

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

TIDEWATER INC
Form 10-K405
May 01, 2001

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

- ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 - For the Fiscal Year Ended March 31, 2001
- TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 - For the Transition Period From _____ to _____.

Commission file number 1-6311

TIDEWATER INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its Charter)

Delaware

72-0487776

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

601 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana

70130

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip Code)

Registrant's Telephone Number, including area code (504) 568-1010

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OF THE ACT:

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which registered

Common Stock, par value \$0.10	New York Stock Exchange, Pacific Stock Exchange
Preferred Stock Purchase Rights	New York Stock Exchange, Pacific Stock Exchange

SECURITIES REGISTERED PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(g) OF THE ACT: None

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to the filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes X No
--- ---

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

As of April 23, 2001, the aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the Registrant was approximately \$2,493,713,216. Excluded from the calculation of market value are 4,495,630 shares held by the Registrant's grantor stock ownership trust.

56,047,551 shares of Tidewater Inc. common stock \$0.10 par value per share were outstanding on April 23, 2001. Excluded from the calculation of shares outstanding at April 23, 2001 are 4,495,630 shares held by the Registrant's grantor stock ownership trust. Registrant has no other class of common stock outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Proxy Statement for Registrant's 2001 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated into Part III of this report.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

PART I

Item		Page Number
----		-----
1 & 2.	Business and Properties.....	3
3.	Legal Proceedings.....	7
4.	Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders.....	7
4A.	Executive Officers of the Registrant.....	7

PART II

5.	Market for the Registrant's Common Stock and Related Stockholder Matters.....	8
6.	Selected Financial Data.....	9
7.	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations.....	10
7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk.....	20
8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data.....	20
9.	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure.....	20

PART III

10.	Directors and Executive Officers of the Registrant.....	20
11.	Executive Compensation.....	20
12.	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management.	20
13.	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions.....	20

PART IV

14.	Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules and Reports on Form 8-K	21
-----	---	----

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

FORWARD LOOKING INFORMATION

In accordance with the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, the company notes that certain statements set forth in Items 1 and 7 and elsewhere in this report, which provide other than historical information and which are forward looking, involve risks and uncertainties that may impact the company's actual results of operations. The company faces many risks and uncertainties, many of which are beyond the control of the company, including: fluctuations in oil and gas prices; level of fleet additions by competitors; changes in capital spending by customers in the energy industry for exploration, development and production; unsettled political conditions, civil unrest and governmental actions, especially in higher risk countries of operations; foreign currency controls; and environmental and labor laws. Other risk factors are discussed elsewhere in this Form 10-K. Readers should consider all of these risk factors, as well as other information contained in this report.

PART I

ITEMS 1 and 2. BUSINESS AND PROPERTIES

GENERAL

Tidewater Inc. (the "company"), a Delaware corporation, provides services and equipment to the offshore energy industry through the operation of the world's largest fleet of offshore marine service vessels. The company's worldwide headquarters and principal executive offices are located at 601 Poydras Street, New Orleans, Louisiana 70130, and its telephone number is (504) 568-1010. The company was incorporated in 1956. Unless otherwise required by the context, the term "company" as used herein refers to Tidewater Inc. and its consolidated subsidiaries.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Fiscal 2001 proved to be a very active and successful year for the company. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2001 the company entered into agreements with three shipyards for the construction of 12 vessels. Seven of the vessels to be constructed are large platform supply vessels and five are large anchor-handling towing supply vessels. Among the three shipyards awarded the contracts is the company's own shipyard, Quality Shipyards, LLC. The company entered into these agreements one year after it initially announced its new-build program, intended to better service the needs of the company's customers in the deepwater markets of the world. In addition to the new-build program, the company committed to the construction of three large platform supply vessels and two large crew boats and also purchased three large platform supply vessels throughout the fiscal year. During the third quarter of fiscal 2001, the company purchased four large anchor-handling towing supply vessels and four large platform supply vessels from the Sanko Steamship Co., Ltd. The company also sold four vessels to one of its 49%-owned unconsolidated marine joint ventures, Sonatide Marine, Ltd., and sold its 40% holding in another unconsolidated joint venture, National Marine Service. A full discussion of each event is disclosed in the "Acquisitions and Dispositions" section of Item 7.

In fiscal 2000 the company acquired six new-build vessels from an industry competitor. The package of vessels included one supply vessel, two offshore tugs and three crew boats. In July 1999 the company sold all of its safety/standby vessels because this specialized fleet did not conform to the company's long-range strategies. A full discussion of each event is disclosed in the "Acquisitions and Dispositions" section of Item 7.

MARINE OPERATIONS

The company is the world's largest provider of offshore supply vessels and marine support services serving the energy industry. With a fleet of over 570 vessels, the company operates, and has a leading market share, in most of the world's significant oil and gas exploration and production markets and provides services supporting all phases of offshore exploration, development and production, including: towing of and anchor-handling of mobile drilling rigs and equipment; transporting supplies and personnel necessary to sustain drilling, workover and production activities; assisting in offshore construction activities; and a variety of specialized services including pipe laying, cable laying and 3-D seismic work.

The company's fleet is deployed in the major offshore oil and gas areas of the world. The principal areas of the company's operations include the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, areas offshore Australia, Brazil, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mexico, Trinidad, Venezuela and West Africa and in the North Sea and the Persian Gulf. The company conducts its operations through wholly-owned subsidiaries and joint ventures. Information concerning revenues and operating profit derived from domestic and international marine operations and domestic and international marine identifiable assets for each of the fiscal years ended March 31 are summarized below:

	(in thousands)		
	2001	2000	1999

Revenues:			
Vessel operations:			
United States	\$ 197,660	140,090	296,161
International	386,271	398,427	614,887
Other marine operations	32,748	36,298	57,944
	-----	-----	-----
	\$ 616,679	574,815	968,992
=====			
Operating profit:			
Vessel operations:			
United States	\$ 26,812	(4,694)	96,376
International	65,241	78,888	171,213
Other marine operations	7,137	6,254	12,526
Gain on sales of assets	22,750	19,441	2,949
	-----	-----	-----
	\$ 121,940	99,889	283,064
=====			
Identifiable assets:			
United States	\$ 293,070	267,411	315,509
International	1,063,709	881,803	990,062
	-----	-----	-----
Total marine assets	\$1,356,779	1,149,214	1,305,571
=====			

Please refer to Item 7 of this report and Note 10 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of revenues, operating profit and identifiable assets.

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Marine Vessel Operations. The company's vessels regularly and routinely move from one operating area to another, often to and from offshore operating areas of different continents. Tables comparing the average size of the company's marine fleet by class and geographic distribution for the last three fiscal years are included in Item 7 of this report.

The company's largest class of vessels consists of towing-supply and supply vessels. Included in this class are anchor-handling towing supply vessels and platform supply vessels. This class of vessels is chartered to customers for use in transporting supplies and equipment from shore bases to offshore drilling rigs, platforms and other installations. Vessels of the anchor handling towing-supply class are equipped for and are capable of towing drilling rigs and other marine equipment and setting anchors for positioning and mooring drilling rigs. Platform supply vessels, characterized with large cargo handling capabilities, serve drilling and production facilities and support offshore construction and maintenance work.

The company's other major classes of vessels include crew and utility vessels and offshore tugs. Crew and utility vessels are chartered to customers for use in transporting personnel and small quantities of

4

supplies from shore bases to offshore drilling rigs, platforms and other installations. Offshore tugs tow floating drilling rigs, dock tankers, tow barges, assist pipe laying, cable laying and construction barges and are used in a variety of other commercial towing operations, including towing barges carrying a variety of bulk cargoes and containerized cargo.

The company's vessels also include inshore tugs; inshore barges; offshore barges; and production, line-handling and various other special purpose vessels. Inshore tugs, which are operated principally within inland waters, tow drilling rigs to and from their locations, and tow barges carrying equipment and materials for use principally in inland waters for drilling and production operations. Barges are either used in conjunction with company tugs or are chartered to others.

The company sold its safety/standby vessels in July 1999 because it did not conform to the company's long-range strategies. This specialized fleet performed safety patrol functions and remained on station to provide a safety backup to offshore rigs and production facilities and carry special equipment to rescue personnel.

Contributions of Main Classes of Vessels. Revenues from vessel operations were derived from the main classes of vessels in the following percentages:

	Year Ended March 31,		
	2001	2000	1999
Towing-supply/Supply.....	77.5%	72.8%	73.3%
Offshore Tugs.....	9.6%	14.1%	12.7%
Crew/Utility.....	11.5%	9.2%	6.9%
Safety/Standby.....	---	2.0%	5.7%
Other.....	1.4%	1.9%	1.4%

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Shipyards. Quality Shipyards, LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the company, operates two shipyards in Houma, Louisiana, which construct, modify and repair vessels. On January 10, 2001, the company awarded Quality Shipyards, LLC four new-build program contracts for the construction of four large platform supply vessels for a total estimated cost of \$85.6 million. While the shipyard performs some work for outside customers, the majority of its business relates to the construction, repair and modification of the company's vessels.

Risks of Operation and Insurance. The operation of any marine vessel involves an inherent risk of catastrophic marine disaster, adverse weather conditions, mechanical failure, collisions, property losses to the vessel and business interruption due to political action in countries other than the United States. Any such event may result in a reduction in revenues or increased costs. The company's vessels are insured for their estimated market value against damage or loss, including war and pollution risks. The company also carries workers' compensation, maritime employer's liability, general liability (including third party pollution) and other insurance customary in the industry.

The company's international marine vessel operations are subject to the usual risks inherent in doing business in countries other than the United States. Such risks include political changes, possible vessel seizure, company nationalization or other governmental actions, currency restrictions and revaluations, and import/export restrictions, all of which are beyond the control of the company. Although it is impossible to predict the likelihood of such occurrences or their effect on the company, the company believes these risks to be within acceptable limits and, in view of the mobile nature of the company's principal revenue producing assets, does not consider them to constitute a factor materially adverse to the conduct of its international marine vessel operations as a whole.

Industry Conditions, Competition and Customers. The company's operations are materially dependent upon the levels of activity in offshore oil and natural gas exploration, development and production throughout the world. Such activity levels are affected by the trends in worldwide crude oil and natural gas prices that

5

are ultimately influenced by the supply and demand relationship for the natural resources. A discussion of current market conditions appears under "General Market Conditions" in Item 7 of this report.

The principal competitive factors for the offshore vessel service industry are suitability and availability of equipment, price and quality of service. The company has numerous competitors in virtually all areas in which it operates. Certain customers of the company own and operate vessels to service certain of their offshore activities.

The company's diverse, mobile asset base and geographic distribution allow it to respond to changes in market conditions and provide a broad range of vessel services to its customers throughout the world. Management believes that the company has a significant competitive advantage because of the size, diversity and geographic distribution of its vessel fleet, the company's financial condition and economies of scale.

The company's principal customers are major oil and natural gas exploration, development and production companies, foreign government-owned or controlled organizations and companies that explore and produce oil and natural gas, and companies that provide other services to the offshore energy industry. Although one customer accounted for 11% and the five largest customers accounted for

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

approximately 27% of its revenues during the year ended March 31, 2001, the company does not consider its operations dependent on any single customer.

Government Regulations. The company's vessels are subject to various statutes and regulations governing their operation and maintenance.

Under the citizenship provisions of the Merchant Marine Act of 1920 and the Shipping Act, 1916, the company would lose the privilege of engaging in U.S. coastwise trade if more than 25% of the company's outstanding stock was owned by non-U.S. citizens. The company has a dual stock certificate system to prevent non-U.S. citizens from owning more than 25% of its common stock. In addition, the company's charter permits the company certain remedies with respect to any transfer or purported transfer of shares of the company's common stock that would result in the ownership by non-U.S. citizens of more than 24% of its common stock. Based on information supplied to the company by its transfer agent, approximately 3.3% of the company's outstanding common stock was owned by non-U.S. citizens as of March 31, 2001.

The company's vessels are subject to various statutes and regulations governing their operation. The laws of the United States provide that once a vessel is registered under a flag other than the United States, it cannot thereafter engage in U.S. coastwise trade. Therefore, the company's non-U.S. flag vessels must continue to be operated abroad, and if the company were not able to secure charters abroad for them, and work would otherwise have been available for them in the United States, its operations would be adversely affected. Of the total 571 vessels owned or operated by the company at March 31, 2001, 305 were registered under flags other than the United States and 266 were registered under the U.S. flag.

