

INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV  
Form 424B3  
March 18, 2004

Filed pursuant to Rule 424(b)(3)

Registration statement No. 333-111863

Prospectus Supplement to the Prospectus dated March 12, 2004

DATED MARCH 15, 2004

PROSPECTUS SUPPLEMENT

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.

Offering of 32,732,026 Units at US \$1.3636 Per Unit

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.

(Ceramics International, Inc.) or "Interceramic," a limited liability company organized under the laws of Mexico, is offering to sell to holders of the Company's Common Units 0.6734980 New Common Units and to holders of the Company's Limited Voting Units 0.6734980 New Limited Voting Units, for every Common Unit and every Limited Voting Unit, respectively, held of record as of 3:00 p.m., Mexico City time on March 18, 2004 at an offering price of US \$1.3636 per New Unit. Each Common Unit is comprised of two shares of Series B Common Stock and each Limited Voting Unit is comprised of one share of Series D Dividend Preference Stock and one share of Series L Limited Voting Stock. Interceramic is extending the Rights Offering to holders of American Depositary Receipts evidencing Interceramic's American Depositary Shares, each representing either five Common Units or five Limited Voting Units, by offering to sell to holders of Common Unit ADSs 0.6734980 New Common Unit ADSs and to holders of Limited Voting Unit ADSs 0.6734980 New Limited Voting Units ADSs for every Common Unit ADSs and every Limited Voting Unit ADS, respectively, held of record as of 4:00 p.m. New York, New York time on March 15, 2004 at an offering price of US \$6.8182 per New ADS.

In the Rights Offering, Interceramic is offering a total of 19,500,000 New Common Units and 13,232,026 New Limited Voting Units to holders of Units and ADSs because of statutory preemptive rights granted under the laws of Mexico. The Rights Offering will commence on March 15, 2004 at 9:30 a.m., New York, New York time and will continue until 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 30, 2004.

Rights to acquire New Units or New ADSs are not represented by separate instrument and are not negotiable or transferable. ADRs evidencing the Limited Voting Unit ADSs are listed on the *New York Stock Exchange, Inc.* and trade under the symbol "ICM." ADRs evidencing the Common Unit ADSs are not currently listed or traded on any securities exchange in the United States. The Common Units and the Limited Voting Units are directly listed and trade in Mexico on the *Bolsa Mexicana de Valores, S.A. de C.V.* New Common Units purchased pursuant to the Rights Offering will be eligible for direct trading on the Mexican Stock Exchange but New Common Unit ADSs will not be

listed or eligible for trading on any securities exchange or other quotation system in the United States. New Limited Voting Units purchased pursuant to the Rights Offering will be eligible for direct trading on the Mexican Stock Exchange and New Limited Voting Unit ADSs represented by ADRs will be listed and eligible for trading on the NYSE. On March 9, 2004 the closing price on the Mexican Stock Exchange for Common Units was 12.00 Mexican Pesos, or approximately US \$1.09, per Unit, and for Limited Voting Units was 11.15 Mexican Pesos, or approximately US \$1.02, per Unit. On March 9, 2004, the closing price on the NYSE for the Limited Voting Unit ADRs on the NYSE was US \$9.70 per ADR.

New Units which have not been subscribed for by the Expiration Date may be issued and sold by Interceramic directly to one or more holders of record by negotiation during a period that will commence immediately following the Expiration Date and conclude at 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 31, 2004. Upon completion of the Rights Offering, in transactions pursuant to regulation S under the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended, Mr. Alfredo Harp Helú and Mr. Roberto Hernandez are prepared to purchase a total of 9,699,024 of the New Units between them, and Mr. Ramiro Alcorta is prepared to purchase 1,292,278 of the unsubscribed New Units during this period (subject to certain conditions) at the subscription price of US \$1.3636 per New Unit. Up to 9,973,561 of the New Units will be subscribed to by the *Almeida Family* in the Rights Offering as a result of their current shareholdings in Interceramic. If all New Units are subscribed for in the Rights Offering and purchased in the Extended Offering, as described above, Interceramic will receive net proceeds of US \$44,634,581 (based upon an expected subscription price of \$1.3636 per Unit). Any New Units which Mssrs. Harp and Hernandez and Mr. Alcorta may purchase upon completion of the Rights Offering will not be registered under the securities laws of the United States or any state.

See "Risk Factors" beginning on Page 10 for a discussion of certain factors that should be considered in evaluating an investment in the New Units and New ADSs.

These Securities have not been approved or disapproved by the Securities and Exchange Commission or any State Securities Commission nor has the Securities and Exchange Commission or any State Securities Commission passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this Prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

---

[DIRECT LINK TO TABLE OF CONTENTS](#)

---

## Summary Information

*The summary information set forth below highlights selected information contained in this prospectus and in the documents incorporated in this prospectus by reference and does not contain all of the information that may be important to you. You should carefully read this entire prospectus and the documents that are incorporated in this prospectus by reference.*

### ***The Business of Interceramic***

We are a manufacturer and distributor of glazed ceramic floor and wall tile and related products, primarily in Mexico and the United States. We own and operate three manufacturing facilities in the northern Mexican city of Chihuahua and one manufacturing facility in the Dallas area community of Garland, Texas. In Mexico, we sell our products and some complementary products of other companies using a national network of exclusive franchise stores as well as a

number of company-owned stores in the important Mexico City, Guadalajara, Toluca and Morelia markets. In the United States, we operate through a sales subsidiary which sells our products to independent distributors across the country and we also distribute our products and complementary products of others through a network of wholesale/retail company-owned stores in Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, Spring, Fort Worth, Plano, Austin and El Paso, Texas; the Atlanta, Georgia, area; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Las Vegas, Nevada; Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona; Anaheim, California, and Oklahoma City and Tulsa, Oklahoma.

We also manufacture and develop grouts and adhesive materials used in the installation of ceramic tile and own several mining properties in Mexico from which substantially all the clay currently used by us in our Mexican production facilities is derived. Since starting operations in 1979 to the present, our annual production capacity has gone from 7.2 million to 264.0 million square feet. Historically, about half of our annual sales have been in Mexico and half in the United States. In Mexico, we compete primarily with other domestic producers and have pursued a basic strategy of establishing ourselves as the premier producer of medium- and high-end glazed ceramic floor and wall tile products. In the United States, we compete mainly against other imports in the same market segments, but our principal competitors are Italian and Spanish companies.

Our registered office in Mexico, and principal executive office, is located at Ave. Carlos Pacheco 7200, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, México, and our telephone number is 011.52.614.429.1111. The address for our corporate offices in the United States is 2333 South Jupiter Road, Garland, Texas 75041 and our telephone number is 214.503.5500.

---

#### Summary Consolidated Financial Information

We have derived the following selected consolidated financial information from our audited financial statements, which have been reported on by Mancera, S.C., A Member Practice of Ernst & Young Global, independent auditors. Because the summary consolidated financial data does not contain all of the financial information regarding Interceramic that may be important to you, you should carefully review the audited financial statements which are included within the Form 20-F attached to this prospectus as Annex A.

Our financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Mexican GAAP, which differ in certain significant respects from US GAAP. Note 12 to the audited financial statements included in this prospectus provides a description of the principal differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP as they relate to us, and a reconciliation to US GAAP of net income and total shareholders' equity.

Pursuant to Mexican GAAP, our financial statements and the summary consolidated financial information set forth below have been restated in constant Pesos as of the date of the most recent balance sheet presented and, accordingly, all data in the audited financial statements and in the selected consolidated financial data set forth below have been restated in Pesos with purchasing power of December 31, 2002. The effect of these inflation accounting principles has not been reversed in the reconciliation to US GAAP. *See* Note 12 to the audited consolidated financial statements.

#### YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2002
------	------	------	------	------	------

**(IN THOUSANDS OF PESOS AS OF****Thnds. of****December 31, 2002(1)****Dollars(9)****INCOME STATEMENT  
DATA:****MEXICAN GAAP:**

Net sales	2,580,948	2,765,955	2,845,094	2,971,573	3,058,853	294,404
Cost of sales	(1,615,184)	(1,789,738)	(1,803,285)	(1,866,093)	(1,927,568)	(185,521)
Gross profit	965,763	976,217	1,041,809	1,105,480	1,131,285	108,882
Selling and administrative expenses	(649,369)	(730,174)	(746,299)	(766,972)	(841,221)	(80,964)
Operating income	316,394	246,043	295,510	338,508	290,064	27,918
Comprehensive financing (cost) income	(251,890)	25,017	(63,547)	(24,964)	(157,527)	(15,161)
Other income (expense) net	(12,167)	(25,171)	(28,614)	(5,016)	(12,011)	(1,156)
Equity in results of associated companies (2)	(1,184)	364	-	1,335	(420)	(40)
Write-off of assets	-	-	-	(45,079)	-	-
Income and asset tax	(24,838)	(16,179)	(15,681)	(17,080)	(19,521)	(1,879)
Deferred income tax	-	-	(36,935)	(29,742)	8,448	813
Employee profit sharing (3)	(2,893)	(3,253)	(2,483)	(3,465)	(3,556)	(342)
Consolidated net income	23,424	226,821	148,250	214,497	105,476	10,152
Minority net income (loss)	4,407	5,613	(764)	23,348	18,405	1,771
Majority net income	19,015	221,207	149,014	191,149	87,071	8,380
Net income per Unit (4)	0.35	4.09	2.73	3.30	1.52	0.15
Weighted average Units outstanding (000's)(4)	53,969	54,175	54,625	57,928	57,184	57,184

**US GAAP AMOUNTS (5):**

Majority net income (loss)	(56,306)	227,402	118,773	199,051	61,406	5,910
Net (loss) income per Unit (4)	(1.10)	4.29	2.23	3.50	1.09	0.11
Diluted net income (loss) per Unit (4)	(1.05)	4.25	2.22	3.50	1.10	0.10

**BALANCE SHEET DATA:****MEXICAN GAAP:**

Current assets	1,235,737	1,215,558	1,244,908	1,239,611	1,263,361	121,594
Property, plant and equipment, net	2,060,656	1,892,265	1,793,691	1,636,396	1,730,033	166,509
Total assets	3,368,540	3,157,751	3,083,339	2,928,828	3,062,653	294,769
Current liabilities	602,189	593,206	560,561	1,336,221	697,113	67,095

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Short term debt (6)	248,549	187,800	134,670	1,021,012	261,134	25,133
	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2002
	(IN THOUSANDS OF PESOS AS OF					Thnds. of
		December 31, 2002(1)				Dollars(9)
Long term debt	1,651,905	1,461,696	1,242,466	246,550	948,036	91,245
Total stockholders equity	1,111,378	1,099,203	925,914	1,025,790	1,089,026	104,815

**US GAAP AMOUNTS (5):**

Total stockholders_ equity	(78,263)	60,758	250,807	347,355	417,874	40,219
Weighted average units outstanding(10)	5,100	5,100	6,367	7,000	7,000	7,000

**CASH FLOW DATA:**

**MEXICAN GAAP:**

Resources provided by operating activities	70,031	353,122	312,665	323,228	158,487	15,254
Resources(used in) received from investing activities	39,059	(246,650)	(146,192)	(131,826)	(123,125)	(11,850)
Resources used in financing activities	(143,971)	(132,891)	(93,933)	(108,808)	(170,191)	(16,380)

**CASH FLOW DATA:**

**US GAAP:**

Resources provided by operating activities	51,5521	145,694	147,555	190,657	59,289	5,706
Resources(used in) received from investing activities	(154,904)	(137,401)	(92,757)	(104,720)	(170,191)	(16,380)
Resources used in financing activities	40,911	(75,918)	51,817	(54,200)	(160,490)	(15,447)
Effect of inflation accounting	28,330	35,140	(36,018)	44,260	144,914	13,947

**OTHER DATA:**

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

**MEXICAN GAAP:**

Depreciation and amortization	149,507	155,453	143,717	142,702	149,839	14,421
Capital expenditures	(143,971)	(132,890)	(93,937)	(108,808)	(170,191)	(16,380)
Working capital at period end	633,547	622,352	684,347	(96,568)	566,248	54,499
EBITDA (11)	465,901	401,496	439,227	481,210	439,903	42,339

**OPERATING INFORMATION:**

Gross profit margin (7)	37.42%	35.29%	36.62%	37.20%	36.98%	36.98%
Operating profit margin (7)	12.26%	8.90%	10.39%	11.39%	9.48%	9.48%
EBITDA (7)	18.05%	14.52%	15.44%	16.19%	14.38%	14.38%
Employees at period end	3,387	3,811	3,381	3,127	3,089	3,089
<b>EXCHANGE RATE (8)</b>	9.875	9.5	9.61	9.19	10.39	

Notes:

- (1) In thousands, except for earnings per share and Unit and operating information.
- (2) The equity in results of associated companies reflects the participation of the Company in the earnings of certain non-consolidated affiliates.  
  
See Note 1(g) to our audited financial statements.
- (3) See Note 9 to our audited financial statements.
- (4) Calculated by dividing majority net income by the weighted average Units outstanding at the end of the respective period.
- (5) See Note 12 to our audited financial statements.
- (6) Includes bank loans and the current portion of long term debt. See Note 5 to our audited financial statements.
- (7) Expressed as a percentage of total net sales.
- (8) Interbank Rate at the end of each period.
- (9) Solely for the convenience of the reader, figures as of December 31, 2002 have been translated into Dollars as the rate of Ps 10.39 to US \$1.00, the Interbank Rate at December 31, 2002.
- (10) The weighted average units outstanding is calculated under US GAAP under which only the fixed portion of stockholders equity is taken into account.
- (11) EBITDA represents earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is not a measure of

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

performance under either US GAAP or Mexican GAAP. EBITDA should not be considered a substitute for cash flow from operations, net earnings or other measures of performance as defined by US GAAP or as a measure of our profitability or liquidity. EBITDA does not give effect to the cash we must use to service our debt, or pay our income taxes and thus does not reflect the funds actually available for capital expenditures or other discretionary uses. Our presentation of EBITDA may not be comparable to other similarly titled captions of other companies due to differences in the method of calculation. It is included herein to provide additional information with respect to our ability to meet our consolidated debt service, capital expenditure and working capital requirements. It is also included because it is used as a measure in a financial covenant contained in our primary loan agreement. EBITDA is calculated by us as follows:

Reconciliation of EBITDA to Majority Net Income

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2002
	IN THOUSANDS OF PESOS AS OF					Thnds. of
	December 31, 2002(1)					Dollars(9)
Majority net income	19,015	221,207	149,014	191,149	87,071	8,380
Reconciliation to EBITDA						
Comprehensive financing (cost) income	251,890	(25,017)	63,547	24,964	157,527	15,161
Other income net	12,167	25,172	28,164	50,095	12,012	1,156
Equity in results of associated companies (2)	1,184	(364)	-	(1,335)	420	40
Income and asset tax	24,838	16,179	15,681	17,080	19,521	1,879
Deferred income tax	-	-	36,935	29,742	(8,448)	(813)
Employee profit sharing (3)	2,893	3,253	2,483	3,465	3,556	342
Minority net income (loss)	4,407	5,613	(764)	23,348	18,405	1,771
Depreciation and amortization	149,507	155,453	143,717	142,702	149,839	14,421
EBITDA	465,901	401,496	439,227	481,210	439,903	42,339

We have derived the summary consolidated financial data set forth in the table commencing on the

following page from our unaudited interim financial statements. In the opinion of our management, the financial data set forth in the unaudited interim financial statements and summarized below include all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for a fair presentation of the consolidated financial condition and our results of operations as of the dates and for the periods indicated. Results for the first three quarters of a year are not, however, necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the entire year.

