilities.

In fiscal 2009, our accounts receivable decreased \$2.07 million to \$103.55 million while our accounts receivable turnover improved to 68.3 days from 69.3 days in fiscal 2008. This calculation is based on a rolling five quarter accounts receivable balance.

Inventories increased \$24.91 million to \$169.78 million at the end of fiscal 2009 when compared to \$144.87 million at the end of fiscal 2008. Ending fiscal 2009 inventories are higher than normal due to weak sales in the second half of fiscal 2009. Particularly, in the third quarter of fiscal 2009, retailers reduced their inventories to historically low levels in anticipation of a weak and promotional holiday selling season. Management is currently addressing the issue of higher inventory levels and believes it will take several quarters to bring inventories back to normal levels.

Working capital decreased to \$224.20 million at the end of fiscal 2009, compared to \$276.30 million at the end of fiscal 2008. Our current ratio decreased to 2.3:1 at the end of fiscal 2009, compared to 3.3:1 at the end of fiscal 2008. The decline in our working capital and current ratio was primarily caused by \$75 million of long-term debt scheduled to mature in June 2009, which is classified as a current liability at February 28, 2009 compared to \$3 million of long-term debt classified as a current liability at February 29, 2008.

#### **Investing Activities:**

In fiscal 2009, investing activities provided \$32.38 million of cash compared with \$47.32 and \$62.48 million used in fiscal 2008 and fiscal 2007, respectively.

#### Significant highlights of our fiscal 2009 investing activities:

• We spent \$1.51 million on molds and tooling, \$1.09 million on information technology infrastructure and \$2.11 million on building improvements, primarily for new office space for our Housewares segment.

- We spent \$4.77 million to acquire the Ogilvie® trademark for our Personal Care segment.
- We liquidated \$41.18 million of investments in ARS at par, leaving ARS at a net value of \$19.97 million on hand at year end.

• We received net proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment, primarily from the sale of fractional shares in two corporate jets, of approximately \$2.61 million.

### Significant highlights of our fiscal 2008 investing activities:

• We spent \$1.74 million on molds and tooling, \$1.08 million on information technology infrastructure, \$1.66 million on distribution center equipment and \$1.53 million on land for future distribution center expansion in Southaven, Mississippi.

• We spent \$36.50 million in cash to acquire accounts receivable, inventory, trademarks, goodwill and intangible assets of the Belson business.

• We received net proceeds from the sale of land of \$5.61 million and a property insurance settlement of \$0.94 million.

• We purchased \$178.28 million and sold \$170.20 million of temporary investments, leaving \$63.83 million of temporary investments on hand at year end.

### Explanation of Responses:

### Significant highlights of our fiscal 2007 investing activities:

• We spent \$1.63 million on molds and tooling, \$1.34 million on information technology infrastructure, \$1.66 million on distribution center equipment and \$1.08 million on acquisition, furnishing and remodeling of office space and other facilities in Latin America.

• We purchased \$147.73 million and sold \$91.98 million of temporary investments, leaving \$55.75 million of temporary investments on hand at year end.

#### Financing Activities:

During fiscal 2009, financing activities used \$9.48 million of cash compared to \$40.19 and \$10.79 million used in fiscal 2008 and fiscal 2007, respectively.

#### Significant highlights of our fiscal 2009 financing activities:

• In July 2008, we paid a \$3 million principal installment on our fixed rate senior debt.

• Employees and directors exercised options to purchase 47,907 common shares, providing \$0.52 million in cash and related tax benefits. Employees also purchased 30,743 common shares through our employee stock purchase plan, providing \$0.34 million of cash.

• We purchased and retired a total of 574,365 common shares on the open market at a total purchase price of \$7.42 million.

#### Significant highlights of our fiscal 2008 financing activities:

- In June 2007, we prepaid \$25 million of our 5 year floating rate senior notes without penalty.
- In January 2008, we paid a \$10 million principal installment on our fixed rate senior debt.

• Employees exercised 156,675 options for common shares, providing \$2.34 million of cash and \$0.42 million in related tax benefits. Employees also purchased 27,014 common shares through our employee stock purchase plan providing \$0.44 million of cash.

• An additional 1,000,000 options were exercised during the fiscal quarter ended August 31, 2007 in a non-cash transaction in which our chief executive officer tendered 728,500 common shares having a market value of \$20.27 million as payment of the exercise price and related federal tax obligations for the exercise of options. The exercise of these options required \$4.51 million to pay related federal income tax obligations and generated approximately \$1.66 million of related tax benefits.

• We purchased and retired a total of 366,892 common shares on the open market at a total purchase price of \$5.73 million.

### Significant highlights of our fiscal 2007 financing activities:

• We drew \$7.66 million against our \$15 million industrial revenue bond established to acquire equipment, machinery and related assets for our new Southaven, Mississippi distribution center. In May 2006, we converted the \$12.63 million total drawn during fiscal 2006 and fiscal 2007 into a five-year Industrial Development Revenue Bond. We repaid the balance of this debt in two transactions for \$4.97 and \$7.66 million in September 2006 and January 2007, respectively. Also, in January 2007, we paid a \$10 million principal installment on our fixed rate senior debt.

• Employees exercised options to purchase 247,686 common shares, providing \$3.07 million of cash and \$0.54 million in related tax benefits. Employees also purchased 22,348 common shares through our employee stock purchase plan, providing \$0.38 million of cash. No common shares were repurchased during the fiscal year.

Our ability to access our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement is subject to our compliance with the terms and conditions of the credit facility and long-term debt agreements, including financial covenants. On December 15, 2008, we entered into the Fourth Amendment to the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement (the Amendment ) with Helen of Troy L.P., as borrower, Bank of America, N.A., and the other lenders party thereto. The Amendment modified the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement as follows:

(1) Extended the maturity date as defined in the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement from June 1, 2009 to December 15, 2013;

(2) Increased the margin for the Eurodollar rate loans from a range of 0.75 to 1.25 percent per annum to a range of 1.25 to 1.75 percent per annum (depending on our leverage ratio);

(3) Increased the margin for the base rate loans from zero to a range of 0.25 to 0.75 percent per annum (depending on our leverage ratio); and

(4) Modified the leverage ratio, the consolidated net worth ratio, removed a fixed charge coverage ratio, and added a new interest coverage ratio financial covenant, as well as a capital expenditure covenant.

Under the amended Revolving Line of Credit Agreement, certain covenants as of the latest balance sheet date limit our total outstanding indebtedness from all sources less unrestricted cash on hand in excess of \$15 million to no more than 3.0 times the latest twelve months trailing EBITDA. As of February 28, 2009, our loan covenants effectively limited our ability to incur more than \$127.16 million of additional debt from all sources, including draws on our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement. Additionally, our debt agreements restrict us from incurring liens on any of our properties, except under certain conditions and in some circumstances could limit our ability to repurchase shares of our common stock. In the event we were to default on any of our other debt, it would constitute a default under our credit facilities as well. As of February 28, 2009, we were in compliance with the terms of all our loan agreements.

#### **Contractual Obligations:**

Our contractual obligations and commercial commitments, as of the end of fiscal 2009 were:

#### PAYMENTS DUE BY PERIOD - TWELVE MONTHS ENDED THE LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY

(in thousands)							
		2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	After
	Total	1 year	2 years	3 years	4 years	5 years	5 years
Term debt - fixed rate	\$ 12,000 \$	3,000 \$	3,000 \$	3,000 \$	3,000 \$	- \$	-
Term debt - floating rate (1)	200,000	75,000	-	50,000	-	-	75,000
Long-term incentive plan payouts	6,699	2,023	2,327	2,349	-	-	-
Interest on floating rate debt (1)	32,385	8,925	7,453	5,489	4,508	4,508	1,502
Interest on fixed rate debt	1,629	733	516	299	81	-	-
Open purchase orders	67,622	67,622	-	-	-	-	-
Minimum royalty payments	80,322	7,090	6,345	6,090	5,861	5,397	49,539
Minimum advertising and promotional							
payments	85,995	7,420	6,007	6,181	6,205	5,680	54,502
Operating leases	11,914	1,902	1,661	1,212	1,061	1,081	4,997
Total contractual obligations (2)	\$ 498,566 \$	173,715 \$	27,309 \$	74,620 \$	20,716 \$	16,666 \$	185,540

- The Company uses interest rate hedge agreements (the swaps ) in conjunction with its unsecured floating interest rate \$75 million, 5 year;
   \$50 million, 7 year; and \$75 million, 10 year senior notes (the Senior Notes ). The swaps are a hedge of the variable LIBOR rates used to reset the floating rates on these Senior Notes. The swaps effectively fix the interest rates on the 5, 7 and 10 year Senior Notes at 5.89, 5.89 and 6.01 percent, respectively. Accordingly, the future interest obligations related to this debt have been estimated using these rates.
- (2) In addition to the contractual obligations and commercial commitments in the table above, as of February 28, 2009, we have recorded a provision for our uncertain tax positions of \$2.90 million. We are unable to reliably estimate the timing of future payments related to uncertain tax positions; therefore, we have excluded these tax liabilities from the table above.

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements:**

We have no existing activities involving special purpose entities or off-balance sheet financing.

#### Current and Future Capital Needs:

At February 28, 2009, we held approximately \$19.97 million of our investments in ARS collateralized by student loans. At this time, there is very limited demand for these securities and limited acceptable alternatives to liquidate such securities. As a result, we may not be able to liquidate these ARS at their recorded values in the short to intermediate term. If we are unable to sell the ARS on a timely basis as cash needs arise, we would be required to rely on cash on hand, cash from operations and available amounts under our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement in order to meet those needs. For more information, see Item 1A., Risk Factors.

As further discussed elsewhere in this report and in Note (20) to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, on March 31, 2009, we completed the acquisition of certain assets, trademarks, customer lists, distribution rights, patents and formulas for Infusium 23® hair care products from The Procter & Gamble Company for a cash purchase price of \$60 million. We paid for the transaction using existing cash on hand.

On June 29, 2009, \$75 million of our unsecured floating rate senior debt will mature. While management has not committed to a specific course of action to repay the \$75 million debt, we believe we have sufficient borrowing capacity in place, along with our available cash, to repay the debt principal on or before its maturity.

Based on our current financial condition, current operations and the potential impact of the issues discussed above, we believe that cash flows from operations and available financing sources will continue to provide sufficient capital resources to fund our foreseeable short- and long-term liquidity requirements. We expect our capital needs to stem primarily from the need to purchase sufficient levels of inventory and to carry normal levels of accounts receivable on our balance sheet. On December 15, 2008, we amended our \$50.00 million Revolving Line of Credit Agreement, extending its term until December 15, 2013, adjusting interest rate margins and modifying certain financial covenants as more fully discussed above and in Note (5) to the accompanying consolidated financial statements. The amendment to the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement increased our borrowing costs and adjusted the limitations on our ability to incur additional debt. As of February 28, 2009, our loan covenants effectively limited our ability to incur more than \$127.16 million of additional debt from all sources, including draws on our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement.

We expect to continue to evaluate acquisition opportunities on a regular basis and may augment our internal growth with acquisitions of complementary businesses or product lines. We may finance acquisition activity with available cash, the issuance of common shares, additional debt or other sources of financing, depending upon the size and nature of any such transaction and the status of the capital markets at the time of such acquisition.

The Company may elect to repurchase additional common shares from time to time based upon its assessment of its liquidity position and market conditions at the time, and subject to limitations contained in its debt agreements. For additional information, see Part II, Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds.

#### **CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The SEC defines critical accounting policies as those that are both most important to the portrayal of a company s financial condition and results, and require management s most difficult, subjective or complex judgments, often as a result of the need to make estimates about the effect of matters that are inherently uncertain. We consider the following policies to meet this definition.

*Income Taxes* - Effective March 1, 2007, we adopted FIN 48, which provides guidance for the recognition, derecognition and measurement in financial statements of tax positions taken in previously filed tax returns or tax positions expected to be taken in tax returns. See Note (8) - Income Taxes included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for further discussion.

We must make certain estimates and judgments in determining income tax expense for financial statement purposes. These estimates and judgments must be used in the calculation of certain tax assets and liabilities because of differences in the timing of recognition of revenue and expense for tax and financial statement purposes. We must assess the likelihood that we will be able to recover our deferred tax assets. If recovery is not likely, we must increase our provision for taxes by recording a valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets that we estimate will not ultimately be recoverable. As changes occur in our assessments regarding our ability to recover our deferred tax assets, our tax provision is increased in any period in which we determine that the recovery is not probable.

In addition, the calculation of our tax liabilities requires us to account for uncertainties in the application of complex tax regulations. As a result of the implementation of FIN 48, we recognize liabilities for uncertain tax positions based on the two-step process prescribed within the interpretation. The first step is to evaluate the tax position for recognition by determining if the weight of available evidence indicates that it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained on audit based upon its technical merits, including resolution of related appeals or litigation processes, if any. The second step requires us to estimate and measure the tax benefit as the largest amount that has greater than a 50 percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. It is inherently difficult and subjective to estimate such amounts, as this requires

#### Explanation of Responses:

us to determine the probability of various possible outcomes. We reevaluate these uncertain tax positions on a quarterly basis. This evaluation is based on factors including, but not limited to, changes in facts or circumstances, changes in tax law, effectively settled issues under audit, historical experience with similar tax matters, guidance from our tax advisors, and new audit activity. A change in recognition or measurement would result in the recognition of a tax benefit or an additional charge to the tax provision in the period in which the change occurs.

*Estimates of credits to be issued to customers* - We regularly receive requests for credits from retailers for returned products or in connection with sales incentives, such as cooperative advertising and volume rebate agreements. We reduce sales or increase SG&A, depending on the nature of the credits, for estimated future credits to customers. Our estimates of these amounts are based either on historical information about credits issued, relative to total sales, or on specific knowledge of incentives offered to retailers. This process entails a significant amount of subjectivity and uncertainty.

*Valuation of inventory* - We account for our inventory using a first-in, first-out system in which we record inventory on our balance sheet at the lower of its average cost or its net realizable value. Determination of net realizable value requires us to estimate the point in time at which an item s net realizable value drops below its cost. We regularly review our inventory for slow-moving items and for items that we are unable to sell at prices above their original cost. When we identify such an item, we reduce its book value to the net amount that we expect to realize upon its sale. This process entails a significant amount of inherent subjectivity and uncertainty.

*Goodwill and Indefinite-Lived Intangibles* We follow the guidance provided by SFAS 142 and SFAS 144 in determining the carrying values of goodwill, intangible and other long-lived assets we record on our balance sheet. As a result of acquisitions, the Company has significant intangible assets on its balance sheet that include goodwill and indefinite-lived intangibles (primarily trademarks and licenses). Accounting for business combinations requires the use of estimates and assumptions in determining the fair value of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in order to properly allocate the purchase price. The estimates of the fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed are based upon assumptions believed to be reasonable using established valuation techniques that consider a number of factors, and when appropriate, valuations performed by independent third party appraisers.

We consider whether circumstances or conditions exist which suggest that the carrying value of our goodwill and other long-lived assets might be impaired. If such circumstances or conditions exist, further steps are required in order to determine whether the carrying value of each of the individual assets exceeds its fair market value. If analysis indicates that an individual asset s carrying value does exceed its fair market value, the next step is to record a loss equal to the excess of the individual asset s carrying value over its fair value. The steps required by SFAS 142 and SFAS 144 entail significant amounts of judgment and subjectivity. We complete our analysis of the carrying value of our goodwill and other intangible assets during the first quarter of each fiscal year, or more frequently whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying value may not be recoverable.

The Company s traditional impairment test methodology used primarily DCF Models. DCF Models use a number of assumptions including expected future cash flows from the assets, volatility, risk free rate, and the expected life of the assets. In determining the assumptions to be used, the Company considers, among other things, the existing rates on Treasury Bills, yield spreads on assets with comparable expected lives, historical volatility of the Company s common shares and that of comparable companies and general economic and industry trends. Beginning with its interim impairment tests performed in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company expanded its traditional impairment test methodology to give weight to other methods that provide additional observable market information and that management believes reflect the current risk level being incorporated into market prices, in order to corroborate the fair values of each of the Company s reporting units. These other methods included the Subject Company Stock Price Method, the Guideline Public Company Method, and the Mergers and Acquisitions Method (together, the Market Models ). The Subject Company Stock Price Method uses the same revenue and earnings valuation multiples embedded in the Company s common share price, including an appropriate control premium, as a basis for estimating the separate values of each of the Company s reporting units. The Guideline Public Company Method uses a composite of revenue and earnings multiples derived as of the valuation date from a group of publicly traded companies that are in similar lines of business and serving similar distribution channels as a basis for estimating the separate values, including appropriate control premiums for each of the Company s reporting units. The Mergers and Acquisitions Method uses the revenue and earnings multiples embedded in a group of representative business acquisition transactions, to the extent that comparable transactions are available, as a basis for estimating the separate values of each of the Company s reporting units. For each of the methods used, considerable management judgment is necessary in reaching a conclusion regarding the reasonableness of fair value estimates, evaluating the most likely impact of a range of possible external conditions, considering the resulting operating changes and their impact on estimated future cash flows, determining the appropriate discount factors to use, and selecting and weighting appropriate comparable market level inputs.

After determining the fair value of our reporting units using the DCF Models and the Market Models, the Company assigns weights to the valuation methods used based on management s assessment of the extent to which the economic environment affects each reporting unit s value. Management believes that each method used has relative merits and that by using multiple methods, particularly in times of economic uncertainty, a better estimate of fair value is determined. Current accounting literature defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. In applying weights to the various methods, the Company believes that its DCF Models capture management s estimate regarding the results of its future prospects and its internal valuation for each reporting unit. However, we also consider whether there is a divergence between management s expectations for its reporting units prospects and the market s expectations based on observable market information. Because fair value needs to consider the value of a company from both the buy side and the sell side of a potential transaction, the weightings we assign attempt to recognize the appropriate risk premiums the market has assigned to each reporting unit. Future weightings assigned to the various valuation methods may change as a result of changes in our business or market conditions.

If we determine that the carrying value of a reporting unit exceeds its fair value indicating that goodwill, if any is impaired, we will also review the fair values of the reporting unit s indefinite-lived intangibles for potential impairment. The review uses the lower of: (1) the carrying value, and (2) the fair value using DCF Models under the relief from royalty method for trademarks, or using DCF Models under the excess earnings method for indefinite-lived licenses. The discount rate utilized to value our indefinite-lived assets is higher than the associated reporting unit s market participant discount rate in order to reflect the higher rate of return that would likely be required when the associated trademark or license is sold as a separate asset.

The Company continues to monitor its reporting units for any triggering events or other signs of impairment. Events and changes in circumstances that may indicate that there is impairment include, but are not limited to, strategic decisions to exit a business or dispose of an asset made in response to changes in economic, political and competitive conditions, the impact of the economic environment on our customer base and on broad market conditions that drive valuation considerations by market participants, our internal expectations with regard to future revenue growth and the assumptions we make when performing our impairment reviews, a significant decrease in the market price of our assets, a significant adverse change in the extent or manner in which our assets are used, a significant adverse change in legal factors or the business climate that could affect our assets, an accumulation of costs significantly in excess of the amount originally expected for the acquisition of an asset, and significant changes in the cash flows associated with an asset. We analyze these assets at the individual asset, reporting unit and Company levels. For both the goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets in its reporting units, the recoverability of these amounts is dependent upon achievement of the Company s projections are management s estimate of the most likely results over time, given a wide range of potential outcomes. The assumptions and estimates used in our impairment testing involve significant elements of subjective judgment and analysis by the Company s management. While we believe that the assumptions we use are reasonable, changes in business conditions or other unanticipated events and circumstances may occur that cause actual results to differ materially from projected results and this could potentially require future adjustments to our asset valuations.

*Carrying value of other long-lived assets* - We consider whether circumstances or conditions exist that suggest that the carrying value of a long-lived asset might be impaired. If such circumstances or conditions exist, further steps are required in order to determine whether the carrying value of the asset exceeds its fair market value. If analysis indicates that the asset s carrying value does exceed its fair market value, the next step is to record a loss equal to the excess of the asset s carrying value over its fair value. The steps required by SFAS 142 and SFAS 144 entail significant amounts of judgment and subjectivity.

*Economic useful life of intangible assets* - We amortize intangible assets, such as licenses, trademarks, customer lists and distribution rights over their economic useful lives, unless those assets economic useful lives are indefinite. If an intangible asset s economic useful life is deemed to be indefinite, that asset is not amortized. When we acquire an intangible asset, we consider factors such as the asset s history, our plans for that asset, and the market for products associated with the asset. We consider these same factors when reviewing the economic useful lives of our previously acquired intangible assets as well. We review the economic useful lives of our intangible assets at least annually. The determination of the economic useful life of an intangible asset requires a significant amount of judgment and entails significant subjectivity and uncertainty. We complete our analysis of the remaining useful economic lives of our intangible assets during the first quarter of each fiscal year.

For a more comprehensive list of our accounting policies, we encourage you to read Note (1) included in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Note (1) describes several other policies, including policies governing the timing of revenue recognition, that are important to the preparation of our consolidated financial statements, but do not meet the SEC s definition of critical accounting policies because they do not involve subjective or complex judgments.

### NEW ACCOUNTING GUIDANCE

Refer to Note (1) in the accompanying consolidated financial statements for a discussion of new accounting pronouncements and the potential impact to our consolidated results of operations and financial position.

#### ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Changes in currency exchange rates, interest rates and the liquidity of our investments are our primary financial market risks.

#### Foreign Currency Risk:

Our functional currency is the U.S. Dollar. By operating internationally, we are subject to foreign currency risk from transactions denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar (foreign currencies). Such transactions include sales, certain inventory purchases and operating expenses. As a result of such transactions, portions of our cash, trade accounts receivable and trade accounts payable are denominated in foreign currencies. For the fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, 16.9, 16.8 and 14.8 percent of our net sales were in foreign currencies. These sales were primarily denominated in the British Pound, Euro, Mexican Peso, Canadian Dollar, Brazilian Real, Chilean Pesos, Peruvian Soles and Venezuelan Bolivares Fuertes. We make most of our inventory purchases from the Far East and use the U.S. Dollar for such purchases. In our consolidated statement of operations, exchange gains and losses resulting from the remeasurement of foreign taxes receivable, taxes payable, deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities, are recognized in their respective income tax lines, and all other foreign exchange gains and losses are recognized in SG&A. We recorded net foreign exchange gains (losses), including the impact of currency hedges of (\$5.21), \$0.53 and \$0.46 million in SG&A and \$0.62, \$0.22 and \$0.19 million in income tax expense during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

We identify foreign currency risk by regularly monitoring our foreign currency-denominated transactions and balances. Where operating conditions permit, we reduce foreign currency risk by purchasing most of our inventory with U.S. Dollars and by converting cash balances denominated in foreign currencies to U.S. Dollars.

We have historically hedged against certain foreign currency exchange rate-risk by using a series of forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges to protect against the foreign currency exchange risk inherent in our forecasted transactions denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar. In these transactions, we execute a forward currency contract that will settle at the end of a forecasted period. Because the size and terms of the forward contract are designed so that its fair market value will move in the opposite direction and approximate magnitude of the underlying foreign currency s forecasted exchange gain or loss during the forecasted period, a hedging relationship is created. To the extent that we forecast the expected foreign currency cash flows from the period we enter into the forward contract until the date it will settle with reasonable accuracy, we significantly lower or materially eliminate a particular currency s exchange risk exposure over the life of the related forward contract.

We enter into these types of agreements where we believe we have meaningful exposure to foreign currency exchange risk and the hedge pricing appears reasonable. It is not practical for us to hedge all our exposures, nor are we able to project in any meaningful way the possible effect and interplay of all foreign currency fluctuations on translated amounts or future earnings. This is due to our constantly changing exposure to various currencies, the fact that each foreign currency reacts differently to the U.S. Dollar and the significant number of currencies involved. Accordingly, we will always be subject to foreign exchange rate-risk on exposures we have not hedged, and these risks may be material.