All of the company's offshore vessels are subject to international safety and classification standards. U.S. flag towing-supply and supply vessels are required to undergo periodic inspections and to be recertified under drydock examination at least twice every five years. Vessels registered under flags other than the United States are subject to similar regulations as governed by the laws of the applicable jurisdictions.

SEASONALITY

The company's vessel fleet generally has its highest utilization rates in the warmer temperature months when the weather is more favorable for offshore exploration, development and construction work. However, business volume for the company is more dependent on oil and natural gas prices and the global supply and demand conditions for the company's services than any seasonal variation.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

During the ordinary course of business the company's operations are subject to a wide variety of environmental laws and regulations. The company attempts to comply with these laws and regulations in order to avoid costly accidents and related environmental damage. Compliance with existing governmental regulations that have been enacted or adopted regulating the discharge of materials into the environment, or otherwise relating to the protection of the environment, has not had, nor is expected to have, a material effect on the company. The company is proactive in establishing policies and operating procedures for safeguarding the environment against any environmentally hazardous material aboard its vessels and at shore base locations. Whenever possible, hazardous materials are maintained or transferred in confined areas to ensure containment if accidents occur. In addition the company has established operating policies that are

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

intended to increase awareness of actions that may harm the environment.

EMPLOYEES

As of March 31, 2001, the company had approximately 6,400 employees. The company considers relations with employees to be satisfactory. The company is not a party to any union contract in the United States but through several subsidiaries is a party to union agreements covering local nationals in several countries other than the United States. The company has recently been the target of a union organization campaign for the U.S. Gulf of Mexico employees by maritime labor unions. If the Gulf employees were to unionize, the company's flexibility in managing industry changes in the domestic market could be adversely affected.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The company is not a party to any litigation which, in the opinion of management, is likely to have a material adverse effect on the company's financial position or results of operations. Please refer to Item 7 and Note 8 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements for further discussion of these matters.

ITEM 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS

There were no matters submitted to a vote of security holders during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2001.

ITEM 4A. EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

Name	Age	Position
William C. O'Malley.....	64	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer since Octo
Larry T. Rigdon.....	53	Executive Vice President since 2000. Senior Vice Presiden President from 1991 to 1997.
Dean E. Taylor.....	52	Executive Vice President since 2000. Senior Vice Presiden President from 1995 to 1998.
Cliffe F. Laborde.....	49	Executive Vice President since 2000. Senior Vice Presiden Counsel since 1992.
J. Keith Lousteau.....	53	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since 20 2000. Treasurer since 1987.
Joseph M. Bennett.....	45	Vice President and Principal Accounting Officer since 2000

7

There are no family relationships between the directors or executive officers of the company. The company's officers are elected annually by the Board of Directors and serve for one-year terms or until their successors are elected.

PART II

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON STOCK AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The company's common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange and the Pacific Stock Exchange under the symbol TDW. At March 31, 2001, there were approximately 1,885 record holders of the company's common stock, based upon the record holder list maintained by the company's stock transfer agent. The following table sets forth the high and low closing sale prices of the company's common stock as reported on the New York Stock Exchange Composite Tape and the amount of cash dividends per share declared on Tidewater common stock for the periods indicated.

Fiscal Year	Quarter	High	Low	Dividend
2001	First	\$40.125	\$26.500	\$.15
	Second	48.500	30.125	.15
	Third	49.686	38.063	.15
	Fourth	52.950	39.875	.15
2000	First	\$31.625	\$22.688	\$.15
	Second	36.313	25.500	.15
	Third	36.500	23.563	.15
	Fourth	36.188	25.188	.15

8

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table sets forth a summary of selected financial data for each of the last five fiscal years. This information should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the Consolidated Financial Statements of the company included in this report.

Years Ended March 31 (in thousands, except ratio and per share amounts)	2001	2000	1999	1998
Revenues:				
Vessel revenues	\$ 583,931	538,517	911,048	1,000,000
Other marine revenues	32,748	36,298	57,944	50,000
	\$ 616,679	574,815	968,992	1,050,000
Earnings from continuing operations	\$ 86,143	76,590	210,719	240,000
Earnings from discontinued operations	---	---	---	1,000
Gain on sale of discontinued operations	---	---	---	6,000
Net earnings	\$ 86,143	76,590	210,719	247,000
Per common share(1):				
Earnings from continuing operations	\$ 1.53	1.37	3.68	4.00
Earnings from discontinued operations	---	---	---	0.01
Gain on sale of discontinued operations	---	---	---	0.02

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Net earnings	\$	1.53	1.37	3.68
Total assets		\$1,505,492	1,432,336	1,394,458
Long-term debt	\$	---	---	---
Working capital	\$	205,000	328,856	198,532
Current ratio		3.45	5.39	3.41
Cash dividends declared per common share	\$	.60	.60	.60

(1) All per share amounts were computed on a diluted basis.

(2) In fiscal 1998 the company sold its compression division for \$348 million, which resulted in an after-tax gain of \$61.7 million, or \$1.01 per share.

9

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The company provides services and equipment to the international offshore energy industry through the operation of a diversified fleet of marine service vessels. Revenues, net earnings and cash flows from operations are dependent upon the activity level of the vessel fleet that is ultimately dependent upon oil and natural gas prices which, in turn, are determined by the supply/demand relationship for oil and natural gas. The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Selected Financial Data and the Consolidated Financial Statements and related disclosures.

Acquisitions and Dispositions

On January 10, 2001, the company entered into agreements with three shipyards for the construction of 12 vessels for a total estimated cost of approximately \$305 million. The new-build program was initiated in order to better service the needs of the company's customers in the deepwater markets of the world. Seven of the vessels to be constructed are large platform supply vessels and five are large anchor-handling towing supply vessels capable of working in most deepwater markets of the world. Four of the platform supply vessels will be constructed at the company's shipyard, Quality Shipyards LLC, while the remaining eight vessels will be built at two Far East shipyards. The four vessels being constructed at Quality Shipyards LLC will be built to full Jones Act compliance. As of March 31, 2001, \$43.3 million has been expended on these 12 vessels of the estimated \$305 million total commitment. Scheduled delivery of the vessels will commence in December 2001 with final delivery of the last vessel expected in January 2003. The company expects to finance the new-build program from its current cash balances, its projected cash flow and, if necessary, its revolving credit facility.

In addition to the new-build program discussed above, the company has also committed to the construction of five additional vessels for a total of approximately \$52.9 million. These vessels consist of three large platform supply vessels under construction in Norway with scheduled completion dates in April, May and September 2001 and two large crewboats being built at U.S. shipyards to be delivered in April 2001 and January 2002. As of March 31, 2001, \$11.3 million has been expended on these vessels.

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

In February 2001 the company committed to a \$48 million cash purchase, subject to final inspection and various other closing matters, of two anchor-handling towing supply vessels specifically designed and equipped for deepwater work. The purchase of the vessels was finalized on April 11, 2001.

On December 15, 2000 the company sold four vessels (two offshore tugs and two crewboats) to one of its 49%-owned unconsolidated joint ventures for \$17 million, of which \$9 million was financed by the company. The transaction resulted in a gain on asset sale of \$1 million.

On November 21, 2000 the company purchased eight vessels from The Sanko Steamship Co., Ltd. for \$160 million in cash. Four of the vessels are large anchor-handling towing supply vessels and four are large North Sea-type platform supply vessels. In addition, throughout fiscal 2001, the company purchased three large platform supply vessels for approximately \$54.6 million.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2001, the company sold its 40% holding in its unconsolidated marine joint venture, National Marine Service (NMS), for approximately \$31 million resulting in a \$16.8 million gain. The after-tax effect of the gain on the sale was \$10.9 million, or \$.19 per share. As a result of the sale, the joint venture vessel count decreased by 24 vessels.

During the second quarter of fiscal 2000, the company acquired six new-build vessels for an aggregate cash payment of approximately \$22 million from an industry competitor. The package of vessels included one supply vessel, two offshore tugs and three crew boats. All six vessels were delivered to the market during fiscal 2000. In July 1999 the company sold all of its safety/standby vessels for approximately \$40 million in an all cash transaction. The specialized fleet was sold because it did not conform to the company's long-range strategies.

10

GENERAL MARKET CONDITIONS

Fiscal 2001 results of operations improved as compared to fiscal 2000 because of a stronger energy sector. Oil and natural gas prices appreciated significantly on the commodity markets during calendar year 1999, strengthened throughout calendar year 2000, and remained high during the first quarter of 2001. The strong price of oil and natural gas combined with severely tight inventory levels for both crude oil and natural gas increased the demand for working drilling rigs and services in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico and on a global basis. Strong worldwide demand for natural resources prompted the oil and gas exploration and production companies to increase their capital spending budgets in order to take advantage of improving industry conditions. U.S.-based vessel demand increased throughout the current fiscal year as market conditions and drilling rig utilization rates improved in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. In spite of strong oil and natural gas pricing, international drilling expenditures did not increase as significantly as in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico. International drilling activity began increasing in the latter half of calendar year 2000 and is expected to continue to increase throughout 2001. Worldwide offshore drilling rig utilization rates overall have increased to levels not seen since the latter part of calendar year 1998. International-based vessel demand is expected to increase as international drilling activity recovers.

Fiscal 2001 U.S.-based vessel revenues increased approximately 41% as compared to fiscal 2000 due to higher utilization and average day rates. Improving market conditions and vessel demand in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico has resulted in increased average day rates for the U.S.-based towing supply/supply vessels, the company's major income producing asset. As of March 31, 2001, the towing-supply/supply vessels operating in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico are

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

experiencing approximately 70% utilization and average day rates of approximately \$7,100 per day as compared to 56% utilization and average day rates of approximately \$4,000 per day at March 31, 2000.

Fiscal 2001 international-based vessel revenues decreased approximately 3% as compared to fiscal 2000 due to a decrease in the number of active vessels in the international-based fleet. International average day rates for the years ended March 31, 2001 and 2000 were basically unchanged, but began trending upward during the latter half of fiscal 2001 and are expected to increase as international drilling activity increases. The number of active vessels in the international fleet decreased as a result of the company selling its safety/standby fleet in July 1999, as it did not conform to the company's long-range strategies. Removing the revenue effect of the safety/standby fleet, fiscal 2001 revenues were comparable to fiscal 2000. International-based vessel utilization rates have increased slightly during the comparative periods, but primarily as a result of withdrawing several older, little used vessels from active service during the latter part of fiscal 2000 at which time they were removed from the utilization statistics. At March 31, 2001, the towing-supply/supply vessels operating in the international areas are experiencing approximately 76% utilization and average day rates of approximately \$5,950 compared to 76% utilization and average day rates of approximately \$5,400 per day at March 31, 2000.

Fiscal 2000 results of operations reflect the continued impact of the curtailment in capital spending in the oil industry as a result of the drop in oil prices that commenced in the fall of 1997. The company's average day rates and utilization both domestically and internationally were lower than those achieved in fiscal 1999. Although oil prices had increased substantially throughout calendar year 1999 and into 2000, capital spending levels of oil and gas exploration and production companies continued to be below 1997 levels. The oil industry downturn affected the U.S. Gulf of Mexico vessel market immediately and most sharply during fiscal 1999 and continued into fiscal 2000 as the duration of vessel contracts in this region normally range from one to three months. In addition, the delivery of a number of newly-constructed supply vessels to various industry competitors during fiscal 2000 had negatively affected the supply and demand balance for supply vessels in the Gulf of Mexico and some international markets, thereby putting continued downward pressure on vessel utilization and day rates.

Fiscal 2000 U.S.-based and international-based vessel revenues declined approximately 53% and 35%, respectively, as compared to fiscal 1999 due to lower utilization and average day rates as a result of the slow down in the oil industry. Fiscal 2000 international activity was not as dramatically affected by the downturn in the oil industry due primarily to the longer-term nature of international vessel contracts. U.S.-based vessel activity stabilized during the first quarter of fiscal 2000 and recovered gradually throughout

11

the remainder of fiscal 2000 after it weakened throughout fiscal 1999. International-based vessel demand weakened sharply during the fourth quarter of fiscal 1999 and continued its decline during the first and second quarter of fiscal 2000, stabilizing during the third quarter of fiscal 2000. At March 31, 1999, the towing-supply/supply vessels operating in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico were experiencing approximately 52% utilization and average day rates of approximately \$4,400. Utilization and average day rates for the international-based towing-supply/supply vessels were 78% and \$6,200, respectively, at March 31, 1999.