We have stated the unaudited consolidated interim financial statements and the summary consolidated financial data set forth below in constant Pesos with purchasing power as of September 30, 2003. As a result of inflation in Mexico (as well as, for purposes of our unaudited consolidated interim financial statements, inflation in the United States attributable to our assets located there) during the first nine months of 2003, the purchasing power of one Peso as of December 31, 2002 is equal to the purchasing power of 1.023 Pesos as of September 30, 2003. Accordingly, the audited financial statements contained in the Form 20-F are not directly comparable to the unaudited interim financial statements included within this prospectus and summarized below because they are stated in constant Pesos as of different dates. Because the rate of inflation during the nine months from December 31, 2002 to September 30, 2003 was 2.3 percent, we do not believe that the differences between the two presentations are material, however.

[Chart on Following Page]

AS OF AND FOR THE

NINE MONTHS ENDED

(Unaudited)

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>
	IN THOUSANDS OF PESOS OF		Thnds
	September 30, 2003 (1)		of Dollars (6)

**INCOME STATEMENT DATA :**

**MEXICAN GAAP :**

Net Sales	2,382,205	2,518,250	228,309
Cost of Sales	(1,486,734)	(1,630,621)	(147,835)
Gross Profit	895,471	887,629	80,474
Selling and administrative expenses	(655,937)	(696,170)	(63,116)
Operating income (loss)	239,534	191,459	17,358
Comprehensive financing income (cost)	(144,416)	(88,124)	(7,990)
Other expense, net	(10,244)	(9,489)	(860)
Equity in results of associated companies (2)	513	0	0
Deferred Income tax	(39,469)	(40,777)	(3,697)
Income and Asset Tax	(26,972)	(37,938)	(3,440)
Employee profit sharing	(4,417)	(7,453)	(676)
Consolidated net income	14,529	7,678	696
Minority net income	11,658	23,057	2,090
Majority net income (loss)	2,871	(15,379)	(1,394)
Net income (loss) per unit (3)	0.05	(0.31)	(0.03)
	57,912	49,343	49,343



Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Weighted average Units outstanding (000's)  
(3)

**BALANCE SHEET DATA :**

**MEXICAN GAAP :**

Current assets	1,370,738	1,534,172	139,091
Property, plant and equipment, net	1,784,079	1,787,605	162,068
Total assets	3,240,859	3,435,537	311,473
Current liabilities	678,927	846,551	76,750
Short term debt (4)	236,842	347,869	31,538
Long term debt	1,078,197	1,069,198	96,935
Total stockholders' equity	1,110,815	1,145,136	103,820

**CASH FLOW DATA :**

**MEXICAN GAAP :**

Resources provided by operating activities	87,776	53,705	4,869
Resources used in investing activities	(136,141)	(61,333)	(5,560)
Resources (used in) received from financing activities	(17,716)	95,227	8,633

**OTHER DATA :**

**MEXICAN GAAP :**

Depreciation and amortization	116,193	126,587	11,477
Capital expenditures	(136,141)	(61,333)	(5,560)
Working capital at period end	691,811	687,621	62,341
EBITDA(7)	355,727	318,046	28,835

**OPERATING INFORMATION :**

Gross profit margin (5)	37.59%	35.25%	35.25%
Operating profit margin (5)	10.06%	7.60%	7.60%
EBITDA (5)	14.93%	12.63%	12.63%
Employees at period end	3,162	3,092	3,092

[Notes on Following Page]

(1) In thousands, except for earnings per share and unit, earnings per ADS and operating information.

(2) The equity in results of associated companies reflects the participation of the Company in the earnings of certain non-consolidated affiliates.

(3) Calculated by dividing majority net income (loss) by the weighted average Units Outstanding (Basic and Diluted only for US GAAP purposes) at the end of the respective period.

(4) Includes bank loans and the current portion of long term debt.

(5) Expressed as a percentage of total sales.

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

(6) Solely for the convenience of the reader, figures as of September 30, 2003 have been translated into Dollars at the exchange rate of Ps. 11.03 to US \$1.00, the Interbank Rate at September 30, 2003.

(7) EBITDA represents earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization. EBITDA is not a measure of performance under either US GAAP or Mexican GAAP. EBITDA should not be considered a substitute for cash flow from operations, net earnings or other measures of performance as defined by US GAAP or as a measure of our profitability or liquidity. EBITDA does not give effect to the cash we must use to service our debt, or pay our income taxes and thus does not reflect the funds actually available for capital expenditures or other discretionary uses. Our presentation of EBITDA may not be comparable to other similarly titled captions of other companies due to differences in the method of calculation. It is included herein to provide additional information with respect to our ability to meet our consolidated debt service, capital expenditure and working capital requirements. It is also included because it is used as a measure in a financial covenant contained in our primary loan agreement. EBITDA is calculated by us as follows:

Reconciliation of EBITDA to Majority Net Income

(Unaudited)

AS OF AND FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED,

	<b>2002</b>	<b>2003</b>	
	<b>IN THOUSANDS OF PESOS AS OF</b>		Thnds. of
	September 30, 2003 (1)		Dollars(6)
Majority net income	2,871	(15,379)	(1,394)
Reconciliation to EBITDA			
Comprehensive financing (cost) income	144,416	88,124	7,989
Other income net	10,224	9,489	860
Equity in results of associated companies (2)	(513)	-	-
Income and asset tax	26,972	37,938	3,440
Deferred income tax	39,469	40,777	3,697

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Employee profit sharing (3)	4,417	7,453	676
Minority net income (loss)	11,658	23,057	2,090
Depreciation and amortization	116,193	126,587	11,477
EBITDA	355,727	318,046	28,835

Summary of the Rights Offering

The Rights Offering.....Pursuant to statutory preemptive rights granted holders of our stock under Mexican law, we are offering for purchase 32,732,026 New Units, including New Units represented by ADSs, to holders of record of currently outstanding Common Units and Limited Voting Units as of 3:00 p.m., Mexico City time on March 18, 2004, including holders of Units represented by ADSs, as of 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 15, 2004. The New Units we are offering will consist of 19,500,000 New Common Units and 13,232,026 New Limited Voting Units.

To Holders of Units.....Holders of Common Units will be entitled to purchase 0.6734980 New Common Units and holders of Limited Voting Units will be entitled to purchase 0.6734980 New Limited Voting Units for each Unit owned as of the Record Date. As fractional New Units will not be issued, to purchase one New Unit a person will need to hold at least two Units as of the Record

To Holders of ADSs.....Holders of Common Unit ADSs will be entitled to 0.6734980 Common Unit ADS Rights and holders of Limited Voting Unit ADSs will be entitled to 0.6734980 Limited Voting Unit ADS Rights for each ADS owned as of the Record Date. One ADS Right will entitle the holder to purchase one New ADS. As fractional New ADSs will not be issued, to purchase one New ADS a person will need to hold at least two ADSs as of the Record Date.

Rights Non-Transferable.....Rights to purchase New Units or New ADSs are not represented by separate instrument, and are not tradeable or negotiable separate from the Units or ADSs to which the rights relate.

Irrevocability.....The exercise of purchase rights by a holder is irrevocable once made and may not be cancelled or modified.

Exercise Period.....The right of a holder of record to purchase New Units or New ADSs may be exercised at any time during the period commencing at 9:30 a.m., New York, New York time on March 15, 2004 to 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 30, 2004.

Method of Exercise.....Holders of Units may exercise their right to purchase New Units by payment of the subscription price directly to us at our principal office in Mexico at any time during the exercise period. Holders of ADSs may exercise their right to purchase New ADSs by completing and sending subscription documents, together with payment of the subscription price, to our depositary at any time during the exercise period.

Subscription Price..... The Subscription Price is US \$1.3636 per New Unit and US \$6.8182 per New ADSs. Payment for New Units will be accepted only in Pesos and payment for New ADSs will be accepted only in Dollars. Payments made in Pesos will be based upon the Peso to Dollar rate published in the *Diario Oficial* of Mexico on March 24, 2004.

Extended Offering Period.....New Units which have not been subscribed for by the expiration date may be issued and sold by us directly to one or more holders of record by negotiation during a period that will commence immediately following the expiration date and conclude at 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 31, 2004. Mssrs. Alfredo Harp Helú and Roberto Hernandez are prepared to purchase between them a total of 9,699,024 and Mr. Ramiro Alcorta is prepared to purchase 1,292,278 of the unsubscribed New Units during this period (subject to certain conditions) at the subscription price of US \$1.3636 per New Unit. Any New Units that we sell to Mssrs. Harp and Hernandez and Mr. Alcorta will be sold to them pursuant to Regulation S under the 1933 Act and will not be registered under the securities laws of the United States or of any state.

Listings.....The Common Units and the Limited Voting Units are listed on the Mexican Stock Exchange, and the New Units will be tradable thereon upon issuance. The Limited Voting Unit ADRs are listed on the NYSE, and the New Limited Voting Unit ADRs will be tradable thereon upon issuance. The Common Unit ADRs are not currently listed on any securities exchange in the United States. Accordingly, upon issuance, the New Common Unit ADRs will not be tradable in any established market in the United States, although they will generally be free from restrictions on trading in the United States.

Use of Proceeds.....The proceeds received from the rights offering after payment of expenses will be used to allow us to purchase two of our franchise distributors in Mexico and provide us with a large amount of the funds to construct a new tile production facility in Mexico.

Voting Rights.....Under our bylaws, the Series B Shares underlying the Common Units and the Common Unit ADSs are our general voting stock. The Series D Shares and the Series L Shares underlying the Limited Voting Units and the Limited Voting Unit ADSs are both limited voting securities and only have the right to vote on limited matters specified in our bylaws.

Risk Factors.....See "Risk Factors" for information you should consider before exercising your right to purchase New Units or New ADSs.

#### Risk Factors

In addition to the other information contained in this prospectus, you should consider, among other things, the special risk factors set forth below.

#### Risks Relating to Developments in Mexico and Other Emerging Market Countries

Mexican political, social, and economic conditions and might adversely impact our sales and profitability

Over 75 percent of our assets are located in Mexico, and on average about 50 percent of our sales each year are achieved in Mexico. As a result, demand for our products and our selling prices may decline as a result of adverse general economic and social conditions in Mexico, Mexican political developments, devaluation of the Peso and inflation and high interest rates in Mexico.

#### ***Mexico has experienced adverse economic conditions that make our profitability vulnerable to factors beyond our control***

Since 2001, Mexico has experienced a prolonged period of slow-growth, with the gross domestic product or "GDP" growing at the rate of 0.3 percent, 0.9 percent and 1.16 percent in 2001, 2002 and 2003, respectively. If the Mexican economy falls into a recession, our business, financial condition and results of operations may suffer materially for a number of reasons, including lack of consumer demand for our products, declining selling prices and increased cost of the materials, supplies and

services we need in Mexico to make our products.

***Policies of the Mexican government could adversely effect the value of your investment in our company***

The Mexican government has exercised and continues to exercise a significant influence over many aspects of the Mexican economy. With the improving economic stability in recent times, the government has materially loosened its control over the economy, however in deteriorating economic circumstances the government could be expected to reinsert itself into the economy which could result in governmental controls on prices, currency exchange rates and inflation. Accordingly, Mexican government actions concerning the economy could have a significant effect on us and other private sector entities and on market conditions and the prices and returns on Mexican equity securities, including our equity securities.

***Political considerations in Mexico can adversely impact our operations and the value of your investment in our company***

Political events in Mexico may significantly affect our business conditions, financial condition and results of operations as well as the price of our securities. In recent years, political and social unrest and disturbances have adversely impacted the Mexican securities markets. In 2000, the citizens of Mexico elected Vincente Fox President of Mexico, the first opposition candidate to win the Presidency since 1929. Mr. Fox, a member of the National Action Party, ran for office on a program advocating reform of the political process in Mexico. However, the Institutional Revolutionary Party, which had held the presidency since 1929, maintains a majority, together with the Partido de la Revolución Democrática in both houses of the Mexican Congress and conflict between the President and the Congress has made it very difficult for Mr. Fox to accomplish the reforms he had advocated during his campaign. Continued conflict between the two branches of government could lead to political paralysis in Mexico which could adversely effect operations and the price of our securities.

Depreciation or fluctuation of the Peso relative to the Dollar could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations

All of our debt and a material amount of our revenues and expenses are denominated in Dollars. Accordingly, we are affected by fluctuations in the value of the Peso against the Dollar. During periods when the Peso devalues against the Dollar, we recognize foreign exchange losses on our financial statements, while exchange gains are recognized during periods that the Peso strengthens against the Dollar. For example, while in 2001 the Company recognized foreign exchange gains of Ps 49.4 million as the Peso appreciated against the Dollar, in 2002 the opposite was true and the Company recognized foreign exchange losses of Ps 108.4 million. Currency fluctuations are likely to continue to have an effect on our financial conditions, results of operations and cash flows in future periods.

Severe devaluation or depreciation of the Peso may also result in disruption of international foreign exchange markets and limit our ability to convert Pesos into Dollars for purposes of paying our debt as well as other obligations that we incur in Dollars. Although the Mexican government does not currently restrict the ability of persons to convert Pesos into Dollars or otherwise export currencies out of Mexico, it has done so in the past and it could institute restrictive policies which might adversely affect our ability to convert Pesos into Dollars in the future.

***High levels of inflation and high interest rates in Mexico could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations***

Even though we are currently experiencing the lowest interest and inflation rates in decades, Mexico has historically experienced high interest rates and high levels of inflation. Measured by changes in the National Consumer Price Index, inflation in Mexico for 2001 was 4.40 percent, 5.70 percent for 2002 and for the first nine months of 2003 was 2.30 percent. High rates of inflation can adversely affect the Company's results of operations or a variety of reasons, including that the Company cannot always match the pace of inflation in the prices of goods and services needed to make products with the price the Company can obtain in the markets for the sale of its products. During periods of high inflation in Mexico, domestic interest rates have increased significantly. During 2002, the interest rate of the 28-day Mexican government securities called "Cetes" averaged 7.09 percent. On September 30, 2003, the interest rate on the 28-day Cetes was 4.73 percent. While these recent interest rates represent a considerable change from interest rates in excess of 20 percent less than a decade ago, these low levels may not be maintained. High interest rates not only might increase our cost of borrowing money in Mexico, but also might make it more difficult to borrow or acquire goods and services on credit, thereby impairing our ability to manufacture our products as and when needed to service consumer demand.