For transactions we designate as foreign currency cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the change in the fair value (arising from the change in the spot rates from period to period) is deferred in other comprehensive income (loss) (OCI). These amounts are subsequently recognized in SG&A in the consolidated statement of operations in the same period as the forecasted transactions close out over the remaining balance of their terms. The ineffective portion of the change in fair value (arising from the change in the difference between the spot rate and the forward rate) is recognized in the period it occurred. These amounts are also recognized in SG&A in the consolidated statement of operations. We do not enter into any forward exchange contracts or similar instruments for trading or other speculative purposes.

### Explanation of Responses:

On September 3, 2008, the Company entered into a series of foreign exchange forward contracts to sell U.S. Dollars for British Pounds in notional amounts and terms that effectively froze the \$1.78 million fair value of our existing forward contracts to sell British Pounds for U.S. Dollars. The new forward contracts had the effect of eliminating the foreign currency hedge created by the original forward currency contracts on certain forecasted transactions denominated in British Pounds and we discontinued their classification as cash flow hedges. These forward contracts had originally been designated as cash flow hedges. In accordance with

Derivatives Implementation Group (DIG) Issue No. G3 - Discontinuation of a Cash Flow Hedge, the net gain related to the discontinued cash flow hedges will continue to be reported in OCI as it is probable that the forecasted transactions will occur generally by the originally specified time period. Therefore, at February 28, 2009, a portion of the deferred gains related to the combined group of derivatives remains in OCI and is currently expected to be reclassified into earnings when the underlying contracts settle over dates ranging from May 15, 2009 through August 17, 2009.

#### Interest Rate Risk:

Fluctuation in interest rates can cause variation in the amount of interest that we can earn on our available cash, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments and the amount of interest expense we incur on any short-term and long-term borrowings. Interest on our long-term debt outstanding as of February 28, 2009 is both floating and fixed. Fixed rates are in place on \$12 million of Senior Notes at 7.24 percent and floating rates are in place on \$200 million of debt that reset as described in Note (7) of these consolidated financial statements, but have been effectively converted to fixed rate debt using the interest rate swaps described below.

We manage our floating rate debt using interest rate swaps (the swaps ). We have three interest rate swaps that convert an aggregate notional principal of \$200 million from floating interest rate payments under our 5, 7 and 10 year Senior Notes to fixed interest rate payments ranging from 5.89 to 6.01 percent. In these transactions, we have three contracts to pay fixed rates of interest on an aggregate notional principal amount of \$200 million at rates ranging from 5.04 to 5.11 percent while simultaneously receiving floating rate interest payments set at 1.47 percent as of February 28, 2009 on the same notional amount. The fixed rate side of the swap will not change over the life of the swap. The floating rate payments are reset quarterly based on three month LIBOR. The resets are concurrent with the interest payments made on the underlying debt. Changes in the spread between the fixed rate payment side of the swap and the floating rate receipt side of the swap offset 100 percent of the change in any period of the underlying debt s floating rate payments. These swaps are used to reduce the Company s risk of increased interest costs; however, we lose the benefit that floating rate debt can provide in a declining interest rate environment. The swaps are considered 100 percent effective. Gains and losses related to the swaps, net of related tax effects are reported as a component of Accumulated other comprehensive loss in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and will not be reclassified into earnings until the conclusion of the hedge. A partial net settlement occurs quarterly at the same time interest payments are made on the underlying debt. The settlement is the net difference between the fixed rates payable and the floating rates receivable over the quarter under the swap contracts. The settlement is recognized as a component of Interest expense in the consolidated statement of operations.

The following table summarizes our open forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts and indicates whether they are designated as cash flow hedges or ordinary hedges at the end of fiscal 2009 and 2008:

## FOREIGN CURRENCY AND INTEREST RATE SWAP CONTRACTS

February 28, 2009

Contract Type	Currency to Deliver	Notional Amount	Contract Date	Range of I From	Toruary 20 Maturities	Spot Rate at Contract Date	Spot Rate at February 28, 2009	Weighted Average Forward Rate at Inception	Weighted Average Forward Rate at February 28, 2009	Market Value of the Contract in U.S. Dollars (Thousands)
E		4- D4- J -	- O-d'							
Hedges	rrency Contr	acts Reported a	s Ordinary							
Sell Sell	Pounds Dollars	£4,000,000 \$7,011,000	4/17/2007 9/3/2008	5/15/2009 5/15/2009	8/17/2009 8/17/2009	2.0000 1.7825	1.4318 1.4318	1.9631 1.7528	1.4340 1.4283	\$2,117 (\$1,298)
Subtotal										\$819
Interest Rat Flow Hedge	-	racts Reported	as Cash							
Swan	Dollars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2006	6/20/	2000	(Pay fixe	ed rate at 5.04%, i		g 3-month	(\$931)
Swap	Donars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2000	0/29/	6/29/2009 LIBOR rate) (Pay fixed rate at 5.04%, receive floating 3-month			g 3-month	(\$951)	
Swap	Dollars	\$50,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/	2011	-	LIBOR	rate)		(\$3,772)
Swap	Dollars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/	2014	(Pay fixe	ed rate at 5.11%, i LIBOR		g 3-month	(\$9,167)
Subtotal										(\$13,870)
Total Fair V	alue									(\$13,051)
					February 29	. 2008				
Contract	Currency	Notional		Range of I	·	Spot Rate at	Spot Rate at February 29,	Weighted Average Forward Rate	Weighted Average Forward Rate at February	Market Value of the Contract in U.S. Dollars
	•		Contract			Contract	•	at	·	
Туре	to Deliver	Amount	Date	From	То	Date	2008	Inception	29, 2008	(Thousands)
Foreign Cu	rrency Contr	acts Reported a	s Cash Flow							

I of eight Cu	concy contri	acto nepor tea a								
Hedges										
Sell	Pounds	£5,000,000	11/28/2006	12/11/2008	1/15/2009	1.9385	1.9885	1.9242	1.9440	(\$99)
Sell	Pounds	£5,000,000	4/17/2007	2/17/2009	8/17/2009	2.0000	1.9885	1.9644	1.9281	\$182
Subtotal										\$83

Interest Rate Swap Contracts Reported as Cash Flow Hedges

-					(Pay fixed rate at 5.04%, receive floating 3-month	
Swap	Dollars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/2009	LIBOR rate)	(\$2,506)
					(Pay fixed rate at 5.04%, receive floating 3-month	
Swap	Dollars	\$50,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/2011	LIBOR rate)	(\$3,462)
					(Pay fixed rate at 5.11%, receive floating 3-month	
Swap	Dollars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/2014	LIBOR rate)	(\$6,481)
Subtotal						(\$12,449)

**Total Fair Value** 

(\$12,366)

#### Counterparty Credit Risk:

Financial instruments, including foreign currency contracts and interest rate swaps, expose us to counterparty credit risk for nonperformance. We manage our exposure to counterparty credit risk through only dealing with counterparties who are substantial international financial institutions with significant experience using such derivative instruments. Although our theoretical credit risk is the replacement cost at the then estimated fair value of these instruments, we believe that the risk of incurring credit risk losses is remote.

1	1
h	h
v	U

#### Rate Sensitive Financial Instruments:

(in thousands)

The following table shows the approximate potential fair value change in U.S. Dollars that would arise from a hypothetical adverse 10 percent change in certain market based rates underlying our Fixed Rate Long-Term Debt, ARS and Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts, and a 50 basis point decrease in the rates underlying our Interest Rate Swaps as of February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008.

#### CHANGE IN FAIR VALUE DUE TO AN ADVERSE MOVE IN RELATED RATES

	February 28, 2009	1	
Face or Notional Amount	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Estimated Change in Fair Value
\$12,000	(\$12,000)	(\$12,441)	(\$122)
\$200,000	(\$13,870)	(\$13,870)	(\$2,777)
\$22,650	\$19,973	\$19,973	(\$277)
	February 29, 2008		
Face or			Estimated
Notional	Carrying	Fair	Change in
Amount	Value	Value	Fair Value
\$15,000	(\$15,000)	(\$15,378)	(\$214)
\$200,000	(\$12,449)	(\$12,449)	(\$3,641)
£10,000	\$83	\$83	(\$1,936)
	Notional Amount           \$12,000           \$200,000           \$222,650           Face or Notional Amount           \$15,000           \$200,000	Face or Notional Amount         Carrying Value           \$12,000         (\$12,000)           \$200,000         (\$13,870)           \$22,650         \$19,973           February 29, 2008           Face or Notional Amount         Carrying Value           \$15,000         (\$15,000)           \$200,000         (\$15,000)	Notional Amount         Carrying Value         Fair Value           \$12,000         (\$12,000)         (\$12,441)           \$200,000         (\$13,870)         (\$13,870)           \$22,650         \$19,973         \$19,973           February 29, 2008           Face or Notional Amount         Carrying Value         Fair Value           \$15,000         (\$15,000)         (\$15,378)           \$200,000         (\$12,449)         (\$12,449)

(1) The underlying interest rates used as a basis for these estimates are rates quoted by our lenders on fixed rate notes of similar term and credit quality as of the balance sheet dates shown.

(2) The underlying interest rates are based on current and future projections over the related lives of the underlying swap contracts of expected 3 month LIBOR rates.

(3) The underlying market based rate is the credit spread between the 30 year Treasury Bill rate and an average of Moody s AAA and BAA corporate rates.

(4) Our Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts at February 28, 2009 include contracts to sell British Pounds in exchange for U.S. Dollars offset by more recently executed contracts to sell U.S. Dollars in exchange for British Pounds. The newer contracts have the effect of eliminating the foreign currency hedge created by the original contracts. Any move in currency rates that would be adverse to one set of contracts will be effectively cancelled by its corresponding favorable impact on the other set of contracts.

(5) At February 29, 2008, appreciation in the value of the U.S. Dollar would result in a decrease in the fair value of the related foreign currency contracts.

The table above is for risk analysis purposes and does not purport to represent actual losses or gains in fair value that we will incur. It is important to note that the change in value represents the estimated change in the fair value of the contracts. Actual results in the future may differ materially from these estimated results due to actual developments in the global financial markets. Because the contracts hedge an underlying exposure, we would expect a similar and opposite change in foreign exchange gains or losses and floating interest rates over the same periods as the contracts.

We expect that as currency market conditions warrant, and if our foreign denominated transaction exposure grows, we will continue to execute additional contracts in order to hedge against potential foreign exchange losses.

#### Risks Inherent in Cash, Cash Equivalents, Temporary and Long-term Investments:

Our cash, cash equivalents and investments are subject to interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Cash consists of both interest bearing and non-interest bearing operating disbursement accounts. Cash equivalents consist of commercial paper and money market investment accounts. Temporary and long-term investments consist of AAA rated ARS that we normally seek to dispose of within 35 or fewer days. The following table summarizes our cash, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments at the end of fiscal 2009 and 2008:

# CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, TEMPORARY AND LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS (*in thousands*)

			Last Day of	f February	7		
	2009						
	Carrying		Range of	Carrying		Range of	
			Interest			Interest	
	I	Amount	Rates	A	mount	Rates	
Cash and cash equivalents Cash held in interest and non interest-bearing							
operating accounts - unrestricted Cash held in interest and non interest-bearing	\$	18,575	0.0 to 3.00%	\$	6,872	0.0 to 5.40%	
operating accounts - restricted		1,426	0.0 to 7.00%		701	- 3.15 to	
Commercial paper		-	-		1,785	3.19%	
* *			0.35 to		ŕ	2.00 to	
Money market accounts		82,674	6.00%		48,493	6.00%	
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$	102,675		\$	57,851		
Auction rate securities - collateralized by			1.95% to			4.50 to	
student loans	\$	19,973	8.67%	\$	63,825	9.90%	

Our cash balances at February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008 include restricted cash of \$1.43 and \$0.70 million, respectively, denominated in Venezuelan Bolivares Fuertes, shown above under the heading Cash held in interest and non interest-bearing operating accounts restricted. The balances are primarily a result of favorable operating cash flows within the Venezuelan market. Due to current Venezuelan government restrictions on transfers of cash out of the country and control of exchange rates, the Company has not yet received approval of its applications to repatriate this cash, and cannot repatriate it at this time.

Most of our cash equivalents and investments are in money market accounts and ARS with frequent rate resets, therefore, we believe there is no material interest rate risk. In addition, our commercial paper and ARS are purchased from issuers with high credit ratings; therefore, we believe the credit risk is relatively low.

We hold investments in ARS collateralized by student loans (with underlying maturities from 20 to 37 years). At February 28, 2009, 97 percent of the aggregate collateral was guaranteed by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. Liquidity for these securities was normally dependent on an auction process that resets the applicable interest rate at pre-determined intervals, ranging from 7 to 35 days. Beginning in February 2008, the auctions for the ARS held by us and others were unsuccessful, requiring us to hold them beyond their typical auction reset dates. Auctions fail when there is insufficient demand. However, this does not represent a default by the issuer of the security. Upon an auction s failure, the interest rates reset based on a formula contained in the security. The rate is generally equal to or higher than the current market rate for similar securities. The securities will continue to accrue interest and to be auctioned until one of the following occurs: the auction succeeds; the issuer calls the securities; or the securities mature.

At February 29, 2008, these securities were valued at their original cost and classified as current assets in the consolidated balance sheet under the heading Temporary investments, which we believed was appropriate based on the circumstances and level of information we had at that time. Between February 29, 2008 and February 28, 2009, we have liquidated \$41.18 million of these securities at par. Each of the remaining securities in our portfolio has been subject to failed auctions. These failures in the auction process have affected our ability to access these funds in the near term. At May 31, 2008, we concluded that the illiquidity in the ARS markets was not a temporary phenomenon. At that time, we decided to continue to reduce our remaining holdings as soon as practicable, but believed it unlikely that we

could liquidate all of our holdings within twelve months. Accordingly, we reclassified all remaining ARS as non-current assets held for sale under the heading Long-term investments in our consolidated balance sheet and the Company determined that original cost no longer approximates fair value.

As a result of the lack of liquidity in the ARS market, during the fiscal year ended February 28, 2009, we recorded pre-tax unrealized losses on our ARS totaling \$2.68 million, which is reflected in accumulated other comprehensive loss in our accompanying consolidated balance sheet net of related tax effects of \$0.91 million. The recording of these unrealized losses is not a result of the quality of the underlying collateral, but rather a markdown reflecting a lack of liquidity and other market conditions.

FASB Staff Positions FAS 115-1 and FAS 124-1, The Meaning of Other-Than-Temporary Impairment and Its Application to Certain Investments, states that an investment is considered impaired when the fair value is less than the cost. Significant judgment is required to determine if impairment is other-than-temporary. The Company deemed the unrealized loss on the available-for-sale ARS to be temporary based primarily on the following: (1) as of the balance sheet date, the Company had the ability and intent to hold the impaired securities to maturity; (2) the lack of deterioration in the financial performance, credit rating or business prospects of the issuers; (3) the lack of evident factors that raise significant concerns about the issuers ability to continue as a going concern; (4) the lack of significant changes in the regulatory, economic or technological environment of the issuers; and (5) the presence of collateral guarantees by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. If it becomes probable that the Company will not receive 100 percent of the principal and interest with respect to any of the ARS, or if events occur to change any of the factors described above, the Company will be required to recognize an other-than-temporary impairment charge in the consolidated statement of operations.

## ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

#### INDEX TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE

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All other schedules are omitted as the required information is included in the consolidated financial statements or is not applicable.

#### MANAGEMENT S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

Helen of Troy s management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting as defined by Rules 13a-15(f) or 15d-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act.

Our internal control system is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and includes those policies and procedures that:

pertain to the maintenance of records that in reasonable detail accurately and fairly reflect our transactions and dispositions of assets;

• provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that our receipts and expenditures are being made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and Board of Directors; and

• provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

There are inherent limitations in the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, including the possibility that misstatements may not be prevented or detected. Furthermore, the effectiveness of internal controls may become inadequate because of future changes in conditions, or variations in the degree of compliance with our policies or procedures.

Our management assesses the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting using the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework*. Based on our assessment, we concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of February 28, 2009.

Our independent registered public accounting firm, Grant Thornton LLP, has issued an audit report on the effectiveness of the Company s internal control over financial reporting. This report appears on page 72.

#### **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Helen of Troy Limited

We have audited Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries (the Company) internal control over financial reporting as of February 28, 2009, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO). The Company s management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting included in the accompanying *Management s Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company s internal control over financial reporting based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk, and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

A company s internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company s internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company s assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that the controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

In our opinion, Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of February 28, 2009, based on the criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by COSO.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008, and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders equity, and cash flows for each of the years then ended, and our report dated May 14, 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion on

those financial statements.

## /s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

Dallas, Texas

May 14, 2009

#### **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

To the Board of Directors and Stockholders of

Helen of Troy Limited

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries (the Company ) as of February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008, and the related consolidated statements of operations, shareholders equity, and cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended February 28, 2009. Our audits of the basic financial statements included the financial statement schedule titled Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts as it relates to the years ended February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008. These financial statements and the financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and the financial statement schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards 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 consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries as of February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008, and the consolidated results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the two years in the period ended February 28, 2009, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Also in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein.

As discussed in Note (1) to the consolidated financial statements, the Company changed its method of accounting for collateral assignment split-dollar life insurance arrangements as of March 1, 2008, in connection with the adoption of EITF Issue No. 06-10, Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Collateral Assignment Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements.

As discussed in Note (8) to the consolidated financial statements, the Company changed its method of accounting for unrecognized tax benefits as of March 1, 2007, in connection with the adoption of FASB Interpretation No. 48, *Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes: an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109*.

We have also audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries internal control over financial reporting as of February 28, 2009, based on criteria established in *Internal Control-Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) and our report dated May 14, 2009 expressed an unqualified opinion thereon.

#### /s/ GRANT THORNTON LLP

Dallas, Texas

May 14, 2009

#### **REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Board of Directors and Shareholders

Helen of Troy Limited:

We have audited the accompanying consolidated statements of operations, shareholders equity, and cash flows of Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries for the year ended February 28, 2007. In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, we also have audited the financial statement schedule titled Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts as it relates to the year ended February 28, 2007. These consolidated financial statements and financial statement schedule are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and financial statements are the responsibility of the Company s management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements and financial statements and financial statements are schedule based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards 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 audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the results of operations and cash flows of Helen of Troy Limited and subsidiaries as of February 28, 2007, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Also, in our opinion, the related financial statement schedule, when considered in relation to the basic consolidated financial statements taken as a whole, presents fairly, in all material respects, the information set forth therein as it relates to the year ended February 28, 2007.

As discussed in Note (1) to the consolidated financial statements, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standard 123(R), Share-Based Payment, effective March 1, 2006.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Houston, Texas

May 14, 2007

## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

### **Consolidated Balance Sheets**

#### (in thousands, except shares and par value)

		Last Day of	f Februa	• ·
		2009		2008
Assets				
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	102,675	\$	57,851
Temporary investments	Ψ	-	Ψ	63,825
Trading securities, at market value		570		36
Receivables - principally trade, less allowance of \$1,916 and \$1,331		103,548		105,615
Inventories		169,780		144,867
Prepaid expenses		2,819		6,290
Income taxes receivable		4,051		861
Deferred income tax benefits		13,010		16,419
Total current assets		396,453		395,764
Property and equipment, net of accumulated depreciation of \$51,607 and \$44,524		83,946		91,611
Goodwill		166,131		212,922
Trademarks, net of accumulated amortization of \$240 and \$235		111,227		161,922
License agreements, net of accumulated amortization of \$18,479 and \$17,343		16,017		24,972
Other intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$8,602 and \$6,432		16,416		15,544
Long-term investments		19,973		-
Deferred income tax benefits		1,618		-
Other assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$3,447 and \$2,865	¢	9,526 821 307	¢	9,258
Total assets	\$	821,307	\$	911,993
Liabilities and Shareholders Equity				
Current liabilities:				
Current portion of long-term debt	\$	78,000	\$	3,000
Accounts payable, principally trade		33,957		42,763
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities		60,295		73,697
Total current liabilities		172,252		119,460
Long-term compensation liability		3,459		2,566
Long-term income taxes payable		2,903		9,181
Deferred income tax liability		-		410
Long-term debt, less current portion		134,000		212,000
Total liabilities		312,614		343,617
Commitments and contingencies				
Shareholders equity:				
Cumulative preferred shares, non-voting, \$1.00 par. Authorized 2,000,000 shares; none				
issued		-		-
Common shares, \$0.10 par. Authorized 50,000,000 shares; 29,878,988 and 30,374,703				
shares issued and outstanding		2,988		3,038
Additional paid-in-capital		105,627		100,328
Retained earnings		410,372		473,361
Accumulated other comprehensive loss		(10,294) 508 603		(8,351)
Total shareholders equity Total liabilities and shareholders equity	\$	508,693 821,307	\$	568,376 911,993
rotar naomues and shareholders equity	φ	021,307	φ	911,993

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### **Consolidated Statements of Operations**

#### (in thousands, except per share data)

		Years E 2009	ne Last Day of Fel 2008	2007		
Net sales Cost of sales Gross profit	\$	622,745 367,343 255,402	\$	652,548 370,853 281,695	\$	634,932 355,552 279,380
Selling, general, and administrative expense Operating income before impairment and gain		188,344 67,058		207,771 73,924		208,964 70,416
Impairment charges Gain on sale of land Operating income (loss)		107,274 - (40,216)		4,983 (3,609) 72,550		- - 70,416
Other income (expense): Interest expense Other income, net Total other income (expense)		(13,687) 2,438 (11,249)		(15,025) 3,748 (11,277)		(17,912) 2,643 (15,269)
Earnings (loss) before income taxes		(51,465)		61,273		55,147
Income tax expense (benefit)		5,328		(236)		5,060
Net earnings (loss)	\$	(56,793)	\$	61,509	\$	50,087
Earnings (loss) per share: Basic Diluted	\$ \$	(1.88) (1.88)	\$ \$	2.01 1.93	\$ \$	1.66 1.58
Weighted average common shares used in computing net earnings (loss) per share: Basic Diluted		30,173 30,173		30,531 31,798		30,122 31,717

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### Consolidated Statements of Shareholders Equity

#### (in thousands, except number of shares)

	Common Shares	Additional Paid-In Capital	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Retained Earnings	Total Shareholders Equity
Balances at March 1, 2006	\$ 3,001	\$ 90,300	\$ 1,160	\$ 380,916 \$	\$ 475,377
Components of comprehensive income: Net earnings				50,087	50,087
Unrealized loss on cash flow hedges -	-	-	-	50,087	
interest rate swaps, net Unrealized loss on cash flow hedges - foreign	-	-	(991)	-	(991)
currency, net	-	-	(1,735)	-	(1,735)
Total comprehensive income					47,361
Share-based compensation	-	693	-	-	693
Exercise of stock options, including tax benefits of \$544	25	3,586	-	-	3,611
Issuance of common shares in connection					,
with employee stock purchase plan	3	372	-	-	375
Balances February 28, 2007	3,029	94,951	(1,566)	431,003	527,417
Cumulative-effect adjustments, net of tax					
Adoption of FIN 48	-	(6,144)	-	(5,911)	(12,055)
Components of comprehensive income:				(1.500	(1.500
Net earnings Unrealized loss on cash flow hedges -	-	-	-	61,509	61,509
interest rate swaps, net	-	-	(7,225)	-	(7,225)
Unrealized gain on cash flow hedges -			140		140
foreign currency, net Total comprehensive income	-	-	440	-	440 54,724
		1.1(2)			
Share-based compensation Exercise of stock options, including tax	-	1,162	-	-	1,162
benefits of \$4,417	116	22,578	-	-	22,694
Issuance of common shares in connection with employee stock purchase plan	3	432			435
Acquisition and retirement of 1,095,392	5	452	-	-	455
common shares	(110)	(12,651)	-	(13,240)	(26,001)
Balances February 29, 2008	3,038	100,328	(8,351)	473,361	568,376
Cumulative-effect adjustments, net of tax Adoption of EITF 06-10				(656)	(656)
Components of comprehensive income (loss):					
Net earnings (loss)	-	-	-	(56,793)	(56,793)
Unrealized loss on cash flow hedges - interest rate swaps, net	_	_	(938)	-	(938)
Unrealized gain on cash flow hedges -			(556)		(550)
foreign currency, net	-	-	762	-	762

