

# The Warehouse Group Limited

Annual Shareholder Meeting
25 November 2005

### Agenda



- Introduction and 2005 results [Keith Smith, Chairman]
- Strategy overview [lan Morrice, Group CEO]
- Business of the meeting [Keith Smith, Chairman]
  - Receive annual and auditors' reports
  - Re-election of directors
  - Auditors' remuneration
  - Other business
- Refreshments

Copies of the presentation are available on www.thewarehouse.co.nz or by emailing investor@twl.co.nz

#### 2005 Result Overview



- ➤ Full year net operating profit after tax of NZ\$71.9m up 17.5%
- Attributable full year net profit of NZ\$39m, after goodwill write-off and tax
- ➤ The Warehouse Australia large turnaround in operating result and positive operating cashflows
- The Warehouse New Zealand sales grew 0.4%, operating profit fell to NZ\$138.6m from NZ\$151.3m
- Warehouse Stationery refocusing on its core offer
- Improvement in key balance sheet ratios during the period

#### Sale of The Warehouse Australia

➤ The Warehouse Australia sold for NZ\$99m (A\$92m)

> Transaction effective 27 November – final completion early 2006

> FY05-06 pre-tax earnings expense of between NZ\$80m and NZ\$90m

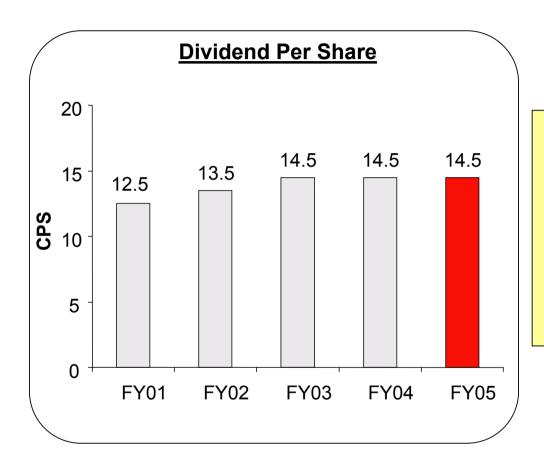
Focus the company's resources on developing its New Zealand businesses

## International Financial Reporting Standards thewarehouse

- Planned adoption for the year ended 27 July 2008
- > The most significant impacts on the financial statements relate to:
  - Share-based remuneration
  - Taxation
  - Hedge accounting
- Goodwill of NZ\$39m written off in advance of adoption of IFRS
- Non-cash write-off no impact on quantum of dividends paid

### **Group – Distributions**

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- Dividend for the year was maintained at 14.5cps
- Payout ratio 61.6% after adjusting for goodwill

### Leadership and Performance



Glen Inger and Joan Withers retired as directors during the year

lan Tsicalas resigned as a director following TWA divestment

Board currently conducting search for replacement directors

Annual assessment process confirmed Board functioning effectively

Seeking approval for financial assistance for Executive Share Scheme



Quarter 1 (FY06 vs FY05)	Total sales growth	Same store sales growth
The Warehouse New Zealand	3.2%	0.2%
Warehouse Stationery	2.9%	(1.6%)
The Warehouse Australia	(7.8%)	(6.5%)

### Agenda

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1. Introduction and 2005 results [Keith Smith, Chairman]

#### 2. Strategy overview [lan Morrice, Group CEO]

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#### 4. Refreshments

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## The Warehouse New Zealand

**Priorities and Progress** 

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We set out with one simple concept in mind. To put the **customer** first and let everything else, every business activity and consideration, flow from that principle. Within The Warehouse itself we all work together and our **team spirit** comes through because we enjoy being successful and we aim to keep our customers **satisfied**. We regard **employees** as our greatest asset; they choose to stay with us because we care and we take time to recognise individual qualities. The Warehouse is a way of life for countless New Zealanders. We make a difference to people's lives, especially family life, by making the desirable affordable.

## **Changing Environment**

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- Retail offer needs to better reflect changing trends
- Value leadership is a function of price + quality + style

## Strategic Issues



- Need to develop our offer to better reflect consumer and market changes
- Have invested ahead of the curve falling sales densities and ROI
- Have not consistently used scale to our advantage
- Fixed costs growing at greater rate than sales, while selling prices are deflating
- Do not currently leverage world-class supply chain infrastructure
- Need to invest in people and processes to develop world-class retail model
- Operating model requires development over three years



#### 1. Develop our brand

- > Drive everyday price leadership
- Improve customer communications
- Develop fewer and better house brands
- Get customers to re-appraise our offer
- Involve customers through feedback

Establish everyday 'value leadership' position in New Zealand retail



Develop our brand

#### 2. Source great product

- Manage our product categories in a more systematic way
- Design product to drive great value
- Expand our product offer
- Involve customers through feedback

Make the desirable affordable



- Develop our brand
- 2. Source great product

#### 3. Leverage our supply chain

- Improve availability for customers
- Better use our world-class supply chain infrastructure
- Leverage our scale to reduce costs
- Improve quality and supplier performance

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- 1. Develop our brand
- 2. Source great product
- 3. Leverage our supply chain

#### 4. Improve our stores

- Make shopping easier
- Increase volume sales
- Improve efficiency
- Make it easier for our teams to provide better service

# Warehouse Stationery

**Priorities and Progress** 

## **Priorities and Progress**

- Refocused on core stationery business
- Progress made on realigning organisational structure to strategy
- > Appointed new CEO and strengthened key management team
- Focusing on efficient utilisation of existing footprint
- Stepped up investment in infrastructure planned in FY06
- B2B channel development continues

Consolidation and earnings improvement this year



#### The Warehouse Australia

- Focused on achieving break-even position
- Assessed our strategic options for the Australian business
- Analysis highlighted that substantial further investment required to achieve a scale operation and growth
- New combined entity creates exciting opportunities for the Australian team
- Immediate focus of investment on the New Zealand operations to achieve returns on current infrastructure

# The Warehouse Group

**Priorities and Progress** 

## Capital Management



- Significant incremental investment in footprint in last three years has failed to produce expected return on investment
- Structure and processes in place to ensure increased rigour and accountability in capital management decisions and investment outcomes
- In the near-term we are investing in areas that improve return on our current infrastructure

> Drive return on capital through improved investment management and decision-making

### Outlook

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- New Zealand Q1 sales held TWL sales benefited from a high level of clearance activity
- Strategic promotional shift likely to produce short-term sales volatility
- Consumer spending likely to continue to moderate
- Re-positioned our offer to provide everyday price leadership

Both New Zealand businesses positioned to respond to a more difficult trading environment