The company responded to the fiscal 1999 downturn in the oil industry by taking the following actions. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 1999, the

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

company began stacking those vessels that could not find gainful employment. Drydockings associated with the stacked vessels were deferred thus substantially reducing repair and maintenance costs for fiscal 2000. Reductions in crew personnel were made, consequently lowering crew costs for fiscal 2000. The company sold its safety/standby vessel fleet in July 1999, as it did not conform to the company's long-range strategies. During the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2000, 39 older, little-used vessels were withdrawn from active service at which time they were removed from the utilization statistics. Fourteen of the vessels were withdrawn from the domestic market and 25 were withdrawn from the international market. Vessel utilization rates are a function of vessel days worked and vessel days available for active vessels only. The removal of vessels from active service decreased the number of vessel days available that consequently increased vessel utilization rates during the third and fourth quarters of fiscal 2000. Vessels withdrawn from active service are intended to be sold. The company continues to dispose of its older vessels out of the active fleet and the withdrawn fleet that are not marketable due to obsolescence or are economically prohibitive to operate due to high repair costs. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 1999, the company conducted a review of the recoverability of the values of certain vessels and in March 1999, recorded a write-down of \$7.8 million to reduce the carrying value of certain vessels.

EARNINGS OVERVIEW

Fiscal 2001 earnings increased 5% over fiscal 2000 but decreased 64% as compared to fiscal 1999 amounts after eliminating the effects of unusual items. Fiscal 2001 earnings included a \$10.9 million, or \$.19 per common share, after-tax gain on the sale of the company's 40% holding in its marine joint venture, National Marine Service. Fiscal 2000 earnings included a \$5 million, or \$.09 per common share, reduction in income tax expense from the reversal of previously provided taxes resulting from the settlement of open income tax audits. Fiscal 1999 earnings included a \$5.1 million, or \$.09 per common share, after-tax write-down on certain vessels as previously discussed and a \$30 million, or \$.52 per common share, reduction in income tax expense. The reduction in income tax expense consisted of a \$2 million reduction of deferred income taxes resulting from the lowering of United Kingdom corporate income tax rates and a \$28 million realization of foreign tax credits not previously recognized resulting from a tax planning strategy of selling certain vessels from one taxing jurisdiction to another through intercompany sales. The result of such sales was to pay foreign taxes that are fully creditable on a current basis against U.S. income taxes and the release of previously accrued deferred foreign tax credits.

MARINE OPERATIONS

Offshore service vessels provide a diverse range of services and equipment to the energy industry. Fleet size, utilization and vessel day rates primarily determine the amount of revenues and operating profit because operating costs and depreciation do not change proportionally when revenue changes. Operating costs primarily consist of crew costs, repair and maintenance, insurance, fuel, lube oil and supplies. Fleet size and utilization are the major factors which affect crew costs. The timing and amount of repair and maintenance costs are influenced by customer demands, vessel age and scheduled drydockings to satisfy safety and inspection requirements mandated by regulatory agencies. Whenever possible, vessel drydockings are done during seasonally slow periods to minimize any impact on vessel operations and are only done if economically justified, given the vessel's age and physical condition. The following table compares revenues and operating expenses (excluding general and administrative expenses and depreciation expense) for the company's vessel fleet for the years ended March 31. Vessel revenues and operating costs relate to vessels owned and operated by the company, while other marine

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

services relate to third-party activities of the company's shipyards, brokered vessels and other miscellaneous marine-related activities.

(in thousands)	2001	2000	1999

Revenues (A):			
Vessel revenues:			
United States	\$197,660	140,090	296,161
International	386,271	398,427	614,887

Other marine revenues	583,931	538,517	911,048
	32,748	36,298	57,944

Total revenues	\$616,679	574,815	968,992
=====			
Operating costs:			
Vessel operating costs:			
Crew costs	\$183,502	189,202	262,014
Repair and maintenance	100,087	66,709	132,109
Insurance	20,035	18,626	24,216
Fuel, lube and supplies	29,140	24,462	35,228
Other	31,420	31,536	38,833

Costs of other marine revenues	364,184	330,535	492,400
	25,096	29,446	44,672

Total operating costs	\$389,280	359,981	537,072
=====			

(A) For fiscal 2001 and 2000, one customer accounted for 11% and 12%, respectively, of revenues. In fiscal 1999 a different customer accounted for 8% of revenues.

Marine operating profit and other components of earnings before income taxes for the years ended March 31 consists of the following:

(In thousands)	2001	2000	1999

Vessel activity:			
United States	\$ 26,812	(4,694)	96,376
International	65,241	78,888	171,213

Gain on sales of assets	92,053	74,194	267,589
Other marine services	22,750	19,441	2,949
	7,137	6,254	12,526

Operating profit	121,940	99,889	283,064

Other income	19,701	17,117	8,439
Corporate expenses	(13,026)	(11,012)	(12,317)
Interest and other debt costs	(1,195)	(714)	(2,445)

Earnings before income taxes	\$127,420	105,280	276,741

Operating profit for fiscal 2001 increased 22% as compared to fiscal 2000 as a result of increases in vessel revenues partially offset by higher repair and maintenance costs. Repair and maintenance costs increased as a result of costs incurred from an intense drydocking program the company initiated during the first quarter of fiscal 2001 and continued during the second and third quarters of fiscal 2001 in order to ready equipment for an expected improvement in demand for its vessels. The company initiated this drydocking program while vessel demand and average day rates had not fully recovered, thus sacrificing higher profitability in anticipation of higher average day rates and vessel demand when market conditions improved. Gains on sales of assets increased primarily as a result of the sale of the company's 40% holding in its unconsolidated marine joint venture, National Marine Service, for approximately \$31 million resulting in a \$16.8 million gain.

Operating profit for fiscal 2000 decreased 65% as compared to fiscal 1999 due to declines in utilization and average day rates for both U.S.-based vessels and international-based vessels and a decrease in the total number of vessels operating worldwide. Utilization and average day rates for both U.S.-based vessels and international-based vessels declined during fiscal 2000 as a result of reductions in customer drilling programs due to the downturn in the oil industry. Decreases in operating profit were partially offset by higher gains on asset sales. Included in fiscal 1999 gain on sales of assets is a fourth quarter write-down of \$7.8 million to reduce the carrying value of certain vessels. The write-down resulted from a review of the recoverability of the values of certain vessels. The review was performed due to industry conditions and having stacked and withdrawn from the active fleet several vessels at March 31, 1999.

13

As a result of the uncertainty of a certain customer to make payment of vessel charter hire, the company has deferred the recognition of approximately \$7.0 million of billings as of March 31, 2001, \$10.7 million of billings as of March 31, 2000 and \$9.7 million of billings as of March 31, 1999 which would otherwise have been recognized as revenue. The company will recognize the amounts as revenue as cash is collected or at such time as the uncertainty has been reduced.

Vessel utilization is determined primarily by market conditions and to a lesser extent by drydocking requirements. Vessel day rates are determined by the demand created through the level of offshore exploration, development and production spending by energy companies relative to the supply of offshore service vessels. Suitability of equipment and the degree of service provided also influence vessel day rates. The following tables compare day-based utilization percentages and average day rates by vessel class and in total for each of the quarters in the years ended March 31:

14

UTILIZATION:

Fiscal Year 2001	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Year
------------------	-------	--------	-------	--------	------

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Domestic-based fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	57.1%	64.2	64.0	68.7	63.4
Crew/Utility	86.9	89.2	93.0	87.5	89.1
Offshore Tugs	33.5	40.6	32.4	37.1	35.9
Other	30.7	23.9	11.2	27.2	23.2
Total	56.0%	61.7	59.9	63.7	60.3

International-based fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	76.7%	75.7	80.5	78.2	77.8
Crew/Utility	93.9	91.5	95.3	88.5	92.3
Offshore Tugs	66.8	67.3	72.8	64.5	67.8
Other	42.4	47.0	49.7	41.1	45.1
Total	74.5%	74.1	78.8	74.8	75.5

Worldwide fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	69.0%	71.3	74.3	74.8	72.4
Crew/Utility	91.5	90.7	94.5	88.2	91.2
Offshore Tugs	51.9	55.0	54.2	52.2	53.3
Other	39.9	42.0	41.1	37.8	40.3
Total	67.5%	69.4	71.8	70.8	69.9

Fiscal Year 2000

First Second Third Fourth Year

Domestic-based fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	47.2%	52.3	58.7	56.4	53.6
Crew/Utility	77.3	74.1	77.1	80.0	77.1
Offshore Tugs	38.9	46.8	42.8	35.6	41.2
Other	46.6	76.8	44.7	35.5	50.8
Total	49.4%	55.2	57.8	55.1	54.3

International-based fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	71.9%	67.0	74.0	76.0	72.0
Crew/Utility	89.2	90.4	83.3	93.7	89.1
Offshore Tugs	65.4	51.2	66.3	76.6	64.8
Safety/Standby	77.5	---	---	---	77.5
Other	52.1	48.3	48.5	43.7	48.2
Total	72.0%	66.3	71.9	75.6	71.3

Worldwide fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	62.6%	61.6	68.1	68.4	65.0
Crew/Utility	85.2	84.9	81.2	89.0	85.0
Offshore Tugs	54.1	49.4	56.3	59.1	54.9
Safety/Standby	77.5	---	---	---	77.5
Other	50.9	54.4	47.7	41.9	48.8
Total	64.1%	62.3	66.6	67.9	65.1

Fiscal Year 1999

First Second Third Fourth Year

Domestic-based fleet:

Towing-supply/Supply	85.4%	73.2	74.1	60.1	73.4
Crew/Utility	88.8	86.5	79.8	84.1	85.0
Offshore Tugs	61.1	55.8	50.7	38.1	51.7
Other	45.7	48.2	49.7	35.2	44.8
Total	79.9%	71.0	69.6	58.3	70.0

International-based fleet:

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Towing-supply/Supply	86.3%	84.0	81.0	79.2	82.6
Crew/Utility	80.2	88.0	89.3	89.6	86.8
Offshore Tugs	76.1	71.7	74.9	70.1	73.2
Safety/Standby	80.7	84.6	78.6	75.2	79.9
Other	67.9	69.8	69.2	72.1	69.7
Total	82.2%	81.8	80.2	78.5	80.7
Worldwide fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	85.9%	80.0	78.4	72.2	79.2
Crew/Utility	83.6	87.5	85.9	87.7	86.1
Offshore Tugs	69.6	65.2	64.8	56.8	64.2
Safety/Standby	80.7	84.6	78.6	75.2	79.9
Other	62.7	64.4	64.6	63.5	63.8
Total	81.4%	78.0	76.5	71.5	76.9

15

AVERAGE DAY RATES:

Fiscal Year 2001	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Year

Domestic-based fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$3,990	4,533	6,059	6,842	5,387
Crew/Utility	2,046	2,197	2,544	2,724	2,373
Offshore Tugs	6,235	5,927	6,298	6,902	6,325
Other	1,305	1,643	1,434	2,071	1,630
Total	\$3,735	4,169	5,306	5,967	4,803
International-based fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$5,066	5,149	5,321	5,783	5,340
Crew/Utility	2,237	2,246	2,244	2,334	2,264
Offshore Tugs	3,814	4,224	4,226	4,662	4,223
Other	1,624	1,318	1,362	974	1,335
Total	\$4,173	4,245	4,391	4,841	4,415
Worldwide fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$4,717	4,936	5,560	6,127	5,356
Crew/Utility	2,173	2,229	2,346	2,467	2,301
Offshore Tugs	4,516	4,804	4,796	5,378	4,867
Other	1,572	1,357	1,366	1,163	1,373
Total	\$4,035	4,220	4,674	5,202	4,539

Fiscal Year 2000	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Year

Domestic-based fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$3,734	3,484	3,646	4,019	3,721
Crew/Utility	1,806	1,790	1,871	2,014	1,872
Offshore Tugs	6,028	5,922	5,751	5,733	5,868
Other	1,345	1,250	1,188	1,331	1,273
Total	\$3,572	3,427	3,512	3,732	3,558
International-based fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$5,698	5,522	5,189	5,273	5,423