## Explanation of Responses:

Unrealized losses - auction rate securities, net Total comprehensive loss	-	-	(1,767)	-	(1,767) (58,736)
Share-based compensation Effect of favorable tax settlements on prior	-	1,488	-	-	1,488
years share-based compensation charges to paid-in-capital	-	4,634	-	-	4,634
Exercise of stock options, including tax benefits of \$54 Issuance of common shares in connection	5	655	-	-	660
with employee stock purchase plan Acquisition and retirement of 574,365	3	340	-	-	343
common shares Balances February 28, 2009	\$ (58) 2,988 \$	(1,818) 105,627 \$	- (10,294) \$	(5,540) 410,372 \$	(7,416) 508,693

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### **Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(in thousands)

	Years Ended The Last Day of February,				
	2009		2008		2007
Cash flows from operating activities:					
Net earnings (loss)	\$ (56,793)	\$	61,509	\$	50,087
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings (loss) to net cash provided by			,		, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
operating activities					
Depreciation and amortization	14,185		14,298		14,301
Provision (benefit) for doubtful receivables	5,643		329		(152)
Share-based compensation	1,488		1,162		693
Write off of deferred finance costs due to early extinguishment of debt	-		282		-
Realized and unrealized (gain) loss on securities	252		189		(2)
Deferred taxes	2,379		1,377		(677)
Gains on the sale of property and equipment	(56)		(3,573)		(225)
Impairment charges	107,274		4,983		-
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects of acquisition					
of business:					
Accounts receivable	(3,417)		17,582		(8,455)
Inventories	(24,265)		7,039		24,331
Prepaid expenses	3,471		903		914
Other assets	(706)		(408)		2,579
Accounts payable	(8,806)		4,968		7,604
Accrued expenses	(13,893)		2,684		5,770
Income taxes payable	(4,829)		(3,418)		(6,362)
Net cash provided by operating activities	21,927		109,906		90,406
Cash flows from investing activities:					
Capital, license, trademark, and other intangible expenditures	(5,859)		(7,709)		(7,395)
Business acquisitions	(4,765)		(36,500)		-
Purchase of investments	(786)		(178,275)		(148,625)
Sale of investments	41,175		170,200		92,875
Proceeds from the sale of property and equipment	2,613		5,702		666
Increase in other assets	-		(738)		-
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	32,378		(47,320)		(62,479)
Cash flows from financing activities:					
Proceeds from debt	-		-		7,660
Repayment of long-term debt	(3,000)		(35,000)		(22,634)
Payment of financing costs	(157)		-		-
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and employee stock purchases,					
net	859		4,854		3,986
Common share repurchases	(7,271)		(5,731)		-
Payment of tax obligations resulting from cashless option exercise	-		(4,505)		-
Share-based compensation tax benefit	88		192		196
Net cash used by financing activities	(9,481)		(40,190)		(10,792)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	44,824		22,396		17,135
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	57,851		35,455		18,320
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 102,675	\$	57,851	\$	35,455
Supplemental cash flow disclosures:					
Interest paid	\$ 13,057	\$	14,969	\$	16,939

## Explanation of Responses:

Income taxes paid (net of refunds)	\$ 7,642	\$ 24,692	\$ 7,935
Common shares received as exercise price of options	\$ 146	\$ 15,938	\$ -

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

#### HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(in thousands of U.S. Dollars, except share and per share data, unless indicated otherwise)

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) General

When used in these notes, the terms Helen of Troy, the Company, we, our or us means Helen of Troy Limited, a Bermuda company, and its subsidiaries.

We are a global designer, developer, importer, marketer and distributor of an expanding portfolio of brand-name consumer products. We have two segments: Personal Care and Housewares. Our Personal Care segment s products include hair dryers, straighteners, curling irons, hairsetters, shavers, mirrors, hot air brushes, home hair clippers and trimmers, paraffin baths, massage cushions, footbaths, body massagers, brushes, combs, hair accessories, liquid and aerosol hair care and styling products, men s fragrances, men s deodorants, liquid and bar soaps, foot powder, body powder and skin care products. Our Housewares segment reports the operations of OXO International (OXO) whose products include kitchen tools, cutlery, bar and wine accessories, household cleaning tools, food storage containers, tea kettles, trash cans, storage and organization products, hand tools, gardening tools, kitchen mitts and trivets, barbeque tools and rechargeable lighting products. Both our Personal Care and Housewares segments sell their products primarily through mass merchandisers, drugstore chains, warehouse clubs, catalogs, grocery stores and specialty stores. In addition, the Personal Care segment sells extensively through beauty supply retailers and wholesalers. We purchase our products from unaffiliated manufacturers, most of which are located in the People s Republic of China and the United States.

Our financial statements are prepared in U.S. Dollars and in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. These principles require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

For both fiscal 2008 and fiscal 2007, we provided additional information in our consolidated financial statements and accompanying footnotes to conform to the current year s presentation.

(b) Consolidation

Our consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Helen of Troy Limited and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

(c) Cash, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments

Our cash balances at February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008 include restricted cash of \$1.43 and \$0.70 million, respectively, denominated in Venezuelan Bolivares Fuertes. The balances are primarily a result of favorable operating cash flows within the Venezuelan market. Due to current Venezuelan government restrictions on transfers of cash out of the country and control of exchange rates, the Company has not yet received approval of its applications to repatriate this cash, and cannot repatriate it at this time.

We consider commercial paper and money market investment accounts to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents comprised \$82.67 and \$50.28 million of the amounts reported on our consolidated balance sheets as Cash and cash equivalents at fiscal year ends 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Prior to fiscal 2009, we made investments of excess cash on hand in AAA auction rate notes, AAA variable rate demand bonds, and similar investments that we normally seek to dispose of within 35 or fewer days (auction rate securities or ARS). In fiscal 2008 and prior periods, these were classified on our consolidated balance sheet as Temporary investments and recorded at cost, which we believe approximated their fair value at that time.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

At February 28, 2009, we held \$19.97 million of ARS, classified as Long-term investments on our consolidated balance sheet with underlying maturities from 20 to 37 years and 97 percent of the aggregate collateral (student loans) guaranteed by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

Throughout fiscal 2009, these ARS were subject to failed auctions that affected our ability to access the funds in the near term. Auctions fail when there is insufficient demand. However, this does not represent a default by the issuer of the security. Upon an auction failure, the interest rates reset based on a formula contained in the security and this rate is generally higher than the current market rate. The securities will continue to accrue interest and to be auctioned until one of the following occurs: the auction succeeds; the issuer calls the securities; or the securities mature.

At May 31, 2008, we concluded that the illiquidity in the ARS market was not a temporary market condition. We intend to continue to reduce our remaining holdings as soon as practicable, but believed it unlikely that we could liquidate all of our holdings within twelve months. Accordingly, we reclassified all remaining ARS as non-current assets held for sale under the heading Long-term investments in our consolidated balance sheet and the Company determined that original cost no longer approximated fair value.

As a result of the lack of liquidity in the ARS market, during the fiscal year ended February 28, 2009, we recorded pre-tax unrealized losses on our ARS totaling \$2.68 million, which is reflected in accumulated other comprehensive loss in our accompanying consolidated balance sheet net of related tax effects of \$0.91 million. The recording of these unrealized losses is not a result of the quality of the underlying collateral, but rather a markdown reflecting a lack of liquidity and other market conditions. Between February 29, 2008 and February 28, 2009, we liquidated \$41.18 million of these securities at par.

At February 29, 2008, we held \$63.83 million of ARS, classified as Temporary investments on our consolidated balance sheet with underlying maturities from 21 to 40 years and 94 percent of the aggregate collateral (student loans) guaranteed by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program and approximately 5 percent of the aggregate collateral was backed by private financial guarantee insurance. During fiscal 2008, these securities were valued at their original cost and classified as current assets in the consolidated balance sheet under the heading Temporary investments, which we believed was appropriate based on the circumstances and level of information we had at that time.

Note (16) contains additional information regarding our cash, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments.

(d) Trading securities

Trading securities consist of shares of common stock of publicly traded companies and are stated on our consolidated balance sheets at market value, as determined by the most recent trading price of each security as of each balance sheet date. We determine the appropriate classification of our investments when those investments are purchased and reevaluate those determinations at each balance sheet date. Trading securities are currently included in the Current assets section of our consolidated balance sheets. All unrealized gains and losses attributable to such securities are included in Other income, net on the consolidated statement of operations.

The sum of unrealized and realized net gains and (losses) attributable to trading securities totaled (\$0.20), (\$0.19) and \$0.00 million in fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

(e) Valuation of accounts receivable

Our allowance for doubtful receivables reflects our best estimate of probable losses, determined principally on the basis of historical experience and specific allowances for known troubled accounts. The Company has significant concentrations of credit risk with two major customers. In addition, as of February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008, approximately 47 and 48 percent, respectively, of the Company s gross trade receivables were due from its five top customers.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

(f) Inventories and cost of sales

Our inventories consist almost entirely of finished goods. We account for inventory using a first-in, first-out system in which we record inventory on our balance sheet at the lower of our average cost or net realizable value. A product s average cost is comprised of the amount that we pay our manufacturer for product, tariffs and duties associated with transporting product across national borders, freight costs associated with transporting the product from our manufacturers to our distribution centers, and general and administrative expenses directly attributable to the procurement of inventory.

General and administrative expenses in inventory include all the expenses of operating the Company s sourcing activities, expenses incurred for production monitoring, and expenses incurred for product design, engineering and packaging. We charged \$15.22, \$12.49 and \$11.46 million of such general and administrative expenses to inventory during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. We estimate that \$6.35 and \$4.76 million of general and administrative expenses directly attributable to the procurement of inventory were included in our inventory balances on hand at fiscal year ends 2009 and 2008, respectively.

The Cost of sales line item on the consolidated statement of operations is comprised of the book value (lower of average cost or net realizable value) of inventory sold to customers during the reporting period. When circumstances dictate that we use net realizable value in lieu of cost, we base our estimates on expected future selling prices less expected disposal costs.

(g) Property and equipment

These assets are stated at cost. Depreciation is recorded on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Expenditures for repair and maintenance of property and equipment are expensed as incurred. For tax purposes, accelerated depreciation methods are used as allowed by tax laws.

(h) License agreements, trademarks, patents and other intangible assets

A significant portion of our sales are made subject to license agreements with the licensors of the Vidal Sassoon®, Revlon®, Sunbeam®, Health o meter®, Bed Head®, Toni&Guy® and Dr. Scholl s® trademarks. Our license agreements are reported on our consolidated balance sheets at cost, less accumulated amortization. The cost of our license agreements represents amounts paid to licensors to acquire the license or to alter the terms of the license in a manner that we believe to be in our best interest. Royalty payments are not included in the cost of license agreements. We amortize license costs on a straight-line basis over the appropriate lives of the respective agreements. Net sales subject to trademark license agreements comprised 42, 48 and 53 percent of total consolidated net sales for fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Royalty expense under our license agreements is recognized as incurred and is included in our consolidated statement of operations on the line entitled Selling, general, and administrative expenses (SG&A).

We also sell products under trademarks that we own. Trademarks that we acquire from other entities are generally recorded on our consolidated balance sheets based upon the appraised cost of acquiring the trademark, net of any accumulated amortization and impairment charges. Costs associated with developing trademarks internally are recorded as expenses in the period incurred. When trademarks have readily determinable useful lives, we amortize their costs on a straight-line basis over such lives. In certain instances, we have determined that particular trademarks have an indefinite useful life. In these cases, no amortization is recorded.

Patents acquired through purchase from other entities, if material, are recorded on our consolidated balance sheets based upon the appraised cost of the acquired patents and amortized over the remaining life of the patent. Additionally, we incur certain costs, primarily legal fees in connection with the design and development of products to be covered by patents, which are capitalized as incurred and amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the patent in the jurisdiction filed, typically 14 years.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

Other intangible assets include customer lists, distribution rights and non-compete agreements that we acquired from other entities. These are recorded on our consolidated balance sheets based upon the appraised cost of the acquired asset and amortized on a straight-line basis over the remaining life of the asset as determined either through outside appraisal of our customer lists or the term of the non-compete agreement. See Notes (3) and (4) for additional information on our intangible assets.

(i) Goodwill, intangible and other long-lived assets

Goodwill is recorded as the difference, if any, between the aggregate consideration paid and the fair value of the net tangible and intangible assets received in the acquisition of a business. We evaluate goodwill at the reporting unit level. The performance of the test involves a two-step process. The first step of the impairment test involves determining the fair value of each reporting unit and then comparing its fair value with its aggregate carrying value, including goodwill. If the carrying amount of the reporting unit is greater than the fair value, an impairment may be present and we perform the second step of the individual reporting unit s indefinite-lived intangibles are reviewed for potential impairment. The second step of the goodwill impairment test involves comparing the implied fair value of the affected reporting unit s goodwill with the carrying value of that goodwill. We measure the amount of any goodwill impairment based upon the estimated fair value of the underlying assets and liabilities of the reporting unit, including any unrecognized intangible assets, and estimates of the implied fair value of goodwill. An impairment charge is recognized to the extent the recorded goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of goodwill.

We consider whether circumstances or conditions exist which suggest that the carrying value of our goodwill and other long-lived assets might be impaired. If such circumstances or conditions exist, further steps are required in order to determine whether the carrying value of each of the individual assets exceeds its fair market value. If analysis indicates that an individual asset s carrying value does exceed its fair market value, the next step is to record a loss equal to the excess of the individual asset s carrying value over its fair value. The steps required by SFAS 142 and SFAS 144 entail significant amounts of judgment and subjectivity. We complete our analysis of the carrying value of our goodwill and other intangible assets during the first quarter of each fiscal year, or more frequently whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying value may not be recoverable. Events and changes in circumstances that may indicate that there is impairment include, but are not limited to, strategic decisions to exit a business or dispose of an asset made in response to changes in economic, political and competitive conditions, the impact of the economic environment on our customer base and on broad market conditions that drive valuation considerations by market participants, our internal expectations with regard to future revenue growth and the assumptions we make when performing our impairment reviews, a significant decrease in the market price of our assets, a significant adverse change in the extent or manner in which our assets are used, a significant adverse change in legal factors or the business climate that could affect our assets, an accumulation of costs significantly in excess of the amount originally expected for the acquisition of an asset, and significant changes in the cash flows associated with an asset. We analyze these assets at the individual asset, reporting unit and Company levels.

As further discussed in Note (3) to these consolidated financial statements, we have recorded non-cash impairment charges totaling \$107.27 million (\$106.67 million after tax) and \$4.98 million (\$4.88 million after tax), for the fiscal years 2009 and 2008, respectively, in order to reflect the carrying value of goodwill and certain trademarks in our Personal Care segment at current estimates of their fair value. With respect to all trademarks for which such impairments were recorded, we currently expect to continue to hold these trademarks for use. No impairment charges were recorded for fiscal year 2007.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

(j) Economic useful lives and amortization of intangible assets

We amortize intangible assets, such as licenses and trademarks, over their economic useful lives, unless those assets economic useful lives are indefinite. If an intangible asset s economic useful life is deemed to be indefinite, that asset is not amortized. When we acquire an intangible asset, we consider factors such as the asset s history, our plans for that asset, and the market for products associated with the asset. We consider these same factors when reviewing the economic useful lives of our existing intangible assets as well. We review the economic useful lives of our intangible assets at least annually.

Intangible assets consist primarily of goodwill, license agreements, trademarks, customer lists, distribution rights and patents. All of our goodwill is held in jurisdictions that do not allow deductions for tax purposes. We amortize certain intangible assets using the straight-line method over appropriate periods ranging from five to forty years. We recorded intangible asset amortization totaling \$3.31, \$3.27 and \$2.96 million during fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. See Notes (3) and (4) to these consolidated financial statements for more information about our intangible assets.

(k) Deferred financing costs

The Company has incurred debt issuance costs in connection with its short- and long-term debt. These costs are capitalized as deferred financing costs and amortized using the straight-line method over the term of the related debt, which approximates the effective interest method of amortization.

(l) Warranties

Our products are under warranty against defects in material and workmanship for a maximum of two years. We have established accruals to cover future warranty costs of \$6.94 and \$7.64 million as of fiscal year ends 2009 and 2008, respectively. We estimate our warranty accrual using historical trends and believe that these trends are the most reliable method by which we can estimate our warranty liability. The following table summarizes the activity in the Company s accrual for the past three fiscal years:

## ACCRUAL FOR WARRANTY RETURNS

#### (in thousands)

	Years Ended The Last Day of February,						
	2009		2008		2007		
Balance at the beginning of the period	\$	7,635	\$	6,450	\$	7,373	
Additions to the accrual		16,685		22,722		18,080	

## Explanation of Responses:

Reductions of the accrual - payments and credits issued	(17,380)	(21,537)	(19,003)
Balance at the end of the period	\$ 6,940	\$ 7,635	\$ 6,450

Certain entities whose financial statements are a part of these consolidated financial statements have guaranteed obligations of other entities within the consolidated group. Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Interpretation No. 45, Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others' requires disclosure of these guarantees, our product warranty liabilities and various indemnity arrangements to which we are a party. Additional disclosures related to this policy are contained in Notes (5), (6), (7) and (10) to these consolidated financial statements.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

(m) Financial instruments

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, receivables, accounts payable, accrued expenses and income taxes payable approximate fair value because of the short maturity of these items. See Note (7) to these consolidated financial statements for our assessment of the fair value of our guaranteed senior notes and other long-term debt. We hedge a portion of our foreign exchange rate risk by entering into contracts to exchange foreign currencies for U.S. Dollars at specified rates.

During fiscal 2007, we entered into interest rate swaps (the swaps ), to protect our funding costs against rising interest rates. The interest rate swaps allowed us to raise long-term borrowings at floating rates and effectively swap them into fixed rates. Under our swaps, we agree with another party to exchange quarterly the difference between fixed-rate and floating-rate interest amounts calculated by reference to notional amounts that match the amount of our underlying debt. Under these swap agreements, we pay the fixed rates and receive the floating rates. The swaps settle quarterly and terminate upon maturity of the related debt.

Our foreign exchange contracts and interest rate swaps are considered highly effective under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 133, Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (SFAS 133). See Note (16) to these consolidated financial statements for more information on our hedging activities.

(n) Income taxes and uncertain tax positions

We use the asset and liability method to account for income taxes. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences of temporary differences between the book and tax bases of applicable assets and liabilities. Generally, deferred tax assets represent future income tax reductions while deferred tax liabilities represent income taxes that we expect to pay in the future. We measure deferred tax assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates for the years in which we expect temporary differences to be reversed or be settled. Changes in tax rates affect the carrying values of our deferred tax assets and liabilities. The ultimate realization of our deferred tax assets depends upon generating sufficient future taxable income during the periods in which our temporary differences become deductible or before our net operating loss and tax credit carryforwards expire. The effects of any tax rate changes are recognized in the periods when they become effective.

Effective March 1, 2007, we adopted FASB Interpretation 48, Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes an interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109 (FIN 48). In accordance with FIN 48, we recognize the benefit of a tax position if that position will more likely than not be sustained in an audit, based on the technical merits of the position. If the tax position meets the more likely than not recognition threshold, the tax effect is recognized at the largest amount of the benefit that has greater than a fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. In accordance with FIN 48, liabilities created for unrecognized tax benefits are presented as a separate liability and not combined with deferred tax liabilities or assets, and consistent with past practice, we recognize interest and penalties accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for income taxes.

Note (8) to these consolidated financial statements contains additional information regarding our income taxes and the impacts of the adoption of FIN 48.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

(o) Revenue recognition

Sales are recognized when revenue is realized or realizable and has been earned. Sales and shipping terms vary among our customers, and, as such, revenue is recognized when risk and title to the product transfer to the customer. Net sales is comprised of gross revenues less estimates of expected returns, trade discounts and customer allowances, which include incentives such as cooperative advertising agreements and off-invoice markdowns. Such deductions are recorded and/or amortized during the period the related revenue is recognized. Sales and value added taxes collected from customers and remitted to governmental authorities are excluded from net sales reported in the consolidated financial statements.

(p) Consideration granted to customers

We offer our customers certain incentives in the form of cooperative advertising arrangements, volume rebates, product markdown allowances, trade discounts, cash discounts, slotting fees and similar other arrangements. We account for these incentives in accordance with Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 01-9, Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (EITF 01-9). In instances where the customer provides us with proof of performance, reductions in amounts received from customers as a result of cooperative advertising programs are included in our consolidated statement of operations in SG&A.

Other reductions in amounts received from customers as a result of cooperative advertising programs are recorded as reductions of net sales. Markdown allowances, slotting fees, trade discounts, cash discounts and volume rebates are all recorded as reductions of net sales. Customer incentives included in SG&A were \$11.81, \$12.16 and \$12.57 million for the fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

(q) Advertising

Advertising costs are expensed in the fiscal year in which they are incurred and included in our consolidated statement of operations in SG&A. We incurred advertising costs, including amounts paid to customers for local media and print advertising, of \$22.63, \$30.22 and \$28.68 million during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

(r) Shipping and handling revenues and expenses

Shipping and handling expenses are included in our consolidated statement of operations in SG&A. These expenses include distribution center costs, third party logistics costs and outbound transportation costs. Our expenses for shipping and handling totaled \$49.68, \$51.94 and \$58.86 million during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. We bill our customers for charges for shipping and handling on certain sales made directly to consumers and retail customers ordering relatively small dollar amounts of product. Such charges are recorded as a reduction of our shipping and handling expense and are not material in the aggregate.

(s) Foreign currency transactions and related derivative financial instruments

The U.S. Dollar is our functional currency. All our non-U.S. subsidiaries transactions involving other currencies have been re-measured in U.S. Dollars using average exchange rates for the months in which the transactions occurred. In our consolidated statement of operations, exchange gains and losses resulting from the remeasurement of foreign taxes receivable, taxes payable, deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are recognized in their respective income tax lines and all other foreign exchange gains and losses are recognized in SG&A. We recorded net foreign exchange gains (losses), including the impact of currency hedges, of (\$5.21), \$0.53 and \$0.46 million in SG&A and \$0.62, \$0.22 and \$0.17 million in income tax expense during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

In order to manage our exposure to changes in foreign currency exchange rates, we use forward currency contracts to exchange foreign currencies for U.S. Dollars at specified rates. We account for these transactions as hedges in accordance with SFAS 133, which requires that these forward currency contracts be recorded on the balance sheet at their fair value and that changes in the fair value of the forward exchange contracts are recorded each period in our consolidated statement of operations or other comprehensive income (loss), depending on the type of hedging instrument and the effectiveness of the hedges. In our case, we record these transactions either as part of SG&A in our consolidated statement of shareholders equity and comprehensive (loss), as appropriate. All our current contracts are cash flow hedges and are adjusted to their fair market values at the end of each fiscal quarter. We evaluate all hedging transactions each quarter to determine that they are effective. Any ineffectiveness is recorded as part of SG&A in our consolidated statement of operations. See Note (16) to these consolidated financial statements for a further discussion of our hedging activities.