***Adverse developments in other emerging market countries may lower the value of your investment in our company***

The market value of the securities of Mexican companies is periodically subject to economic, social and political developments in other emerging market countries. Although economic conditions in other countries may differ materially from those in Mexico, and although many of these other countries may have immaterial connections to the Mexican economy, investors' reactions to developments in other countries, particularly in emerging market economies, may result in a decrease in the market value of our securities.

**Risks relating to us and our business generally**

The construction business is cyclical and a decrease in demand for tile products may lower our sales

A recession or decline in the construction industry in Mexico or in the United States could result in decreased demand for our products and lower price levels. The tile industry is highly dependent on construction activity-including new construction and remodeling-which is cyclical in nature and is significantly affected by changes in general and local economic conditions. These changes include employment levels, financing availability, interest rates, consumer confidence and housing demand. Further, material unanticipated fluctuations in the demand for ceramic tileproducts could result in increases in inventories which may not be readily saleable by us at profitable prices.

***We are highly leveraged and disruptions in cash flow may impair our ability to fund operations***

Although we have been decreasing our debt in recent years, we are still relatively highly leveraged, with consolidated indebtedness of US \$128.5 million and a total debt to equity ratio of 1.24 to 1 as of September 30, 2003. Substantially all of our physical assets have been pledged to secure repayment of our debts. Because a substantial portion of our cash available from operations is needed to pay our debts, funds available for operations and for needed capital expenditures have been reduced in recent periods, and our ability to generate sufficient cash flow to adequately fund operations and capital

expenditures in forthcoming periods may be impaired. Additionally, our highly leveraged position makes us more vulnerable to adverse economic conditions than less leveraged competitors. Furthermore, the discretion of our management with respect to certain business matters is limited by covenants contained in some of our loan agreements.

We may not generate enough cash flow to pay substantial debt amortizations in coming periods

In June of 2002, entered into a Credit Agreement with an international consortium of lenders, pursuant to which we borrowed US \$100.0 million to refinance our then-maturing \$90.0 million notes and for other general working capital purposes. Although the loan made to us under the Credit Agreement is on generally favorable terms, it provides for significant amortization of principal, with US \$17.5 million due in 2004, US \$20.0 million due in 2005, US \$22.5 million due in 2006 and the remaining US \$25.0 million due in 2007. We also have US \$16.0 million in short-term debt due in 2004. These significant debt service obligations may materially impact our cash flow and impede our ability to fund operations. In 2002 and 2003, our cash flow was substantially reduced over prior periods. In the event we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow to service the debt obligations as and when due, we will be required to either renegotiate the terms of our debt obligations or replace them on conditions that are more favorable than currently. If we were unable to do so, it could impair our ability to fund operations and adversely impact our profitability.

We face significant competition in all markets and pricing pressures may decrease our profitability

Significant competition generally is reflected in lower prices for our products, and any further decreases in our selling prices could decrease our profitability and impair our cash flow. The markets for our products in both Mexico and the United States are highly competitive. In Mexico, we compete for market share primarily with domestic manufacturers and independent distributors of ceramic tile, many with greater resources than we possess. We dedicate significant resources to advertising, marketing and product presentation strategies in Mexico in order to generate and maintain consumer interest in our products. A failure of one or more of our strategies could result in decreased sales in Mexico. In the United States, we face significant competition, primarily from Italian and Spanish importers. Much of our competition in the United States is against products similar to ours and pricing pressures are significant. Although the recent weakness of the Dollar against the European common currency, or "Euro," has increased the cost of products of many European competitors, most of these competitors still retain a pricing advantage over us due to generally lower costs of production than we have.

***Import tariffs in the United States provide some competitors with pricing advantages that put us at a competitive disadvantage***

United States tile manufacturers can charge less for their products than we do because they are not subject to import tariffs, making our products less competitive and adversely affecting our sales revenues. Mexico, the United States and Canada are parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA, created to establish a "free trade" zone and to eliminate import duties, tariffs and barriers among the three countries. However, under NAFTA tariffs on ceramic tile imported from Mexico into the United States were not eliminated and are to be phased out over a period of 15 years (the current NAFTA tariff rate for substantially all of our products is 6.30 percent). United States producers are not subject to any tariffs in the United States markets and thus enjoy a competitive advantage against importers like us. The benefits of NAFTA to us may only be realized gradually in increased access to the United States market and increased sales in the United States as the tariffs are reduced. It is also possible that European or United States manufacturers may locate or expand production facilities in Mexico to take advantage of reduced tariff levels, resulting in increased

competition not only in the United States market but in the Mexican market as well.

The United States is also a party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, or GATT. Under GATT, the United States currently imposes a tariff on products like ours from non-NAFTA countries at a rate of 9.60 percent. The applicable tariff rate under GATT is scheduled to reduce over time to 8.50 percent in 2005. The reduction of tariff rates under GATT may result in increased competition within the United States ceramic tile markets from European and other foreign producers of ceramic tile products.

Risks relating to our controlling shareholders and our capital structure

Our controlling shareholders may cause us to take actions that may not be in the best interest of other shareholders

Over half of our general voting securities are held or controlled by members or associates of the Oscar Almeida Chabre family of Chihuahua, Chihuahua, México. This controlling group may have objectives for our company that differ from those of minority shareholders on a variety of issues, including for example business strategies, product development and capital investment. Because of this, the value of your investment is subject in many respects to the decisions of management over which you are unable to exercise any control. By virtue of its ownership, this group has the effective power to designate a majority of the Board of Directors and to determine the outcome of other actions requiring a vote of the shareholders, except in very limited cases that require a vote of the holders of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares. Further, under Mexican law, you may have less protection as a minority shareholder than you do under the laws of the United States. See the discussion under the heading "Description of Capital Stock" contained in this prospectus.

*The cash available to us from the offering will be reduced by payments to the Almeida Family for our acquisition of two companies in Mexico*

Approximately US \$15.8 million received by us from the Rights Offering will be used to purchase the stock of two of our franchise distributors in Mexico. One of these companies owns our franchise stores located in the State of Chihuahua and the cities of San Luis Potosi and Mexicali, Mexico, and is owned by the Almeida Family. The other company owns the franchise stores located in the cities of Monterrey, Saltillo and Reynosa, Mexico, and is currently owned 66.6 percent by the Almeida Family and 33.3 percent by Mr. Ramiro Alcorta. The Almeida Family has told us that they intend to purchase 9,973,561 of the New Units to which they are entitled to purchase by virtue of their current shareholdings, which will result in proceeds of US \$13.6 million to us in the Rights Offering. Mr. Alcorta has told us that he intends to purchase 1,292,278 of the unsubscribed New Units in the Extended Offering, which will result in net proceeds to us of US \$1.7 million, meaning that our acquisition of the companies will in substance be funded through the issuance of our capital stock to the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta. The US \$500,000 difference between the US \$15.8 purchase price of the two companies and the aggregate US \$15.3 million that will be paid to us for New Units by the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta represents the Mexican taxes that will be payable by the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta as a result of the sale of the two companies to us.

A change in our control may result in management changes and defaults under loan agreements that could result in acceleration of significant debt obligations

As a result of shareholdings and certain agreements, the Almeida Family currently controls a majority of our general voting securities. The Almeida Family has controlled the senior management of our company since its inception, and a loss of control could result in a loss of experienced executive and



other management personnel which might harm our ability to competitively operate our business. Also, most of our loan agreements contain provisions that would allow our lenders to accelerate our debts if the Almeida Family ceases to own a certain percentage of us. If all or even a portion of our debts were accelerated, we may be unable to pay or refinance them. The Almeida Family is not obligated to maintain their holdings in our securities, however, and if they chose to dispose of all or a portion of their Series B Shares the control of Interceramic could change.

Further, on December 7, 2004, the then outstanding Series L Shares will automatically convert to Series B Shares. As a result, the Almeida Family will, based upon their current ownership as well as ownership following the completion of the Rights Offering, cease to own or control over 50 percent of our general voting securities.

You can purchase Units in the market for less than the price established for the New Units in the offering

The price we have established for the New Units in the Rights Offering is US \$1.3636 per Unit. However, on March 9, 2004, the price of a Unit on the Mexican Stock Exchange was Ps 11.15, or about US \$1.02 per Unit. If you choose to exercise your preemptive right and purchase New Units in the Rights Offering, you will be paying more for a Unit than you could purchase a Unit for on the Mexican Stock Exchange. The opposite is true if you decide to purchase New ADSs, as the subscription price of US \$6.8182 per New ADS is less than the current market price of an ADS. At the close of business on March 9, 2004, the price of a Limited Voting Unit ADS on the New York Stock Exchange was US \$9.70.

***The Common Unit ADSs are not readily tradable in the United States which may lower their market value***

Although the Common Units and the Limited Voting Units are listed and trade on the Mexican Stock Exchange and the Limited Voting Unit ADSs are listed and trade on the NYSE, the Common Unit ADSs are not listed on any United States or foreign exchange, and we have no plans to pursue any listing for the Common Unit ADSs. In the absence of any listing or other established market for the trading of Common Unit ADSs, you may have more difficulty in effecting trades of Common Unit ADSs purchased in the Rights Offering than do holders of Common Units or Limited Voting Unit ADSs. The difficulty in effecting trades of Common Units ADSs may decrease the value of any Common Unit ADSs owned by you.

***Your ability to recover damages from or enforce a judgment against us may be limited***

We are organized under the laws of Mexico and all of our officers and all but two of the members of our board of directors reside in Mexico. Also, more than 80 percent of our assets are located in Mexico. As a result, if you were to have a claim against us, whether predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States or otherwise, it may not be possible for you to effect service of process within the United States upon our management or to enforce the payment by us or our management of damages that might be awarded to you by courts in the United States.

#### Incorporation by Reference

The United States Securities and Exchange Commission allows us to "incorporate by reference" in this prospectus information that we provide the SEC in other filings. This means that important information may be provided to you by referring you to those other documents. Information

incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus, whether it is attached or not, and certain later information that we file with the SEC may automatically update and supercede the information in this prospectus. We incorporate by reference the following:

our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, SEC File No. 82-2873 filed with the SEC on June 30, 2003 and included within this prospectus as Annex A;

our current reports on Form 6-K filed January 22, 2004, November 24, 2003, July 28, 2003 and May 30, 2003; and

any future filings made by us with the SEC on Form 20-F, Form 6-K or otherwise under the requirements of the SEC after the date of this prospectus but prior to the end of the offering made by this prospectus that are identified as being incorporated in this prospectus by reference.

You may request a copy of any of the information incorporated by reference in this prospectus but not supplied with this prospectus, free of charge, by contacting us in writing or by telephone at Avenue Carlos Pacheco 7200, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, México, attention Jesús Olivás Corral; telephone 011.52.614.429.1161; facsimile 011 52.614.429.1166.

#### Financial Information and Currency Translations

Our annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, which is included within this prospectus as Annex A, contains our consolidated audited financial statements as of December 31, 2001 and 2002 and for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002. Included within this prospectus commencing at page F-1 are our unaudited consolidated interim financial statements as of September 30, 2002 and 2003 and for the nine months ended September 30, 2002 and 2003.

We maintain our financial books and records in Mexican pesos, which we refer to in this prospectus as "Pesos", "P." or "Ps," and we present our financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in Mexico, or Mexican GAAP, which differs in many respects from generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or US GAAP. Mexican GAAP requires restatement of all financial statements to constant Pesos as of the date of the most recent balance sheet presented. Our audited financial statements and other annual financial information contained in the Form 20-F and in this prospectus are accordingly stated in constant Pesos with purchasing power as of December 31, 2002.

The unaudited interim financial statements included within this prospectus and other interim financial information presented in this prospectus have been stated in constant Pesos with purchasing power as of September 30, 2003. As a result of inflation in Mexico (as well as, for purposes of our unaudited interim financial statements, inflation in the United States attributable to our assets located there) during the first nine months of 2003, the purchasing power of one Peso as of December 31, 2002 is equal to the purchasing power of 1.023 Pesos as of September 30, 2003. Accordingly, the audited financial statements contained in the Form 20-F are not directly comparable to the unaudited interim financial statements included within this prospectus because they are stated in constant Pesos as of different dates.

This prospectus contains translations of certain Peso amounts into United States dollars, which we refer to in this prospectus as "Dollars," "US \$" or "\$," at specified exchange rates solely for your convenience. You should not construe these translations as representations that the Peso amounts actually represent Dollar amounts or could be converted into Dollars at the rate or rates indicated. Unless otherwise indicated, we have translated Dollar amounts from Pesos at the exchange rate of Ps 11.03 to US \$1.00, the exchange rate quoted by *Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.* as the rate representing the inter-bank exchange rate at the close of business on September 30, 2003. The Interbank Rate at the close of business on March 9, 2004 was Ps 10.982 to US \$1.00.

There are several other commonly available rates of conversion of Pesos to Dollars and we are making no representation as to the accuracy of one rate as compared to any other, many of which may vary significantly from time to time from the Interbank Rate.

#### Use of Proceeds

The maximum aggregate net proceeds from the sale of New Units and New ADSs in the Rights Offering, assuming 32,732,026 New Units (including New Units represented by New ADSs) are sold, are estimated to be approximately US \$44.6 million, although there can be no assurance that this amount of the New Units will be subscribed for or otherwise purchased by the Almeida Family, Alfredo Harp Helú, Roberto Hernandez, Ramiro Alcorta or any other person. The aggregate net proceeds will be used by Interceramic to (i) with respect to US \$15.8 million, acquire the two franchise distributors currently owned by the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta and (ii) with respect to US \$25.0 million fund the cost of the construction and equipment by Interceramic of a new tile production facility to be located in Mexico and (iii) with respect to the remainder of approximately US \$3.8 million fund general corporate purposes. Pending use for payment of the costs of this new facility, proceeds from the Rights Offering may be used to pay down one or more existing lines of credit on a temporary basis.

#### Dividend Policy

Since its organization in 1978, Interceramic has paid one cash dividend of 1.275 nominal Pesos per share in July 1988, and does not anticipate the payment of regular cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Payment of dividends will depend upon, among other factors, the results of operations of Interceramic and its consolidated subsidiaries (collectively, unless the context otherwise requires, the "Company"), cash flow, financial condition, cash requirements, future prospects, capital budgets and other factors deemed relevant by the Board of Directors of Interceramic (the "Board") and the holders of the Series B Shares.