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Crew/Utility	2,250	2,172	2,188	2,290	2,226
Offshore Tugs	4,048	3,818	3,827	4,009	3,969
Safety/Standby	6,087	---	---	---	6,087
Other	1,265	1,383	1,358	1,604	1,393
Total	\$4,676	4,401	4,247	4,334	4,423
Worldwide fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$5,143	4,878	4,677	4,873	4,889
Crew/Utility	2,114	2,059	2,084	2,204	2,116
Offshore Tugs	4,652	4,638	4,456	4,452	4,566
Safety/Standby	6,087	---	---	---	6,087
Other	1,282	1,343	1,322	1,553	1,366
Total	\$4,377	4,088	4,009	4,151	4,160
=====					
Fiscal Year 1999	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Year

Domestic-based fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$7,709	6,331	4,545	4,043	5,844
Crew/Utility	2,280	2,121	2,021	2,014	2,121
Offshore Tugs	7,649	7,543	7,643	7,311	7,561
Other	3,449	3,053	2,073	2,006	2,674
Total	\$6,658	5,631	4,450	3,968	5,315
International-based fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$6,523	6,643	6,562	6,229	6,495
Crew/Utility	2,447	2,406	2,428	2,399	2,419
Offshore Tugs	4,273	4,141	4,303	4,411	4,280
Safety/Standby	6,541	6,351	6,201	6,014	6,291
Other	876	918	891	1,250	973
Total	\$5,330	5,320	5,225	5,024	5,223
Worldwide fleet:					

Towing-supply/Supply	\$6,975	6,536	5,860	5,555	6,269
Crew/Utility	2,376	2,303	2,293	2,270	2,311
Offshore Tugs	5,558	5,341	5,396	5,218	5,388
Safety/Standby	6,541	6,351	6,201	6,014	6,291
Other	1,313	1,317	1,104	1,347	1,253
Total	\$5,806	5,420	4,980	4,725	5,253
=====					

16

The average age of the company's owned or chartered vessel fleet is approximately 19 years. The following table compares the average number of vessels by class and geographic distribution during the years ended March 31 and the actual March 31, 2001 vessel count:

	Actual Vessel	Average Number		
	Count at March 31,	of Vessels During Year Ended March 31,		
	2001	2001	2000	1999

Domestic-based fleet:				
Towing-supply/supply	115	120	128	137
Crew/utility	25	26	26	32

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Offshore tugs	31	32	35	39
Other	9	9	9	10

Total	180	187	198	218

International-based fleet:				
Towing-supply/supply	212	200	209	231
Crew/utility	49	48	50	55
Offshore tugs	39	38	48	53
Safety/standby	---	---	6	28
Other	28	31	32	33

Total	328	317	345	400

Owned or chartered vessels				
included in marine revenues	508	504	543	618
Vessels withdrawn from active service	35	44	54	29
Joint-venture and other	28	35	45	48

Total	571	583	642	695
=====				

During the second quarter of fiscal 2001, the company sold its 40% holding in its unconsolidated marine joint venture, National Marine Service. As a result of the sale, the joint venture vessel count decreased by 24 vessels.

Included in the international-based towing-supply/supply vessel count for fiscal 2001 are the eight vessels purchased on November 21, 2000 from the Sanko Steamship Co., Ltd. Also included in the international-based count are three large platform supply vessels purchased throughout fiscal year 2001.

During the third quarter of fiscal 2001, the company sold four vessels (two offshore tugs and two crew boats) to its 40%-owned unconsolidated joint venture, Sonatide Marine, Ltd. In addition, the company sold or scrapped a total of 37 vessels throughout the current fiscal year.

The company sold all of its safety/standby vessels during the second quarter of fiscal 2000 because this specialized fleet did not conform to the company's long-range strategies. During the latter part of fiscal 2000, the company withdrew from active service, 39 older, little-used vessels. Fourteen of the vessels were withdrawn from the domestic-based fleet and 25 were withdrawn from the international-based fleet.

Consolidated general and administrative expenses for the years ended March 31 consists of the following components:

(In thousands)	2001	2000	1999
Personnel	\$40,214	40,206	44,666
Office and property	10,983	11,056	13,193
Sales and marketing	4,793	4,306	5,405
Professional service	4,262	5,729	5,587
Other	5,253	4,396	4,617

	\$65,505	65,693	73,468
=====			

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

General and administrative expenses for fiscal 2001 were comparable to fiscal 2000. Fiscal year 2000 amounts decreased from fiscal year 1999 levels due primarily to personnel reductions resulting from the sale of the safety/standby vessel fleet and the declining business environment.

17

LIQUIDITY, CAPITAL RESOURCES AND OTHER MATTERS

The company's current ratio, level of working capital and amount of cash flows from operations for any year are directly related to fleet activity and vessel day rates. Variations from year-to-year in these items are primarily the result of market conditions. Cash from operations in combination with an available line of credit provide the company, in management's opinion, with adequate resources to satisfy financing requirements. At March 31, 2001, all of the company's \$200 million revolving line of credit was available for future financing needs. Continued payment of dividends, most recently \$.15 per quarter per common share, is subject to declaration by the Board of Directors.

Net cash provided by operating activities for any fiscal year will fluctuate according to the level of business activity for the applicable year. Fiscal year 2001 net cash from operating activities was lower than the previous fiscal year due to increases in accounts receivable resulting from revenue growth in the domestic market.

Investing activities for fiscal 2001 used approximately \$258.9 million of cash. Proceeds from the sale of assets totaling \$46.6 million decreased as compared to fiscal 2000 primarily due to fewer vessels being sold. Included in fiscal 2001 proceeds on the sale of assets is approximately \$31 million from the sale of the company's 40% interest in its unconsolidated marine joint venture company National Marine Service and \$15.6 million from the sale or scrapping of 41 vessels during the year. Sale proceeds were offset by additions to properties and equipment totaling \$302.8 million which was comprised of approximately \$13.6 million of capitalized repairs and maintenance and \$286.4 million for the construction of offshore marine vessels and the acquisition of 11 vessels. Additions to properties and equipment were higher in fiscal 2001 as compared to fiscal 2000 primarily because of the addition of several new deepwater vessels purchased throughout the current fiscal year or currently under construction as disclosed in the "Acquisitions and Dispositions" section of Item 7.

Investing activities for fiscal 2000 provided cash of approximately \$14.4 million. Proceeds from the sale of assets totaling \$71.6 million were higher in fiscal 2000 than fiscal 1999 due to a greater number of vessels being sold, primarily the safety/standby vessels which were sold in July 1999 for approximately \$40 million in an all cash transaction. Additions to properties and equipment were higher in fiscal 2000 than fiscal 1999 due to a greater amount of vessel acquisitions. Additions to properties and equipment in fiscal 2000 totaled \$57.4 million of which \$7.6 million related to capitalized repairs and maintenance and \$47.3 million in new vessel construction. The new construction includes approximately \$22 million for the purchase of six new-build vessels from an industry competitor.

Fiscal 2001 financing activities used \$23.8 million of cash primarily for payment of quarterly common stock dividends. Fiscal 2000 financing activities used \$33.4 million of cash for payment of quarterly common stock dividends. Fiscal 1999 financing activities used \$175 million of cash which included a \$105 million prepayment on the credit facility and a repayment of \$6.5 million of debt incurred from the acquisition of the remaining 50% equity interest in an Australian joint-venture company during fiscal 1998. In addition \$80 million

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

was borrowed primarily for income tax payments of which approximately \$68 million related to the sale of the compression division during fiscal 1998. The company purchased 3,950,000 shares of common stock during fiscal year 1999 at an aggregate cost of \$109.3 million including broker commissions and fees.

GOODWILL

At March 31, 2001 the company had goodwill, net of accumulated amortization, which represented 22% of total assets and 28% of stockholders' equity. The goodwill amount primarily relates to the O.I.L. acquisition made during fiscal 1998 and is being amortized over 40 years. In assigning such amortization period the company considered many factors, including the projected future cash flows of the acquired business and the effects of obsolescence, demand, competition and other economic factors that may reduce a useful life. Management periodically evaluates whether subsequent events or circumstances have occurred that indicate the remaining useful life of goodwill may warrant revision or that the remaining goodwill balance may not be recoverable. If an evaluation is necessary, projected undiscounted future operating cash flows of the net assets acquired will be compared to the carrying amount to determine if an impairment exists. If goodwill is considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured based upon projected

18

discounted future operating cash flows using the company's average cost of funds for the discount rate. At March 31, 2001 management determined that there is no persuasive evidence that any material portion of goodwill will dissipate over a shorter period than the amortization period used. Goodwill amortization totaled \$9.2 million for each of the three years ended March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In June 2000, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," that amends certain provisions of SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." The pronouncements require that all derivatives be recognized as either assets or liabilities and measured at fair value, and are effective for all fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2000. The company will adopt the statement as of April 1, 2001 and does not anticipate that the adoption of SFAS No. 133, as amended, will have a material impact on its financial statements.

In December 1999, the Securities and Exchange Commission staff issued Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 101 that outlines the criteria for recognizing revenue and the disclosure related to revenue recognition. The company believes that its revenue recognition policies are consistent with the criteria stipulated in SAB No. 101; therefore, the January 1, 2001 implementation of SAB No. 101 did not have an impact on its financial statements.

CURRENCY FLUCTUATIONS AND INFLATION

Because of its significant international operations, the company is exposed to currency fluctuations and exchange risk. To minimize the financial impact of these items the company attempts to contract a majority of its services in United States dollars. The company is exposed to possible currency fluctuations related to its commitment to construct three of its new-build platform supply vessels at a Singapore shipyard. The company is required, per the construction agreements, to make all payments in Singapore dollars and is currently exposed to possible currency fluctuations on the remaining commitment which totals a current U.S. dollar equivalent of approximately \$49 million. The company continually monitors the currency exchange risks associated with all contracts

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

in foreign currencies.

Day-to-day operating costs are generally affected by inflation. However, because the energy services industry requires specialized goods and services, general economic inflationary trends may not affect the company's operating costs. The major impact on operating costs is the level of offshore exploration, development and production spending by energy exploration and production companies. As this spending increases, prices of goods and services used by the energy industry and the energy services industry will increase. Future increases in vessel day rates may shield the company from the inflationary effects on operating costs.

ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS

During the ordinary course of business the company's operations are subject to a wide variety of environmental laws and regulations. The company attempts to comply with these laws and regulations in order to avoid costly accidents and related environmental damage. Compliance with existing governmental regulations that have been enacted or adopted regulating the discharge of materials into the environment, or otherwise relating to the protection of the environment, has not had, nor is expected to have, a material effect on the company. The company is proactive in establishing policies and operating procedures for safeguarding the environment against any environmentally hazardous material aboard its vessels and at shore base locations. Whenever possible, hazardous materials are maintained or transferred in confined areas to ensure containment if accidents occur. In addition the company has established operating policies that are intended to increase awareness of actions that may harm the environment.

19

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

At March 31, 2001 the company had no debt financial instruments outstanding. The company is exposed to foreign currency fluctuations and exchange risks but attempts to minimize the financial impact of these items by contracting the majority of its services in United States dollars.

The company periodically enters into spot and forward derivative financial instruments as a hedge against foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities and currency commitments. At March 31, 2001 the company had one forward currency contract outstanding in the amount of \$11 million. For full disclosure on the company's derivative financial instruments see Note 9 of the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The information required by this Item is included in Part IV of this report.

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

None

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Information concerning directors of the company is incorporated by reference from the company's definitive proxy statement to be filed on or before July 26, 2001. For information regarding executive officers of the company, see Item 4A of this report.

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Information concerning executive compensation is incorporated by reference from the proxy statement described in Item 10 of this report.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

Information concerning security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management is incorporated by reference from the proxy statement described in Item 10 of this report.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

Information concerning certain relationships and related transactions is incorporated by reference from the proxy statement described in Item 10 of this report.

20

PART IV

ITEM 14. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES, AND REPORTS ON FORM 8-K

A. Financial Statements and Schedules

The Consolidated Financial Statements and Schedule of the company listed on the accompanying Index to Financial Statements and Schedule (see page F-1) are filed as part of this report.

B. Reports on Form 8-K

1. The company's report on Form 8-K dated January 10, 2001 reported that the company committed to the construction of twelve new vessels.
2. The company's report on Form 8-K dated February 7, 2001 reported that William C. O'Malley, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, issued a Quarterly Report to Shareholders.
3. The company's report on Form 8-K dated March 26, 2001 reported that William C. O'Malley, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, made a public presentation at the Howard Weil Energy Conference in New Orleans, Louisiana that disclosed details of the company's acquisition program of vessels designed and built to operate in the deepwater segment of the offshore oil and gas industry.
4. The company's report on Form 8-K dated April 11, 2001 reported that the company took delivery of three new vessels - one platform supply vessel and two anchor-handling towing supply vessels specifically designed and equipped for deepwater work.