(t) Share-based compensation plans

Effective March 1, 2006, we adopted the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123R, Share-Based Payment (SFAS 123R). The impact from the adoption of SFAS 123R during fiscal 2007, decreased earnings before taxes, net earnings, basic and diluted earnings per share by \$0.69 million, \$0.50 million, and \$0.02 per share, respectively, for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2007.

SFAS 123R requires all share-based payments to be recognized in the financial statements based on their fair values using an option pricing model at the date of grant. We use a Black-Scholes option-pricing model to calculate the fair value of options. This model requires various judgmental assumptions including volatility, forfeiture rates and expected option life. If any of the assumptions used in the model change significantly, share-based compensation may differ materially in the future from that recorded in the current period. Under SFAS 123R, we estimate forfeitures for options awards at the dates of grant based on historical experience and revise as necessary if actual forfeitures significantly differ from these estimates. Stock-based compensation expense is adjusted for estimated forfeitures and is recognized on a straight-line basis over the requisite service period of the award.

See Note (9) to these consolidated financial statements for more information on our share based compensation plans.

(u) Interest income

Interest income is included in Other income, net on the consolidated statement of operations. Interest income totaled \$2.72, \$3.57 and \$1.97 million in fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Interest income is normally earned on cash invested in short-term accounts, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

(v) Earnings (loss) per share

We compute basic earnings (loss) per share based upon the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. We compute diluted earnings (loss) per share based upon the weighted average number of common shares plus the effects of potentially dilutive securities. Our dilutive securities consist entirely of outstanding options for common shares that were in-the-money, meaning that the exercise price of the options was less than the average market price of our common shares during the year. Out-of-the-money options are outstanding options to purchase common shares that were excluded from the computation of earnings per share because the exercise price of the options was greater than the average market price of our common shares during the year. Options for common shares are excluded from the computation of diluted earnings (loss) per share if their effect is antidilutive.

For fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, the components of basic and diluted shares were as follows:

## WEIGHTED AVERAGE DILUTED SECURITIES

#### (in thousands)

	Years Ended The Last Day of Februar				
	2009	2008	2007		
Basic weighted average shares outstanding Additional shares assuming conversion of in-the-money stock options and	30,173	30,531	30,122		
use of proceeds to repurchase outstanding shares (1)	-	1,267	1,595		
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding assuming conversion	30,173	31,798	31,717		
In-the-money options	2,587	3,914	6,559		
Out-of-the-money options	2,249	1,922	192		

(1) Fiscal 2009 earnings per share computations excludes conversion of in-the-money stock options as the effect of the 846,000 shares would be antidilutive.

(w) New accounting standards adopted

*Liability Recognition on Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements* - In June 2006, the Emerging Issues Task Force of the FASB (EITF) reached a consensus on EITF Issue No. 06-4 (EITF 06-4), Accounting for Deferred Compensation and Postretirement Benefit Aspects of Endorsement Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements, which requires the application of the provisions of SFAS No. 106 (SFAS 106), Employers Accounting for Postretirement Benefits Other Than Pensions to endorsement split-dollar life insurance arrangements (if, in substance, a postretirement benefit plan exists), or Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 12 (if the arrangement is, in substance, an individual deferred compensation contract). SFAS 106 requires recognition of a liability for the discounted value of the future premium benefits that we would incur through the death of the underlying insureds. An endorsement-type arrangement generally exists when the Company owns and controls all incidents of ownership of the underlying policies. We adopted the provisions of EITF 06-4 at the beginning of fiscal 2009. The

Company reviewed an endorsement-type policy agreement it currently maintains and believes that all subject policies fall outside the scope of EITF 06-4 because the agreement will not survive the retirement of the affected employee. Accordingly, the adoption of EITF 06-4 had no impact on our consolidated financial statements.

### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

*Liability Recognition on Collateral Assignment Split-Dollar Life Insurance Arrangements* - In March 2007, the EITF reached a consensus on which provides guidance to help companies determine whether a liability for the postretirement benefit associated with a collateral assignment split-dollar life insurance arrangement should be recorded in accordance with either SFAS 106 (if, in substance, a postretirement benefit plan exists), or Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 12 (if the arrangement is, in substance, an individual deferred compensation contract). EITF 06-10 also provides guidance on how a company should recognize and measure the asset in a collateral assignment split-dollar life insurance contract. We adopted the provisions of EITF 06-10 at the beginning of fiscal 2009. We have certain policies that fall within the scope of the new pronouncement and recorded a cumulative effect adjustment of \$0.66 million as a liability and a charge to retained earnings at adoption.

*Fair Value Measurements* - In September 2006, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 157 Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157). SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements and does not require any new fair value measurements. At the beginning of fiscal 2009, we adopted the provisions of SFAS 157 related to financial assets and liabilities. These provisions, which have been applied prospectively, did not have a material impact on the Company s consolidated financial statements. Certain other provisions of SFAS 157 related to other nonfinancial assets and liabilities will be effective for the Company at the beginning of fiscal 2010, and will be applied prospectively. Examples of nonfinancial assets and liabilities which will be subject to SFAS 157 in fiscal 2010 include such items as goodwill, other intangible and long-lived assets and nonfinancial liabilities initially measured at fair value in a business combination. We believe the adoption of SFAS 157 for our nonfinancial assets and nonfinancial liabilities will result in additional footnote disclosure, but will not result in material adjustments to our consolidated financial statements. See Note (15) for current required disclosures related to SFAS 157.

*Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities* - In February 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 159 The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities Including an Amendment of FASB Statement No. 115 (SFAS 159). SFAS 159 permits entities to choose to measure many financial instruments and certain other items at fair value that are not currently required to be measured at fair value. SFAS 159 also established presentation and disclosure requirements designed to facilitate comparisons that choose different measurement attributes for similar types of assets and liabilities. We adopted the provisions of SFAS 159 at the beginning of fiscal 2009 and did not elect the fair value option established by the standard. As such, the adoption had no impact on our consolidated financial statements.

*Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* - In May 2008, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 162, The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (SFAS 162). SFAS 162 identifies the sources of accounting principles and the framework for selecting the principles used in the preparation of financial statements of nongovernmental entities that are presented in conformity with GAAP (the GAAP hierarchy). We adopted the provisions of SFAS 162 at the beginning of fiscal 2009. The adoption did not have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

#### NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES, CONTINUED

(x) New accounting standards subject to future adoption

Accounting for Business Combinations - In December 2007, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combinations (SFAS No. 141(R)), which establishes the principles and requirements for how an acquirer: (1) recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree; (2) recognizes and measures the goodwill acquired in the business combination or a gain from a bargain purchase; and (3) determines what information to disclose to enable users of the financial statements to evaluate the nature and financial effects of the business combination. SFAS No. 141(R) replaces SFAS No. 141, Business Combinations. SFAS No. 141(R) applies prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008, and will have no impact on our transactions recorded to date.

*Disclosures about Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities* - In March 2008, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 161, Disclosures About Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities (SFAS 161), which amends SFAS 133 and expands disclosures to include information about the fair value of derivatives, related credit risks and a company s strategies and objectives for using derivatives. SFAS 161 is effective for fiscal periods beginning on or after November 15, 2008. We do not expect the adoption of this pronouncement to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

*Useful Lives of Intangible Assets* - In April 2008, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position (FSP) 142-3, Determination of the Useful Life of Intangible Assets (FSP 142-3). FSP FAS 142-3 removes the requirement to consider whether an intangible asset can be renewed without substantial cost of material modifications to the existing terms and conditions and, instead, requires an entity to consider its own historical experience in renewing similar arrangements. FSP FAS 142-3 also requires expanded disclosure related to the determination of intangible asset useful lives. FSP 142-3 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008. We do not expect the adoption of FSP 142-3 to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

*Recognition and Presentation of Other-Than-Temporary Impairments* In April 2009, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position FSP 115-2 and 124-2, Recognition of Other-Than-Temporary Impairments (FSP 115-2 and 124-2). This FSP amends the other-than-temporary impairment guidance in U.S. GAAP for debt securities to make the guidance more operational and to improve the presentation and disclosure of other-than-temporary impairments on debt and equity securities in the financial statements. In addition, the FSP requires that the annual disclosures required by FSP 115-1 and FAS 124-1, The meaning of Other-Than-Temporary Impairment and Its Application to Certain Investments (FSP 115-1 and 124-1), be made for interim periods, including the aging of securities with unrealized losses. This FSP does not amend existing recognition and measurement guidance related to other-than-temporary impairments of equity securities. FSP 115-2 and 124-2 is effective for interim periods and fiscal years ending after June 15, 2009. We do not expect the adoption of FSP 115-2 and 124-2 to have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

*Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly* - In April 2009, the FASB issued FASB Staff Position FSP 157-4, Determining Fair Value When the Volume and Level of Activity for the Asset or Liability Have Significantly Decreased and Identifying Transactions That Are Not Orderly (FSP 157-4). This FSP emphasizes that even if there has been a significant decrease in the volume and level of activity for the asset or liability and regardless of the valuation technique(s) used, the objective of a fair value measurement remains the same, and provides additional guidance on when market level data should not be relied upon or should be adjusted in determining fair value. FSP 157-4 is effective for interim periods and fiscal years ending after June 15, 2009. We do not expect the adoption of this pronouncement to have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

#### **NOTE 2 - PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

A summary of property and equipment is as follows:

## **PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT**

#### (in thousands)

	Estimated Useful Lives		Last Day of	February,		
	(Years)	2	009		2008	
Land	- 5	\$	9,073	\$	9,073	
Buildings and improvements	10 - 40		65,028		62,832	
Computer and other equipment	3 - 10		43,144		42,461	
Molds and tooling	1 - 3		8,880		8,299	
Transportation equipment	3 - 5		340		3,991	
Furniture and fixtures	5 - 15		8,385		8,168	
Construction in process	-		703		1,311	
			135,553		136,135	
Less accumulated depreciation			(51,607)		(44,524)	
Property and equipment, net	5	\$	83,946	\$	91,611	

On May 31, 2006, we sold 3.9 acres of raw land adjacent to our El Paso, Texas office and distribution center. The land was sold for \$0.67 million and we recorded a gain on the sale of \$0.42 million, included in other income in fiscal 2007.

On September 9, 2007, we sold 16.5 acres of raw land adjacent to our El Paso, Texas office and distribution center. The land was sold for \$6.00 million, less selling costs of \$0.39 million and resulted in a pre-tax gain on the sale of \$3.61 million.

On December 20, 2007, we acquired 30.6 acres of raw land adjacent to our Southaven, Mississippi distribution center for a purchase price of \$1.53 million.

In two separate transactions during fiscal 2009, we sold all fractional shares in our corporate jets for a combined \$2.57 million and recognized a combined pre-tax gain of \$0.11 million.

We recorded \$10.29, \$10.40 and \$10.08 million of depreciation expense for fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. Capital expenditures for property and equipment totaled \$5.17, \$7.30 and \$6.63 million in fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

## **NOTE 3 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

We do not record amortization expense on goodwill or other intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives. Amortization expense is recorded for intangible assets with definite useful lives. We perform an annual impairment review of goodwill and other intangible assets during the first quarter of each fiscal year. We also perform interim testing, if necessary, as required by SFAS 142 and 144. Any asset deemed to be impaired is written down to its fair value.

Annual Impairment Testing in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2009 - The Company performed its annual impairment tests of its goodwill and trademarks during the first quarter of fiscal 2009. This resulted in non-cash impairment charges of \$7.76 million (\$7.61 million after tax) on certain intangible assets associated with our Personal Care segment recognized during the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The charges were recorded in the Company s consolidated statement of operations as a component of operating income (loss). The impairment charges reflected the amounts by which the carrying values of the associated assets exceeded their estimated fair values at the time of the analysis. The fair values of the assets were primarily determined using estimated future discounted cash flow models (DCF Models) over five years and a terminal

#### **NOTE 3 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS, CONTINUED**

period. This approach was used for the indefinite-lived trademarks and licenses, the reporting units, and the Company as a whole. The DCF Models use a number of assumptions including expected future cash flows from the assets, volatility, risk free rate, and the expected life of the assets, the determination of which require significant judgments from management. In determining the assumptions to be used, the Company considers, among other things, the existing rates on Treasury Bills, yield spreads on assets with comparable expected lives, historical volatility of the Company s common shares and that of comparable companies and general economic and industry trends. The decline in the fair value of the affected trademarks described above resulted from lower sales expectations on certain lower volume brands as a result of management s strategic decision to reduce advertising and other resources dedicated to those brands, combined with a lower overall expectation of net sales driven by our near-term outlook for the economy and projected declines in consumer retail spending levels.

Additional Impairment Testing in the Fourth Quarter of Fiscal 2009 - As a result of the continued deterioration of economic conditions during the second half of fiscal 2009, the Company evaluated the impact of these conditions and other developments on its reporting units to assess whether impairment indicators were present that would require interim impairment testing. During the latter half of the third quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company s total market capitalization began to decline below the Company s consolidated shareholders equity balance at November 30, 2008. If the Company s total market capitalization remains below its consolidated shareholders equity balance for a sustained period of time, this may be an indicator of potential impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets. Because this condition continued throughout the balance of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company determined that the carrying amount of our goodwill and other intangible assets might not be recoverable and performed additional impairment testing as of February 28, 2009.

The Company s traditional impairment test methodology used primarily DCF Models. The DCF Models use a number of assumptions including expected future cash flows from the assets, volatility, risk free rate, and the expected life of the assets, the determination of which require significant judgments from management. In determining the assumptions to be used, the Company considers the existing rates on Treasury Bills, yield spreads on assets with comparable expect lives, historical volatility of the Company s common shares and that of comparable companies and general economic and industry trends, among other considerations. The Company expanded its traditional impairment test methodology to give weight to other methods that provide additional observable market information and which management believes reflect the current risk level being incorporated into market prices, in order to corroborate the fair values of each of the Company s reporting units. The additional methods included the Subject Company Stock Price Method, the Guideline Public Company Method, and the Mergers and Acquisitions Method (together, the Market Models ). The Subject Company Stock Price Method uses the same revenue and earnings valuation multiples embedded in the Company s common share price, including an appropriate control premium, as a basis for estimating the separate values of each of the Company s reporting units. The Guideline Public Company Method uses a composite of revenue and earnings multiples derived as of the valuation date from a group of publicly traded companies that are in similar lines of business and serving similar distribution channels as a basis for estimating the separate values, including appropriate control premiums for each of the Company s reporting units. The Mergers and Acquisitions Method uses the revenue and earnings multiples embedded in a group of representative business acquisition transactions, to the extent that comparable transactions are available, as a basis for estimating the separate values of each of the Company s reporting units. For each of the methods used, considerable management judgment is necessary in reaching a conclusion regarding the reasonableness of fair value estimates, evaluating the most likely impact of a range of possible external conditions, considering the resulting operating changes and their impact on estimated future cash flows, determining the appropriate discount factors to use, and selecting and weighting appropriate comparable market level inputs.

The impairment testing for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 was performed using an updated outlook for the Company s reporting units completed in connection with its annual planning process. This outlook included downward adjustments to certain future expected revenues and increases in the market participant discount rates, when compared to the projections and discount rates upon which our annual impairment tests were prepared during the first fiscal quarter of 2009. The Company decreased its expected revenues in response to the reduction in consumer spending during the second half of fiscal 2009 and its expectation that depressed spending levels would persist into fiscal 2010. Additionally, the Company increased the market participant discount rates used in its analysis because management believes that the

#### **NOTE 3 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS, CONTINUED**

lending market and the restrained liquidity in the current environment have increased the cost of capital. In determining the extent to which to change its assumptions, management considered consumer spending trends and the anticipated impact on each reporting unit as well as the market cost of capital for comparable companies for each reporting unit. This resulted in a total non-cash impairment charge of \$99.51 million (\$99.06 million after tax) in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009. This consisted of non-cash pre-tax impairment charges of \$46.49 million against goodwill and \$2.75 million against a trademark in our Personal Care segment s Appliances and Accessories reporting unit and \$50.27 million against certain trademarks and an indefinite-lived license held by our Grooming, Skin Care and Hair Care Solutions reporting unit. The impairment for these reporting units was due to a decrease in the fair value of forecasted cash flows, and other market conditions reflecting the continued deterioration of the domestic and global economies and the declines in retail sales activity. No impairment charges were required for our Housewares segment as this reporting unit s estimated fair value of total net assets including recorded goodwill, trademarks and other intangible assets, exceeded their carrying values as of the date of the evaluation.

Annual Impairment Testing in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2008 - The Company performed its annual impairment tests of its goodwill and trademarks during the first quarter of fiscal 2008. No impairment charge was recorded during the first quarter of fiscal 2008 as the estimated fair value of the indefinite-lived trademarks and licenses, reporting unit net assets, and the Company s estimated enterprise value exceeded their respective carrying values as of the date of the evaluation.

Additional Impairment Testing in the Third Quarter of Fiscal 2008 - In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we re-introduced the newly formulated Epil-Stop® product line. During the second and third quarters of fiscal 2008, our Epil-Stop® brand of hair depilatory products lost placement in certain mass discount and drug channels due to low consumer response. We experienced a high rate of customer sales returns for the product line. In response to these circumstances, in the third quarter of fiscal 2008, we conducted a strategic review of the Epil-Stop® trademark. We also evaluated the future potential of our TimeBlock® brand in light of our recent experience with Epil-Stop®. From these reviews, we concluded that the future undiscounted cash flows associated with these trademarks were insufficient to recover their carrying values. We also believed that any significant additional investments in these brands would not generate potential returns in line with the Company s investment expectations. Accordingly, we recorded pre-tax impairment charges totaling \$4.98 million (\$4.88 million after tax) representing the carrying value of these trademarks. We continue to hold these trademarks for use.

Annual Impairment Testing in the First Quarter of Fiscal 2007 - The Company performed its annual impairment tests of its goodwill and trademarks during the first quarter of fiscal 2007. No impairment charge was recorded during the first quarter of fiscal 2007 as the estimated fair value of the indefinite-lived trademarks and licenses, reporting unit net assets, and the Company s estimated enterprise value exceeded their respective carrying values as of the date of the evaluation.

#### NOTE 3 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS, CONTINUED

The following tables summarize by operating segment the changes in our intangible assets for fiscal years 2009 and 2008:

# **INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

(in thousands)

		Estimated	Carr Amou	ving nt at Year Ended February 28, 2009					• /		• /		• /			Accumulated	Net Book Value at February 28,
Type / Description	Segment	Life	200	)8	Ad	ditions	Imp	airments	Adjust	ments	Amortization	2009					
Goodwill:																	
OXO	Housewares Personal	Indefinite	\$ 1	66,131	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 166,131					
All other goodwill	Care	Indefinite		46,791 212,922		-		(46,490) (46,490)		(301) (301)	-	- 166,131					
			2	212,922		-		(40,490)		(301)	-	100,131					
Trademarks: OXO	Housewares	Indefinite		75,554								75,554					
0A0	Personal			15,554		-		-		-	-	75,554					
Brut All other - definite	Care Personal	Indefinite		51,317		-		(33,917)		-	-	17,400					
lives	Care	[1]		338		-		-		-	(240)	98					
All other - indefinite	Personal	Indefinite		24.049		2 275		(10.049)				10 175					
lives	Care	Indefinite		34,948 62,157		2,275 2,275		(19,048) (52,965)		-	(240)	18,175 111,227					
Licenses:																	
Licenses.	Personal																
Seabreeze	Care Personal	Indefinite		18,000		-		(7,700)		-	-	10,300					
All other licenses	Care	8 - 25 Years		24,315		-		(119)		-	(18,479)	5,717					
				42,315		-		(7,819)		-	(18,479)	16,017					
Other: Patents, customer lists																	
and non-compete agreements	Housewares	2 - 14 Years		19,741		588		-		-	(7,627)	12,702					
	Personal	3 - 15 Years		2 225		2 454					(075)	2 714					
	Care	5 - 15 Years		2,235 21,976		2,454 3,042		-		-	(975) (8,602)	3,714 16,416					
Total			\$ 4	139,370	\$	5,317	\$	(107,274)	\$	(301)	\$ (27,321)	\$ 309,791					

[1] Includes one fully amortized trademark and one trademark with an estimated life of 30 years.

# **INTANGIBLE ASSETS**

(in thousands)

			C	Gross arrying nount at		Year En	ded 1	February 29, 2(	008		Net Book Value at
Type / Description	Segment	Estimated Life	Feb	ruary 28, 2007	A	dditions	In	npairments	Acquisition Adjustments	Accumulated Amortization	February 29, 2008
Goodwill:											
OXO	Housewares Personal	Indefinite	\$	165,934	\$	197	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 166,131
All other goodwill	Care	Indefinite		35,068		11,296		-	427	-	46,791
				201,002		11,493		-	427	-	212,922
Trademarks:											
OXO	Housewares Personal	Indefinite		75,554		-		-	-	-	75,554
Brut	Care	Indefinite		51,317		-		-	-	-	51,317
All other - definite lives	Personal Care	[1]		338						(225)	103
All other - indefinite	Personal	[1]		338		-		-	-	(235)	105
lives	Care	Indefinite		31,082		8,849		(4,983)	-	-	34,948
				158,291		8,849		(4,983)	-	(235)	161,922
Licenses:	Personal										
Seabreeze	Care	Indefinite		18,000		-		_	-	-	18,000
	Personal										
All other licenses	Care	8 - 25 Years		24,315		-		-	-	(17,343)	6,972
				42,315		-		-	-	(17,343)	24,972
Other: Patents, customer lists											
and non-compete											
agreements	Housewares Personal	2 - 14 Years		19,214		527		-	-	(6,063)	13,678
	Care	3 - 8 Years		-		2,235		-	-	(369)	1,866
				19,214		2,762		-	-	(6,432)	15,544
Total			\$	420,822	\$	23,104	\$	(4,983)	\$ 427	\$ (24,010)	\$ 415,360

[1] Includes one fully amortized trademark and one trademark with an estimated life of 30 years.

#### NOTE 3 - INTANGIBLE ASSETS, CONTINUED

The following table summarizes the amortization expense attributable to intangible assets for the fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, as well as estimated amortization expense for the fiscal years 2010 through 2014:

## AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS

#### (in thousands)

### Aggregate Amortization Expense For the fiscal years ended

February 28, 2009	\$ 3,311
February 29, 2008	\$ 3,266
February 28, 2007	\$ 2,961
Estimated Amortization Expense For the fiscal years ended	
February 2010	\$ 3,454
February 2011	\$ 2,815
February 2012	\$ 2,702
February 2013	\$ 2,464
February 2014	\$ 2,132

Many of the license agreements under which we sell or intend to sell products with trademarks owned by other entities require that we pay minimum royalties and make minimum levels of advertising expenditures. For the fiscal year ending February 28, 2010, minimum royalties due and minimum advertising expenditures under these license agreements total \$7.09 and \$5.86 million, respectively.