Under the *Estatutos Sociales* of Interceramic (the "Bylaws") and the General Law of Commercial Corporations (the "Mexican Companies Law"), the gross profits of the Company, after provision for income taxes, employee benefit profit sharing payments and other amounts to be deducted by law ("net profits"), are applied as follows:

First, an amount equivalent to at least five percent of net profits of the Company is segregated to build a legal reserve until the reserve is equal to 20 percent of the historical capital stock of Interceramic (before effect of restatement).

Second, the holders of the Series B Shares may determine and allocate a certain percentage of net profits to any special reserve, including a reserve for open-market purchases of Interceramic's

outstanding shares of capital stock.

Third, the remainder of net profits is available for distribution in the form of dividends to the shareholders. For a description of how dividends are to be paid and allocated among the holders of the Series B Shares, the Series L Shares and the Series D Shares, see "Description of Capital Stock" below.

Currently, there is no Mexican withholding tax or other tax levied in respect of dividends paid by the Company, provided that the dividends are paid from earnings which have already been subject to income taxes at the corporate level. As a general policy, Interceramic expects that dividends, if any, to be paid by Interceramic will only be paid out of earnings which have been taxed at the corporate level.

The payment of dividends by Interceramic may also be affected by provisions in certain loan documentation which would prevent Interceramic from paying a dividend under certain circumstances if the Company would be in violation of applicable financial covenants after the payment. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations-Liquidity and Capital Resources" in the Company's annual report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, SEC File No. 82-2873, filed with the SEC on June 30, 2003, and included within this prospectus as Annex A (the "2002 20-F") and "Recent Developments and Results," below.

The declaration, amount and payment of dividends are determined by a majority vote of the holders of the Series B Shares at a general ordinary meeting, generally, but not necessarily, on the recommendation of the Board. The Almeida Family controls, and following completion of the Rights Offering, will continue to control until December 7, 2004, in excess of 51 percent of the Series B Shares and will have, as a result of this control, the ability to determine whether or not dividends are to be paid and the amount of any dividends.

#### Recent Developments and Results

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the interim consolidated financial statements included within this Prospectus. The interim consolidated financial statements are unaudited and are comprised of financial information provided by Interceramic. The actual financial results of the Company for the first three quarters of 2003 and for the year ending December 31, 2002 could differ significantly from the results discussed below. The Dollar amounts contained in the discussion are translated from the Peso amounts at an exchange rate of Ps 11.03 to US \$1.00, the Interbank Rate as of September 30, 2003.

#### Third Quarter and Nine Months Financial Results

In the third quarter of 2003 Interceramic posted sales growth, resulting in a record sales level for any quarter in the history of the Company. On the other hand, the sales did not rise to the heights predicted and combined with significantly higher costs of sales and greater overall operating expenses, adversely impacted operating income. The quarter was marked by continuing stiff competition in the industry. Consolidated sales of US \$83.5 million for the third quarter of 2003 were 6.25 percent greater than third quarter sales of US \$78.6 million in 2002. As was the case in the preceding quarter, higher costs of sales for the period resulted in gross income for the quarter virtually identical to the same quarter in 2002. For the nine months ended September 30, 2003, consolidated sales were US \$229.8 million, an increase of 2.79 percent over sales of US \$223.5 million for the same nine month period in 2002.

Sales in Mexico for the third quarter increased by 8.30 percent from the third quarter of 2002, at US \$48.2 million, and grew by 27.23 percent over sales of US \$37.9 million in the preceding quarter of this year. The Company sold significantly more product in Mexico during the third quarter of 2003 over the same period last year, increasing by 25.09 percent. Much of this sales growth is attributable to sales of private-label products imported since late last year to round out the Company's product lines in the middle- to lower-end of the market segment. As the Company has freed up capacity at its plants for higher margin products, the challenge remains to grow sales of these more expensive products and to keep improving pricing levels. For the first nine months of 2003, sales in Mexico were US \$128.1 million, up 3.21 percent over Mexican sales of US \$124.1 million in the first nine months of 2002. For the nine month period ended September 30, 2003, the volume of product sold in Mexico was 19.97 percent greater than the volume sold in the same period last year.

In the International markets, sales in the third quarter of 2003 increased by 3.58 percent over sales in the third quarter of 2002, at US \$35.3 million compared to sales of US \$34.1 million for the period last year. The amount of product sold in the International markets in the third quarter declined, however, compared to 2002, decreasing by 7.74 percent. For the first nine months of the year, International sales of US \$101.7 million were 2.27 percent greater than the US \$99.4 million recorded over the same nine months in 2002. Volume of product sold in the first nine months of 2003 in the International markets decreased by 9.56 percent over the same period in 2002.

At US \$6.3 million, consolidated operating income for the third quarter of 2003 was 18.02 percent behind operating income of US \$7.7 million posted in the same period of last year, although recovering by 34.43 percent over the low of US \$4.7 million recorded in the second quarter of this year. As might be expected, EBITDA for the quarter lagged behind that of the third quarter of 2002, down 10.66 percent to US \$10.2 million from last year's US \$11.4 million. For the first nine months of 2003, consolidated operating income was US \$17.4 million, down 22.46 percent over operating income of US \$22.5 million in the first nine months of 2002. EBITDA for the period in 2003 was US \$29.0 million, a decrease of 13.16 percent over the US \$33.4 million recorded in the first nine months of 2002.

Over the course of the third quarter, Interceramic determined that the Company was not in compliance with two financial ratios contained in covenants in the Credit Agreement applicable to our US \$100.0 million syndicated loan facility, a "fixed charge coverage" ratio and a "leverage" ratio. The fixed charge coverage ratio originally applicable to us for the quarter was required to be greater than 1.25, and the leverage ratio was required to be less than 3.00, but in the third quarter these ratios stood at 1.05 and 3.34, respectively. With uncertainty over how quickly and to what extent financial performance will improve in the short term, Interceramic commenced discussions with our lenders over a waiver of the non-compliance or an amendment to the Credit Agreement more in line with our expectations. By September 30, 2003, Interceramic had reached agreement with the lenders on a series of amendments to the Credit Agreement that management believes will provide the Company with sufficient flexibility going forward. The documents for these amendments were completed as of October 31, 2003 and provide for a fixed charge coverage ratio of greater than 1.00 and a leverage ratio of less than 3.50

#### Fourth Quarter and Year-End Results

Interceramic's consolidated sales for 2003 were US \$306.4 million, up 2.14 percent from sales of US \$300.0 million in 2002. The growth in sales was largely offset by increases in certain components of the cost of goods sold, as well as by lower price levels mainly the result of the growth of imported product in the mix of sales. Accordingly our gross margin for 2003 of 34.63 percent was 2.36 points lower than gross margin of 37.00 percent in 2002. There are several reasons why our costs were

higher than expected this year. Primary among them was the continuing slide of the Peso, which devalued another eight percent against the Dollar over the course of 2003 on top of the almost 14 percent reduction in 2002. The Company pays for many of our raw materials in Dollars and the cost of natural gas-a significant factor in the overall cost of production-both in our Mexican facilities and in the Garland, Texas plant, is denominated in Dollars. Also, the tile that the Company imported during the year from Europe and South America to round out our product selection as well as to free up production capacity at our own plants for higher margin products, is all sold to the Company in Dollars. The decrease in the value of the Peso made all of these components more expensive for us during the year.

Sales in Mexico grew by 1.56 percent over sales in 2002, hitting US \$171.8 million. The Company also experienced growth in unit sales of 17.54 percent more square meters of product in 2003 than we sold in 2002, indicating greater market penetration in a Mexican ceramic tile market that only increased in consumption by about four percent in the aggregate over the course of the year. In the International markets, primarily the United States, sales grew to US \$134.6 million in 2003 from US \$130.9 million in 2002, a 2.8 percent increase. At the same time, volume of product sold decreased by 7.70 percent, sending a mixed message of decreased market penetration yet better overall prices.

As was the case during 2002, costs attributed to improving our sales infrastructure and an extremely competitive world market led to decline in operating income. At US \$20.5 million, operating income in 2003 was 28.11 percent lower than operating income of US \$28.5 million in 2002. Lower operating income suppressed EBITDA, which at US \$36.2 million for the year represented a 16.17 percent drop over EBITDA of US \$43.2 million in 2002. On the other hand, debt reduction and lower interest rates have improved our debt service coverage ratio, which at the end of the last quarter of 2003 stood at 6.0 times compared to 4.4 times at the end of 2002.

With respect to the fourth quarter of 2003, consolidated sales of US \$76.6 million were practically even with sales of US \$76.5 million in the fourth quarter of 2002. At US \$3.1 million, operating income for the quarter was 49.1 percent lower than operating income of US \$6.0 million in the fourth quarter of 2002. Our EBITDA for the quarter was down as well, decreasing by 26.3 percent to US \$7.2 million in the fourth quarter of 2003 from US \$9.8 million in the fourth quarter of 2002.

At the end of the year, our fixed charge coverage ratio stood at 1.19 and our leverage ratio was at 3.36, both in compliance with the new ratios applicable to the Company under the Credit Agreement negotiated during the third quarter.

#### Acquisition of Almeida Family Franchises

At a meeting of the Interceramic shareholders to be held on January 14, 2004, the shareholders will be asked to approve a plan adopted by the Board for the Company to acquire, directly or indirectly, all of the issued and outstanding capital stock of *Grupo Comercial Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.* ("GISA") and *Materiales Arquitectónicos Decorativos, S.A. de C.V.* ("MASA"). Currently, all of the stock of GISA is owned by the Almeida Family, while MASA is owned 66.6 percent by the Almeida Family and 33.3 percent by Ramiro Alcorta. The aggregate purchase price for the stock of both GISA and MASA is US \$15.8 million, which was determined through the course of consultations among the Almeida Family, Mr. Alcorta, the management of the Company and Alfredo Harp Helú. The purchase of the GISA and MASA stock is to occur simultaneously with the completion of the Extended Offering, as the Almeida Family has informed the Company that it intends to subscribe for 9,973,561 of the 12,021,176 New Units that it is entitled to purchase in the Rights Offering by virtue of its existing shareholdings and Mr. Alcorta is prepared to purchase 1,292,278 New Units in the Extended Offering. These two simultaneous transactions will result in an almost equal amount being paid by the

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Company for GISA and MASA and by the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta for New Units in the Offering and in substance will have the effect of the Company acquiring GISA and MASA in exchange for the Inter ceramic stock received by the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta in the Offering. The difference of US \$500,000 being paid by the Company to the Almeida Family and Mr. Alcorta in excess of their payments for New Units will be applied by them in payment of Mexican taxes due upon the sale of GISA and MASA.

The Banamex Trust and Alfredo Harp Helú

The Banamex Trust was formed as a trust under Mexican law administered by *Banco Nacional de México, S.A.* ("Banamex") in order to provide a controlling position in the Common Units (or Series B Shares) subsequent to the completion of a private placement of Common Units to Kohler Co. in November of 2000. The control arrangement was required under certain loan documentation as a method for the Almeida Family to retain voting control over the Common Units, as pursuant to an agreement between the Almeida Family and the beneficial owners of the Banamex Trust, the Banamex Trust and the Almeida Family vote their respective Common Units coincident with each other.

The beneficiaries of the Banamex Trust are members of the family of Alfredo Harp Helú, who currently owns in an individual capacity 5,202,049 Limited Voting Units, or approximately 10.70 percent of Inter ceramic's outstanding capital stock. The Banamex Trust currently owns 3,507,836 Common Units and 1,627,893 Limited Voting Units, together approximately 10.57 percent of Inter ceramic's outstanding capital stock. Accordingly, through his own holdings and those of the Banamex Trust, Mr. Harp and his family control 21.27 percent of Inter ceramic's outstanding capital stock.

If Mr. Harp purchases New Units in the Extended Offering, his purchase will be made pursuant to Regulation S under the 1933 Act and the New Units he purchases will not be registered under the securities laws of the United States or any state.

Control of Inter ceramic

The following table sets forth certain information concerning the ownership of the capital stock of Inter ceramic as of September 30, 2003:

Shareholder	Common Units	%	Limited Voting Units	%	Total	%
<b>Almeida Family</b>	15,958,657	55.1	1,890,210	9.6	17,848,867	36.7
<b>Alfredo Harp Helú</b>	0	0.0	5,202,049	26.5	5,202,049	10.7
<b>Banamex Trust</b>	3,507,836	12.1	1,627,893	8.3	5,135,729	10.6
<b>Kohler Co.</b>	3,636,363	12.6	0	0.0	3,636,363	7.5
<b>Other Shareholders</b>	5,850,460	20.2	10,926,568	55.6	16,777,028	34.5
<b>Total</b>	28,953,316	100.0	19,646,720	100.0	48,600,036	100.0

Upon completion of the Rights Offering and the Extended Offering as described in this Prospectus, the ownership of the capital stock of Interceramic is expected to be substantially as follows, assuming (i) only the Almeida Family purchases 9,973,561 New Units in the Rights Offering and (ii) Mssrs. Harp and Hernandez purchase 9,699,024 New Units and Mr. Alcorta purchase 1,292,278 New Units in the Extended Offering and (iii) the remaining shares are purchased by the remaining shareholders pro rata in accordance with their rights:

[Chart follows on next page]

Shareholder	Common Units	%	Limited Voting Units	%	Total	%
<b>Almeida Family</b>	24,876,009	51.3	2,946,416	9.0	27,822,428	34.2
<b>Alfredo Harp Helú</b>	4,314,513	8.9	10,586,560	32.2	14,901,073	18.3
<b>Banamex Trust</b>	5,870,356	12.1	2,724,275	8.3	8,594,631	10.6
<b>Kohler</b>	3,636,363	7.5	0	0.0	3,636,363	4.5
<b>Ramiro Alcorta</b>	899,942	1.8	392,336	1.2	1,292,278	1.6
<b>Other Shareholders</b>	8,856,133	18.3	16,229,156	49.4	25,085,289	30.8
<b>Total</b>	48,453,316	100.0	32,878,746	100.0	81,332,062	100.0

### The Rights Offering

On January 14, 2004, Interceramic held a general meeting (the "General Meeting") of the holders of the Series B Shares in Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico, at which the holders of the Series B Shares authorized a capital increase (the "Capital Increase") pursuant to which the authorized capital of Interceramic was increased from 37,227,715 Common Units (comprised of a total of 74,455,430 Series B Shares) and 25,057,860 Limited Voting Units (comprised of a total of 25,057,860 Series D Shares and 25,057,860 Series L Shares) to 48,453,316 Common Units and 32,946,720 Limited Voting Units. At the General Meeting, the holders of the Series B Shares were not presented with and did not vote upon a waiver of preemptive rights associated with the Capital Increase. Accordingly, under Mexican law the Units approved in connection with the Capital Increase (the "New Units") must be offered to existing security holders on a *pro rata* basis. The New Units are being offered to holders of Limited Voting Units, including Limited Voting Units represented by Limited Voting Units ADSs ("LVU ADSs"), as well as holders of Common Units, including Common Units represented by Common Unit ADSs ("Common Unit ADSs" and, collectively with LVU ADSs, "ADSs") on an equal basis.