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

C. Exhibits

The index below describes each exhibit filed as a part of this report. Exhibits not incorporated by reference to a prior filing are designated by an asterisk; all exhibits not so designated are incorporated herein by reference to a prior filing as indicated.

- 3(a) - Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Tidewater Inc. (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 3(a) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 1993).
 - 3(b) - Tidewater Inc. Bylaws (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 3(b) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 1999).
 - 4(a) - Restated Rights Agreement dated as of September 19, 1996 between Tidewater Inc. and The First National Bank of Boston (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 1 to Form 8-A on September 30, 1996).
 - *10(a) - \$200,000,000 Revolving Credit and Term Loan Agreement dated April 26, 2001.
 - 10(b) - Tidewater Inc. 1975 Incentive Program Stock Option Plan, as amended in 1990 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(c) to the company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1991).
 - *10(c) - Tidewater Inc. Amended and Restated 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan dated July 27, 2000.
 - 10(d) - Tidewater Inc. Second Amended and Restated Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan dated October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(f) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 21
- 10(e) - Second Amended and Restated Employees' Supplemental Savings Plan of Tidewater Inc. dated October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(d) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - 10(f) - Supplemental Health Plan for Executive Officers of Tidewater Inc. (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(i) to a Registration Statement on September 12, 1989, Registration No. 33-31016).
 - 10(g) - Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Plan for Outside Directors of Tidewater Inc., effective October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(I) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - 10(h) - Restated Non-Qualified Pension Plan for Outside Directors of Tidewater Inc., effective October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(h) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - 10(i) - Amended and Restated Change of Control Agreement dated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater and William C. O'Malley (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(b) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - 10(j) - Form of Amended and Restated Change of Control Agreement dated October

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

- 1, 1999 with three executive officers of Tidewater Inc. (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(c) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(k) - Tidewater Inc. 1996 Annual Incentive Plan (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(m) to the company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1997).
 - 10(l) - Employment Agreement dated September 25, 1997 between Tidewater Inc. and William C. O'Malley (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10 to the company's report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 1997).
 - 10(m) - Amendment No. 1 to Employment Agreement dated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater Inc. and William C. O'Malley (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(a) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - *10(n) - Restated Tidewater Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan dated June 9, 2000.
 - 10(o) - Restated Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan and Trust Agreement as Restated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater Inc. and Merrill Lynch Trust Company of America (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(e) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - 10(p) - Second Restated Executives Supplemental Retirement Trust as Restated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater Inc. and Hibernia National Bank (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(j) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
 - *10(q) - Continuing Employment and Separation Agreement ("Agreement") between the Company and Richard M. Currence dated December 31, 2000.
 - *10(r) - Amendment To Restated Tidewater Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan dated June 9, 2000.
 - *21 - Subsidiaries of the company.
 - *23 - Consents of Independent Auditors.

22

SIGNATURES OF REGISTRANT

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized on May 1, 2001.

TIDEWATER INC.
(Registrant)

By: /s/ William C. O'Malley

William C. O'Malley
Chairman of the Board of Directors, President,
and Chief Executive Officer

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

By: /s/ J. Keith Lousteau

J. Keith Lousteau
Senior Vice President and Chief Financial
Officer

By: /s/ Joseph M. Bennett

Joseph M. Bennett
Vice President and Corporate Controller
(Principal Accounting Officer)

SIGNATURES OF DIRECTORS

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the Registrant and in the capacities indicated on May 1, 2001.

/s/ Robert H. Boh

Robert H. Boh

/s/ Paul W. Murrill

Paul W. Murrill

/s/ Donald T. Bollinger

Donald T. Bollinger

/s/ William C. O'Malley

William C. O'Malley

/s/ Arthur R. Carlson

Arthur R. Carlson

/s/ Lester Pollack

Lester Pollack

/s/ Jon C. Madonna

Jon C. Madonna

/s/ J. Hugh Roff, Jr.

J. Hugh Roff, Jr.

/s/Donald G. Russell

Donald G. Russell

23

TIDEWATER INC.

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K
ITEMS 8, 14(a), AND 14(d)

Index to Financial Statements and Schedule

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Report of Independent Auditors

Consolidated Balance Sheets, March 31, 2001 and 2000

Consolidated Statements of Earnings, three years ended March 31, 2001

Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity, three years ended March 31, 2001

Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows, three years ended March 31, 2001

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULE

II. Tidewater Inc. and Subsidiaries Valuation and Qualifying Accounts

All other schedules are omitted as the required information is inapplicable or the information is presented in the financial statements or the related notes.

F-1

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The Board of Directors and Shareholders
Tidewater Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Tidewater Inc. as of March 31, 2001 and 2000 and the related consolidated statements of earnings, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended March 31, 2001. Our audits also included the financial statement schedule listed in the accompanying Index to Financial Statements and Schedule. These financial statements and schedule are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements and schedule based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the 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 consolidated financial position of Tidewater Inc. at March 31, 2001 and 2000, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended March 31, 2001, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. 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

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

therein.

ERNST & YOUNG LLP

New Orleans, Louisiana
April 23, 2001

F-2

TIDEWATER INC.
CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

March 31, 2001 and 2000
(in thousands)

ASSETS	2001	2000
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 95,153	226,910
Trade and other receivables, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$7,981 in 2001 and \$12,331 in 2000	160,677	149,006
Marine operating supplies	28,632	25,405
Other current assets	4,125	2,372
Total current assets	288,587	403,693
Investments in, at equity, and advances to unconsolidated companies	16,544	23,275
Properties and equipment:		
Vessels and related equipment	1,613,604	1,356,177
Other properties and equipment	42,837	42,474
Less accumulated depreciation	884,765	842,620
Net properties and equipment	771,676	556,031
Goodwill, net of accumulated amortization of \$35,494 in 2001, and \$26,324 in 2000	328,836	338,006
Other assets	99,849	111,331
Total assets	\$1,505,492	1,432,336

LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	68,426	66,943
Accrued property and liability losses	6,825	4,322
Income taxes	8,336	3,572
Total current liabilities	83,587	74,837
Deferred income taxes	155,744	145,076

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Accrued property and liability losses	38,682	49,549
Other liabilities and deferred credits	49,139	48,673
Stockholders' equity	1,178,340	1,114,201

Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$1,505,492	1,432,336
=====		

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

F-3

TIDEWATER INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF EARNINGS

Years Ended March 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999
(in thousands, except share and per share data)

	2001	2000	1999

Revenues:			
Vessel revenues	\$ 583,931	538,517	911,048
Other marine revenues	32,748	36,298	57,944

	616,679	574,815	968,992

Costs and expenses:			
Vessel operating costs	364,184	330,535	492,400
Costs of other marine revenues	25,096	29,446	44,672
Depreciation and amortization	79,527	82,502	94,783
General and administrative	65,505	65,693	73,468

	534,312	508,176	705,323

	82,367	66,639	263,669

Other income (expenses):			
Foreign exchange gain (loss)	297	43	(12)
Gain on sales of assets	22,750	19,443	2,949
Equity in net earnings of unconsolidated companies	6,994	8,994	7,505
Minority interests	127	(486)	(1,601)
Interest and miscellaneous income	16,080	11,361	6,676
Interest and other debt costs	(1,195)	(714)	(2,445)

	45,053	38,641	13,072

Earnings before income taxes	127,420	105,280	276,741
Income taxes	41,277	28,690	66,022

Net earnings	\$ 86,143	76,590	210,719
=====			
Earnings per common share	\$1.55	1.38	3.68
=====			
Diluted earnings per common share	\$1.53	1.37	3.68
=====			
Weighted average common shares outstanding	55,741,624	55,546,832	57,189,946
Incremental common shares from stock options	525,735	249,976	78,579

Adjusted weighted average common shares	56,267,359	55,796,808	57,268,525

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

=====
Cash dividends declared per common share \$.60 .60 .60
=====

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

F-4

TIDEWATER INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Years Ended March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999
(in thousands)

	Common stock	Additional paid-in capital	Retained earnings	Deferred compensation- restricted stock	Accumul Othe Comprehe Inco

Balance at March 31, 1998	\$5,948	295,153	712,463	(4,206)	(10,
Net earnings	---	---	210,719	---	
Issuance of restricted stock	---	---	---	(48)	
Exercise of stock options	4	788	---	---	
Cash dividends declared	---	---	(34,394)	---	
Common stock purchased	(395)	(108,917)	---	---	
Establishment of GSOP	500	106,688	---	---	
Issuance of common shares	---	(27)	---	---	
Other	---	(127)	---	1,024	

Balance at March 31, 1999	6,057	293,558	888,788	(3,230)	(10,
Net earnings	---	---	76,590	---	
Currency translation adjustments	---	---	---	---	
Unrealized gains on available-for- sale securities	---	---	---	---	
Comprehensive income					
Issuance of restricted stock	---	43	---	(43)	
Exercise of stock options	(1)	(265)	---	---	
Cash dividends declared	---	---	(33,370)	---	
Issuance of common shares	---	340	---	---	
Other	---	(59)	---	986	

Balance at March 31, 2000	6,056	293,617	932,008	(2,287)	(9,
Net earnings	---	---	86,143	---	
Currency translation adjustments	---	---	---	---	
Unrealized losses on available-for- sale securities	---	---	---	---	(
Supplemental Executive Retire- ment Plan minimum liability	---	---	---	---	(
Comprehensive income					
Issuance of restricted stock	---	(2)	---	---	
Exercise of stock options	(1)	2,019	---	---	
Cash dividends declared	---	---	(33,481)	---	

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Issuance of common shares	---	682	---	---	
Other	---	2	---	1,130	

Balance at March 31, 2001	\$6,055	296,318	984,670	(1,157)	(10,)
=====					

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

F-5

TIDEWATER INC.
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Years Ended March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999
(in thousands)

	2001	2000	

Operating activities:			
Net earnings	\$ 86,143	76,590	2
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	79,527	82,502	
Provision for deferred income taxes	8,934	6,968	(
Gain on sales of assets	(22,750)	(19,443)	
Equity in earnings of unconsolidated companies, less dividends	(2,408)	(2,232)	
Minority interests, less dividends	(322)	(879)	
Compensation expense - restricted stock	1,130	944	
Changes in assets and liabilities, net:			
Trade and other receivables	(9,085)	84,330	
Marine operating supplies	(3,175)	2,542	
Other current assets	(1,739)	2,098	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	14,093	(3,048)	(
Accrued property and liability losses	2,710	(1,693)	
Other, net	(2,142)	6,383	

Net cash provided by operating activities	150,916	235,062	2

Investing activities:			
Proceeds from sales of assets	46,578	71,676	
Proceeds from sale of Compression operations	---	---	(
Additions to properties and equipment	(302,793)	(57,362)	(
Other	(2,680)	114	

Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(258,895)	14,428	(

Financing activities:			
Common stock purchased	---	---	(1
Principal payments on long-term debt	---	---	(1
Borrowings	---	---	
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	9,703	426	
Cash dividends	(33,481)	(33,370)	(
Other	---	(58)	

Net cash used in financing activities	(23,778)	(33,002)	(1

Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(131,757)	216,488	(
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	226,910	10,422	

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$ 95,153	226,910	
=====			
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information:			
Cash paid during the year for:			
Interest	\$ 1,049	685	
Income taxes	\$ 23,559	38,373	2
=====			

See accompanying Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

F-6

TIDEWATER INC.
NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

March 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

NATURE OF OPERATIONS

The company provides services and equipment to the offshore energy industry through the operation of the world's largest fleet of offshore service vessels. Revenues, net earnings and cash flows from operations are dependent upon the activity level for the vessel fleet which is ultimately dependent upon oil and natural gas prices which, in turn, are determined by the supply/demand relationship for oil and natural gas.

USE OF ESTIMATES

In preparing the company's financial statements, management makes informed estimates and judgements that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and related disclosures. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

PRINCIPLES OF CONSOLIDATION

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of Tidewater Inc. and its subsidiaries. Significant intercompany balances and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

CASH EQUIVALENTS

The company considers all highly liquid investments with maturities of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

INVENTORIES

Inventories, which consist primarily of operating parts and supplies for the company's vessels, are stated at the lower of weighted-average cost or market.