### NOTE 4 - ACQUISITIONS AND NEW TRADEMARK LICENSE AGREEMENTS

*Ogilvie Products Acquisition* - On October 10, 2008, we acquired from Ascendia Brands, Inc. the trademarks, customer lists, distribution rights, formulas and inventory of the Ogilvie® brand of home permanent and hair-straightening products for a cash purchase price of \$4.77 million. In addition, upon acquisition, we recorded an additional \$0.35 million of liabilities that we expect we will incur as a result of pre-acquisition operations. The products acquired will be sold through our Personal Care segment. We completed an analysis of the economic lives of all the assets acquired and determined the appropriate allocation of the initial purchase price based upon the fair value of the assets acquired. Based upon the fair values, we assigned the acquired trademarks indefinite economic lives and will amortize the distribution rights over an expected life of 15 years and the customer list over an expected life of 4.2 years. The following schedule presents the assets acquired at closing and our allocation of the initial purchase price:

## Ogilvie® - Brand Assets Acquired on October 10, 2008

#### (in thousands)

\$ 521
2,275
761
1,560
5,117
(352)
\$ 4,765
\$ \$

*Belson Products Acquisition* - Effective May 1, 2007, we acquired certain assets of Belson Products (Belson), formerly the professional salon division of Applica Consumer Products, Inc. for a cash purchase price of \$36.5 million plus the assumption of certain liabilities. This transaction was accounted for as a purchase of a business and was paid for using available cash on hand. Belson is a supplier of personal care products to the professional salon industry. Belson markets its professional products to major beauty suppliers and other major distributors under brand names including Belson®, Belson Pro®, Gold NHot®, Curlmaster®, Premiere®, Profiles®, Comare®, Mega Hot® and Shear Technology®. Products include electrical hair care appliances, spa products and accessories, professional brushes and combs, and professional styling shears. Belson products are principally distributed throughout the U.S., as well as Canada and the United Kingdom.

Net assets acquired consist principally of accounts receivable, finished goods inventories, goodwill, patents, trademarks, tradenames, product design specifications, production know-how, certain fixed assets, distribution rights, a customer list, a covenant not-to-compete, less certain customer related operating accruals and liabilities. We have completed our analysis of the economic lives of all the assets acquired and determined the appropriate allocation of the initial purchase price based on an independent appraisal. The following schedule presents the net assets of Belson acquired at closing:

## Belson Products - Net Assets Acquired on May 1, 2007

#### (in thousands)

Accounts receivable, net	\$ 7,449
Inventories	8,426
Fixed assets	139

Goodwill	11,296
Trademarks and other intangible assets	11,085
Total assets acquired	38,395
Less: Current liabilities assumed	(1,895)
Net assets acquired	\$ 36,500

Subsequent to the acquisition, we made certain post closing adjustments to increase goodwill by \$0.13 million.

See Note (20) for additional information regarding the acquisition of the Infusium 23® line of hair care products from The Procter & Gamble Company subsequent to February 28, 2009.

#### NOTE 5 SHORT-TERM DEBT

We entered into a five year revolving credit agreement (Revolving Line of Credit Agreement), dated as of June 1, 2004, between Helen of Troy L.P., as borrower, and Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders. On December 15, 2008, we entered into the Fourth Amendment to the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement (the Amendment), which among other things, extended the term of the agreement to December 15, 2013, and modified other terms and covenants as further discussed below.

Borrowings under the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement accrue interest at a Base Rate plus a margin of 0.25 to 0.75 percent based on the Leverage Ratio at the time of borrowing. The base rate is equal to the highest of the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.50 percent, Bank of America s prime rate, or the one month LIBOR rate plus 1 percent. Alternatively, upon timely election by the Company, borrowings accrue interest based on the respective 1, 2, 3, or 6-month LIBOR rate plus a margin of 1.25 percent to 1.75 percent based upon the Leverage Ratio at the time of the borrowing. The Leverage Ratio is defined by the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement as the ratio of total consolidated indebtedness (including the subject funding on such dates) less unrestricted cash on hand in excess of \$15 million to consolidated EBITDA (earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization) for the period of the four consecutive fiscal quarters most recently ended. The credit line allows for the issuance of letters of credit up to \$10 million. We incur loan commitment fees at a current rate of 0.25 percent per annum on the unused balance of the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement and letter of credit fees at a current rate of 1.5 percent per annum on the face value of the letter of credit. During the second quarter of fiscal 2008, we permanently reduced the commitment fees under the facility. Outstanding letters of credit reduce the borrowing limit dollar for dollar. We did not draw on the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement during fiscal 2009 or 2008. As of February 28, 2009, there were no revolving loans and \$1.52 million of open letters of credit outstanding against this facility.

The Amendment modified the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement as follows:

- (1) Extended the maturity date as defined in the Revolving Line of Credit Agreement from June 1, 2009 to December 15, 2013;
- (2) Increased the margin for the Eurodollar rate loans from a range of 0.75 to 1.25 percent per annum to a range of 1.25 to 1.75 percent per annum (depending on our leverage ratio);
- (3) Increased the margin for the base rate loans from zero to a range of 0.25 to 0.75 percent per annum (depending on our leverage ratio); and
- (4) Modified the leverage ratio, the consolidated net worth ratio, removed a fixed charge coverage ratio, and added a new interest coverage ratio, as well as a capital expenditure covenant.

Under the amended Revolving Line of Credit Agreement, certain covenants as of the latest balance sheet date limit our total outstanding indebtedness from all sources less unrestricted cash on hand in excess of \$15 million to no more than 3.0 times the latest twelve months trailing EBITDA. As of February 28, 2009, our loan covenants effectively limited our ability to incur more than \$127.16 million of additional debt from all sources, including draws on our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement. The agreement is guaranteed, on a joint and several basis, by the parent company, Helen of Troy Limited, and certain subsidiaries. Additionally, our debt agreements restrict us from incurring liens on any of our properties, except under certain conditions and in some circumstances could limit our ability to repurchase shares of our common stock. As of February 28, 2009, we were in compliance with the terms of this agreement.

#### NOTE 6 ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

A summary of other accrued expenses and other current liabilities as of the last day of fiscal years 2009 and 2008 is as follows:

## ACCRUED EXPENSES AND OTHER CURRENT LIABILITIES

## (in thousands)

	Last Day of February,				
		2009		2008	
Accrued sales returns, discounts and allowances	\$	21,235	\$	24,969	
Accrued compensation		4,487		11,675	
Accrued advertising		5,606		6,917	
Accrued interest		2,140		2,092	
Accrued royalties		3,513		3,029	
Accrued professional fees		1,053		1,273	
Accrued benefits and payroll taxes		1,455		1,431	
Accrued freight		912		1,446	
Accrued property, sales and other taxes		660		1,196	
Foreign currency contracts		(819)		(83)	
Interest rate swaps		13,870		12,449	
Other		6,183		7,303	
Total accrued expenses and current liabilities	\$	60,295	\$	73,697	

## NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT

A summary of long-term debt as of the last day of fiscal years 2009 and 2008 is as follows:

## LONG-TERM DEBT

#### (dollars in thousands)

	Original Date Interest			Last Day of February,				
	Borrowed	Rates	Matures		2009		2008	
\$15 million unsecured Senior Note Payable at a fixed interest rate of 7.24%. Interest payable quarterly, principal of \$3 million payable annually beginning July 2008.	07/97	7.24%	07/12	\$	12,000	\$	15,000	
\$75 million unsecured floating interest rate 5 Year Senior Notes. Interest set and payable quarterly at three-month LIBOR plus 85 basis points. Principal is due at maturity. Notes can be prepaid without penalty. (1)	06/04	5.89%	06/09		75,000		75,000	

\$50 million unsecured floating interest rate 7 Year Senior Notes. Interest set and payable quarterly at three-month LIBOR plus 85 basis points. Principal is due at maturity. Notes can be prepaid without penalty. (1)	06/04	5.89%	06/11	50,000	50,000
\$75 million unsecured floating interest rate 10 Year Senior Notes. Interest set and payable quarterly at three-month LIBOR plus 90 basis points. Principal is due at maturity. Notes can be prepaid without penalty.					
(1)	06/04	6.01%	06/14	75,000	75,000
Total long-term debt				212,000	215,000
Less current portion of long-term debt				(78,000)	(3,000)
Long-term debt, less current portion				\$ 134,000	\$ 212,000

(1) Floating interest rates are hedged with interest rate swaps to effectively fix interest rates as discussed later in this Note (7).

#### NOTE 7 - LONG-TERM DEBT, CONTINUED

The fair market value of the fixed rate debt at February 28, 2009 computed using a discounted cash flow analysis was \$12.44 million compared to the \$12 million book value. All other long-term debt has floating interest rates, and its book value approximates its fair value at February 28, 2009.

Interest rate hedge agreements (the swaps ) are in place for our floating interest rate \$75 million, 5 year; \$50 million, 7 year; and \$75 million, 10 year Senior Notes (the Senior Notes ). The swaps are a hedge of the variable LIBOR rates used to reset the floating rates on these Senior Notes. The swaps effectively fix the interest rates on the 5, 7 and 10 Year Senior Notes at 5.89, 5.89 and 6.01 percent, respectively. Under the swaps, we agree with other parties to exchange quarterly the difference between fixed-rate and floating-rate interest amounts calculated by reference to notional amounts that perfectly match our underlying debt. Under these swaps, we pay the fixed rates and receive the floating rates. The swaps settle quarterly and terminate upon maturity of the related debt. The swaps are considered cash flow hedges because they are intended to hedge, and are effective as a hedge, against variable cash flows.

All of our long-term debt is guaranteed by the parent company, Helen of Troy Limited, and/or certain subsidiaries on a joint and several basis. The debt requires the maintenance of certain Debt/EBITDA ratios and fixed charge coverage ratios, specifies minimum consolidated net worth levels and contains other customary covenants. As of February 28, 2009, our loan agreements effectively limited our ability to incur more than \$127.16 million of additional debt from all sources, including draws on our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement. Additionally, our long-term debt agreements restrict us from incurring liens on any of our properties, except under certain conditions. As of February 28, 2009, we were in compliance with the terms of these agreements.

The following table contains a summary of the components of our interest expense for the periods covered by our consolidated statements of operations:

## **INTEREST EXPENSE**

#### (in thousands)

	Years Ended The Last Day of February,								
	2009			2008		2007			
Interest and commitment fees	\$	8,888	\$	14,633	\$	17,388			
Deferred finance costs		582		628		811			
Interest rate swap settlements, net		4,217		(355)		(287)			
Reduction of debt and revolving credit agreement commitment		-		119		-			
Total interest expense	\$	13,687	\$	15,025	\$	17,912			

The line entitled Reduction of debt and revolving credit agreement commitment includes the fiscal 2008 write off of \$0.28 million of unamortized deferred finance fees incurred in connection with the prepayment of long-term debt and the reduction of the commitments under our Revolving Line of Credit Agreement, offset by a gain of \$0.16 million upon the liquidation of our position in \$25 million of associated interest rate swaps.

## NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES

Our components of earnings (loss) before income tax expense are as follows:

	Years Ended Last Day of February, (in thousands)					
		2009		2008		2007
U.S.	\$	(15,267)	\$	17,986	\$	9,298
Non-U.S.		(36,198)		43,287		45,849
Total	\$	(51,465)	\$	61,273	\$	55,147

Our components of income tax expense (benefit) are as follows:

	Years Ended Last Day of February, (in thousands) 2009 2008 2007					2007
U.S. Current Deferred	\$	964 2,140 3,104	\$	6,459 (619) 5,840	\$	3,910 (296) 3,614
Non-U.S. Current Deferred Total	\$	1,891 333 2,224 5,328	\$	(6,026) (50) (6,076) (236)	\$	1,589 (143) 1,446 5,060

Our total income tax expense differs from the amounts computed by applying the statutory tax rate to earnings before income taxes. A summary of these differences are as follows:

	Years End 2009	led Last Day of February 2008	, 2007
Expected tax expense (benefit) at the U.S. statutory rate of 35 percent	-35.0%	35.0%	35.0%
Impact of U.S. state income taxes	1.4%	1.5%	0.7%
Decrease in income taxes resulting from income from non-U.S. operations subject to varying income tax rates	-15.1%	-7.9%	-11.2%
Effect of zero tax rate in Macau	-11.8%	-13.7%	-15.3%
Reversal of prior accruals as a result of final tax audit settlements	-0.9%	-15.3%	-

Effect of impairment charges, most of which are non-deductible	71.8%	-	-
Actual tax expense (effective rates)	10.4%	-0.4%	9.2%

In addition to certain of the items noted in the previous table, each year there are significant transactions or events that are incidental to our core businesses and that by a combination of their nature and jurisdiction, can have a disproportionate impact on our reported effective tax rates. Without these transactions or events, the trend in our effective tax rates would follow a more normalized pattern.

## NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES, CONTINUED

The following table shows the comparative impact of these items on our pre-tax earnings (loss), tax expense and effective tax rates, for each of the years covered by this report:

# IMPACT OF SIGNIFICANT ITEMS ON PRETAX EARNINGS, TAX EXPENSE AND EFFECTIVE TAX RATES

#### (dollars in thousands)

	2009 -	Increase (Dec	erease)		ed Last Day of Increase (Dec		2007 -	Increase (Dec	crease)
	Pre-tax	Tax	Effective Tax	Pre-tax	Tax	Effective Tax	Pre-tax	Tax	Effective Tax
	Earnings	Expense	Rates	Earnings	Expense	Rates	Earnings	Expense	Rates
Tax benefit from HK IRD Settlement, including interest income and reversal of penalties	-	-		-	(7,950)	-12.7%	-	(192)	-1.1%
Tax benefit from IRS settlement, including interest and penalties	-	(461)	-0.9%	-	(1,363)	-2.2%		-	-
Net operating loss valuation allowance	-	-	-	-	977	1.6%	-	-	-
Impairment charges	(107,274)	(608)	26.9%	(4,983)	(100)	-0.2%	-	-	-
Gains on sale of land	-	-	-	3,609	1,364	2.2%	422	143	0.8%
Gains on litigation settlements	-	-	-	104	2	0.0%	450	9	0.1%
Charge to allowance for doubtful accounts due to customer bankruptcy	(3,876)	(1,360)	-1.6%	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gains on casualty insurance settlements	2,702	67	-0.5%	-	-	-	-	-	-

The combined net effect of the significant items shown above was to increase our effective tax rate by 23.9 percent in fiscal 2009, and decrease our effective tax rates by 11.3 percent and 0.2 percent in fiscal years 2008 and 2007, respectively.

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and liabilities as of the last day of February 2009 and 2008 are as follows:

Last Day of February, (in thousands)

	2009	2008
Deferred tax assets:		
Net operating loss carryforwards	\$ 4,599	\$ 6,018
Accounts receivable	517	1,807
Inventories, principally due to additional cost of inventories for tax purposes	8,934	7,827
Write down of marketable securities	10	7
Accrued expenses and other	5,327	5,835
Foreign currency contracts and interest rate swaps	5,378	4,290
Total gross deferred tax assets	24,765	25,784
Valuation allowance	(4,458)	(2,960)
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Depreciation and amortization	(5,679)	(6,815)
Net deferred tax asset	\$ 14,628	\$ 16,009

In assessing the realizability of deferred tax assets, we consider whether it is more likely than not that some portion of 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. We

#### **NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES, CONTINUED**

consider the scheduled reversal of deferred tax liabilities, expected future taxable income and tax planning strategies in making this assessment. In fiscal 2009, the net increase in our valuation allowance was \$1.50 million, principally due to additional net operating loss carryforwards in certain tax jurisdictions whose benefits we believe we will not be able to utilize. The schedule below shows the composition of our net operating loss carryforwards and the approximate future taxable income we will need to generate in order to utilize all carryforwards prior to their expiration.

	Expiration Date Range (Where Applicable)	(in the C Defe	ary 28, 2009 <i>pusands)</i> Gross rred Tax .ssets	Required ure Taxable Income
U.S. net operating loss carryforwards Non-U.S. net operating loss carryforwards with definite	2019 - 2029	\$	319	\$ 910
carryover periods Non-U.S. net operating loss carryforwards with	2018		257	920
indefinite carryover periods Subtotals	Indefinite		4,023 4,599	13,086 14,916
Less portion of valuation allowance established for net operating loss carryforwards Total		\$	(3,931) 668	\$ (12,755) 2,161

As of February 28, 2009, subject to the valuation allowances provided, we believe it is more likely than not that we will realize the benefits of these deductible differences. Any future amount of deferred tax assets considered realizable, however, could be reduced in the near term if estimates of future taxable income during any carryforward periods are reduced.

*Hong Kong Income Taxes* On May 10, 2006, the Inland Revenue Department (the IRD) of Hong Kong and the Company reached a settlement regarding tax liabilities for the fiscal years 1995 through 1997. This agreement was subsequently approved by the IRD s Board of Review. For those tax years, we agreed to an assessment of approximately \$4.02 million including estimated penalties and interest. As a result of this tax settlement, in the first quarter of fiscal 2007, we reversed \$0.19 million of tax provision previously established and recorded \$0.28 million of associated interest. During the second quarter of fiscal 2007, the liability was paid with \$3.28 million of tax reserve certificates and the balance in cash. Tax reserve certificates represent the prepayment by a taxpayer of potential tax liabilities. The amounts paid for such certificates are refundable in the event that the value of the tax reserve certificates exceeds the related tax liability.

For the fiscal years 1998 through 2003, the IRD had previously assessed a total of \$25.46 million in tax on certain profits of our foreign subsidiaries. In connection with the IRD s tax assessment for the fiscal years 1998 through 2003, we had purchased tax reserve certificates from Hong Kong totaling \$25.14 million.

#### **NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES, CONTINUED**

On August 24, 2007, the IRD and the Company reached a settlement regarding tax liabilities for fiscal years 1998 through 2003. Concurrent with these settlement negotiations, we reached an agreement regarding fiscal years 2004 and 2005, for which we had not previously been assessed a tax liability. The amounts due related to the tax settlement for years 1998 through 2003, and the agreement for years 2004 and 2005, were settled with previously acquired tax reserve certificates. We received a cash refund, including interest, of \$4.54 million. During the second quarter of fiscal 2008, in connection with the settlement, we:

• reversed \$5.41 million representing a portion of the tax provision previously established for those years and recorded \$0.20 million of interest income related to tax reserve certificates in excess of the settlement amount; and

• reversed \$1.94 million of a tax provision and \$0.40 million of estimated penalties established for this jurisdiction for future years ending after fiscal 2005, on the basis of the settlement for previous years.

Effective March 2005, we had concluded the conduct of all operating activities in Hong Kong that we believe were the basis of the IRD s assessments. The Company established a Macao offshore company (MOC) and began similar activities in Macao and China in the third quarter of fiscal 2005. As a MOC, we have been granted an indefinite tax holiday and pay no taxes.

*United States Income Taxes* - We previously disclosed that the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (the IRS) provided notice of proposed adjustments of \$5.95 million to taxes for fiscal years 2003 and 2004. In April 2008, we resolved all outstanding tax issues, which resulted in no adjustments to either year. As a result of the settlement, in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, we reversed \$3.68 million of tax provisions, including interest and penalties, previously established for those years. Of the \$3.68 million, \$1.36 million was credited to fiscal year 2008 tax expense and \$2.32 million was credited to additional paid-in-capital. The amount credited to additional paid-in-capital was for the tax effects of prior year common share-based compensation expense that was deemed to be deductible under the audit, and when originally accrued, was charged against additional paid-in-capital.

During fiscal 2009, the IRS completed its audit of our U.S. consolidated federal tax return for fiscal year 2005. As a result of its audit, the IRS proposed adjustments totaling \$8.63 million to taxes. In December 2008, the Company and the IRS reached a settlement agreement. As a result of the settlement, we agreed to adjustments totaling \$0.49 million to fiscal 2005 taxes and interest and reversed \$5.20 million of tax provisions, including interest and penalties previously established for fiscal 2005 and other years on the basis of the terms of the settlement. Of the \$5.20 million, \$0.57 million was credited to fiscal year 2009 tax expense and \$4.63 million was credited to additional paid-in-capital. The amount credited to additional paid-in-capital was for the tax effects of prior year stock compensation expense that was deemed to be deductible under the audit, and when originally accrued, was charged against additional paid-in-capital.

*Income Tax Provisions* - We must make certain estimates and judgments in determining income tax expense for financial statement purposes. These estimates and judgments must be used in the calculation of certain tax assets and liabilities because of differences in the timing of recognition of revenue and expense for tax and financial statement purposes. We must assess the likelihood that we will be able to recover our deferred tax assets. If recovery is not likely, we must increase our provision for taxes by recording a valuation allowance against the deferred tax assets that we estimate will not ultimately be recoverable. As changes occur in our assessments regarding our ability to recover our deferred tax assets, our tax provision is increased in any period in which we determine that the recovery is not probable.

In 1994, we engaged in a corporate restructuring that, among other things, resulted in a greater portion of our income not being subject to taxation in the U.S. If such income were subject to U.S. federal income taxes, our effective income tax rate would increase materially. The American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 (the AJCA) included an anti-inversion provision that denies certain tax benefits to companies that have reincorporated outside the U.S. after March 4, 2003. We completed our reincorporation in 1994; therefore, our transaction is grandfathered by the AJCA, and we expect to continue to benefit from our current structure. As a result of future changes in tax laws or regulations, our position on various tax matters may be challenged. Our ability to maintain our position that the parent company is not a Controlled

#### **NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES, CONTINUED**

Foreign Corporation (as defined under the U.S. Internal Revenue Code) is critical to the tax treatment of our non-U.S. earnings. A Controlled Foreign Corporation is a non-U.S. corporation whose largest U.S. shareholders (i.e., those owning 10 percent or more of its shares) together own more than 50 percent of the shares in such corporation. If a change of ownership were to occur such that the parent company became a Controlled Foreign Corporation, such a change could have a material negative effect on the largest U.S. shareholders and, in turn, on our business.

*Uncertainty in Income Taxes* The calculation of our tax liabilities involves dealing with uncertainties in the application of complex tax regulations. We recognize liabilities for anticipated tax audit issues in the U.S. and other tax jurisdictions based on our estimate of whether, and the extent to which, additional taxes will be due. If we ultimately determine that payment of these amounts is not probable, we reverse the liability and recognize a tax benefit during the period in which we determine that the liability is no longer probable. We record an additional charge in our provision for taxes in the period in which we determine that the recorded tax liability is less than we expect the ultimate assessment to be.

Effective March 1, 2007, we adopted FIN 48, which provides guidance for the recognition, derecognition and measurement in financial statements of tax positions taken in previously filed tax returns or tax positions expected to be taken in tax returns. FIN 48 requires an entity to recognize the financial statement impact of a tax position when it is more likely than not that the position will be sustained upon examination. If the tax position meets the more likely than not recognition threshold, the tax effect is recognized at the largest amount of the benefit that has greater than a fifty percent likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. FIN 48 also provides guidance for classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods, disclosure, and transition. FIN 48 requires that a liability created for unrecognized tax benefits be presented as a separate liability and not combined with deferred tax liabilities or assets.

Upon adopting FIN 48, we initially recorded a \$12.06 million increase in the liability for unrecognized tax benefits (including interest and penalties), and corresponding reductions to retained earnings and additional paid-in-capital in the amounts of \$5.91 and \$6.14 million, respectively. Amounts charged against additional paid-in-capital were due to the tax effect of stock compensation expense that were originally recorded as an increase to paid-in-capital.

Upon adoption of FIN 48, we had approximately \$39.39 million of total gross unrecognized tax benefits, of which approximately \$32.91 million would impact the effective tax rate, if recognized. With the adoption of FIN 48, we recognize interest and penalties accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in the provision for income taxes. Included in our total gross unrecognized tax benefits we had approximately \$4.78 million accrued for penalties and \$0.31 million accrued for interest, net of tax benefits.

We file income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various states and foreign jurisdictions. As of February 28, 2009, tax years under examination or still subject to examination by major tax jurisdictions, for our most significant subsidiaries were as follows:

Jurisdiction	Examinations in Process		Open Years	5
Hong Kong	- None -	2006	-	2009
Mexico	- None -	2003	-	2008
United Kingdom	- None -	2006	-	2009

United States - None - 2000 - 2009	United States	- None -	2006	-	2009
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#### **NOTE 8 - INCOME TAXES, CONTINUED**

During fiscal 2009 and 2008, changes in the total amount of unrecognized tax benefits were as follows:

## UNRECOGNIZED TAX BENEFITS

(in thousands)

	Fiscal Years Ended 2009 200			ed 2008
Unrecognized tax benefits balance at the beginning of the year	\$	9,181	\$	39,387
Tax positions taken during the current year		-		1,427
Changes in tax positions taken during a prior year		231		564
Impact of foreign currency remeasurement on unrecognized tax benefits in the current year		(825)		43
Changes due to settlements and agreements with tax authorities		(5,684)		(32,240)
Unrecognized tax benefits balance at the end of the year	\$	2,903	\$	9,181

When there is uncertainty in a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return, FIN 48 requires a liability to be recorded for the amount of the position that could be challenged and overturned through any combination of audit, appeals or litigation processes. This amount is determined through criteria and a methodology prescribed by FIN 48 and is referred to as an unrecognized tax benefit.