On March 11, 2004, a meeting of the Board was held (the "Board Meeting"), at which the Board determined to offer the right to purchase New Units (the "Rights") to holders of record of Common Units and Limited Voting Units (collectively, "Units"), in each case including holders of ADSs (the "Record Holders"), on March 18, 2004 (the "Record Date") on the basis described in this Prospectus.

Record Holders of Units are entitled to purchase 0.6734980 New Common Units for every Common Unit they own as of the Record Date and 0.6734980 New Limited Voting Units for every Limited Voting Unit they own as of the Record Date. Record Holders of Common Unit ADSs are entitled to purchase 0.6734980 New Common Unit ADSs for every Common Unit ADS they own as of the



Record Date and 0.6734980 New Limited Voting Unit ADSs for every Limited Voting Unit ADS they own as of the Record Date (collectively, "New ADSs"). Record Holders are not required to purchase any New Units in the Rights Offering and may purchase any combination of New Common Units and New Limited Voting Units up to the respective maximums of each that they are entitled to purchase, although a Record Holder must own Common Units to purchase New Common Units in the Rights Offering and must own Limited Voting Units to purchase New Limited Voting Units in the Rights Offering.

The subscription price for Units (the "Unit Subscription Price") is US \$1.3636 per New Unit and, as each ADS is comprised of five Units, the subscription price for New ADSs (the "ADS Subscription Price") is US \$6.8182 per New ADS. The Unit Subscription Price is the same for New Common Units as for New Limited Voting Units and the ADS Subscription Price is the same for New Common Unit ADSs as for New Limited Voting Unit ADSs.

#### Purchase by Holders of Units

#### Summary Timetable

The following summary timetable sets forth certain important dates relating to the Rights Offering to Record Holders of Units (all times are Mexico City time on the applicable dates):

Record Date for Rights Offering--3:00 p.m.....	March 18, 2004
Commencement Date of Rights Offering.....	March 15, 2004
Expiration Date for Rights Offering-3:00 p.m.....	March 30, 2004
Delivery of New Units (on or about).....	March 30, 2004

#### Record Date

The Record Date for determination of Record Holders of Units entitled to purchase New Units in the Rights Offering is March 18, 2004, 3:00 p.m., Mexico City time.

#### Right to Purchase

Beginning on the commencement date of the Rights Offering at 8:30 a.m., Mexico City time on March 15, 2004 (the "Commencement Date") and continuing through the expiration date of the Rights Offering at 3:00 p.m., Mexico City time on March 30, 2004 (the "Expiration Date"), every Common Unit and Limited Voting Unit held of record on the Record Date will entitle the Record Holder to purchase 0.6734980 New Common Units for each Common Unit owned by it and 0.6734980 New Limited Voting Units for each Limited Voting Unit owned by it at the Unit Subscription Price.

#### Rights Not Transferable

Under Mexican law, preemptive rights to acquire capital stock of a limited liability company with variable capital such as Interceramic are not represented by separate instrument, and are not transferable or otherwise negotiable apart from the securities to which they relate. Accordingly, the Rights are not transferable, and only Record Holders will be entitled to purchase New Units in the Rights Offering.

#### Expiration Date

The Rights Offering will terminate on the Expiration Date at 3:00 p.m., Mexico City time on March 30, 2004. Rights which are unexercised at the Expiration Date will lapse, and Interceramic will be free to sell the related New Units in the Extended Offering.

#### Fractional Units

Fractional New Units will not be issued, and entitlement of Record Holders of Units to New Units will be rounded down to the nearest whole number. Purchases will be accepted for full New Units only, but Record Holders may otherwise exercise their Rights in whole or in part. New Units resulting from the rounding of fractional New Units may be sold by Interceramic in the Extended Offering. As a result of the rounding, a Record Holder must own at least two Units to acquire one New Unit.

#### Purchase, Payment and Delivery

In general, the beneficial owners of Units hold their Units through accounts of eligible account holders at *S.D. Indeval, S.A. de C.V. Instituto para el Depósito de Valores* ("Indeval"), which is the depository for securities traded on the Mexican Stock Exchange. These eligible account holders, principally Mexican banks and brokerage firms, are typically the holders of record of Units. At the close of business on the Expiration Date, Interceramic will deliver to Indeval a global certificate for each of the New Units purchased in the Rights Offering, including New Units represented by New ADSs, against payment of the aggregate purchase price for all subscribed New Units.

Record Holders, if any, other than Indeval, shall exercise their Rights by transmission of subscription materials and the applicable amount of the Unit Subscription Price per New Unit subscribed directly to Interceramic.

Record Holders of Units must inform Indeval or Interceramic, as the case may be, of their election to subscribe for New Units no later than 3:00 p.m., Mexico City time, on March 29, 2004. Because the Unit Subscription Price is stated in Dollars and the exchange rate for payments in Pesos will be determined on March 23, 2004 but not published until March 24, 2004, Record Holders of Units paying for New Units will have from March 24, 2004 until 12:00 p.m., Mexico City time on March 30, 2004 to provide payment in Pesos in full for New Units subscribed for. By that time, purchasers of New Units shall cause to be paid to Indeval the full Unit Subscription Price for each New Unit subscribed. Record Holders of Units paying the Unit Subscription Price in Dollars may do so by making payment in full at any time from the Commencement Date until 12:00 p.m., Mexico City time on the Expiration Date.

The procedures of Indeval, its account holders and any other Intermediary through which Units are held will determine the manner in which beneficial owners of Units will (i) give instructions that New Units are to be purchased for their account in the Rights Offering; (ii) provide funds for the payment of the purchase price of the New Units subscribed by them; and (iii) receive confirmation of the delivery of New Units for their account.

#### Additional Information

The exercise of Rights by a Record Holder is irrevocable and may not be cancelled or modified by the Record Holder once made.

## Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Beneficial owners of Units wishing to purchase New Units are advised to contact the Intermediaries through which they hold their Units to arrange for the purchase.

### Purchase by Holders of American Depositary Receipts

#### Summary Timetable

The following summary timetable sets forth certain important dates relating to the Rights Offering to Record Holders of ADRs (all times are New York, New York time on the applicable dates):

Record Date for Rights Offering-4:00 p.m.....	March 15, 2004
Commencement Date of Rights Offering-9:30 a.m.....	March 15, 2004
Deadline for Payments to Depositary-2:30 p.m.....	March 25, 2004
Expiration Date for Rights Offering-4:00 p.m.....	March 30, 2004
Delivery of New ADRs for New ADSs (on or about).....	March 30, 2004

#### Record Date

The Record Date for determination of Record Holders of ADSs entitled to purchase New ADSs in the Rights Offering is March 15, 2004, 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time.

#### Right to Purchase

Interceramic has made arrangements with *Citibank, N.A.*, as depositary in connection with the ADSs (the "Depositary"), to make available to holders of record of ADSs as of 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 15, 2004 rights (the "ADS Rights") to subscribe for New ADSs. Holders of ADSs will receive 0.6734980 Common Unit ADS Rights and 0.6734980 Limited Voting Unit ADS Rights per Common Unit ADS and Limited Voting Unit ADS, respectively, they hold on the Record Date. One ADS Right plus the ADS Subscription Price of US \$6.8182 will be required to subscribe for each New ADS.

#### Rights Not Transferable

Under Mexican law, preemptive rights to acquire capital stock of a limited liability company with variable capital such as Interceramic are not represented by separate instrument, and are not transferable or otherwise negotiable apart from the securities to which they relate. Accordingly, the Rights are not transferable, and only Record Holders of ADSs will be entitled to ADS Rights entitling the holder to purchase New ADSs in the Rights Offering.

#### Expiration Date

The Rights Offering will terminate on the Expiration Date at 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time, on March 30, 2004. ADS Rights which are unexercised at the Expiration Date will lapse and Interceramic will be free to sell the underlying New Units in the Extended Offering. **However, Record Holders of ADSs wishing to purchase New ADSs in the Rights Offering will be required to deliver all subscription materials make payment for their subscribed New ADSs by 2:30 p.m., New York, New York time on March 25, 2004 in order for the Depositary to be able to transmit payments to Indeval by the Expiration Date. Accordingly, with respect to Record Holders of ADSs, their ability to subscribe for New ADSs in the Rights Offering will effectively terminate on March 25, 2004.**

#### Fractional ADSs

Fractional New ADSs will not be issued, and entitlement of Record Holders of ADSs to New ADSs will be rounded down to the nearest whole number. Purchases will be accepted for full New ADSs only, but Record Holders may otherwise exercise their Rights in whole or in part. As a result of the rounding, a Record Holder must own at least two ADSs to acquire one New ADS. Fractional Rights resulting from the rounding of fractional New ADSs will lapse on the Expiration Date, and the New Units relating to the lapsed fractional Rights may be sold by Interceramic in the Extended Offering.

#### The Depositary

The Depositary, whose address is 111 Wall Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10043, is the depositary for the ADSs pursuant to the terms of the respective deposit agreements among Interceramic, the Depositary and the holders from time to time of the ADSs (the "CU Deposit Agreement" and the "LVU Deposit Agreement" respectively, and collectively, the "Deposit Agreement"). The Depositary is assisting Interceramic in the distribution of this Prospectus and related materials to holders of ADSs, and is accepting notices of subscription by ADS holders ("Subscription Notices") and payment for New ADSs.

#### Method of Purchase

New ADSs may be purchased (i) in the case of Record Holders holding ADSs through *The Depository Trust Company* ("DTC"), New York, New York, or its participants ("DTC Participants"), by the timely delivery to the Depositary of notification through DTC's "agent subscriptions over PTS" procedure (the "ASOP"), or (ii) in the case of Record Holders holding ADSs registered in their own names, by the timely delivery to the Depositary of a completed Subscription Notice in the form sent to the Record Holders of ADSs, in each instance accompanied by timely payment in full of the ADS Subscription Price for each New ADS to be purchased. Payments for New ADSs subscribed for through the ASOP shall be made to the DTC Participants through whom the Record Holder holds its ADSs. All other payments for New ADSs should be sent to the Depositary by (A) mail at Citibank, N.A., Corporate Actions, P.O. Box 859208, Braintree, Massachusetts 02185-9208 ; (B) hand delivery, at Citibank, N.A., c/o Securities Transfer and Reporting Services, Inc., 100 William Street-Galleria, New York, New York 10038, Attention: Corporate Actions; and (C) express mail or overnight courier at Citibank, N.A., Corporate Actions, 161 Bay State Drive, Braintree, Massachusetts 02184. **Only certified checks will be accepted for payments.** The Depositary has discretion to refuse any improperly completed or delivered or unexecuted Subscription Notice. A Subscription Notice must be received with payment of the complete ADS Subscription Price for the applicable number of New ADSs by the Depositary by 2:30 p.m., New York, New York time on March 25, 2004 in order to enable the Depositary to remit payments to Indeval on the Expiration Date. Only actual delivery and receipt will constitute delivery to the Depositary for these purposes, and neither deposit in the mail, postmarking or other transmittal made prior to March 25, 2004 shall, in the absence of actual receipt

on or prior to 2:30 p.m., New York, New York time on March 25, 2004, be effective for purposes hereof. Questions regarding these procedures may be directed to Interceramic, or to the Depository to the attention of Citibank ADR Shareholder Services at 1.800.308.7887.

#### Subscription by ASOP

Record Holders of ADSs holding ADSs through DTC or DTC Participants should instruct DTC or the applicable DTC Participant to enter subscription instructions for New ADSs through the ASOP. Subscribing DTC Participants must instruct DTC to charge the applicable DTC Participant's account the ADS Subscription Price for each New ADS subscribed for and to deliver the proper amount to the Depository. Payment will be accepted in Dollars only. All Subscription Notices entered through the ASOP and payment of the ADS Subscription Price for the subscribed New ADSs must be received by DTC on or prior to 2:30 p.m. New York, New York time on March 26, 2004. During the pendency of the Rights Offering (the "Offering Period"), DTC will provide the Depository daily with copies of Subscription Notices received through the ASOP, identifying subscribing DTC Participants and the quantities of New ADSs subscribed for by each. DTC will also send subscription payments received to the Depository, by check, at the end of each business day.

#### Payment for New ADSs

The Depository will not accept any foreign currency in payment of the ADS Subscription Price for any New ADSs, including Pesos, and will accept payment only in Dollars. Payments by Record Holders holding ADSs other than through DTC or DTC Participants shall be made by certified check made payable to "Citibank, N.A.--Interceramic." Payments made by Record Holders holding ADSs through DTC or DTC Participants shall be made to the DTC Participant through whom the Record Holder owns its ADSs, which will remit payments to the Depository's account with DTC. **Although the Expiration Date is March 30, 2004, in order for Record Holders of ADSs to subscribe and pay for New ADSs, payment and subscription materials must be received by the Depository by 2:30 p.m., New York, New York time on March 25, 2004 to enable the Depository to remit payment to Indeval by 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on the Expiration Date. Accordingly, Record Holders and beneficial holders of ADSs should make arrangements to pay the ADS Subscription Price and deliver all subscription materials to the Depository as far in advance of the Expiration Date as practicable. Subscriptions not received by the Depository by 2:30 p.m., New York, New York time on March 25, 2004 will not be honored, and the associated ADS Rights will lapse .**

To the extent that the Depository is required to convert the ADS Subscription Price payments into Pesos for purposes of making payments to Indeval, Interceramic will bear the risk of any unfavorable exchange rate fluctuations in the value of the Peso with respect to the Dollar for the time ADS Subscription Price payments are made to the time the payments are made to Indeval. Interceramic will benefit from a favorable exchange rate fluctuation, and the ADS holder will not be entitled to a refund or credit of any portion of the amount paid by it for its New ADSs.

#### Delivery of New ADRs

New ADSs purchased in the Rights Offering will be delivered via DTC to the DTC Participant's account, if any, designated in the Subscription Notice or, if no specific account has been designated, a New ADR evidencing New ADSs will be sent to the purchasing Record Holder's address by mail on or about March 30, 2004.

#### Equality of ADSs

New ADSs purchased in the Rights Offering, and the New ADRs evidencing them, will be identical in all respects, including without limitation rights, preferences and obligations, to the ADSs and ADRs, respectively, that are currently outstanding. Upon issuance, the New Common Unit ADRs will not be listed on the NYSE or any other securities exchange in the United States, but the New Limited Voting Unit ADRs will be listed and tradable on the NYSE upon delivery.

