

# Consolidated Statements of Operations

<i>In millions, except per share amounts</i>	<i>Years Ended December 31,</i>		
	<b>1998</b>	1997	1996
Net sales	<b>\$ 15,273.6</b>	\$ 13,749.6	\$ 11,831.6
Cost of goods sold, buying and warehousing costs	<b>11,144.4</b>	10,031.3	8,530.7
Gross margin	<b>4,129.2</b>	3,718.3	3,300.9
Selling, general and administrative expenses	<b>2,949.0</b>	2,776.0	2,490.8
Depreciation and amortization	<b>249.7</b>	238.2	205.4
Merger, restructuring and other nonrecurring charges	<b>158.3</b>	442.7	12.8
Total operating expenses	<b>3,357.0</b>	3,456.9	2,709.0
Operating profit	<b>772.2</b>	261.4	591.9
Gain on sale of securities	—	—	(121.4)
Dividend income	—	—	(5.6)
Interest expense, net	<b>60.9</b>	44.1	75.5
Other expense (income), net	<b>60.9</b>	44.1	(51.5)
Earnings from continuing operations before income taxes and extraordinary item	<b>711.3</b>	217.3	643.4
Income tax provision	<b>(314.9)</b>	(140.8)	(271.0)
Earnings from continuing operations before extraordinary item	<b>396.4</b>	76.5	372.4
Discontinued operations:			
Loss from operations, net of tax benefit of \$31.0	—	—	(54.8)
Gain (loss) on disposal, net of tax (provision) benefit of \$(12.4), \$56.2 in 1997 and 1996, respectively and minority interest of \$22.2 in 1996	—	17.5	(109.4)
Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations	—	17.5	(164.2)
Earnings before extraordinary item	<b>396.4</b>	94.0	208.2
Extraordinary item, loss related to early retirement of debt, net of income tax benefit of \$11.4	—	(17.1)	—
Net earnings	<b>396.4</b>	76.9	208.2
Preference dividends, net of income tax benefit	<b>(13.6)</b>	(13.7)	(14.5)
Net earnings available to common shareholders	<b>\$ 382.8</b>	\$ 63.2	\$ 193.7
<b>Basic earnings per common share:</b>			
Earnings from continuing operations before extraordinary item	<b>\$ 0.99</b>	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.98
Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations	—	0.05	(0.45)
Extraordinary item, net of tax benefit	—	(0.05)	—
Net earnings	<b>\$ 0.99</b>	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.53
Weighted average common shares outstanding	<b>387.1</b>	377.2	366.9
<b>Diluted earnings per common share:</b>			
Earnings from continuing operations before extraordinary item	<b>\$ 0.98</b>	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.95
Earnings (loss) from discontinued operations	—	0.05	(0.43)
Extraordinary item, net of tax benefit	—	(0.05)	—
Net earnings	<b>\$ 0.98</b>	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.52
Weighted average common shares outstanding	<b>405.2</b>	385.1	383.6
<b>Dividends per common share</b>	<b>\$ 0.225</b>	\$ 0.220	\$ 0.220

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.