We do not expect any material changes to our existing unrecognized tax benefits during the next twelve months resulting from any issues currently pending with tax authorities.

#### NOTE 9 SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS

We have equity awards outstanding under two expired share-based compensation plans. The expired plans consist of an employee stock option and restricted stock plan adopted in 1998 (the 1998 Plan ) and a non-employee director stock option plan adopted in 1995 (the 1995 Directors Plan ). During fiscal 2008, an employee stock purchase plan adopted in 1998 (the 1998 Stock Purchase Plan ) expired and the last stock options outstanding under a stock option and restricted stock plan adopted in 1994 were exercised. Therefore, these plans are no longer in effect.

On August 19, 2008, at our Annual General Meeting of the Shareholders, our shareholders approved three new share based compensation plans. The new plans consist of the Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Stock Incentive Plan, an employee stock option and restricted stock plan (the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan), the Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Non-Employee Directors Stock Incentive Plan, a non-employee director restricted stock plan (the 2008 Directors Plan), and the Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the 2008 Stock Purchase Plan). These plans are described below. The plans are administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, which consists of non-employee directors who are independent under the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards.

#### **Expired Plans**

The 1998 Plan covered a total of 6,750,000 common shares for issuance to key officers and employees. The 1998 Plan provided for the grant of options to purchase our common shares at a price equal to or greater than the fair market value on the grant date. The 1998 Plan contained provisions for incentive stock options, non-qualified stock options and restricted share grants. Generally, options granted under the 1998 Plan become exercisable immediately or over one-, four-, or five-year vesting periods and expire on dates ranging from seven to ten years from the date of grant. The 1998 Plan expired by its terms on August 25, 2008. As of February 28, 2009, 4,603,576 common shares subject to options were outstanding under the plan.

The 1995 Directors Plan covered a total of 980,000 common shares for issuance to non-employee members of the Board of Directors. We granted options under the 1995 Directors Plan at a price equal to the fair market value of our common shares at the date of grant. Options granted under the 1995 Directors Plan vest one year from the date of

#### NOTE 9 SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS, CONTINUED

issuance and expire ten years after issuance. The 1995 Directors Plan expired by its terms on June 6, 2005. As of February 28, 2009, options to purchase 232,000 common shares were outstanding under the plan.

The 1998 Stock Purchase Plan initially covered a total of 500,000 common shares for issuance to our employees. Under the terms of the 1998 Stock Purchase Plan, employees authorized the withholding of up to 15 percent of their wages or salaries to purchase our common shares. The purchase price for shares acquired under the 1998 Stock Purchase Plan is equal to the lower of 85 percent of the shares fair market value on either the first day of each option period or the last day of each period. The 1998 Stock Purchase Plan expired by its own terms on July 17, 2008. During the second quarter of fiscal 2009, plan participants acquired 15,261 common shares at a price of \$13.78 per share. As of February 28, 2009, 234,889 common shares had been issued under the plan. No additional common shares may be issued under the plan.

#### **Recently Approved Plans**

The 2008 Stock Incentive Plan covers a total of 750,000 common shares for issuance to key officers, employees and consultants of the Company. The plan provides for the grant of options to purchase our common shares at a price equal to or greater than the fair market value on the grant date. The plan contains provisions for incentive stock options, non-qualified stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units or other stock-based awards. Gerald J. Rubin, the Company s Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President, is not eligible to participate in the plan. The maximum number of shares with respect to which awards of any and all types may be granted during a calendar year to any participant is limited, in the aggregate, to 250,000 shares. Generally, options granted under the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan will become exercisable over four or five-year vesting periods and will expire on dates ranging from seven to ten years from the date of grant. As of February 28, 2009, no awards have been granted under the 2008 Stock Incentive Plan. The plan will expire by its terms on August 19, 2018.

The 2008 Directors Plan covers a total of 175,000 common shares for issuance of restricted stock, restricted stock units or other stock-based awards to non-employee members of the Board of Directors. Awards granted under the 2008 Directors Plan will be subject to vesting schedules and other terms and conditions as determined by the Compensation Committee of the Company s Board of Directors. As of February 28, 2009, no awards have been granted under the 2008 Director s Plan. The plan will expire by its terms on August 19, 2018.

The 2008 Stock Purchase Plan covers a total of 350,000 common shares for issuance to our employees. Under the terms of the plan, employees may authorize the withholding of up to 15 percent of their wages or salaries to purchase our common shares. The purchase price for shares acquired under the 2008 Stock Purchase Plan is equal to the lower of 85 percent of the share s fair market value on either the first day of each option period or the last day of each period. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, plan participants acquired 15,482 common shares at a price of \$8.53 per share. As of February 28, 2009, 334,518 shares remained available for future issue under this plan. The plan will expire by its terms on September 1, 2018.

#### NOTE 9 - SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS, CONTINUED

The Company recorded stock-based compensation expense in SG&A for each of the periods covered by our consolidated statements of operations as follows:

## SHARE-BASED PAYMENT EXPENSE

#### (in thousands, except per share data)

	Years Ended Last Day of February,					
		2009	:	2008		2007
Stock options	\$	1,331	\$	1,007	\$	595
Employee stock purchase plan		157		155		98
Share-based payment expense		1,488		1,162		693
Less income tax benefits		(88)		(192)		(196)
Share-based payment expense, net of income tax benefits	\$	1,400	\$	970	\$	497
Earnings per share impact of share-based payment expense:						
Basic	\$	0.05	\$	0.03	\$	0.02
Diluted	\$	0.05	\$	0.03	\$	0.02

The fair value of all share-based payment awards are estimated using a Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following assumptions and weighted-average fair values for the fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007:

## ASSUMPTIONS USED FOR FAIR VALUE OF STOCK OPTION GRANTS

	Years Ended Last Day of February,				
	2009	2008	2007		
Weighted-average risk-free interest rate	2.8%	4.6%	4.8%		
Dividend yield	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%		
Weighted-average expected volatility	46.2%	38.1%	37.4%		
Weighted-average expected life (in years)	3.80	3.95	4.52		

The following describes how certain assumptions affecting the estimated fair value of options or discounted employee share purchases (share based payments) are determined. The risk-free interest rate is based on U.S. Treasury securities with maturities equal to the expected life of the share based payments. The dividend yield is computed as zero because the Company has not historically paid dividends nor does it expect to do so at this time. Expected volatility is based on a weighted average of the market implied volatility and historical volatility over the expected life of the underlying share based payments. The Company uses its historical experience to estimate the expected life of each stock-option grant and also to estimate the impact of exercise, forfeitures, termination and holding period behavior for fair value expensing purposes.

Common shares purchased under the 1998 Stock Purchase Plan and the 2008 Stock Purchase Plan vest immediately at the time of purchase. Accordingly, the fair value award associated with their discounted purchase price is expensed at the time of purchase.

#### NOTE 9 - SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS, CONTINUED

A summary of option activity under all the Company s share-based compensation plans follows:

## SUMMARY OF OPTION ACTIVITY

(in thousands, except contractual term and per share data)

	Options	Weighted Average Exercise Price (per share)	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value (per share)	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Term (in years)	Aggregate Intrinsic Value
Outstanding at February 28, 2006	6,923	\$ 14.83	\$ 5.52	4.83	\$ 39,317
Granted	131	22.64	8.72		
Exercised	(248)	(12.46)			1,939
Forfeited / expired	(55)	(21.25)			
Outstanding at February 28, 2007	6,751	15.01	5.57	3.87	56,211
Granted	324	25.40	8.89		
Exercised	(1,157)	(15.80)			13,465
Forfeited / expired	(95)	(20.60)			
Outstanding at February 29, 2008	5,823	15.34	5.58	3.69	14,171
Granted	250	22.46	8.66		
Exercised	(48)	(12.64)			302
Forfeited / expired	(1,189)	(16.82)			
Outstanding at February 28, 2009	4,836	\$ 15.37	\$ 5.61	3.37	\$ 1,039
Exercisable at February 28, 2009	4,261	\$ 14.32	\$ 5.22	2.88	\$ 1,039

A summary of non-vested option activity and changes under all the Company s share-based compensation plans follows:

## NON-VESTED OPTION ACTIVITY

(in thousands, except per share data)

	Non-Vested Options	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value (per share)
Outstanding at February 28, 2006	429	\$ 6.27
Granted	131	8.72
Vested or forfeited	(216)	(5.94)
Outstanding at February 28, 2007	344	7.41

## Explanation of Responses:

Granted	324	8.89
Vested or forfeited	(123)	(7.01)
Outstanding at February 29, 2008	545	8.38
Granted	250	8.66
Vested or forfeited	(220)	(8.25)
Outstanding at February 28, 2009	575 \$	8.55

#### NOTE 9 - SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION PLANS, CONTINUED

A summary of our total unrecognized share-based compensation cost as of February 28, 2009 is as follows:

## UNRECOGNIZED SHARE-BASED COMPENSATION EXPENSE

(in thousands, except weighted average expense period data)

	Unearned Compensation	Weighted Average Remaining Period of Expense Recognition (in months)
Stock options	\$ 4,113	38.5

The following table summarizes additional information about options outstanding at February 28, 2009:

## SUMMARY OF OPTIONS OUTSTANDING AND EXERCISABLE

#### (actual number of shares)

			Outstandin	Exercisable Stock Options					
	Number of Options		Price Range (per share)		Weighted- Average Remaining Contractual Life (years)	Weighted- Average Exercise Price (per share)	Number of Options	A E	eighted- verage xercise Price r share)
ISOs	22,500	\$ 1	).71 to \$	11.78	3.30	\$ 11.27	22,500	\$	11.27
	2,000	\$ 1	3.00 to \$	13.00	0.93	13.00	2,000		13.00
	21,000	\$ 1	4.02 to \$	17.28	2.11	14.64	18,300		14.25
	713,949	\$ 1	7.76 to \$	33.88	5.98	23.41	261,581		23.59
Total	759,449				5.78	\$ 22.78	304,381	\$	22.04
Non-Qs	1,500,000	\$	7.09 to \$	11.84	2.34	\$ 9.93	1,500,000	\$	9.93
	1,000,000	\$ 1	2.53 to \$	13.13	3.19	12.83	1,000,000		12.83
	750,000	\$ 1	4.47 to \$	15.78	1.67	15.06	750,000		15.06
	594,127	\$ 1	8.00 to \$	27.37	4.89	21.92	474,657		21.70
Total	3,844,127				2.82	\$ 13.54	3,724,657	\$	13.24
Directors Plan	40,000	\$	4.41 to \$	11.84	2.06	\$ 8.24	40,000	\$	8.24
	20,000	\$ 1	2.53 to \$	13.13	3.36	12.89	20,000		12.89
	12,000	\$ 1	4.47 to \$	14.94	3.01	14.78	12,000		14.78
	160,000	\$ 2	1.47 to \$	33.35	5.48	26.51	160,000		26.51
Total	232,000				4.58	\$ 21.58	232,000	\$	21.58

## NOTE 10 OTHER COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

*Indemnity Agreements* - Under agreements with customers, licensors and parties from whom we have acquired assets or entered into business combinations, we indemnify these parties against liability associated with our products. Additionally, we are party to a number of agreements under leases where we indemnify the lessor for liabilities attributable to our actions or conduct. The indemnity agreements to which we are a party do not, in general, increase our liability for claims related to our products or actions and have not materially affected our consolidated financial statements.

#### NOTE 10 OTHER COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES, CONTINUED

*Employment Contracts* - We have entered into employment contracts with certain officers and employees. These agreements provide for minimum salary levels, severence and potential incentive bonuses. One agreement automatically renews itself each day for a new three-year period and provides that in the event of a merger, consolidation or transfer of all or substantially all of our assets to an unaffiliated party, the officer will receive a cash payment for the balance of the obligations under the agreement within six months of separation from service. The expiration dates for these agreements range from July 10, 2009 to February 29, 2012. The aggregate commitment for future salaries pursuant to such contracts, at February 28, 2009, excluding incentive compensation, was \$3.35 million.

On December 30, 2008, the Company s Compensation Committee approved and the Company and Gerald J. Rubin, the Company s Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President, executed a Second Amendment to Mr. Rubin s employment agreement, effective as of December 30, 2009. The intent of the Amendment was to make the provisions of Mr. Rubin s employment agreement comply with the applicable requirements of Sections 409A and 457A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. The most substantive change was that prior to amendment, Mr. Rubin had the option to receive annual payments of certain obligations for three years from separation from service, or elect to receive a discounted cash lump sum payment of these obligation using prescribed interest rates to compute the discount. The new amendment eliminates any election and requires a cash payment of the undiscounted balance of all obligations under the agreement within six months of separation from service.

*International Trade* - We purchase most of our appliances and a significant portion of other products that we sell from unaffiliated manufacturers located in the Far East, mainly in the Peoples Republic of China. Due to the fact that most of our products are manufactured in the Far East, we are subject to risks associated with trade barriers, currency exchange fluctuations and social, economic and political unrest. Over the last two years increasing labor costs, growing local inflation, the impact of energy prices on transportation and the appreciation of the Renminbi against the U.S. Dollar have exerted price pressure on our cost of goods sold. Certain of our suppliers in China closed their operations due to economic conditions that put rapid upward pressure on their operating costs over the last twelve months. This caused disruptions in delivery of certain items and adversely affected appliance sales. Although we have multiple sourcing partners for many of our products, we were unable to source certain items on a timely basis due to the rapid changes occurring with our Chinese suppliers. We believe that the contraction in suppliers has been a widespread issue in our industry, but now appears to be stabilizing. Additionally, we believe that we could obtain similar products from facilities in other countries, if necessary, and we continue to explore expanding our sourcing alternatives in other countries. However, the relocation of any production capacity could require substantial time and increased costs.

*Customer Incentives* - We regularly enter into arrangements with customers whereby we offer those customers incentives, including incentives in the form of volume rebates. Our estimate of the liability for such incentives is included on the consolidated balance sheets on the line entitled Accrued expenses and other current liabilities, and in Note (6) included in the lines entitled Accrued sales returns, discounts and allowances, Accrued advertising and Other and is based on incentives applicable to sales up to the respective balance sheet dates.

*Securities Class Action Litigation* An agreement was reached to settle the consolidated class action lawsuit filed on behalf of purchasers of our publicly traded securities against the Company, Gerald J. Rubin, the Company s Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Thomas J. Benson, the Company s Chief Financial Officer. In the consolidated action, the plaintiffs alleged violations of Sections 10(b) and 20(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Exchange Act), and Rule 10b-5 thereunder. The class period stated in the complaint was October 12, 2004 through October 10, 2005. The lawsuit was brought in the United States District Court for the Western District of Texas.

On June 19, 2008, the Court held a hearing at which it approved the terms of the settlement, the certification of the class for purposes of the settlement, and the award of attorney s fees and costs related to the lawsuit. The order approving the settlement became final on July 19, 2008. Under the settlement, the lawsuit has been dismissed with prejudice in exchange for a cash payment of \$4.50 million. The Company s insurance

carrier paid the settlement amount and the Company s remaining legal and related fees associated with defending the lawsuit because the Company had met its self-

#### NOTE 10 OTHER COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES, CONTINUED

insured retention obligation. The Company and the two officers of the Company named in the lawsuit have denied any and all allegations of wrongdoing and have received a full release of all claims.

*Other Matters* - We are involved in various other legal claims and proceedings in the normal course of operations. We believe the outcome of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations, or liquidity.

*Preference Shares and Anti-takeover Provisions* On December 1, 2008 a Shareholders Rights Plan approved by our Board of Directors in fiscal year 1999, expired in accordance with its terms.

*Contractual Obligations and Commercial Commitments* - Our contractual obligations and commercial commitments, as of February 28, 2009, were:

#### PAYMENTS DUE BY PERIOD - TWELVE MONTHS ENDED THE LAST DAY OF FEBRUARY

#### (in thousands)

	Total	2010 1 year		2011 2 years		2012 3 years		2013 4 years		2014 5 years		After years
Term debt - fixed rate	\$ 12,000	\$	3,000	\$	3,000	\$	3,000	\$	3,000	\$	-	\$ -
Term debt - floating rate (1)	200,000		75,000		-		50,000		-		-	75,000
Long-term incentive plan payouts	6,699		2,023		2,327		2,349		-		-	-
Interest on floating rate debt (1)	32,385		8,925		7,453		5,489		4,508		4,508	1,502
Interest on fixed rate debt	1,629		733		516		299		81		-	-
Open purchase orders	67,622		67,622		-		-		-		-	-
Minimum royalty payments	80,322		7,090		6,345		6,090		5,861		5,397	49,539
Advertising and promotional	85,995		7,420		6,007		6,181		6,205		5,680	54,502
Operating leases	11,914		1,902		1,661		1,212		1,061		1,081	4,997
Total contractual obligations (2)	\$498,566		\$173,715		\$27,309		\$74,620		\$20,716		\$16,666	\$ 185,540

(1) As mentioned in Note (7) to these consolidated financial statements, the Company uses interest rate hedge agreements (the swaps ) in conjunction with its unsecured floating interest rate \$75 million, 5 year; \$50 million, 7 year; and \$75 million, 10 year Senior Notes. The swaps are a hedge of the variable LIBOR rates used to reset the floating rates on these Senior Notes. The swaps effectively fix the interest rates on the 5, 7 and 10 year Senior Notes at 5.89, 5.89 and 6.01 percent, respectively. Accordingly, the future interest obligations related to this debt have been estimated using these rates.

(2) In addition to the contractual obligations and commercial commitments in the table above, as of February 28, 2009, we have recorded a provision for our uncertain tax positions of \$2.90 million. We are unable to reliably estimate the timing of future payments related to uncertain tax positions; therefore, we have excluded these tax liabilities from the table above.

We lease certain facilities, equipment and vehicles under operating leases, which expire at various dates through fiscal 2019. Certain of the leases contain escalation clauses and renewal or purchase options. Rent expense related to our operating leases was \$2.25, \$2.68 and \$4.62 million for fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

#### NOTE 11 OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

The following table contains a summary of the components of other comprehensive income (loss) for each of the years covered by this report:

## COMPONENTS OF OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

(dollars in thousands)	(dollars in thousands)																	
										2007		<b>N</b> T 4						
	P	Pre-tax		Tax	C	Net of Tax	]	Pre-tax		Tax		Net of Tax	P	Pre-tax		Tax	Q	Net of Tax
Change in unrealized holding loss on cash flow hedges - interest rate swaps	\$	(5,638)	\$	1,916	\$	(3,722)	\$	(10,429)	\$	3,546	\$	(6,883)	\$	(1,215)	\$	413	\$	(802)
Less: quarterly interest rate settlements reclassified to net earnings		4,217		(1,433)		2,784		(355)		121		(234)		(287)		98		(189)
Less: Gain on cancellation of swaps reclassified to net earnings Subtotal		(1,421)		- 483		(938)		(163) (10,947)		55 3,722		(108) (7,225)		(1,502)		- 511		(991)
Change in unrealized holding gain (loss) on cash flow hedges - foreign currency contracts		2,204		(624)		1,580		(339)		102		(237)		(1,302)		162		(1,140)
Less: settlement gains (losses) and hedge ineffectiveness reclassified to net earnings Subtotal		(1,141) 1,063		323 (301)		(818) 762		968 629		(291) (189)		677 440		(679) (1,981)		84 246		(595) (1,735)
Change in unrealized losses on auction rate securities		(4,019)		1,366		(2,653)		-		-		-		-		-		-
Less: unrealized losses reversed on auction rate securities sold at par Subtotal Total other comprehensive	¢	1,342 (2,677)	¢	(456) 910	¢	886 (1,767)	¢		¢	- - 2 522	¢	-	¢		¢	- -	¢	
income	\$	(3,035)	\$	1,092	Э	(1,943)	\$	(10,318)	\$	3,533	\$	(6,785)	\$	(3,483)	\$	757	\$	(2,726)

The following table contains a summary of the components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax:

COMPONENTS OF ACCUMULATED OTHER COl (in thousands)	MPREHENS	IVE INCOME (I	LOSS)			
		Last Day	of February,			
	2009 2008					
Accumulated net unrealized holding loss on cash flow hedges -						
interest rate swaps	\$	(9,154)	\$	(8,216		
		627		(135		

Accumulated net unrealized holding gain (loss) on cash flow hedges - foreign currency contracts				
Accumulated net unrealized loss on auction rate securities		(1,767		-
Total accumulated other comprehensive loss	\$	(10,294	)	\$ (8,351)

#### NOTE 12 - SELECTED QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (UNAUDITED)

Selected unaudited quarterly financial data is as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	May		August		November		February		Total (1)	
Fiscal 2009:										
Net sales	\$ 145,003	\$	153,543	\$	185,619	\$	138,580	\$	622,745	
Gross profit	63,021		65,144		73,544		53,693		255,402	
Impairment charges	7,760		-		-		99,514		107,274	
Net earnings (loss)	5,558		10,598		15,090		(88,039)		(56,793)	
Earnings (loss) per share Basic Diluted	0.18 0.18		0.35 0.34		0.50 0.48		(2.93) (2.93)		(1.88) (1.88)	
Fiscal 2008:										
Net sales	\$ 140,170	\$	157,924	\$	210,348	\$	144,106	\$	652,548	
Gross profit	60,018		68,226		90,068		63,383		281,695	
Impairment charges	-		-		4,983		-		4,983	
Gain on sale of land	-		-		(3,609)		-		(3,609)	
Net earnings	10,117		18,253		22,842		10,297		61,509	
Earnings per share Basic Diluted	0.33 0.32		0.60 0.56		0.74 0.73		0.34 0.33		2.01 1.93	

(1) Earnings per share calculations for each quarter are based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding for each period, and the sum of the quarterly amounts may not necessarily equal the annual earnings per share amounts.

#### NOTE 13 - FOURTH QUARTER CHARGES/TRANSACTIONS

*Fiscal 2009* - As more fully discussed in Note (3) to these consolidated financial statements, as a result of the continued deterioration of economic conditions during the second half of fiscal 2009, the Company evaluated the impact of these conditions and other developments on its reporting units to assess whether impairment indicators were present that would require interim impairment testing. During the latter half of the third quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company s total market capitalization began to decline below the Company s consolidated shareholders equity balance at November 30, 2008. If a company s total market capitalization remains below its consolidated shareholders equity balance for a

sustained period of time, this may be an indicator of potential impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets. Because this condition continued throughout the balance of the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company determined that the carrying amount of our goodwill and other intangible assets might not be recoverable and performed additional impairment testing as of February 28, 2009.

The impairment testing for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009 was performed using an updated outlook for the Company s reporting units completed in connection with its annual planning process. This outlook included downward adjustments to certain future expected revenues and increases in the market participant discount rates, when compared to the projections and discount rates upon which our annual impairment tests were prepared during the first quarter of fiscal 2009. The Company decreased its expected revenues in response to the reduction in consumer spending during the second half of fiscal 2009 and its expectation that depressed spending levels would persist into 2010. Our projections assumed a continued but decelerating economic contraction through the first half of fiscal 2011, an economic recovery beginning in the second half of fiscal 2011 and general economic growth returning to slightly above mean levels in fiscal

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#### NOTE 13 - FOURTH QUARTER CHARGES/TRANSACTIONS

years 2012 through 2014. Additionally, the Company increased the market participant discount rates used in its analysis because management believes that the lending market and the restrained liquidity in the current environment have increased the cost of capital. In determining the extent to which to change its assumptions, management considered consumer spending trends and the anticipated impact on each reporting unit as well as the market cost of capital for comparable companies for each reporting unit.