#### Additional Information

The method of delivery of New ADSs and payment of the ADS Subscription Price to the Depository will be at the election and risk of the subscribing Record Holders of ADSs. If Subscription Notices and payment for New ADSs are sent by mail, holders of ADSs are urged to send their materials by registered mail, properly addressed, return receipt requested, and to allow a sufficient number of days to ensure delivery to the Depository and clearance of payment prior to the Expiration Date. Holders of ADSs paying by check must make payment by means of certified check.

Failure of a Record Holder to comply, in whole or in part, with any of the requirements described in this Prospectus in connection with the exercise of ADS Rights in the Rights Offering by the Expiration Date will result in the holder's ADS Rights lapsing, and they may not be thereafter exercised. The exercise of Rights by a Record Holder is irrevocable and may not be cancelled or modified by the Record Holder once made.

Beneficial owners of ADSs wishing to purchase New ADSs are advised to contact the Intermediaries through which they hold their ADSs to arrange for the purchase.

All questions regarding the timeliness, validity, form, compliance and eligibility of any purchase in the Rights Offering will be determined by Interceramic, and its decisions in each instance will be conclusive and binding on Interceramic, the applicable holders and the Depository. Interceramic may, in its sole discretion, waive any defect or irregularity or permit a defect or irregularity to be corrected within a period of time as it may determine, or reject the purported exercise of any Right. Subscription Notices will not be deemed to have been received or accepted until all irregularities have been waived or cured within a period of time as Interceramic, in its sole discretion, determines. Neither Interceramic nor the Depository will be under any duty to notify any Record Holder or any other person of any defect or irregularity in connection with the submission of Subscription Notices or will incur any liability for failure to give any notification.

#### The Extended Offering

New Units, including New Units underlying the New ADSs offered to Record Holders of ADSs, remaining unsubscribed on the Expiration Date may be sold by Interceramic directly to one or more persons in the Extended Offering, although subscribers in the Extended Offering are required to be Record Holders. Alfredo Harp Helú and Roberto Hernandez are prepared to purchase 9,699,024 New Units between them and Ramiro Alcorta is prepared to purchase 1,292,278 New Units in the Extended Offering at the full Unit Subscription Price, subject to certain conditions, and Interceramic does not intend to sell unsubscribed New Units to any Record Holders other than Mssrs. Harp and Hernandez and Mr. Alcorta. The Extended Offering Period will commence on the business day immediately following the Expiration Date and will terminate at 4:00 p.m., New York, New York time on March 31, 2004 (the "Extended Offering Period"). Although Mssrs. Harp and Hernandez and Mr. Alcorta are prepared to purchase New Units during the Extended Offering Period, subject to certain conditions, there can be no assurance that they or any other person will in fact purchase any New Units or New ADSs in either the Rights Offering or the Extended Offering, or how many New Units or New ADSs will actually be subscribed for. Further, there can be no assurance that any New

Units or New ADSs will be offered or sold in the Extended Offering.

All New Units and New ADSs remaining unsubscribed on the Expiration Date will be removed from registration under the 1933 Act by post-effective amendment to Interceramic's registration statement on Form F-3 applicable to the Rights Offering. All New Units or New ADSs sold to Mr. Harp and Mr. Alcorta in the Extended Offering (and, if any, in the Rights Offering) will be sold in reliance on Regulation S under the 1933 Act, will not constitute registered securities under the 1933 Act and Mssrs. Harp and Hernandez and Mr. Alcorta may sell, convey or otherwise transfer the New Units or New ADSs purchased by them only if the securities are subsequently registered under the 1933 Act or are sold, conveyed or transferred in reliance upon an exemption from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act.

## Taxation

### United States Taxes

#### General

The following is a summary of the material United States federal income tax consequences of the ownership and sale of Units and ADSs, in each case, except as otherwise noted, by a US Holder (as defined below). This summary is the opinion of Mendel Blumenfeld, LLP, which opinion is based in part upon advice received from Mexican counsel with respect to certain matters under Mexican law. The tax treatment of a holder may vary depending upon the particular situation of the holder. The following summary of United States federal income tax consequences is limited to holders who hold Units as "capital assets," within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and whose "functional currency," within the meaning of Code Section 985, is the Dollar. Certain holders (including without limitation insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions, persons subject to the alternative minimum tax, holders that are not US Holders, broker-dealers and beneficial holders of five percent or more of the voting power or value of the shares of Interceramic) may be subject to special rules not discussed below. The discussion below also does not address the effect of any United States state or local tax law on a holder. Additionally, the discussion is based upon United States federal income tax law as currently in effect, which is subject to change. As used herein, the term "US Holder" means any beneficial or record holder who is either an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States, a partnership, corporation or other entity organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof, or an estate or trust that is subject to United States federal income taxation without regard to the source of its income.

This summary is based upon the tax laws of the United States as in effect on the date of this Prospectus, which are subject to change. Holders are encouraged to consult their own tax advisors as to the United States, Mexican or other tax consequences of the ownership and sale of New Units and New ADSs as applied to their own particular circumstances.

#### Grant, Exercise and Lapse of Rights

US Holders of Units and ADSs who receive rights to acquire New Units or New ADSs will not be subject to any United States income tax consequences as a result of the grant, exercise or lapse of the rights.

#### Ownership and Sale of Units and ADSs

For United States federal income tax purposes, US Holders of New Units and New ADSs will be treated as the owners of the Common Units or Limited Voting Units and the Series B Shares or the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares comprising the Common Units and the Limited Voting Units, respectively.

#### Taxation of Dividends and Stock Distributions

For tax years beginning after December 31, 2002 and ending prior to January 1, 2009, dividends payable by certain corporations, including Interceramic, will be taxed at capital gains rates, generally 15 percent for most US Holders, while US Holders in the ten percent and 15 percent tax brackets are taxed on capital gains at a rate of five percent. For tax years ending after January 1, 2009, dividends paid out of current or accumulated earnings and profits with respect to the New Units will be includible in the gross income of a US Holder as ordinary income when the dividends are received by Banamex in its capacity as the custodian for the Units underlying the ADSs in the United States (the "Custodian") and will not be eligible for any dividends received deduction otherwise allowable to corporations under Code Section 243. Such dividends paid in Pesos will be includible in the income of a US Holder in a Dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the day the Pesos are received by the Custodian. US Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of any foreign currency gain or loss on any Pesos received which are not converted into Dollars on the day the Pesos are received by the Custodian. Dividends generally will constitute foreign source "passive income" (or in the case of certain holders, "financial services income") for United States foreign tax credit purposes.

Amounts withheld in respect of Mexican taxes on dividends will, subject to certain generally applicable limitations and exceptions, be eligible for the foreign tax credit available under the Code or, at the election of the US Holder, be deductible in computing taxable income. Under recent amendments to the Code, foreign tax credits may not be available for withholding taxes attributable to dividends paid in respect of securities held for short periods of time or for certain short-term or hedged positions taken in respect of securities.

Distributions of additional shares to US Holders with respect to the New Units (and accompanying distributions with respect to New ADSs) that are made as part of a pro rata distribution to all shareholders of the Company will not be subject to United States federal income tax.

A holder of New Units or New ADSs that is, with respect to the United States, not a US Holder (a "Non-US Holder") will not be subject to United States federal income or withholding tax on dividends paid with respect to the New Units (or with respect to New ADSs), unless such income is effectively connected with the conduct by the holder of a trade or business in the United States.

#### Taxation of Capital Gains

Gain or loss realized by a US Holder on the sale or other taxable disposition of New Units or New ADSs will be subject to US federal income taxation as capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between such holder's basis in the New Units or New ADSs and the amount realized on the sale or other disposition. Capital gains and losses recognized on a sale or other disposition of New Units or New ADSs by a US Holder will be treated as United States source income. Deposits and withdrawals of New Units for New ADSs by US Holders will not be subject to United States federal income tax.

A Non-US holder of New Units or New ADSs will not be subject to United States federal income or withholding tax on gains realized on the sale of New Units or New ADSs unless (i) such gain is



effectively connected with the conduct by the holder of a trade or business in the United States or (ii) in the case of gain realized by an individual holder, the holder is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale and certain other conditions are met.

## Mexican Taxes

### General

The following is a summary of the material anticipated Mexican tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of New Units and New ADSs, in each case, by a person that is not a resident of Mexico, as defined below, and represents the opinion of Abogados Mesta y Asociados, S.C.

This summary is based upon the tax laws of Mexico as in effect on the date of this Prospectus, which are subject to change. Holders should consult their own tax advisors as to United States, Mexican or other tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of New Units and New ADSs.

An income tax treaty between the United States and Mexico took effect beginning January 1, 1994. Except as described below under "-Taxation of Capital Gains," the treaty does not have any material effect on the Mexican tax consequences described herein. Holders should consult with their tax advisors as to their entitlement to benefits afforded by the tax treaty.

For purposes of Mexican taxation, a natural person is a resident of Mexico if it has established its home in Mexico, unless it has resided in another country for more than 183 calendar days during a year and can demonstrate that he had become a resident of that country for tax purposes, and a legal entity is a resident of Mexico if and to the extent that it has business activities in Mexico. A Mexican citizen or a legal entity with its corporate domicile in Mexico and established under Mexican law is presumed to be a resident of Mexico unless such person or entity can demonstrate otherwise. If a legal entity has a permanent establishment or fixed base in Mexico, such permanent establishment or fixed base shall be required to pay taxes in Mexico in accordance with relevant tax provisions.

### Taxation of Dividends

Effective January 1, 2000, dividends, either in cash or in any other form, paid with respect to the New Units or the New ADSs will be subject to the Mexican corporate tax, which the Company will be required to pay at a rate of 35 percent of 1.5385 times the amount of the dividend, if the dividend is not paid from earnings which have already been taxed.

### Taxation of Capital Gains

The sale or other disposition of New ADSs will not be subject to Mexican tax. Deposits and withdrawals of New ADSs will not give rise to Mexican tax or transfer duties.

Gains realized on the sale or other disposition of New Units will not be subject to any Mexican tax if the sale is carried out through the Mexican Stock Exchange or any other recognized securities market, as determined by Mexican tax authorities, including the NYSE. Gains realized on sales or other dispositions of New Units made in other circumstances would be subject to Mexican income tax. Under the terms of the United States-Mexico income tax treaty, gains of a (less than 25 percent) US Holder eligible for benefits under the treaty on disposition of New Units will not generally be subject to Mexican tax, provided they are not attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base of such US Holder in Mexico. Gains of a Non-US Holder eligible for benefits under a treaty to which Mexico is a party may be exempt, in whole or in part, from Mexican tax under the applicable treaty. Holders

should consult with their tax advisors to determine their entitlement to benefits accorded under any applicable tax treaty.

#### Other Mexican Taxes

There are no inheritance or succession taxes applicable to the ownership, transfer or disposition of New Units or New ADSs. There are no Mexican stamp, issuer, registration or similar taxes or duties payable by holders of New Units or New ADSs.

#### Description of Capital Stock

Set forth below is certain information concerning Interceramic's capital structure and a description of certain provisions of the Bylaws, as currently amended, and Mexican law. Copies of the Bylaws have been filed with, and can be examined at, the *Registro Público de Comercio del Distrito Morelos en la Ciudad de Chihuahua* (the "Public Registry of Property and Commerce of the Morelos District of the City of Chihuahua"). In addition, an English translation of the Bylaws has been filed with the Company's current report on Form 6-K, filed with the Commission on January 22, 2004 and incorporated by reference in this Prospectus.

#### Outstanding Capital Stock

The authorized capital stock of Interceramic consists of 162,800,072, shares, divided into three classes of stock without par value, the Series B Shares in the amount of 96,906,632, the Series D Shares in the amount of 32,946,720 and the Series L Shares in the amount of 32,946,720, of which, prior to the Rights Offering, 97,200,072 were issued and outstanding, consisting of 57,906,632 Series B Shares and 19,646,720 shares each of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares. Pursuant to the Bylaws, until December 7, 2004 (the "Separation Date"), the Series B Shares are required to trade in pairs of two as Common Units, and the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares are required to trade in pairs of one share of each class as Limited Voting Units.

#### Units

The Bylaws require that Interceramic's capital stock trade as either Common Units or Limited Voting Units until the Separation Date. Upon later sales, if any, by Interceramic of its capital stock, until the Separation Date sales will be of the applicable Common Units or Limited Voting Units, and neither the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares nor the Series L Shares will be sold in any form other than Common Units and Limited Voting Units. In connection with each subsequent sale of Common Units or Limited Voting Units, if any, the applicable Units will separate with all other then outstanding Units on the Separation Date, regardless of when the Units were first offered and sold, unless, in connection with any sale, Interceramic requests and the *Registro Nacional de Valores e Intermediarios* (the "RNVI") maintained by the *Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores*, the Mexican national securities commission (the "CNBV"), approves a longer period for the applicable Units to trade in Unit form.

On the Separation Date, the Series L Shares will convert to Series B Shares, and thereafter, the Series L Shares will cease to exist as a class of Interceramic's capital stock, and all voting and other rights previously applicable to holders of Series L Shares will no longer exist, other than to the extent rights may be available under the Bylaws to holders of Series B Shares.

#### Changes in Capital Stock, Preemptive Rights and Redemption

The capital stock of Interceramic may be increased or decreased by a resolution passed at a general extraordinary meeting of the holders of the Series B Shares-however, the Series B Shares must at all times exceed 50 percent of Interceramic's capital stock.

If the capital stock is increased, shareholders will have preemptive rights to subscribe for the new shares in proportion to their holdings relative to all capital stock then outstanding, except in the case of shares issued:

in connection with mergers;

upon the conversion of convertible debentures; or

for placement in public offerings, if the shareholders at a general extraordinary shareholders' meeting called for that purpose approve the issuance of shares and the waiver of preemptive rights.

Interceramic may resell shares retained in the treasury as a result of share repurchases conducted on the Mexican Stock Exchange without triggering the preemptive rights of shareholders. The subscription period for the exercise of preemptive rights is determined by the shareholders' meeting which approved the increase in the capital stock. However, the subscription period may not be less than 15 days after publication in the *Periodico Oficial del Estado* (the "Official Gazette") of a notice of the issuance of new shares. Holders of ADSs may not be entitled to receive any rights to purchase securities which have not been registered under the 1933 Act or other applicable law and which are not exempt from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act. Except for the waiver of preemptive rights made at a shareholders meeting for shares to be issued under a public offering program approved by the shareholders and CNBV, preemptive rights cannot be waived in advance and cannot be represented by an instrument that is negotiable separately from the corresponding share.