PROPERTIES AND EQUIPMENT

Properties and equipment are stated at cost. Depreciation for financial reporting purposes is computed primarily on the straight-line basis beginning with the date of construction, with salvage values of 5%-10% for marine equipment, using estimated useful lives of:

Years

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Marine equipment (from date of construction)	15-25
Other properties and equipment	3-30

Used equipment is depreciated in accordance with the above schedule; however, no life less than six years is used for marine equipment regardless of the date constructed.

Maintenance and repairs are charged to operations as incurred during the asset's original estimated useful life. Major repair costs incurred after the original estimated useful life that also have the effect of extending the useful life of the asset are capitalized and amortized over three years. Major modifications to equipment are capitalized and amortized over the remaining life of the equipment.

GOODWILL

Goodwill primarily relates to the O.I.L. acquisition made during fiscal 1998 and is being amortized over 40 years. Management periodically evaluates whether subsequent events or circumstances have occurred that indicate the remaining useful life of goodwill may warrant revision or that the remaining goodwill balance may not be recoverable. If an evaluation is necessary, projected undiscounted future operating cash flows of the net assets acquired will be compared to the carrying amount to determine if an impairment exists. If

F-7

goodwill is considered to be impaired, the impairment to be recognized is measured based upon projected discounted future operating cash flows using the company's average cost of funds for the discount rate. Goodwill amortization totaled \$9.2 million for each of the three years ended March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999.

IMPAIRMENT OF LONG-LIVED ASSETS

Impairment losses are recorded on long-lived assets used in operations or to be disposed of when indicators of impairment are present and the undiscounted cash flows estimated to be generated by these assets or through their sale are less than the assets' carrying amount. In March 1999 the company recorded a charge to earnings of \$7.8 million (included in gain on sales of assets) to reduce the carrying amount of certain vessels. The write-down of these vessels was determined based on internally developed valuations.

ACCRUED PROPERTY AND LIABILITY LOSSES

The company's insurance subsidiary establishes case based reserves for estimates of reported losses on direct business written, estimates received from ceding reinsurers, and reserves based on past experience of unreported losses. Such losses principally relate to the company's marine operations and are included as a component of costs of marine operations in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings. The liability for such losses and the related reimbursement receivable from reinsurance companies are classified in the Consolidated Balance Sheet into current and noncurrent amounts based upon estimates of when the liabilities will be settled and when the receivables will be collected.

PENSION AND OTHER POSTRETIREMENT BENEFITS

Pension costs are accounted for in accordance with the provisions of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 87 and are funded to at least meet the minimum funding requirements as required by law. Prior service costs are amortized on the straight-line basis over the average remaining

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

service period of employees expected to receive pension benefits. Postretirement benefits other than pensions are accounted for in accordance with SFAS No. 106. The estimated cost of postretirement benefits other than pensions are accrued during the employees' active service period.

The company follows the disclosure provisions of SFAS No. 132, "Employers' Disclosures about Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits," which standardizes the disclosures for pensions and other postretirement benefit plans.

INCOME TAXES

Income taxes are accounted for in accordance with the provisions of SFAS No. 109. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

Marine services are generally contracted for on a rate per day of service basis; therefore, marine vessel revenues are recognized on a daily basis throughout the contract period.

FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

The U.S. dollar is the functional currency for all of the company's existing international operations, as transactions in these operations are predominately denominated in U.S. dollars. Foreign currency exchange gains and losses are included in the Consolidated Statements of Earnings.

EARNINGS PER SHARE

Earnings per share are computed in accordance with SFAS No. 128, "Earnings Per Share," which requires the reporting of both earnings per share and diluted earnings per share. The calculation of earnings

F-8

per share is based on the weighted average number of shares outstanding and therefore excludes any dilutive effect of stock options, while diluted earnings per share includes the dilutive effect of stock options. Per share amounts disclosed in these Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements are on a diluted basis.

CONCENTRATIONS OF CREDIT RISK

Financial instruments which potentially subject the company to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of trade and other receivables. These receivables are with a variety of domestic, international and national energy companies and also include reinsurance companies for recoverable insurance losses. The company manages its exposure to risk through ongoing credit evaluations of its customers and generally does not require collateral. The company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts for potential losses and does not believe it is generally exposed to concentrations of credit risk that are likely to have a material adverse impact on the company's financial position or results of operations.

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

STOCK-BASED COMPENSATION

The company uses the intrinsic value method of accounting for stock-based compensation prescribed by Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees," and, accordingly, adopted the disclosure provisions of SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation."

COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The Company uses SFAS No. 130, "Reporting Comprehensive Income," which requires the reporting and display of total comprehensive income and its components in the financial statements. Total comprehensive income represents the net change in stockholders' equity during a period from sources other than transactions with stockholders and as such, includes net earnings. For the company, accumulated other comprehensive income is comprised of the net after-tax effect of accumulated foreign currency translation adjustments, unrealized gains and losses on available-for-sale securities, and a minimum pension liability for the company's Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan.

NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

In June 2000, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 138, "Accounting for Certain Derivative Instruments and Certain Hedging Activities," that amends certain provisions of SFAS No. 133, "Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities." The pronouncements require that all derivatives be recognized as either assets or liabilities and measured at fair value, and are effective for all fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2000. The company will adopt the statement as of April 1, 2001 and does not anticipate that the adoption of SFAS No. 133, as amended, will have a material impact on its financial statements.

In December 1999, the Securities and Exchange Commission staff issued Staff Accounting Bulletin (SAB) No. 101 that outlines the criteria for recognizing revenue and the disclosure related to revenue recognition. The company believes that its revenue recognition policies are consistent with the criteria stipulated in SAB No. 101; therefore, the January 1, 2001 implementation of SAB No. 101 did not have an impact on its financial statements.

(2) UNCONSOLIDATED COMPANIES

Investments in, at equity, and advances to unconsolidated marine joint-venture companies at March 31 were as follows:

	Percentage ownership	(in thousands)	
		2001	2000

National Marine Service (Abu Dhabi-UAE)	40%	\$ ---	13,480
Sonatide Marine, Ltd. (Luanda, Angola)	49%	13,780	4,128
Others	20%-50%	2,764	5,667
		-----	-----
		\$16,544	23,275
=====			

F-9

During the second quarter of fiscal 2001, the company sold its 40% holding in its unconsolidated marine joint venture, National Marine Service (NMS), for

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

approximately \$31 million resulting in a \$16.8 million gain. The after-tax effect of the gain on the sale was \$10.9 million, or \$0.19 per share.

On December 15, 2000 the company sold four vessels (two offshore tugs and two crewboats) to Sonatide Marine Ltd., its 49%-owned unconsolidated joint venture, for \$17 million, of which \$9 million was financed by the company.

The aggregate amount of undistributed earnings of all unconsolidated joint-venture companies included in consolidated stockholders' equity at March 31, 2001 is approximately \$27.7 million.

(3) INCOME TAXES

Earnings before income taxes derived from United States and international operations for the years ended March 31 are as follows:

	(in thousands)		
	2001	2000	1999
United States	\$ 34,504	11,032	96,421
International	92,916	94,248	180,320
	\$127,420	105,280	276,741

Income tax expense for the years ended March 31 consists of the following:

	(in thousands)			
	U.S.			
	Federal	State	International	Total
2001				
Current	\$ 9,566	1,364	21,413	32,343
Deferred	14,033	---	(5,099)	8,934
	\$23,599	1,364	16,314	41,277
2000				
Current	\$ (7,660)	2,567	26,815	21,722
Deferred	10,518	---	(3,550)	6,968
	\$ 2,858	2,567	23,265	28,690
1999				
Current	\$ (386)	8,333	87,985	95,932
Deferred	5,710	---	(35,620)	(29,910)
	\$ 5,324	8,333	52,365	66,022

The actual income tax expense for the years ended March 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999 differs from the amounts computed by applying the U.S. federal tax rate of

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

35% to pre-tax earnings as a result of the following:

	(in thousands)		
	2001	2000	1999

Computed "expected" tax expense	\$44,597	36,848	96,859
Increase (reduction) resulting from:			
Effect of United Kingdom tax rate change	---	---	(2,000)
Overaccrual of income tax expense in prior years	---	(5,000)	---
Foreign tax credits not previously recognized	(5,099)	(3,550)	(35,620)
Utilization of net operating loss carryforwards	---	(52)	(792)
Expenses which are not deductible for tax purposes	655	771	833
State taxes	887	1,669	5,416
Other, net	237	(1,996)	1,326

	\$41,277	28,690	66,022
=====			

F-10

The reversal in fiscal year 2000 of taxes overaccrued in prior years is the result of settlements of open income tax audits with the Internal Revenue Service for fiscal years 1993 through 1997.

During the fourth quarter of the year ended March 31, 1999 approximately \$28 million of foreign tax credits not previously recognized were realized as the result of a tax planning strategy of selling certain vessels from one taxing jurisdiction to another through intercompany sales. The result of such sales was to pay foreign taxes which are fully creditable on a current basis against U.S. income taxes and to accelerate the release of previously accrued deferred foreign tax credits.

The significant components of deferred income tax expense for the years ended March 31 are as follows:

	(in thousands)		
	2001	2000	1999

Deferred income tax expense (benefit) (exclusive of the effects of other components listed below)	\$17,308	15,434	12,326
Investment, foreign and minimum tax credits	(3,275)	(4,916)	(5,416)
Foreign tax credits not previously recognized	(5,099)	(3,550)	(35,620)
Effect of United Kingdom tax rate charges	---	---	(2,000)

	\$ 8,934	6,968	(29,300)
=====			

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities at March 31, 2001 and 2000 are as follows:

	(in thousands)	
	2001	2000

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Deferred tax assets:		
Financial provisions not deducted for tax purposes	\$ 16,406	16,346
Foreign net operating loss carryforwards	14,283	7,924
Tax credit carryforwards	10,502	13,776
Other	2,040	3,451

Gross deferred tax assets	43,231	41,497
Less valuation allowance	(14,283)	(14,283)

Net deferred tax assets	28,948	27,214

Deferred tax liabilities:		
Depreciation and amortization	(137,582)	(130,814)
Other	(18,162)	(14,262)

Gross deferred tax liabilities	(155,744)	(145,076)

Net deferred tax liabilities	\$(126,796)	(117,862)
=====		

The valuation allowance is primarily the result of a doubt over the ultimate realization of benefits from certain foreign net operating losses. The remaining balance of the deferred tax assets is expected to be realized through future operating results and the reversal of taxable temporary differences.

The company has not recognized a deferred tax liability of approximately \$31.5 million for the undistributed earnings of certain non-U.S. subsidiaries that arose in prior years because the company currently does not expect those unremitted earnings to reverse and become taxable to the company in the foreseeable future. A deferred tax liability will be recognized when the company expects that it will realize those undistributed earnings in a taxable manner, such as through receipt of dividends or sale of investments. As of March 31, 2001, the undistributed earnings of these subsidiaries were approximately \$90 million.

The company receives a tax benefit that is generated by certain employee stock benefit plan transactions. This benefit is recorded directly to additional paid-in-capital and does not reduce the company's effective income tax rate. The tax benefit for the years ended March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 totaled approximately \$2.3 million, \$30,000 and \$146,000, respectively.

F-11

(4) LONG-TERM DEBT

At March 31, 2001 the company had a \$200 million revolving credit facility with a group of banks and at that date there were no borrowings outstanding under the facility. On April 20, 2001 the company signed a new \$200 million revolving credit and term loan agreement which became effective April 26, 2001. Under the new agreement, borrowings bear interest, at the company's option, at prime or Federal Funds rates plus .5% or Eurodollar rates plus margins from .5% to .75% based on the company's funded debt to total capitalization ratio. The new revolving credit commitment will expire on April 30, 2004, at which time the then outstanding balance will convert to a term loan payable in eight quarterly installments beginning July 31, 2004. All of the borrowings under the agreement are unsecured and the company pays an annual fee of .225% on the unused portion of the facility.

Under the terms of the agreement, the company has agreed to limitations on future levels of investments and aggregate indebtedness, and maintenance of

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

certain debt to capitalization ratios and also debt to earnings ratios. The agreement also limits the company's ability to encumber its assets for the benefit of others.

(5) BENEFIT PLANS

Upon meeting various citizenship, age and service requirements, employees are eligible to participate in a defined contribution savings plan and can contribute from 2% to 15% of their base salary to an employee benefit trust. The company matches with company common stock 50% of the employee's contribution to the plan up to a maximum of 6% of the employee's base salary. The plan held 434,746 shares and 424,503 shares of the company's common stock at March 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. Amounts charged to expense for the plan for 2001, 2000 and 1999 were \$1.8 million, \$1.7 million and \$1.8 million, respectively.