As a result, the Company recorded non-cash impairment charges of \$99.51 million (\$99.06 million after tax) in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009. This consisted of non-cash, pre-tax impairment charges of \$46.49 million against goodwill and \$2.75 million against a trademark in our Personal Care segment s Appliances and Accessories reporting unit, and \$50.27 million against certain trademarks and an indefinite-lived license held by our Grooming, Skin Care and Hair Care Solutions reporting unit. The impairment for these reporting units was due to a decrease in the fair value of forecasted cash flows, and other market conditions reflecting the continued deterioration of the domestic and global economies and the declines in retail sales activity. No impairment charges were required for our Housewares segment as this reporting unit s estimated fair value of total net assets including recorded goodwill, trademarks and other intangible assets, exceeded their carrying values as of the date of the evaluation.

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, the Company reversed \$2.73 million of incentive compensation it had accrued throughout the year, due to the impact of the Company s fourth quarter impairment charges on a management incentive plan.

*Fiscal 2008* - In April 2008, we resolved all outstanding tax issues in connection with audits of our U.S. consolidated federal tax returns for fiscal years 2003 and 2004 which resulted in no adjustments to either year. As a result of the settlement, in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, we reversed \$3.68 million representing the tax provisions, including interest and penalties previously established for those years. Of the \$3.68 million, we credited \$1.36 million to the fiscal 2008 tax provision and \$2.32 million to additional paid-in-capital. The amount credited to additional paid-in-capital was for the tax effects of prior year share-based compensation expense that was allowed upon audit. Also in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, we increased our deferred tax valuation allowance \$0.98 million to account for operating loss carryforwards in certain tax jurisdictions whose benefits we believe we will not be able to utilize.

Fiscal 2007 - Our results for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007 did not contain any transactions of a non-routine nature.

#### **NOTE 14 - SEGMENT INFORMATION**

The following table contains segment information for fiscal years covered by our consolidated financial statements:

## FISCAL YEARS ENDED 2009, 2008 AND 2007

#### (in thousands)

2009	Personal Care	Housewares	Total
Net sales	\$ 447,244 \$	175,501	\$ 622,745
Operating income before impairment and gain	41,432	25,626	67,058
Impairment charges	107,274	-	107,274
Operating income (loss)	(65,842)	25,626	(40,216)
Identifiable assets	466,590	354,717	821,307
Capital, license, trademark and other intangible expenditures	1,914	3,945	5,859
Depreciation and amortization	9,055	5,130	14,185
	Personal		
2008	Care	Housewares	Total
Net sales	\$ 488,414 \$	164,134	\$ 652,548
Operating income before impairment and gain	42,523	31,401	73,924
Impairment charges	4,983	-	4,983
Gain on sale of land	3,609	-	3,609
Operating income	41,149	31,401	72,550
Identifiable assets	552,329	359,664	911,993
Capital, license, trademark and other intangible expenditures	3,183	4,526	7,709
Depreciation and amortization	9,448	4,850	14,298
	Personal		
2007	Care	Housewares	Total
Net sales	\$ 497,824 \$	137,108	\$ 634,932
Operating income	42,530	27,886	70,416
Identifiable assets	554,295	351,977	906,272
Capital, license, trademark and other intangible expenditures	4,912	2,483	7,395
Depreciation and amortization	9,430	4,871	14,301

Our Personal Care segment s products include hair dryers, straighteners, curling irons, hairsetters, shavers, mirrors, hot air brushes, home hair clippers and trimmers, paraffin baths, massage cushions, footbaths, body massagers, brushes, combs, hair accessories, liquid and aerosol hair styling products, men s fragrances, men s deodorants, liquid and bar soaps, foot powder, body powder and skin care products. Our Housewares segment reports the operations of OXO International (OXO) whose products include kitchen tools, cutlery, bar and wine accessories, household cleaning tools, food storage containers, tea kettles, trash cans, storage and organization products, hand tools, gardening tools, kitchen mitts and trivets, barbeque tools and rechargeable lighting products. We use third-party manufacturers to produce our goods. Both our Personal Care and Housewares segments sell their products primarily through mass merchandisers, drugstore chains, warehouse clubs, catalogs, grocery stores and specialty stores. In addition, the Personal Care segment sells extensively through beauty supply retailers and wholesalers.

We compute operating income for each segment based on net sales, less cost of goods sold and any SG&A associated with the segment. The SG&A used to compute each segment s operating income are comprised of SG&A directly associated with the segment, plus overhead expenses that are allocable to the segment.

#### NOTE 14 - SEGMENT INFORMATION, CONTINUED

During the first quarter of fiscal 2007, we completed the transition of our Housewares segment s operations to our internal operating systems and our new distribution facility in Southaven, Mississippi. For the fiscal year ended February 28, 2007, we allocated expenses totaling \$12.75 million to the Housewares segment, some of which were previously absorbed by the Personal Care segment.

In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007, we completed the consolidation of our domestic appliance inventories into the Southaven facility. During fiscal 2007, we conducted an evaluation of our shared cost allocation methodology given the structural and process changes that were taking place in our operations, and changed our methodology in the first quarter of fiscal 2008. We believe the new method better reflects the economics of our newly consolidated operations. The table below summarizes and compares the expense allocations made to the Housewares segment over the last three fiscal years:

#### **Housewares Segment Expense Allocation**

#### (dollars in thousands)

	(New Method)					(Prior Method)	
	200	)9	2008			2007	
Distribution expense	\$	15,382	\$	14,031	\$	7,541	
Other operating and corporate overhead expense		7,142		6,901		5,212	
Total allocated expenses	\$	22,524	\$	20,932	\$	12,753	
Expense allocation as a percentage of Housewares segment s net							
sales:							
Distribution and sourcing expense		8.8%		8.5%		5.5%	
Other operating and corporate overhead expense		4.1%		4.2%		3.8%	
Total allocated expenses		12.8%		12.8%		9.3%	

We do not allocate other items of income and expense, including income taxes to operating segments.

Our domestic and international net sales from third parties and long-lived assets for the years ended the last day of February are as follows:

	Years Ended Last Day of February					
	2009		2008	2007		
NET SALES FROM THIRD PARTIES:						
United States	\$ 476,1	47 \$	505,817	\$	511,786	
International	146,5	98	146,731		123,146	
Total	\$ 622,7	45 \$	652,548	\$	634,932	
LONG-LIVED ASSETS:						
United States	\$ 113,6	31 \$	123,624	\$	131,933	
Barbados	307,0	99	391,851		374,798	
Other international	4,1	24	754		26,323	

#### Explanation of Responses:

Total	\$ 424,854	\$ 516,229	\$ 533,054

The table above classifies assets based upon the country where we hold legal title, as opposed to the country where we utilize the assets.

Sales to our largest customer and its affiliates accounted for approximately 17, 19 and 21 percent of our net sales in fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. No other customers accounted for ten percent or more of net sales during those fiscal years.

Sales within the U.S. to this same customer and its affiliates were 85, 86 and 92 percent during fiscal 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

#### NOTE 15 FAIR VALUE

In the first quarter of fiscal 2009, we adopted SFAS 157, which defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value under GAAP, and requires expanded disclosures about fair value measurements. SFAS 157 does not require any new fair value measurements, but rather generally applies to other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements. SFAS 157 emphasizes that fair value is a market-based measurement, not an entity-specific measurement, and defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. SFAS 157 discusses valuation techniques, such as the market approach (comparable market prices), the income approach (present value of future income or cash flow), and the cost approach (cost to replace the service capacity of an asset or replacement cost). These valuation techniques are based upon observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect market data obtained from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect the Company s market assumptions. SFAS 157 utilizes a fair value hierarchy that prioritizes inputs to fair value measurement techniques into three broad levels. The following is a brief description of those three levels:

Level 1: Observable inputs such as quoted prices for identical assets or liabilities in active markets.

• Level 2: Observable inputs other than quoted prices that are directly or indirectly observable for the asset or liability, including quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets; quoted prices for similar or identical assets or liabilities in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations whose inputs are observable or whose significant value drivers are observable.

• Level 3: Unobservable inputs that reflect the reporting entity s own assumptions.

The FASB issued FASB Staff Position FSP 157-2 that delayed the effective date of SFAS 157 for all non-financial assets and liabilities, except those that are recognized or disclosed at fair value in the financial statements on a recurring basis, until the beginning of our fiscal 2010 year. The Company s financial assets and liabilities adjusted to fair value at February 28, 2009 are money market accounts, auction rate securities, trading securities, foreign currency contracts and interest rate swaps. These assets and liabilities are subject to the measurement and disclosure requirements of SFAS 157. The Company adjusts the value of these instruments to fair value each reporting period. No adjustment to retained earnings resulted from the adoption of SFAS 157.

The fair value hierarchy of our financial assets and liabilities carried at fair value and measured on a recurring basis is as follows:

## FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

(in thousands)

Description	Fair Value at February 28, 2009	Quoted Prices in Active Markets for Identical Assets (Level 1)	Significant Other Observable Market Inputs (Level 2)	Significant Unobservable Inputs (Level 3)
Description	February 28, 2009	(Level 1)	(Level 2)	(Level 3)

Assets:

Money market accounts Trading securities Auction rate securities Foreign currency contracts Total	\$ \$	82,674 570 19,973 819 104,036	82,674 570 - 83,244	- - 819 819	\$ \$	- 19,973 - 19,973
Liabilities: Interest rate swaps	\$	13,870	\$ -	\$ 13,870	\$	-

#### NOTE 15 FAIR VALUE, CONTINUED

Money market accounts are included in cash and cash equivalents in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and are classified as Level 1 assets. Trading securities are also classified as Level 1 assets because they consist of certain publicly traded stocks that are stated on our consolidated balance sheets at market value, as determined by the most recent trading price of each security as of the balance sheet date.

We use derivatives for hedging purposes pursuant to SFAS 133, and our derivatives are primarily foreign currency contracts and interest rate swaps. We determine the fair value of our derivative instruments based on Level 2 inputs in the SFAS 157 fair value hierarchy.

At February 28, 2009, we held \$19.97 million of ARS, classified as Long-term investments on our consolidated balance sheet with underlying maturities from 20 to 37 years and 97 percent of the aggregate collateral (student loans) guaranteed by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program.

Throughout fiscal 2009, these ARS were subject to failed auctions that affected our ability to access the funds in the near term. Auctions fail when there is insufficient demand. However, this does not represent a default by the issuer of the security. Upon an auction failure, the interest rates reset based on a formula contained in the security and this rate is generally higher than the current market rate. The securities will continue to accrue interest and to be auctioned until one of the following occurs: the auction succeeds; the issuer calls the securities; or the securities mature.

At May 31, 2008, we concluded that the illiquidity in the ARS market was not a temporary market condition. We intended to reduce our remaining holdings as soon as practicable, but believed it unlikely that we could liquidate all of our holdings within twelve months. Accordingly, we reclassified all remaining ARS as non-current assets held for sale under the heading Long-term investments in our consolidated balance sheet and the Company determined that original cost no longer approximated fair value.

As a result of the lack of liquidity in the ARS market, during the fiscal year ended February 28, 2009, we recorded pre-tax unrealized losses on our ARS totaling \$2.68 million, which is reflected in accumulated other comprehensive loss in our accompanying consolidated balance sheet net of related tax effects of \$0.91 million. The recording of these unrealized losses is not a result of the quality of the underlying collateral, but rather a markdown reflecting a lack of liquidity and other market conditions. Between February 29, 2008 and February 28, 2009, we liquidated \$41.18 million of these securities at par.

During the quarter ended August 31, 2008, we developed a series of discounted cash flow models and began using them to value our ARS. Some of the inputs factored into the discounted cash flow models we use are unobservable in the market and have a significant effect on valuation. The assumptions used in preparing the models include, but are not limited to, periodic coupon rates, market required rates of return and the expected term of each security. The coupon rate was estimated using implied forward rate data on interest rate swaps and U.S. treasuries, and limited where necessary by any contractual maximum rate paid under a scenario of continuing auction failures. We believe implied forward rates inherently account for a lack of liquidity. In making assumptions of the required rates of return, we considered risk-free interest rates and credit spreads for investments of similar credit quality. The expected term was based on a weighted probability-based estimate of the time the principal will become available to us. The principal can become available under three different scenarios: (1) the ARS is called; (2) the market has returned to normal and auctions have recommenced and are successful; and (3) the principal has reached maturity.

#### NOTE 15 FAIR VALUE, CONTINUED

The table below presents a reconciliation of our assets measured at fair value on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs (Level 3) for the year ended February 28, 2009:

#### FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS USING SIGNIFICANT UNOBSERVABLE INPUTS (Level 3)

#### **Auction Rate Securities**

(in thousands)

Balance at February 29, 2008	\$ _
Transfers into Level 3 at August 31, 2008	47,067
Total gains or (losses) (realized/unrealized)	
Included in earnings	-
Included in other comprehensive loss	(1,169)
Sales at par	(25,925)
Balance at February 28, 2009	\$ 19,973
Total gains or losses included in earnings for the fiscal year ended February 28, 2009	\$ -
Cumulative change in gross unrealized gains or (losses) relating to assets still held at the reporting date	\$ (2,677)

#### NOTE 16 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT

*Foreign Currency Risk* - Our functional currency is the U.S. Dollar. By operating internationally, we are subject to foreign currency risk from transactions denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar (foreign currencies). Such transactions include sales, certain inventory purchases and operating expenses. As a result of such transactions, portions of our cash, trade accounts receivable and trade accounts payable are denominated in foreign currencies. For the fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, 16.9, 16.8 and 14.8 percent of our net sales were in foreign currencies. These sales were primarily denominated in the British Pound, Euro, Mexican Peso, Canadian Dollar, Brazilian Real, Chilean Pesos, Peruvian Soles and Venezuelan Bolivares Fuertes. We make most of our inventory purchases from the Far East and use the U.S. Dollar for such purchases. In our consolidated statement of operations, exchange gains and losses resulting from the remeasurement of foreign exchange gains and losses are recognized in SG&A. We recorded net foreign exchange gains (losses), including the impact of currency hedges, of (\$5.21), \$0.53 and \$0.46 million in SG&A and \$0.62, \$0.22 and \$0.19 million in income tax expense during fiscal years 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively.

We identify foreign currency risk by regularly monitoring our foreign currency-denominated transactions and balances. Where operating conditions permit, we reduce foreign currency risk by purchasing most of our inventory with U.S. Dollars and by converting cash balances denominated in foreign currencies to U.S. Dollars.

We have historically hedged against certain foreign currency exchange rate-risk by using a series of forward contracts designated as cash flow hedges to protect against the foreign currency exchange risk inherent in our forecasted transactions denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar. In these transactions, we execute a forward currency contract that will settle at the end of a forecasted period. Because the size and

terms of the forward contract are designed so that its fair market value will move in the opposite direction and approximate magnitude of the underlying foreign currency s forecasted exchange gain or loss during the forecasted period, a hedging relationship is created. To the extent that we forecast the expected foreign currency cash flows from the period we enter into the forward contract until the date it will settle with reasonable accuracy, we significantly lower or materially eliminate a particular currency s exchange risk exposure over the life of the related forward contract.

We enter into these types of agreements where we believe we have meaningful exposure to foreign currency exchange risk and the hedge pricing appears reasonable. It is not practical for us to hedge all our exposures, nor are we able to project in any meaningful way the possible effect and interplay of all foreign currency fluctuations on translated amounts

#### NOTE 16 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT, CONTINUED

or future earnings. This is due to our constantly changing exposure to various currencies, the fact that each foreign currency reacts differently to the U.S. Dollar and the significant number of currencies involved. Accordingly, we will always be subject to foreign exchange rate-risk on exposures we have not hedged, and these risks may be material.

For transactions we designate as foreign currency cash flow hedges, the effective portion of the change in the fair value (arising from the change in the spot rates from period to period) is deferred in other comprehensive income (loss) (OCI). These amounts are subsequently recognized in SG&A in the consolidated statement of operations in the same period as the forecasted transactions close out over the remaining balance of their terms. The ineffective portion of the change in fair value (arising from the change in the difference between the spot rate and the forward rate) is recognized in the period it occurred. These amounts are also recognized in SG&A in the consolidated statement of operations. We do not enter into any forward exchange contracts or similar instruments for trading or other speculative purposes.

On September 3, 2008, the Company entered into a series of foreign exchange forward contracts to sell U.S. Dollars for British Pounds in notional amounts and terms that effectively froze the \$1.78 million fair value of our existing forward contracts to sell British Pounds for U.S. Dollars. The new forward contracts had the effect of eliminating the foreign currency hedge created by the original forward currency contracts on certain forecasted transactions denominated in British Pounds and we discontinued their classification as cash flow hedges. These forward contracts had originally been designated as cash flow hedges. In accordance with Derivatives Implementation Group (DIG) Issue No. G3 - Discontinuation of a Cash Flow Hedge, the net gain related to the discontinued cash flow hedges will continue to be reported in OCI as it is probable that the forecasted transactions will occur generally by the originally specified time period. Therefore, at February 28, 2009, a portion of the deferred gains related to the combined group of derivatives remains in OCI and is currently expected to be reclassified into earnings when the underlying contracts settle over dates ranging from May 15, 2009 through August 17, 2009.

*Interest Rate Risk* Fluctuation in interest rates can cause variation in the amount of interest that we can earn on our available cash, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments and the amount of interest expense we incur on any short-term and long-term borrowings. Interest on our long-term debt outstanding as of February 28, 2009 is both floating and fixed. Fixed rates are in place on \$12 million of Senior Notes at 7.24 percent and floating rates are in place on \$200 million of debt that resets as described in Note (7) of these consolidated financial statements, but have been effectively converted to fixed rate debt using the interest rate swaps described below.

We manage our floating rate debt using interest rate swaps (the swaps ). We have three interest rate swaps that convert an aggregate notional principal of \$200 million from floating interest rate payments under our 5, 7 and 10 year Senior Notes to fixed interest rate payments ranging from 5.89 to 6.01 percent. In these transactions, we have three contracts to pay fixed rates of interest on an aggregate notional principal amount of \$200 million at rates ranging from 5.04 to 5.11 percent while simultaneously receiving floating rate interest payments set at 1.47 percent as of February 28, 2009 on the same notional amount. The fixed rate side of the swap will not change over the life of the swap. The floating rate payments are reset quarterly based on three month LIBOR. The resets are concurrent with the interest payments made on the underlying debt. Changes in the spread between the fixed rate payment side of the swap and the floating rate receipt side of the swap offset 100 percent of the change in any period of the underlying debt s floating rate payments. These swaps are used to reduce the Company s risk of increased interest costs; however, we lose the benefit that floating rate debt can provide in a declining interest rate environment. The swaps are considered 100 percent effective. Gains and losses related to the swaps, net of related tax effects are reported as a component of Accumulated other comprehensive loss in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet and will not be reclassified into earnings until the conclusion of the hedge. A partial net settlement occurs quarterly at the same time interest payments are made on the underlying debt. The settlement is the net difference between the fixed rates payable and the floating rates receivable over the quarter under the swap contracts. The settlement is recognized as a component of Interest expense in the consolidated statement of operations.

#### NOTE 16 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT, CONTINUED

The following table summarizes our open forward contracts and interest rate swap contracts and indicates whether they are designated as cash flow hedges or ordinary hedges at the end of fiscal 2009 and 2008:

Eshawary 28, 2000

## FOREIGN CURRENCY AND INTEREST RATE SWAP CONTRACTS

					February 28	s, 2009					
0	Currency to Deliver arrency Contr	Notional Amount acts Reported	Contract Date as Ordinary	Range of I From	Maturities To	Spot Rate at Contract Date	Spot Rate at February 28, 2009	Weighted Average Forward Rate at Inception	Weighted Average Forward Rate at February 28, 2009	Market Value of the Contract in U.S. Dollars (Thousands)	
Hedges Sell Sell Subtotal	Pounds Dollars	£4,000,000 \$7,011,000	4/17/2007 9/3/2008	5/15/2009 5/15/2009	8/17/2009 8/17/2009	2.0000 1.7825	1.4318 1.4318	1.9631 1.7528	1.4340 1.4283	\$2,117 (\$1,298) \$819	
Interest Ra	te Swap Cont	tracts Reported	l as Cash								
Flow Hedge Swap Swap Swap Subtotal Total Fair	Dollars Dollars Dollars	\$75,000,000 \$50,000,000 \$75,000,000	9/28/2006 9/28/2006 9/28/2006	6/29/ 6/29/ 6/29/	2011	(Pay fixe	d rate at 5.04%, r LIBOR d rate at 5.04%, r LIBOR d rate at 5.11%, r LIBOR	rate) eceive floating rate) eceive floating	3-month	(\$931) (\$3,772) (\$9,167) (\$13,870) (\$13,051)	
					F 1	2000					
				Range of	February 29 Maturities		Spot Rate at	Weighted Average	Weighted Average Forward Rate	Market Value of the Contract in	
Contract	Currency	Notional				Spot Rate at	February 29,	Forward Rate	at February	U.S. Dollars	
Туре	to Deliver	Amount	Contract Date	From	То	Contract Date	2008	at Inception	29, 2008	(Thousands)	
Foreign Cu	rrency Contr	acts Reported	as Cash								
Flow Hedge Sell Sell Subtotal		£5,000,000 £5,000,000	11/28/2006 4/17/2007	12/11/2008 2/17/2009	1/15/2009 8/17/2009	1.9385 2.0000	1.9885 1.9885	1.9242 1.9644	1.9440 1.9281	(\$99) \$182 \$83	
Interest Ra Hedges	te Swap Cont	tracts Reported	l as Cash Flov	v							
Swap	Dollars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/2009		(Pay	fixed rate at 5.04		b, receive floating 3-month LIBOR rate)		

Swap	Dollars	\$50,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/2011	LIBOR rate) (Pay fixed rate at 5.11%, receive floating 3-month	(\$3,462)
Swap <b>Subtotal</b>	Dollars	\$75,000,000	9/28/2006	6/29/2014	LIBOR rate)	(\$6,481) (\$12,449)
Total Fair	Value					(\$12,366)

*Counterparty Credit Risk* - Financial instruments, including foreign currency contracts and interest rate swaps, expose us to counterparty credit risk for nonperformance. We manage our exposure to counterparty credit risk through only dealing with counterparties who are substantial international financial institutions with significant experience using such derivative instruments. Although our theoretical credit risk is the replacement cost at the then estimated fair value of these instruments, we believe that the risk of incurring credit risk losses is remote.