#### Purchase of Shares by Interceramic

At the direction of the Board, Interceramic may repurchase its shares on the Mexican Stock Exchange at any time at the prevailing market price. The purchase price of repurchased shares will reduce a special reserve created for the repurchase of shares with funds allocated from net earnings. If Interceramic does not resell the repurchased stock within a certain period of time, share capital will be reduced automatically by an amount equal to the theoretical value of each of the shares which are repurchased. Should the purchase price of the shares exceed their theoretical value, the difference will be paid for with proceeds from the reserve created for the repurchase of shares. Repurchased shares will be kept in treasury for future sales, if any, which may be conducted on the Mexican Stock Exchange. Share capital will be automatically increased upon the resale of the shares by an amount equal to their theoretical value and any excess amount will be reallocated to the repurchase reserve. The corporate and economic rights corresponding to repurchased shares may not be exercised during the period in which the shares are owned by Interceramic, and the shares will not be considered outstanding for purposes of calculating any quorum or vote at a shareholders' meeting during the period they are in treasury.

Unless a share repurchase is conducted through a tender offer, Interceramic's directors, officers, statutory auditors and the secretary of the Board, and holders of ten percent or more of Interceramic's outstanding shares, may not sell shares to, or purchase repurchased shares from Interceramic. Regulations under the Mexican Securities Market Law require that if Interceramic decides to repurchase shares representing three percent or more of its share capital, the repurchase must be conducted by means of a public tender offer.

Companies or other entities controlled by Interceramic may not purchase, directly or indirectly, shares of Interceramic or shares of companies or entities that are shareholders of Interceramic.

#### Registration and Transfer

All of the shares of Interceramic are evidenced by share certificates in registered form, with registered dividend coupons attached. Dividend coupons may only be presented for payment by the registered holders of the corresponding share. Shareholders of Interceramic may either hold their shares directly, in the form of physical certificates, or indirectly, in the form of book entries through institutions that have accounts with Indeval. Accounts may be maintained at Indeval by brokers, banks, other financial entities or other entities approved by the CNBV ("Indeval Participants"). Interceramic maintains a stock registry and only those persons listed in the stock registry and those holding physical certificates or certificates indicating ownership issued by Indeval and any relevant Indeval Participants, will be recognized as shareholders by Interceramic.

#### Shareholders' Meetings and Voting Rights

The holders of Series B Shares, voting at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting, are entitled to elect all but four of the members of the Board and the corresponding alternate directors and to vote on any matter coming before shareholders at any general meeting of Interceramic's shareholders.

The holders of Series D Shares, voting as a class, are entitled to vote on:

the election of two members of the Board and the corresponding alternate directors;

any corporate action that would prejudice the rights of the Series D Shares as a class; and

the removal of the Series D Shares, the Limited Voting Units or the securities that represent them from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and cancellation from registration of those shares with RNVI.

The holders of Series L Shares, voting as a class, are entitled to vote on:

the election of two members of the Board and the corresponding alternate directors;

any corporate action that would prejudice the rights of the Series L Shares as a class; and

the removal of the Series L Shares, the Limited Voting Units or the securities that represent them from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and cancellation from registration of those shares with RNVI.

Additionally, voting together as a single class with the holders of the Series B Shares, the holders of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares are entitled to vote at an extraordinary general meeting on:

transformation of Interceramic from one type of company to another;

any merger of Interceramic, even if Interceramic is the surviving entity;

extension of Interceramic's existence beyond its prescribed duration of February 28, 2053;

dissolution of Interceramic before February 28, 2053;

a change of Interceramic's corporate purposes; and

a change of Interceramic's nationality.

Under the Bylaws, holders of shares of any series are also entitled to vote as a class in a special meeting governed by the same rules that apply to extraordinary meetings on any action that would impair the rights of holders of shares of the effected series, and a holder of shares of the series would be entitled to judicial relief against any action taken without a vote under those circumstances.

General shareholders' meetings may be general ordinary meetings or general extraordinary meetings. General extraordinary meetings are those called to consider certain matters specified in Article 182 of the Mexican Companies Law and the Bylaws including, principally, amendments of the Bylaws, liquidation, merger and transformation from one form of company to another and increases and reductions of the fixed portion of the capital. In addition, the Bylaws require a general extraordinary meeting to consider the removal of Interceramic's shares from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and from registration of the shares with the RNVI. General ordinary meetings, which are held at least once a year, are called to consider all other matters including any acquisition representing an investment of more than 20 percent of Interceramic's shareholders' equity as set forth in its most recent balance sheet filed with the CNBV and any sale of a subsidiary controlled by Interceramic which represents more than 20 percent of Interceramic's shareholders' equity as set forth in its balance sheet. The Bylaws, however, provide for certain circumstances in which acquisitions may be approved by the Board alone.

Special meetings of holders of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares are required to consider the removal of the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares, as applicable, or the Limited Voting Units from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and cancellation registration of the shares with the RNVI. All other matters on which holders of Series D Shares or Series L Shares are entitled to vote will be considered at an extraordinary general meeting. Holders of Series D Shares and Series L Shares are entitled to attend, but not to address, meetings of shareholders at which they are not entitled to vote.

A general ordinary meeting of the holders of Series B Shares must be held at least once each year within the first four months following the end of the preceding fiscal year to consider the approval of the financial statements of Interceramic and certain of its subsidiaries for the preceding fiscal year, to elect all of the directors entitled to be elected by the holders of the Series B Shares, to elect statutory auditors and members of the Executive Committee of the Board (the "Executive Committee"), to determine the compensation of all directors, statutory auditors or members of the Executive Committee, and to determine the allocation of the profits of the preceding year.

The quorum for a general ordinary meeting of the holders of the Series B Shares on first call is at least 50 percent of the Series B Shares, and action may be taken by a majority of the Series B Shares present. If a quorum is not available, a second meeting may be called at which action may be taken by a majority of the Series B Shares present, regardless of the number of shares represented at the meeting.

The quorum for a general extraordinary meeting at which holders of the Series B Shares, but not holders of Series D Shares or Series L Shares, are entitled to vote is at least 75 percent and at least 50 percent of all of the outstanding Series B Shares on first and successive calls, respectively, and action may be taken by a vote of at least 50 percent of the outstanding Series B Shares. With respect to general extraordinary meetings at which Series D Shares and/or the Series L Shares are entitled to vote, the quorum requirement is at least 75 percent and at least 50 percent of all shares entitled to vote on first and successive calls, respectively, and action may be taken by a vote of at least 50 percent of all of the stock entitled to vote.

At special meetings of the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares for the removal of Series D Shares, the Series L Shares, the Limited Voting Units or the securities that represent them, as the case may be, from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or a foreign stock exchange or cancellation of registration with the RNVI, the quorum requirement is at least 75 percent or at least 50 percent of the shares entitled to vote on first and successive calls, respectively, and action may be taken by the vote of at least 50 percent of the outstanding Series D Shares or Series L Shares. At special meetings of the Series D Shares and/or the Series L Shares on all other matters, the quorum requirement is at least 75 percent of all the applicable shares on the first call, and at least 50 percent on successive calls, and action may be taken by the vote of at least 50 percent of all outstanding Series D Shares or Series L Shares.

For a description of procedures for voting of the Series B Shares comprising the Common Units underlying the Common Unit ADSs, and for voting of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares comprising the Limited Voting Units underlying the Limited Voting Unit ADSs, see "Description of American Depositary Shares-Voting of Shares" below.

Holders of 33 percent of Interceramic's outstanding capital stock may have any shareholder action set aside by filing a complaint with a court of law within 15 days of close of the meeting at which the action was taken and showing that the challenged action violates Mexican law or the Bylaws. In addition, any holder of Interceramic's capital stock may bring an action at any time within five years challenging any shareholder action. Relief under these provisions is only available to holders (i) who were entitled to vote on, or whose rights as shareholders were adversely affected by the challenged shareholder action and (ii) whose shares were not represented when the action was taken or, if represented, were voted against it.

Shareholders' meetings may be called by the Board, the statutory auditors of Interceramic or a Mexican court. The Board or the statutory auditors are required to call a meeting of the shareholders at the written request of the holders of 33 percent of the Series B Shares or, in the case of a meeting at which holders of Series D Shares and/or the Series L Shares would be entitled to vote with the Series B Shares, at the written request of the holders of 33 percent of the outstanding Series B Shares, Series D Shares and Series L Shares combined. In the event that a meeting is not called within 15 days following the date of request, a Mexican court may require the meeting to be called. Notices of meetings and proposed agendas must be published in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Chihuahua at least 15 days prior to the meeting. Meetings at which holders of Series D Shares and/or Series L Shares are not entitled to vote may be held without any publication if 100 percent of the Series B Shares are represented. To be entitled to vote at a meeting, shareholders must deposit their shares with Interceramic's Secretary at its office in the City of Chihuahua or any appointed registrar, or certificates evidencing a deposit with a Mexican or foreign banking institution or with a Mexican exchange broker. If entitled to attend the meeting, a shareholder may be represented by proxy. All meetings of Interceramic's shareholders must be held in the City of Chihuahua. Holders of Interceramic's shares do not have cumulative voting rights.

## Dividends

At each annual meeting of the holders of the Series B Shares, the Board submits the financial statements of Interceramic for the previous fiscal year, together with a financial report by the Board, to the holders of the Series B Shares for approval. The holders of the Series B Shares, once they have approved the financial statements, determine the allocation of Interceramic's net profits for the preceding year. Holders of the Series B Shares are required by law to allocate at least five percent of the net profits to a legal reserve, which is not thereafter available for distribution until the amount of the legal reserve equals 20 percent of Interceramic's historical capital stock (before effect of restatement). Thereafter, the shareholders may determine and allocate a certain percentage of net profits to any special reserve, including a reserve for open-market purchases of Interceramic's shares. The remainder of net profits is available for distribution in the form of dividends to the shareholders. The Bylaws currently provide that, except to the extent of the Fixed Preference (as defined in the following paragraph), all shares outstanding and fully paid at the time a dividend is declared are entitled to share equally in any dividend. Shares which are only partially paid participate in a dividend in the same proportion that the shares have been paid at the time of the dividend.

Holders of each Series D Share, including Series D Shares comprising the Limited Voting Units underlying the Limited Voting Unit ADSs, are entitled to receive the Fixed Preference—an annual, cumulative dividend of five percent of the theoretical per share value of the Series D Shares as set forth in the Bylaws, or nominal Ps 0.025 per share, before any dividends are payable in respect of the Series B Shares and the Series L Shares. Following payment in full of the Fixed Preference, holders of Series B Shares and the Series L Shares are entitled to receive, if available, an amount per share equal to the Fixed Preference paid per Series D Share that year. Following payment in full of an amount equal to the Fixed Preference per Series D Share, Series B Share and Series L Share, the holders of the Series D Shares, the Series B Shares and the Series L Shares share equally on a per share basis, in any amounts remaining for distribution.

## Liquidation

Upon liquidation of Interceramic, one or more liquidators will be appointed to wind up its affairs. The Bylaws provide that, other than the Liquidation Preference payable with respect to the Series D Shares, all fully paid and outstanding shares of capital stock will be entitled to participate equally in any distribution upon liquidation. Shares which are only partially paid participate in a liquidating distribution in the proportion that they have been paid at the time of liquidation. Holders of Series D Shares are entitled to the Liquidation Preference equal to the sum of all accrued but unpaid Fixed Preference dividends and the theoretical per share value of the Series D Shares as set forth in the Bylaws, or nominal Ps 0.50 per share, before any distribution is made in respect of Interceramic's other capital stock. Following payment in full of any preferential amounts, holders of Series B Shares and Series L Shares will be entitled to receive, if available, an amount per share equal to the Liquidation Preference paid per Series D Share. Following payment in full at an amount equal to the Liquidation Preference per Series D Share, Series B Share and Series L Share, the holders of the Series D Shares, the Series B Shares and the Series L Shares will share equally, on a per share basis, in any remaining amounts payable in respect to Interceramic's capital stock, regardless of the date of liquidation.

Upon the liquidation of Interceramic, holders of fully paid shares are entitled to receive pro rata any proceeds remaining after the payment of Interceramic's debts and taxes and the expenses of the liquidation in the manner described in the preceding paragraph; holders of shares that have not been paid in full will only be entitled to liquidation proceeds in proportion to their paid-in amount.

#### Variable Capital and Withdrawal Rights

Interceramic's capital stock includes a variable capital portion, which can at a maximum equal ten times the fixed capital portion. Upon completion of the Offering, an aggregate of Ps 8.0 million will have been allocated on the records of Interceramic to fixed capital. The fixed portion of Interceramic's capital stock cannot be withdrawn.

The outstanding variable portion of Interceramic's capital stock may be fully or partially withdrawn by the shareholders. A shareholder who wishes to effect a total or partial withdrawal of the variable portion of its shares must notify Interceramic in writing pursuant to the Bylaws. If notice of withdrawal is received prior to the first day of the last quarter of the fiscal year, the withdrawal will be effective at the end of the fiscal year in which the notice is given. Otherwise, the withdrawal will become effective at the end of the following fiscal year. Upon a shareholder's election to withdraw its variable capital as described above, the share capital of Interceramic is reduced.

Reimbursement of withdrawn shares is at the lower of 95 percent of the average price per share quoted on the Mexican Stock Exchange during the 30 days on which the shares were quoted prior to the date on which the withdrawal becomes effective or the book value per share as calculated from Interceramic's financial statements (as approved at the annual ordinary shareholders' meeting) for the fiscal year at the end of which the withdrawal becomes effective. A shareholder that has exercised its withdrawal rights can request reimbursement by Interceramic on the day following the general ordinary shareholders' meeting at which the financial statements referred to above are approved.

Because the fixed portion of capital cannot be withdrawn, requests for withdrawals are satisfied only to the extent of the available variable capital and in the order in which they are received; requests which are received simultaneously are fulfilled pro rata to the extent of the available variable capital.

Any variable portion of Interceramic's capital stock may be increased or decreased by resolution of shareholders at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting. Increases and decreases in the capital stock must be recorded in Interceramic's book of capital variations.

#### Notification in the Event of Certain Securities Acquisitions

The Bylaws provide that in the event a shareholder of Interceramic, either acting singly or collectively with other persons, acquires in excess of 15 percent of the Series B Shares outstanding, whether as comprising Common Units prior to the Separation Date or trading separately thereafter, the person is required to make a filing with Interceramic, describing itself and the persons in the applicable group. Failure to make the filing will result in the inability of the applicable persons to exercise voting rights with respect to Series B Shares owned by them in excess of 15 percent of the then outstanding Series B Shares.

#### Stated Duration of Interceramic

The duration of Interceramic is through February 28, 2053.