A defined benefits pension plan covers certain U.S. citizen employees and employees who are permanent residents of the United States. Benefits are based on years of service and employee compensation. The company's policy is to fund the plan based upon minimum funding requirements of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. The company also has a supplemental retirement plan (supplemental plan) that provides pension benefits to certain employees in excess of those allowed under the company's tax-qualified pension plan. Certain benefits programs are maintained in several other countries which provide retirement income for covered employees.

Qualified retired employees currently are covered by a program which provides limited health care and life insurance benefits. Costs of the program are based on actuarially determined amounts and are accrued over the period from the date of hire to the full eligibility date of employees who are expected to qualify for these benefits. This plan is not funded.

Changes in plan assets and obligations during the years ended March 31, 2001 and 2000 and the funded status of the U.S. defined benefits pension plan and the supplemental plan (referred to collectively as

F-12

"Pension Benefits") and the postretirement health care and life insurance plan (referred to as "Other Benefits") at March 31, 2001 and 2000 were as follows:

	(in thousands)			
	Pension Benefits		Other Benefits	
	2001	2000	2001	2000
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
CHANGE IN BENEFIT OBLIGATION				
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$34,684	34,798	13,336	15,526
Service cost	890	1,014	848	900
Interest cost	2,616	2,432	979	942
Participant contributions	---	---	286	265
Plan amendments	---	---	---	(976)
Benefits paid	(1,158)	(1,073)	(860)	(829)
Actuarial (gain) loss	2,405	(2,487)	1,186	(2,492)
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
Benefit obligation at end of year	\$39,437	34,684	15,775	13,336
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				

CHANGE IN PLAN ASSETS

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	\$31,073	29,102	---	---
Actual return	2,627	2,961	---	---
Employer contributions	184	83	574	564
Participant contributions	---	---	286	265
Benefits paid	(1,158)	(1,073)	(860)	(829)

Fair value of plan assets at end of year	\$32,726	31,073	---	---

Funded (unfunded) status	(6,710)	(3,611)	(15,775)	(13,336)
Unrecognized actuarial (gain) loss	1,202	(1,169)	(4,037)	(5,570)
Unrecognized prior service cost	555	687	(67)	(129)

Net accrued benefit cost	\$ (4,953)	(4,093)	(19,879)	(19,035)
=====				
NET ACCRUED BENEFIT COST CONSISTS OF:				
Prepaid benefit cost	\$ 1,783	1,869	---	---
Accrued benefit liability	(8,085)	(5,962)	(19,879)	(19,035)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	1,349	---	---	---

Net accrued benefit cost	\$ (4,953)	(4,093)	(19,879)	(19,035)
=====				

For pension plans with benefit obligations in excess of plan assets, the projected benefit obligation at March 31, 2001 and 2000 was \$9.0 million and \$6.6 million, respectively. The accumulated benefit obligation for pension plans with benefit obligations in excess of plan assets was \$8.1 million and \$5.4 million at March 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Net periodic pension cost for the U.S. defined benefit pension plan and the supplemental plan for 2001, 2000 and 1999 include the following components:

	(in thousands)		
	2001	2000	1999

Service cost	\$ 890	1,014	848
Interest cost	2,616	2,432	2,189
Expected return on plan assets	(2,900)	(2,718)	(2,693)
Amortization of prior service cost	126	204	269
Recognized actuarial (gain) loss	312	538	(29)

Net periodic pension cost	\$ 1,044	1,470	584
=====			

Net periodic postretirement health care and life insurance costs for 2001, 2000 and 1999 include the following components:

	(in thousands)		
	2001	2000	1999

Service cost	\$ 848	900	1,068
Interest cost	979	942	961
Other amortization and deferral	(409)	(284)	(205)

Net periodic postretirement benefit cost	\$1,418	1,558	1,824

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

F-13

Assumptions used in actuarial calculations were as follows:

	2001	2000	1999
Discount rate	7.5%	7.5%	7.0%
Expected long-term rate of return on assets	8.3%	9.5%	9.5%
Rates of annual increase in compensation levels	4.0%	4.0%	4.0%

The assumed health care cost trend rate used in measuring the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation will be 7% in 2002, gradually declining to 5% in the year 2006 and thereafter. A 1% increase in the assumed health care cost trend rates for each year would increase the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation by approximately \$2.3 million at March 31, 2001 and increase the cost for the year ended March 31, 2001 by \$.3 million. A 1% decrease in the assumed health care cost trend rates for each year would decrease the accumulated postretirement benefit obligation by approximately \$1.9 million at March 31, 2001 and decrease the cost for the year ended March 31, 2001 by \$.2 million.

A defined contribution retirement plan covers all eligible U.S. fleet personnel, along with all new eligible employees of the company hired after December 31, 1995. This plan is noncontributory by the employee, but the company has contributed in cash 3% of an eligible employee's compensation to an employee benefit trust. The cost of the plan for fiscal 2001, 2000 and 1999 was \$2.3 million, \$2.2 million and \$1.7 million, respectively. Fiscal 1999 cost of the plan has been reduced by \$.9 million of forfeitures due to employee severances.

(6) OTHER ASSETS, OTHER LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED CREDITS AND ACCUMULATED OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

A summary of other assets at March 31 follows:

	(in thousands) 2001
Recoverable insurance losses	\$38,907
Assets held for sale	19,299
Deferred income tax assets	28,948
Other	12,695
	\$99,849

A summary of other liabilities and deferred credits at March 31 follows:

	(in thousands) 2001
Postretirement benefits liability	\$19,879

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Pension liability	4,953
Minority interests in net assets of subsidiaries	3,460
Deferred vessel revenues	7,628
Other	13,219

	\$49,139
=====	

A summary of accumulated other comprehensive income at March 31 follows:

	(in t
	2001

Currency translation adjustments	\$10,580
Unrealized gains on available-for-sale securities	(529)
Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan minimum liability	877

	\$10,928
=====	

(7) CAPITAL STOCK

The company has 125 million shares of \$.10 par value common stock authorized. At March 31, 2001 and 2000, 60,543,181 shares and 60,561,892 shares, respectively, were issued. At March 31, 2001 and 2000, 4,506,962 and 4,911,445 shares, respectively, were held by the Grantor Trust Stock Ownership

F-14

Program, which are not included in common shares outstanding for earnings per share calculations. At March 31, 2001 and 2000, three million shares of no par value preferred stock were authorized and unissued.

Under the company's stock option and restricted stock plans, the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors has authority to grant stock options and restricted shares of the company's stock to officers and other key employees. At March 31, 2001, 3,844,211 shares of common stock are reserved for issuance under the plans of which 286,744 shares are available for future grants. Stock options are granted with an exercise price equal to the stock's fair market value at the date of grant. All outstanding stock options have ten-year terms and most of the outstanding options vest and become exercisable in equal installments over a three-year period from the grant date.

The per share weighted-average fair values of stock options granted during fiscal years 2001, 2000 and 1999 were \$18.60, \$13.28 and \$8.37, respectively, on the dates of grant using the Black Scholes option-pricing model with the following weighted-average assumptions:

	2001	2000	1999

Risk-free interest rate	4.70%	6.50%	5.15%
Expected dividend yield	1.20%	2.00%	2.50%
Expected stock price volatility	48.43%	45.71%	42.79%
Expected stock option life	5 years	5 years	5 years
=====			

The company applies APB Opinion No. 25 in accounting for its plans and,

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

accordingly, no compensation cost has been recognized for its stock options in the consolidated financial statements. Had the company determined compensation cost based on the fair value at the grant date for its stock options under SFAS No. 123, the company's net earnings would have been reduced to the pro forma amounts as follows:

	2001	2000	1999

Net earnings (in thousands):			
As reported	\$86,143	76,590	210,719
Pro forma	\$78,232	69,434	204,778
Earnings per common share:			
As reported	\$ 1.55	1.38	3.68
Pro forma	\$ 1.40	1.25	3.58
Diluted earnings per common share:			
As reported	\$ 1.53	1.37	3.68
Pro forma	\$ 1.39	1.24	3.58
=====			

Stock option activity during 2001, 2000 and 1999 was as follows:

	Weighted-average Exercise Price	Number of Shares

Balance at March 31, 1998	\$38.89	1,960,065
Granted	23.18	1,121,000
Exercised	19.78	(33,061)
Expired or cancelled	42.04	(38,998)

Balance at March 31, 1999	33.21	3,009,006
Granted	32.02	609,000
Exercised	15.64	(33,699)
Expired or cancelled	33.77	(24,000)

Balance at March 31, 2000	33.17	3,560,307
Granted	42.68	616,000
Exercised	22.79	(358,397)
Expired or cancelled	35.00	(264,169)

Balance at March 31, 2001	\$35.73	3,553,741
=====		

F-15

The 3,553,741 options outstanding at March 31, 2001 fall into three general exercise-price ranges as follows:

Exercise Price Range

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

	\$12.13 - \$22.75	\$23.38 - \$35.75	\$
Options outstanding at March 31, 2001	883,547	881,000	\$
Weighted average exercise price	\$ 22.42	\$ 29.62	\$
Weighted average remaining contractual life	7.4 years	7.4 years	
Options exercisable at March 31, 2001	578,870	536,652	
Weighted average exercise price of options exercisable at March 31, 2001	\$ 22.24	\$ 27.93	\$

At March 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999, the number of options exercisable under the stock option plans was 2,411,216, 2,049,618, and 1,302,653, respectively; and the weighted average exercise price of those options was \$36.38, \$35.02, and \$34.47, respectively.

A total of 38,900 shares of restricted common stock of the company were granted to certain key employees during fiscal years 1998 through 2000. These restricted shares vest and become freely transferable over a four-year period provided the employee remains employed by the company during the vesting period. During the restricted period, the restricted shares may not be transferred or encumbered, but the recipient has the right to vote and receive dividends on the restricted shares. The fair market value of the stock at the time of the grants totaled approximately \$1.7 million and was classified in stockholders' equity as deferred compensation - restricted stock. The deferred amount is being amortized by equal monthly charges to earnings over the four-year vesting period.

In accordance with an employment agreement with the company's chairman of the board entered into on September 25, 1997, 50,000 shares of restricted common stock were granted on that date. These restricted shares vest at varying intervals when the average market price of the common stock reaches certain predetermined levels. The fair market value of the stock at the time of grant totaling approximately \$3 million was deferred and is being amortized by equal monthly charges to earnings over five years.

From time to time the company's Board of Directors has authorized share repurchase programs whereby the company could purchase shares of company common stock in the open market or through privately negotiated transactions. There were no stock repurchases during fiscal years 2001 or 2000 and all previously authorized programs had expired by March 31, 2000. During fiscal year 1999 the company repurchased 3,950,000 shares of company common stock at a total cost of \$109.3 million, or \$27.67 per share.

On January 29, 1999 the company established a Grantor Trust Stock Ownership Program in connection with which the company entered into a trust agreement with a bank providing for the establishment of the related trust (the "trust"). The trust is designed to acquire, hold and distribute shares of the common stock of the company to provide for the payment of benefits and compensation under the company's employee benefit plans, including its stock option plans and 401(k) plan. The trust will not increase or alter the amount of benefits or compensation that will be paid under these plans.

On January 29, 1999 the company sold at market value 5,000,000 shares (the "acquired shares") of common stock to the trust for \$107,187,500, or \$21.4375 per share. In payment for the acquired shares, the trust paid \$500,000 in cash and issued a promissory note payable to the company for the remaining balance. Acquired shares will be released to satisfy the company's obligations to pay benefits under company benefit plans as the promissory note is paid down or forgiven.

For financial reporting purposes the trust is consolidated with the company.

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Any dividend transactions between the company and the trust are eliminated. Acquired shares held by the trust remain valued at the market price at the date of purchase and are shown as a reduction to stockholders' equity in the company's

F-16

consolidated balance sheet. The difference between the trust share value and the fair market value on the date shares are released from the trust is included in additional paid-in capital. Common stock held in the trust is not considered outstanding in the computation of earnings per share. The trust held 4,506,962 and 4,911,445 shares of common stock at March 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. The trustee will vote or tender shares held by the trust in accordance with the confidential instructions of participants in the company's stock option plans and 401(k) plan.