#### NOTE 16 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT, CONTINUED

*Risks Inherent in Cash, Cash Equivalents, Temporary and Long-term Investments* Our cash, cash equivalents and investments are subject to interest rate risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. Cash consists of both interest bearing and non-interest bearing operating disbursement accounts. Cash equivalents consist of commercial paper and money market investment accounts. Temporary and long-term investments consist of AAA rated ARS that we normally seek to dispose of within 35 or fewer days. The following table summarizes our cash, cash equivalents, temporary and long-term investments at the end of fiscal 2009 and 2008:

## CASH, CASH EQUIVALENTS, TEMPORARY AND LONG-TERM INVESTMENTS

#### (in thousands)

	Last Day of February						
		2009					
		Carrying	Range of	Carrying		Range of	
		Amount	<b>Interest Rates</b>	A	Amount	Interest Rates	
Cash and cash equivalents							
Cash held in interest and non interest-bearing							
operating accounts - unrestricted	\$	18,575	0.0 to 3.00%	\$	6,872	0.0 to 5.40%	
Cash held in interest and non interest-bearing	Ψ	10,070	0.0 10 5.00 /0	Ψ	0,072	0.0 10 5.1070	
operating accounts - restricted		1,426	0.0 to 7.00%		701	_	
Commercial paper		-	-		1,785	3.15 to 3.19%	
Money market accounts		82,674	0.35 to 6.00%		48,493	2.00 to 6.00%	
Total cash and cash equivalents	\$	102,675		\$	57,851	2100 10 0100 /0	
Auction rate securities - collateralized by student			1.95% to				
loans	\$	19,973	8.67%	\$	63.825	4.50 to 9.90%	
Touris	Ψ	19,910	0.07 /0	¥	05,025	1.50 10 7.70 70	

Our cash balances at February 28, 2009 and February 29, 2008 include restricted cash of \$1.43 and \$0.70 million, respectively, denominated in Venezuelan Bolivares Fuertes, shown above under the heading Cash held in interest and non interest-bearing operating accounts restricted. The balances are primarily a result of favorable operating cash flows within the Venezuelan market. Due to current Venezuelan government restrictions on transfers of cash out of the country and control of exchange rates, the Company has not yet received approval of its applications to repatriate this cash, and cannot repatriate it at this time.

Most of our cash equivalents and investments are in money market accounts and ARS with frequent rate resets, therefore, we believe there is no material interest rate risk. In addition, our commercial paper and ARS are purchased from issuers with high credit ratings; therefore, we believe the credit risk is relatively low.

We hold investments in ARS collateralized by student loans (with underlying maturities from 20 to 37 years). At February 28, 2009, 97 percent of the aggregate collateral was guaranteed by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. Liquidity for these securities was normally dependent on an auction process that resets the applicable interest rate at pre-determined intervals, ranging from 7 to 35 days. Beginning in February 2008, the auctions for the ARS held by us and others were unsuccessful, requiring us to hold them beyond their typical auction reset dates. Auctions fail when there is insufficient demand. However, this does not represent a default by the issuer of the security. Upon an auction s failure, the interest rates reset based on a formula contained in the security. The rate is generally equal to or higher than the current market rate for similar securities. The securities will continue to accrue interest and to be auctioned until one of the following occurs: the auction succeeds; the issuer calls the securities; or the securities mature.

## Explanation of Responses:

At February 29, 2008, these securities were valued at their original cost and classified as current assets in the consolidated balance sheet under the heading Temporary investments, which we believed was appropriate based on the circumstances and level of information we had at that time. Between February 29, 2008 and February 28, 2009, we have liquidated \$41.18 million of these securities at par. Each of the remaining securities in our portfolio has been subject to failed auctions. These failures in the auction process have affected our ability to access these funds in the near term. At May 31, 2008, we concluded that the illiquidity in the ARS markets was not a temporary phenomenon. At that time, we decided to continue to reduce our remaining holdings as soon as practicable, but believed it unlikely that we could liquidate all of our holdings within twelve months. Accordingly, we reclassified all remaining ARS as non-current assets

#### NOTE 16 - FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND RISK MANAGEMENT, CONTINUED

held for sale under the heading Long-term investments in our consolidated balance sheet and the Company determined that original cost no longer approximates fair value.

As a result of the lack of liquidity in the ARS market, during the fiscal year ended February 28, 2009, we recorded pre-tax unrealized losses on our ARS totaling \$2.68 million, which is reflected in accumulated other comprehensive loss in our accompanying consolidated balance sheet net of related tax effects of \$0.91 million. The recording of these unrealized losses is not a result of the quality of the underlying collateral, but rather a markdown reflecting a lack of liquidity and other market conditions.

Under FSP 115-1 and FSP 124-1, an investment is considered impaired when the fair value is less than the cost. Significant judgment is required to determine if impairment is other-than-temporary. The Company deemed the unrealized loss on the available-for-sale ARS to be temporary based primarily on the following: (1) as of the balance sheet date, the Company had the ability and intent to hold the impaired securities to maturity; (2) the lack of deterioration in the financial performance, credit rating or business prospects of the issuers; (3) the lack of evident factors that raise significant concerns about the issuers ability to continue as a going concern; (4) the lack of significant changes in the regulatory, economic or technological environment of the issuers; and (5) the presence of collateral guarantees by the U.S. government under the Federal Family Education Loan Program. If it becomes probable that the Company will not receive 100 percent of the principal and interest with respect to any of the ARS, or if events occur to change any of the factors described above, the Company will be required to recognize an other-than-temporary impairment charge in the consolidated statement of operations.

#### NOTE 17 - 401(k) DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PLANS

We sponsor defined contribution savings plans in the U.S. and other countries where we have employees. Total matching contributions made to these savings plans for the fiscal years ended 2009, 2008 and 2007 were \$0.65, \$0.71 and \$0.47 million, respectively.

#### NOTE 18 REPURCHASE OF HELEN OF TROY SHARES

During the quarter ended August 31, 2003, our Board of Directors approved a resolution authorizing the purchase, in the open market or through private transactions, of up to 3,000,000 common shares over an initial period extending through May 31, 2006. On April 25, 2006, our Board of Directors approved a resolution to extend the existing plan to May 31, 2009. On October 15, 2008, the Board of Directors approved a resolution to add 3,000,000 shares to the existing shares authorized for repurchase and to extend the repurchase program through October 31, 2011.

For the fiscal years ended 2009 and 2008, we repurchased and retired 574,365 and 1,095,392 shares at a total purchase price of \$7.42 and \$26.00 million, and an average purchase price of \$12.91 and \$23.74 per share, respectively. We did not repurchase any shares during fiscal 2007. From September 1, 2003 through February 28, 2009, we have repurchased 3,233,593 common shares at a total cost of \$79.03 million, or an average price per share of \$24.44. An additional 2,766,407 common shares remain authorized for purchase under this plan as of February 28, 2009. The following schedule sets forth the purchase activity for each month during the three months ended February 28, 2009:

## **ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2009**

Period	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs	Maximum Number of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs
December 1 through December 31, 2008	9,302	\$15.65	9,302	3,050,632
January 1 through January 31, 2009	122,881	11.15	122,881	2,927,751
February 1 through February 28, 2009	161,344	10.14	161,344	2,766,407
Total	293,527	\$10.74	293,527	2,766,407

#### NOTE 19 SIGNIFICANT CHARGE AGAINST ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS

On May 2, 2008, Linens n Things retail chain (Linens), filed for protection under Chapter 11 of the U.S. Bankruptcy Code. Our accounts receivable balance with Linens at the date of bankruptcy was \$4.17 million. For the fiscal quarter ended May 31, 2008, a bad debt provision charge of \$3.88 million was made to SG&A and we established a specific allowance of the same amount to account for the portion of the receivable we estimated to be uncollectible. For the fiscal quarter ended August 31, 2008, we charged the remaining \$0.29 million unreserved balance of Linens pre-petition accounts receivables to our bad debt provision and wrote off the resulting 100 percent reserved balance as uncollectable. During the fiscal quarter ended November 30, 2008, Linens announced plans to liquidate by December 31, 2008. We expect no further sales to Linens and we have fully collected all post-petition receivables as of the quarter ended November 30, 2008. Linens was a significant customer of the Company with net sales for fiscal 2009 of \$0.55 million and \$7.24 million for the Personal Care and Housewares segments, respectively, compared to net sales of \$1.30 million and \$17.30 million in the same segments, respectively, for fiscal 2008.

#### NOTE 20 SUBSEQUENT EVENTS (UNAUDITED)

On March 31, 2009, we completed the acquisition of certain assets, trademarks, customer lists, distribution rights, patents and formulas for Infusium 23<sup>®</sup> hair care products from The Procter & Gamble Company for a cash purchase price of \$60 million, which we paid with cash on hand. Infusium 23<sup>®</sup> has a heritage of over 80 years and its shampoos, conditioners and leave-in treatments have an established reputation for product performance with stylists and consumers. We will market Infusium 23<sup>®</sup> products into both retail and professional trade channels. We have begun the process of completing our analysis of the economic lives of the assets acquired and appropriate allocation of the initial purchase price.

## HELEN OF TROY LIMITED AND SUBSIDIARIES

#### Schedule II - Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

#### (in thousands)

Description	Balance at Beginning of Year	Additio Charged to cost and expenses (1)	ns	Charged to revenues		Deductions (	2)	Balance at End of Year
Year ended February 28, 2009 Allowance for accounts receivable	\$ 1,331	\$ 5,643	\$	-	-	\$ 5	,058	\$ 1,916
Year ended February 29, 2008 Allowance for accounts receivable	\$ 1,002	\$ 1,411	\$	-	-	\$ 1	,082	\$ 1,331
Year ended February 28, 2007 Allowance for accounts receivable	\$ 850	\$ 586	\$	-	-	\$	434	\$ 1,002

(1) Represents periodic charges to the provision for doubtful accounts.

(2) Represents write offs of doubtful accounts net of recoveries of previously reserved amounts.

# ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

The Company began seeking proposals for audit services after KPMG LLP (KPMG) ceased maintaining an office in El Paso, Texas, the headquarters of the Company s U.S. operations. The Audit Committee (the Audit Committee ) of the Board of Directors of the Company evaluated and analyzed several proposals for such auditing services. On May 15, 2007, the Audit Committee notified KPMG that it would not recommend that the Company s shareholders appoint KPMG as the Company s independent auditor and registered public accounting firm, subject to the requirements of Bermuda Law, at the next annual general meeting of shareholders. Bermuda company law provides that the Company s independent auditor may not be removed before the expiration of its term of office other than by the Company s shareholders acting at a general meeting at which general meeting the Company s shareholders must appoint another auditor for the remainder of its term of office. KPMG s current term was scheduled to expire at the Company s annual general meeting proposed for August 2007. In order to facilitate the transition of audit services for fiscal year 2008, KPMG notified the Company on May 15, 2007 that they resigned as the independent auditor and registered public accounting firm of the Company. KPMG s resignation created a casual vacancy. Bermuda company law provides that in the event of a casual vacancy in the position of auditor, the Company s Audit Committee may appoint a new auditor to fill such vacancy in accordance with the authority delegated to it by the Company s Board of Directors.

During the Company s fiscal year ended February 28, 2007, and subsequent interim period through May 15, 2007, there were no disagreements between the Company and KPMG on any matter of accounting principles or practices, financial statement disclosure, or auditing scope or procedures, which disagreement if not resolved to KPMG s satisfaction, would have caused them to make reference in conjunction with their opinion to the subject matter of the disagreement. There were also no reportable events as defined in Item 304(a)(1)(v) of Regulation S-K.

The audit report of KPMG on the consolidated financial statements of the Company and subsidiaries as of and for the year ended February 28, 2007 did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor was it qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope, or accounting principles, except as set forth in the following sentence. KPMG s report on the consolidated financial statements of the Company and subsidiaries as of and for the year ended February 28, 2007, contained a separate paragraph stating, As discussed in Note (9) to the consolidated financial statements, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123(R), Share-Based Payment, effective March 1, 2006.

The audit report of KPMG on management s assessment of effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting and the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting as of February 28, 2007 did not contain an adverse opinion or disclaimer of opinion, nor was it qualified or modified as to uncertainty, audit scope, or accounting principles.

On June 18, 2007, the Company engaged Grant Thornton LLP as the Company s auditor and independent registered public accounting firm to audit our consolidated financial statements for the fiscal years ending on or after February 29, 2008. Our Audit Committee has approved the appointment of Grant Thornton LLP for fiscal 2009 and fiscal 2008.

#### **ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### EVALUATION OF DISCLOSURE CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Under the supervision and with the participation of our Company s management, including the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), we have evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) promulgated under the Exchange Act as of February 28, 2009. Based upon that evaluation, our CEO and CFO concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information we are required to disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to management, including the CEO and CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure and is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC s rules and forms.

#### MANAGEMENT S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

The management s report on internal control over financial reporting and the attestation report on internal controls over financial reporting of the independent registered public accounting firm required by this item are set forth under Item 8, Financial Statements and Supplementary Data of this report on pages 71 through 72, and are incorporated herein by reference.

#### CHANGES IN INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

In connection with the evaluation described above, we identified no change in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during our fiscal quarter ended February 28, 2009, that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## **ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

#### PART III

#### ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Information in our Proxy Statement for the 2009 Annual General Meeting of Shareholders (the Proxy Statement ) is incorporated by reference in response to this Item 10, as noted below:

• Information about our Directors who are standing for reelection is set forth under Election of Directors ;

• Information about our executive officers is set forth under Executive Officers ;

• Information about our Audit Committee, including members of the committee, and our designated audit committee financial experts is set forth under Corporate Governance, The Board, Board Committees and Meetings ; and

• Information about Section 16(a) beneficial ownership reporting compliance is set forth under Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance.

We have adopted a Code of Ethics governing our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial and Principal Accounting Officer, and finance department members. The full text of our Code of Ethics is published on our website, at <u>www.hotus.com</u>, under the Investor Relations-Corporate Governance caption. We intend to disclose future amendments to, or waivers from, certain provisions of this Code on our website or in a current report on Form 8-K.

#### ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Information set forth under the captions Director Compensation ; Executive Compensation ; and Compensation Discussion and Analysis in our Proxy Statement is incorporated by reference in response to this Item 11.

# ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS

Information set forth under the captions Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Executive Compensation in our Proxy Statement is incorporated by reference in response to this Item 12.

## ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

Information set forth under the captions Certain Relationships and Related Transactions and Corporate Governance, The Board, Board Committees and Meetings in our Proxy Statement is incorporated by reference in response to this Item 13.

#### ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES

Information set forth under the caption Audit and Other Fees Paid to our Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm in our Proxy Statement is incorporated by reference in response to this Item 14.

#### PART IV

## ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a)	1.	Financial Statements: See Index to Consolidated Financial Statements under Item 8 on page 70 of this report
	2.	Financial Statement Schedule: See Schedule II on page 124 of this report
	3.	Exhibits

The exhibit numbers succeeded by an asterisk (\*) indicate exhibits physically filed with this Form 10-K. All other exhibit numbers indicate exhibits filed by incorporation by reference. Exhibit numbers succeeded by a cross ( ) are management contracts or compensatory plans or arrangements.

3.1	Memorandum of Association (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to the Company s Registration Statement on Form S-4, File No. 33-73594, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 30, 1993 (the 1993 S-4)).
3.2	Bye-Laws, as Amended (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.2 to Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending August 31, 2007, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 10, 2007).
10.1	Form of Directors and Executive Officers Indemnity Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the 1993 S-4).
10.2	Revlon Consumer Products Corporation (RCPC) North American Appliances License Agreement dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.31 to Helen of Troy Corporation s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending November 30, 1992 (the November 1992 10-Q )).
10.3	Revlon Consumer Products Corporation (RCPC) International Appliances License Agreement dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.32 to the November 1992 10-Q).
10.4	Revlon Consumer Products Corporation (RCPC) North American Comb and Brush License Agreement dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.33 to the November 1992 10-Q).
10.5	Revlon Consumer Products Corporation (RCPC) International Comb and Brush License Agreement dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.34 to the November 1992 10-Q).
10.6	First Amendment to RCPC North America Appliance License Agreement, dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.26 to Helen of Troy Corporation s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the year Ending February 28, 1993 (the 1993 10-K ).
10.7	First Amendment to RCPC North America Comb and Brush License Agreement, dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.27 to Helen of Troy Corporation s Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission for the year Ending February 28, 1993 (the 1993 10-K).
10.8	First Amendment to RCPC International Appliance License Agreement, dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.28 to the 1993 10-K).
10.9	First Amendment to RCPC International Comb and Brush License Agreement, dated September 30, 1992 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 to the 1993 10-K).
10.10	Guaranteed Senior Notes and \$40,000,000 Guaranteed Senior Note Facility (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending November 30, 1996 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 14, 1997).
10.11	Helen of Troy Limited 1998 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to Helen of Troy Limited s Registration Statement on Form S-8, File Number 333-67369, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 17, 1998).
10.12	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Helen of Troy Limited and Gerald J. Rubin, dated March 1, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 to Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending August 31, 1999 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 15, 1999 (the August 1999 10-Q )).

10.13	Amended and Restated Helen of Troy Limited 1995 Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.30 to the August 1999 10-Q).
10.14	Master License Agreement dated October 21, 2002, between The Procter & Gamble Company and Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados) (Confidential treatment has been requested with respect to certain portions of this exhibit. Omitted portions have been filed separately with the Commission).
10.15	Amended and Restated Helen of Troy 1997 Cash Bonus Performance Plan, as amended (incorporated by reference to Appendix D of Helen of Troy Limited s Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 27, 2008 (the 2008 Proxy Statement )).
10.16	Credit Agreement, dated June 1, 2004, among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and the other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 3, 2004).
10.17	Guaranty, dated June 1, 2004, made by Helen of Troy Limited (Bermuda), Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados), Hot Nevada, Inc., Helen of Troy Nevada Corporation, Helen of Troy Texas Corporation, Idelle Labs Ltd. and OXO International Ltd., in favor of Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders, pursuant to the Credit Agreement, dated June 1, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 3, 2004).
10.18	Note Purchase Agreement, dated June 29, 2004, by and among Helen of Troy Limited (Bermuda), Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados) and the purchasers listed in Schedule A thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 2, 2004).
10.19	Amendment to Employment Agreement between Helen of Troy Limited and Gerald J. Rubin, dated March 1, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission or April 26, 2005).
10.20	Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of September 23, 2005, among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended November 30, 2005 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 19, 2006 (the November 2005 10-Q).
10.21	Amended and Restated Helen of Troy Limited 1998 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A of Helen of Troy Limited s Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, File Number 001-14669, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 15, 2005).
10.22	Form of Helen of Troy Limited Nonstatutory Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 of Helen of Troy Limited s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 29, 2008, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 13, 2008 (the 2008 10-K).
10.23	Form of Helen of Troy Limited Incentive Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 of the 2008 10-K).
10.24	Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2005, among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the November 2005 10-Q).
10.25	First Amendment to Guarantee Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2005, among Helen of Troy Limited (Bermuda), Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados), HOT Nevada, Inc., Helen of Troy Nevada Corporation, Helen of Troy Texas Corporation, Idelle Labs Ltd., OXO International Ltd. and Bank of America, N.A. (as Guaranteed party) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the November 2005 10-Q).
10.26	Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the 2008 Proxy Statement).
10.27	Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Non-Employee Directors Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix C to the 2008 Proxy Statement).
10.28	Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the 2008 Proxy Statement).
10.29	Fourth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of December 15, 2008 among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 24, 2008).

10.30	Second Amendment to Employment Agreement between Helen of Troy Limited and Gerald J. Rubin, dated March 1, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 6, 2009).
21*	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
23.1*	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, Grant Thornton LLP.
23.2*	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, KPMG LLP.
31.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32*	Joint certification of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

#### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

#### HELEN OF TROY LIMITED

<u>By: /s/ Gerald J. Rubin</u> Gerald J. Rubin, Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and Director May 14, 2009

Pursuant to the requirements of the Exchange Act, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<u>(s/ Gerald J. Rubin</u> Gerald J. Rubin Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, President, Director and Principal Executive Officer May 14, 2009

<u>(s/ Richard J. Oppenheim</u> Richard J. Oppenheim Financial Controller and Principal Accounting Officer May 14, 2009

<u>/s/ Byron H. Rubin</u> Byron H. Rubin Director May 14, 2009

<u>/s/ John B. Butterworth</u> John B. Butterworth Director May 14, 2009

<u>/s/ Darren G. Woody</u> Darren G. Woody Director May 14, 2009 <u>/s/ Thomas J. Benson</u> Thomas J. Benson Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer May 14, 2009

<u>/s/ Stanlee N. Rubin</u> Stanlee N. Rubin Director May 14, 2009

<u>(s/ Gary B. Abromovitz</u> Gary B. Abromovitz Director, Deputy Chairman of the Board May 14, 2009

<u>/s/ Adolpho R. Telles</u> Adolpho R. Telles Director May 14, 2009

<u>/s/ Timothy F. Meeker</u> Timothy F. Meeker Director May 14, 2009

## INDEX TO EXHIBITS

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10.10	Guaranteed Senior Notes and \$40,000,000 Guaranteed Senior Note Facility (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 to Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending November 30, 1996 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 14, 1997).
10.11	Helen of Troy Limited 1998 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.3 to Helen of Troy Limited s Registration Statement on Form S-8, File Number 333-67369, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 17, 1998).
10.12	Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Helen of Troy Limited and Gerald J. Rubin, dated March 1, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.29 to Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ending August 31, 1999 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 15, 1999 (the August 1999 10-Q )).
10.13	Amended and Restated Helen of Troy Limited 1995 Non-Employee Director Stock Option Plan (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.30 to the August 1999 10-Q).
10.14	Master License Agreement dated October 21, 2002, between The Procter & Gamble Company and Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados) (Confidential treatment has been requested with respect to certain portions of this exhibit. Omitted portions have been filed separately with the Commission).
10.15	Amended and Restated Helen of Troy 1997 Cash Bonus Performance Plan, as amended (incorporated by reference to Appendix D of Helen of Troy Limited s Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 27, 2008 (the 2008 Proxy Statement )).

10.16	Credit Agreement, dated June 1, 2004, among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and the other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 3, 2004).
10.17	Guaranty, dated June 1, 2004, made by Helen of Troy Limited (Bermuda), Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados), Hot Nevada, Inc., Helen of Troy Nevada Corporation, Helen of Troy Texas Corporation, Idelle Labs Ltd. and OXO International Ltd., in favor of Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders, pursuant to the Credit Agreement, dated June 1, 2004 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 3, 2004).
10.18	Note Purchase Agreement, dated June 29, 2004, by and among Helen of Troy Limited (Bermuda), Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados) and the purchasers listed in Schedule A thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 2, 2004).
10.19	Amendment to Employment Agreement between Helen of Troy Limited and Gerald J. Rubin, dated March 1, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission or April 26, 2005).
10.20	Second Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of September 23, 2005, among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 of Helen of Troy Limited s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended November 30, 2005 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 19, 2006 (the November 2005 10-Q).
10.21	Amended and Restated Helen of Troy Limited 1998 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A of Helen of Troy Limited s Definitive Proxy Statement on Schedule 14A, File Number 001-14669, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 15, 2005).
10.22	Form of Helen of Troy Limited Nonstatutory Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.23 of Helen of Troy Limited s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended February 29, 2008, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 13, 2008 (the 2008 10-K).
10.23	Form of Helen of Troy Limited Incentive Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.24 of the 2008 10-K).
10.24	Third Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2005, among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.2 to the November 2005 10-Q).
10.25	First Amendment to Guarantee Agreement, dated as of November 15, 2005, among Helen of Troy Limited (Bermuda), Helen of Troy Limited (Barbados), HOT Nevada, Inc., Helen of Troy Nevada Corporation, Helen of Troy Texas Corporation, Idelle Labs Ltd., OXO International Ltd. and Bank of America, N.A. (as Guaranteed party) (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.3 to the November 2005 10-Q).
10.26	Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix A to the 2008 Proxy Statement).
10.27	Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Non-Employee Directors Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix C to the 2008 Proxy Statement).
10.28	Helen of Troy Limited 2008 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Appendix B to the 2008 Proxy Statement).
10.29	Fourth Amendment to Credit Agreement, dated as of December 15, 2008 among Helen of Troy L.P., Helen of Troy Limited, Bank of America, N.A. and other lenders party thereto (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on December 24, 2008).
10.30	Second Amendment to Employment Agreement between Helen of Troy Limited and Gerald J. Rubin, dated March 1, 1999 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 the Company s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 6, 2009).
21*	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.
23.1*	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, Grant Thornton LLP.
23.2*	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm, KPMG LLP.

31.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
31.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer Pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or Rule 15d-14(a) pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
32*	Joint certification of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.