Under a Shareholder Rights Plan, one preferred stock purchase right has been distributed as a dividend for each outstanding common share. Each right entitles the holder to purchase, under certain conditions, one one-hundredth of a share of Series A Participating Preferred Stock at an exercise price of \$160, subject to adjustment. The rights will not be exercisable unless a person (as defined in the plan) acquires beneficial ownership of 15% or more of the outstanding common shares, or a person commences a tender offer or exchange offer, which upon its consummation such person would beneficially own 15% or more of the outstanding common shares. The Board of Directors is authorized in certain circumstances to lower the beneficial ownership percentage to not less than 10%.

If after the rights become exercisable a person becomes the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the outstanding common shares (except pursuant to an offer for all shares approved by the Board of Directors), each holder (other than the acquirer) will be entitled to receive, upon exercise, common shares having a market value of twice the exercise price. In addition, if the company is involved in a merger (other than a merger which follows an offer for all shares approved by the Board of Directors), major sale of assets or other business combination after a person becomes the beneficial owner of 15% or more of the outstanding common shares, each holder of a right (other than the acquirer) will be entitled to receive, upon exercise, common stock of the acquiring company having a market value of twice the exercise price.

The rights may be redeemed for \$.01 per right at any time prior to ten days following the acquisition by a person of 15% or more of the outstanding common shares. The rights expire on November 1, 2006.

(8) COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

An employment agreement exists with the company's chairman of the board whereby he will serve in such capacity as well as president and chief executive officer through March 28, 2002. The terms of the employment agreement provide for an annual base salary and certain other benefits. Compensation continuation agreements exist with all other officers of Tidewater Inc. whereby each receives compensation and benefits in the event that their employment is terminated following certain events relating to a change in control of the company. The maximum amount of cash compensation that could be paid under the agreements, based on present salary levels, is approximately \$16.4 million.

On January 10, 2001, the company entered into agreements with three shipyards for the construction of 12 vessels for a total estimated cost of approximately \$305 million. Seven of the vessels to be constructed are large platform supply vessels and five are large anchor-handling towing supply vessels capable of working in most deepwater markets of the world. Four of the platform supply

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

vessels will be constructed at the company's shipyard, Quality Shipyards LLC, while the remaining eight vessels will be built at two Far East shipyards. As of March 31, 2001, \$43.3 million has been expended on these 12 vessels of the estimated \$305 million total commitment. Scheduled delivery of the vessels will commence in December 2001 with final delivery of the last vessel expected in January 2003.

The company has also committed to the construction of five additional vessels for a total of approximately \$52.9 million. These vessels consist of three large platform supply vessels under construction in Norway with scheduled completion dates in April, May and September 2001 and two large crewboats being built at U.S. shipyards to be delivered in April 2001 and January 2002. As of March 31, 2001, \$11.3 million has been expended on these vessels.

F-17

In February 2001 the company committed to a \$48 million cash purchase, subject to final inspection and various other closing matters, of two anchor-handling towing supply vessels specifically designed and equipped for deepwater work. The purchase of the vessels was finalized on April 11, 2001.

Various legal proceedings and claims are outstanding which arose in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of management, the amount of ultimate liability, if any, with respect to these actions will not have a materially adverse effect on the company's financial position or results of its ongoing operations.

(9) FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The company's financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, trade receivables and trade payables whose book values are considered to be representative of their respective fair values. The company also periodically enters into spot and forward currency derivative financial instruments as a hedge against foreign currency denominated assets and liabilities and currency commitments.

Spot contracts are short-term in nature and settle within two business days. The fair value approximates the carrying value due to the short-term nature of this instrument, and as a result, no gains or losses are recognized. At March 31, 2001, 2000 and 1999 the company had no spot contracts outstanding.

Forward currency contracts are generally longer-term in nature but generally do not exceed one year. Any gains or losses on forward contracts are deferred if the transaction qualifies as a hedge. At March 31, 2001 the company had one forward contract outstanding totaling \$11 million that qualified as a hedge instrument. The forward contract was purchased to hedge against any possible foreign exchange exposure the company may experience with its commitment to a Norwegian shipyard that is currently constructing one platform supply vessel for delivery in September 2001 as disclosed in Note 8 above. The company had no outstanding derivative financial instruments at March 31, 2000 or 1999.

F-18

(10) SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF OPERATIONS

The company follows SFAS No. 131, "Disclosures about Segments of an Enterprise and Related Information" but operates in only one business segment. The following table provides a comparison of revenues, operating profit, identifiable assets, and depreciation and amortization and additions to properties and equipment for the years ended March 31. Vessel revenues and

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

operating costs relate to vessels owned and operated by the company while other marine services relate to the activities of the company's shipyards, brokered vessels and other miscellaneous marine-related businesses.

	(in thousands)	
	2001	2000

Marine revenues (A):		
Vessel revenues:		
United States	\$ 197,660	140,090
International (B)	386,271	398,427

Other marine services	583,931	538,517
	32,748	36,298

	\$ 616,679	574,815
=====		
Marine operating profit:		
Vessel activity:		
United States	\$ 26,812	(4,694)
International	65,241	78,888

Gains on sales of assets	92,053	74,194
Other marine services	22,750	19,441
	7,137	6,254

Other income	121,940	99,889
Corporate expenses	19,701	17,117
Interest and other debt costs	(13,026)	(11,012)
	(1,195)	(714)

Earnings before income taxes	\$ 127,420	105,280
=====		
Identifiable assets:		
Marine:		
United States	\$ 292,952	268,234
International (B)	1,047,283	857,705

Investments in and advances to unconsolidated Marine companies	1,340,235	1,125,939
	16,544	23,275

General corporate	1,356,779	1,149,214
	148,713	283,122

	\$1,505,492	1,432,336
=====		
Depreciation and amortization:		
Marine equipment depreciation	\$ 69,596	72,662
General corporate depreciation	761	670
Goodwill amortization	9,170	9,170

	\$ 79,527	82,502
=====		
Additions to properties and equipment:		
Marine equipment operations	\$ 302,706	56,476
General corporate	87	886

	\$ 302,793	57,362

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

- (A) One customer accounted for 11% and 12% of revenues for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively. In fiscal 1999 a different customer accounted for 8% of revenues.
- (B) Marine support services are conducted worldwide with assets that are highly mobile. Revenues are principally derived from offshore service vessels, which regularly and routinely move from one operating area to another, often to and from offshore operating areas in different continents. Because of this asset mobility, revenues and long-lived assets attributable to the company's international marine operations in any one country are not "material" as that term is defined by SFAS No. 131. Equity in net assets of non-U.S. subsidiaries is \$798.5 million, \$581.9 million and \$674.5 million at March 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999, respectively. Other international identifiable assets include accounts receivable and other balances denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar which aggregate approximately \$5.5 million, \$5.0 million, and \$12.9 million at March 31, 2001, 2000, and 1999, respectively. These amounts are subject to the usual risks of fluctuating exchange rates and government-imposed exchange controls.

F-19

(11) SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION--QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA (UNAUDITED)

Years Ended March 31, 2001 and 2000
(in thousands, except per share data)

2001	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Marine revenues	\$136,884	146,137	159,127	174,531
Marine operating profit	\$ 9,935	36,645	31,586	43,774
Net earnings	\$ 8,158	26,297	22,339	29,349
Earnings per share	\$.15	.47	.40	.53
Diluted earnings per share	\$.15	.47	.40	.52

2000	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Marine revenues	\$154,530	138,946	141,770	139,569
Marine operating profit	\$ 24,671	27,291	22,232	25,695
Net earnings	\$ 16,462	18,885	22,233	19,010

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Earnings per share	\$	.30	.34	.40	.34
=====					
Diluted earnings per share	\$	.30	.34	.40	.34
=====					

Operating profit consists of revenues less operating costs and expenses, depreciation, general and administrative expenses and other income and expenses of the Marine division.

See Notes 2 and 3 for detailed information regarding transactions which affect fiscal 2001 and 2000 quarterly amounts. A discussion of current market conditions appears in Item 7, "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations."

F-20

SCHEDULE II

TIDEWATER INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES
VALUATION AND QUALIFYING ACCOUNTS
YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2001, 2000 AND 1999
(IN THOUSANDS)

Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D	Column E
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Description	Balance at Beginning of period	Additions at Cost	Deductions	Balance at End of Period
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
2001				
Deducted in balance sheet from trade accounts receivable:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$12,331	664	5,014 (A)	7,981
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Deducted in balance sheet from other assets:				
Amortization of goodwill	\$28,058	9,170	---	37,228
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Amortization of prepaid rent and debt issuance costs	\$ 3,666	146	---	3,812
	=====	=====	=====	=====
2000				
Deducted in balance sheet from trade accounts receivables:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$11,125	1,800	594 (A)	12,331
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Deducted in balance sheet from other assets:				
Amortization of goodwill	\$18,888	9,170	---	28,058
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Amortization of prepaid rent and debt issuance costs	\$ 3,423	243	---	3,666
	=====	=====	=====	=====
1999				
Deducted in balance sheet from				

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

trade accounts receivables:				
Allowance for doubtful accounts	\$14,078	685	3,638 (A)	11,125
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Deducted in balance sheet from other assets:				
Amortization of goodwill	\$ 9,718	9,170	---	18,888
	=====	=====	=====	=====
Amortization of prepaid rent and debt issuance costs	\$ 2,501	922	---	3,423
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(A) Accounts receivable amounts considered uncollectible and removed from accounts receivable by reducing allowance for doubtful accounts.

F-21

TIDEWATER INC

EXHIBITS FOR THE

ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K

FISCAL YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2001

EXHIBIT INDEX

The index below describes each exhibit filed as a part of this report. Exhibits not incorporated by reference to a prior filing are designated by an asterisk; all exhibits not so designated are incorporated herein by reference to a prior filing as indicated.

- 3(a) - Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Tidewater Inc. (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 3(a) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 1993).
- 3(b) - Tidewater Inc. Bylaws (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 3(b) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 30, 1999).
- 4(a) - Restated Rights Agreement dated as of September 19, 1996 between Tidewater Inc. and The First National Bank of Boston (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 1 to Form 8-A on September 30, 1996).
- *10(a) - \$200,000,000 Revolving Credit and Term Loan Agreement dated April 26, 2001.
- 10(b) - Tidewater Inc. 1975 Incentive Program Stock Option Plan, as amended in 1990 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(c) to the company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1991).
- *10(c) - Tidewater Inc. Amended and Restated 1992 Stock Option and Restricted Stock Plan dated July 27, 2000.
- 10(d) - Tidewater Inc. Second Amended and Restated Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan dated October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(f) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(e) - Second Amended and Restated Employees' Supplemental Savings Plan of

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

Tidewater Inc. dated October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(d) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).

- 10(f) - Supplemental Health Plan for Executive Officers of Tidewater Inc. (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(i) to a Registration Statement on September 12, 1989, Registration No. 33-31016).
- 10(g) - Amended and Restated Deferred Compensation Plan for Outside Directors of Tidewater Inc., effective October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(I) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(h) - Restated Non-Qualified Pension Plan for Outside Directors of Tidewater Inc., effective October 1, 1999 (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(h) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(i) - Amended and Restated Change of Control Agreement dated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater and William C. O'Malley (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(b) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(j) - Form of Amended and Restated Change of Control Agreement dated October 1, 1999 with three executive officers of Tidewater Inc. (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(c) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(k) - Tidewater Inc. 1996 Annual Incentive Plan (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(m) to the company's annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended March 31, 1997).
- 10(l) - Employment Agreement dated September 25, 1997 between Tidewater Inc. and William C. O'Malley (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10 to the company's report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 1997).
- 10(m) - Amendment No. 1 to Employment Agreement dated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater Inc. and William C. O'Malley (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(a) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- *10(n) - Restated Tidewater Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan dated June 9, 2000.
- 10(o) - Restated Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation Plan and Trust Agreement as Restated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater Inc. and Merrill Lynch Trust Company of America (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(e) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- 10(p) - Second Restated Executives Supplemental Retirement Trust as Restated October 1, 1999 between Tidewater Inc. and Hibernia National Bank (filed with the Commission as Exhibit 10(j) to the company's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 1999).
- *10(q) - Continuing Employment and Separation Agreement ("Agreement") between the Company and Richard M. Currence dated December 31, 2000.
- *10(r) - Amendment To Restated Tidewater Inc. 1997 Stock Incentive Plan dated June 9, 2000.

Edgar Filing: TIDEWATER INC - Form 10-K405

- *21 - Subsidiaries of the company.
- *23 - Consents of Independent Auditors.