#### Appraisal Rights

If and when the shareholders approve a change of corporate purpose, change of nationality of the corporation or transformation from one type of company to another, any shareholder who has voted against a change in the corporate purpose has the right to withdraw from Interceramic and receive the book value (as set forth in the latest balance sheet approved by the general ordinary shareholders'



meeting) attributable to the shares, as long as the shareholder makes its request action during the 15-day period following the adjournment of the meeting at which the change was approved.

#### Actions Against Directors

Pursuant to Article 161 of the Mexican Companies Law, civil actions against directors may be initiated by resolution passed at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting. In the event the shareholders decide to bring an action, the directors against whom the action is to be brought immediately cease to be directors. Additionally, shareholders representing not less than 15 percent of the outstanding shares may directly bring an action against directors as long as the shareholders did not vote against bringing the action at the relevant shareholders' meeting and the claim covers all the damages alleged to have been caused to Interceramic and not only the portion corresponding to those shareholders. Any recovery of damages with respect to the action will be for the benefit of Interceramic and not for the shareholders bringing the action.

#### Shareholders' Conflicts of Interest

Pursuant to the Mexican Companies Law, any shareholder that has a direct or indirect conflict of interest with respect to a transaction must abstain from voting with respect to that transaction at the relevant shareholders' meeting. A shareholder that votes on a transaction in which its interest conflicts with that of Interceramic may be liable for damages in the event the relevant transaction would not have been approved without the shareholder's vote.

#### Restriction on Foreign Investment

Ownership by non-Mexicans of shares of Mexican enterprises is regulated by the *Ley de Inversión Extranjera* (as amended, the "Foreign Investment Law") and the *Reglamento de la Ley para Promover la Inversión Mexicana y Regular la Inversión Extranjera* (as amended, the "Foreign Investment Regulations"). The *Comisión Nacional de Inversiones Extranjeras* (the "Foreign Investment Commission") is responsible for the administration of the Foreign Investment Law and the Foreign Investment Regulations.

The Foreign Investment Law reserves certain economic activities exclusively for the Mexican government, certain other activities exclusively for Mexican individuals or Mexican corporations and limits the participation of non-Mexican investors to certain percentages in regard to enterprises engaged in certain activities specified in the Foreign Investment Law. Foreign investors may freely participate in up to 100 percent of the capital stock of Mexican companies or entities except for existing companies engaged in specified reserved activities as referred to above. Although Interceramic is not engaged in an industry in which foreign ownership is restricted, the Foreign Investment Law requires that Interceramic register any foreign owner of its shares, or the depositary with respect to ADSs representing its shares, with the National Registry of Foreign Investment maintained by the Ministry of Commerce and Industrial Development of Mexico. A foreign owner of shares that has not been registered is not entitled to vote or to receive dividends with respect to its unregistered shares. Interceramic has registered the Depositary for this purposes with respect to the ADSs.

Neither the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares nor the Series L Shares have restrictions on ownership by non-Mexican nationals. In addition, as required by Mexican law, the Bylaws provide that non-Mexican shareholders of Interceramic formally agree with the Foreign Affairs Ministry to be considered as Mexicans with respect to the shares that they acquire or hold as well as to the property, rights, concessions, participation or interests owned by Interceramic or to the rights and obligations

derived from any agreements Interceramic has with the Mexican Government and not to invoke the protection of their own governments. If a shareholder should invoke governmental protection in violation of its agreement, its shares would be forfeited to the Mexican government. In the opinion of Abogados Mesta y Asociados, S.C., Mexican counsel to Interceramic, under this provision a non-Mexican shareholder is not deemed to have waived any other rights it may have, including any rights under the United States securities laws, with respect to its investment in Interceramic.

#### Description of American Depositary Shares

The following is a summary of the material terms of the Deposit Agreement. In general, the terms of the CU Deposit Agreement and the LVU Deposit Agreement are substantially identical, and the following description is, except as otherwise provided, applicable to each Deposit Agreement. This description is not complete and prospective purchasers of New ADSs should review the Deposit Agreement for a complete description of its terms. Certain capitalized terms used in the following description of the ADSs are defined in the Deposit Agreement. Copies of the Deposit Agreement are available for inspection at the principal office of the Depositary (the "Principal Office"), currently located at 111 Wall Street, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10043.

#### The ADRs

ADRs are issuable by the Depositary pursuant to the Deposit Agreement, and each ADR evidences a specified number of ADSs. Each Common Unit ADS initially represents five Common Units, while each Limited Voting Unit ADS initially represents five Limited Voting Units. The registered owner of the Units represented by the ADSs is Banamex, in its capacity as custodian (the "Custodian") for the Depositary. An ADR may represent any number of ADSs. Only persons in whose names ADRs are registered on the books of the Depositary will be treated by Interceramic and the Depositary as owners and holders of ADRs ("Holders").

#### Deposit and Withdrawal of Units

Units represented by ADSs are deposited with Indeval and credited to an account at Indeval maintained solely for that purpose by the Custodian. Upon the credit or transfer of Units to or for the account of the Custodian, the Depositary will execute and deliver ADRs evidencing ADSs or deliver ADSs through electronic transfer.

Deposits of Units may be made:

through electronic transfer of Units through Indeval to the account of the Custodian;

by delivery of certificates for Units to the Custodian with appropriate instruments of transfer or endorsement; or

by delivery to the Custodian of evidence satisfactory to it that irrevocable instructions have been given to cause the applicable Units to be transferred to the Custodian's account, together with appropriate instruments or evidence of transfer.

Persons depositing Units and requesting the Depositary to issue ADRs must also provide appropriate written instructions as to issuance and all other documentation or certification as the Depositary or Interceramic may require. Depositors must also make arrangements for the payment of applicable fees, charges and taxes, including applicable fees and charges of the Depositary. Upon completion of

the terms and conditions of a deposit of Units, the Depositary will execute and deliver an ADR or ADRs registered in the name of the person depositing the. The Depositary and the Custodian may refuse to accept for deposit any Units believed to be "restricted securities."

"Restricted securities" include Units or other securities which are acquired directly or indirectly from Interceramic or an affiliate (as defined in Rule 144 under the 1933 Act) of Interceramic in a transaction or chain of transactions not involving any public offering registered under the 1933 Act or which are subject to resale limitations under Regulation D or Rule 144 under the 1933 Act or both, or which are held by an officer, director or other affiliate of Interceramic, or which are subject to other restrictions on sale or deposit under the laws of the United States or Mexico. By depositing Units, persons will be representing that the deposit of the Units and the issuance of the related ADRs are not restricted under the securities laws of the United States and that the Units are not "restricted securities." The Depositary and the Custodian may also refuse to accept Units for deposit whenever notified by or on behalf of Interceramic that Interceramic has restricted transfer of the specified Units to comply with delivery or transfer requirements and/or ownership restrictions referred to in the Deposit Agreement or under applicable law.

A Holder may take physical delivery or electronic delivery through Indeval (or institutions that maintain accounts with Indeval) of Units or other deposited securities represented by ADSs by surrendering the related ADR at the Principal Office and by paying the fees and expenses provided for in the Deposit Agreement (including transfer or custody fees relating to Units) and any applicable taxes or governmental charges. A Holder requesting withdrawal of Units against delivery of ADRs must deliver to the Depositary a written order containing delivery instructions relating to the withdrawal. The forwarding of certificates indicating ownership of Units, other property and other documents of title for delivery to or as directed by a Holder will be at its own risk and expense.

The Depositary may issue ADRs against rights to receive Units from Indeval, or any registrar, transfer agent, clearing agency or other entity recording share ownership or transactions. Under agreement with Interceramic, the Depositary may also issue ADRs or release Units prior to the receipt by the Depositary or the Custodian of the corresponding Units or ADRs (each referred to as a "Pre-Release") pursuant to written Pre-Release agreements which may in general provide that the applicant:

agrees that, at that time of Pre-Release, it either owns or represents the owner of the number of Units or ADRs that are the subject of the Pre-Release;

agrees to name the Depositary as the owner of the Units or ADRs on its records and to hold its ADRs in trust for the Depositary until the Units or ADRs are delivered to the Depositary; and

unconditionally guarantees to deliver to the Depositary or the Custodian the Units or ADRs that are the subject of the Pre-Release, in which event the Units or ADRs are fully collateralized (marked to market daily) with cash, United States Government securities or comparable collateral.

The Depositary normally will limit the number of Pre-Released ADRs and Units to 30 percent of the ADRs outstanding or Units on deposit.

The Depositary may retain any compensation received by it in connection with any Pre-Release transactions, including earnings on collateral used in any Pre-Release transaction. The Depositary will

issue ADRs only as described above and in accordance with the provisions of the Deposit Agreement.

#### Dividends, Other Distributions and Rights

If it can do so on a reasonable basis and can transfer the resulting Dollars to the United States, the Depositary will convert into Dollars all cash dividends and other cash contributions (and net proceeds of sales of other distributions) denominated in Pesos (or any other currency other than Dollars) that it receives in respect of the Units. After fixing a Record Date, the Depositary will distribute the amount received to the Holders in proportion to the number of ADSs representing Units held by each of them without regard to any distinctions among the Holders. The amounts distributed will be reduced by any amounts required to be withheld by Interceramic, the Depositary or the Custodian, including amounts of any applicable taxes and fees and the reasonable and customary expenses incurred by the Depositary in connection with any conversion.

If the Depositary decides that currency other than Dollars received by it cannot be converted on a reasonable basis and transferred, the Depositary may distribute foreign currency received by it to, or in its discretion hold the foreign currency, without liability for interest, for the accounts of, the Holders entitled to receive the distribution. Cash distributions shall be rounded down to the next whole cent, with the balance, if any, attributable to any Holder retained by the Depositary, without interest, until the next cash distribution made available to Holders, when the retained amount shall be added to and become part of that next distribution.

If Interceramic declares a dividend in or a free distribution of Units or other securities, the Depositary may, with the approval of Interceramic, and shall if Interceramic so requests, distribute to the Holders as of the applicable record date, in proportion to their holdings, additional ADRs representing the securities received as a dividend or free distribution. If additional ADRs are not issued, each ADS shall thereafter also represent the additional Units distributed. If for any reason, including any requirement that Interceramic or the Depositary withhold an amount on account of taxes or other governmental charges or that Units must be registered under the 1933 Act in order to be distributed to Holders, the Depositary does not believe the distribution of additional ADRs to be feasible, the Depositary may adopt any other method it considers equitable or practicable, after consultation with Interceramic, to effect the distribution. This may include the public or private sale of all or any part of the Units received and the distribution to Holders of the net sale proceeds. In lieu of issuing ADRs for fractions of ADSs, the Depositary will sell the number of Units represented by all of the fractions and distribute the net proceeds in Dollars.

If Interceramic offers any rights to subscribe for additional Units, shares or any rights of any other nature to the Holders, the Depositary, after consultation with Interceramic, may decide the procedure to be followed:

in making the rights available to Holders;

in disposing of the rights and distributing the net proceeds available in Dollars to the Holders as in the event of a cash distribution; or

in allowing the rights to lapse.

The Depositary, if Interceramic so requests, will either make rights available to Holders by means of warrants or otherwise, if lawful and feasible and upon provision of any documents or certifications requested by the Depositary. However, if making rights available is not lawful or feasible, or if the rights represented by warrants or other instruments are not exercised and appear to

be about to lapse, the Depositary may sell the rights or warrants or other instruments, if a market is available, at public or private sale, at any place or places and upon any terms as the Depositary may consider proper, and allocate and distribute the net sale proceeds for the accounts of the Holders on an averaged or other practicable basis without regard to any distinctions among Holders. The Depositary will not incur any liability to any person as a result of an exercise of its discretion to allow any rights to lapse.

If the Depositary receives any distribution in property other than cash, Units or rights, the Depositary may, and will, if Interceramic so requests, cause the securities or property to be distributed to the Holders entitled to them, in proportion to their holdings in any manner that the Depositary considers equitable and practicable. If, however, the distribution of the securities or property cannot be made proportionately among the Holders, or if for any other reason, including any requirement that Interceramic, the Depositary or the Custodian withhold an amount on account of taxes or other governmental charges or that the securities must be registered under the 1933 Act in order to be distributed to Holders, the Depositary believes distribution of the securities not to be feasible, after consultation with Interceramic, the Depositary may adopt any method it may believe equitable or practicable to effect the distribution, including the sale (public or private) of all or any part of the securities or property and the distribution to Holders of the net sale proceeds.

If the Depositary determines that any distribution of property other than cash, including a distribution of Units or rights to subscribe for Units, is subject to any taxes or governmental charges that the Depositary is obligated to withhold, the Depositary may dispose of all or a portion of the property in any amounts and in any manner, including by public or private sale, as the Depositary believes necessary and practicable to pay the taxes or governmental charges. The Depositary will then distribute the net sale proceeds or the balance of any the property after deduction of the taxes or governmental charges to the effected Holders.

The Depositary will not be required to make any distribution of securities or property to the Holders, nor to make available to Holders any right to subscribe for or to purchase any securities unless it receives an opinion of counsel to the effect that a registration statement under the 1933 Act with respect to the securities is in effect or that the offer and sale of the securities to the Holders are exempt from registration under the provisions of the 1933 Act and any other applicable laws. Neither Interceramic nor the Depositary will have any obligation to file a registration statement under the 1933 Act or otherwise register any rights or securities under any other applicable laws to make available to Holders any rights to subscribe for or to purchase any securities. If Interceramic or the Depositary does not file a registration statement under the 1933 Act or otherwise register any rights or securities under any applicable law, and an exemption from registration is not available, Holders would not be permitted to purchase the securities or otherwise exercise the rights and the Depositary would, to the extent possible, dispose of the rights for the accounts of the Holders, as provided in the preceding paragraph. As a result, any disposal of rights may reduce the proportionate equity interest of the Holders in Interceramic.

#### Changes Affecting Units

If there is any change in par value, split-up, consolidation, or any other reclassification of Units, or if any recapitalization, reorganization, merger or consolidation or sale of assets affecting Interceramic occurs, any securities received by the Depositary or the Custodian in exchange for, in conversion of, in substitution for or otherwise in respect of Units shall be treated as Units under the Deposit Agreement, and the ADRs shall, subject to the terms of the Deposit Agreement and applicable laws, including without limitation any registration requirements under the 1933 Act, evidence ADSs representing the right to receive Units including the securities received in exchange, conversion,

substitution or otherwise. The Depositary may make appropriate adjustments in its records as in the case of a distribution of Units, or the Depositary may, with Interceramic's approval, and shall, if Interceramic so requests, execute and deliver additional ADRs or call for the surrender of outstanding ADRs to be exchanged for new ADRs. The Depositary shall give notice in writing to all Holders immediately upon the occurrence of any exchange, conversion, substitution or otherwise in respect of Units.

On the Separation Date, without the surrender or exchange of ADRs or any amendment to the Deposit Agreement and without the payment of any fees or charges by the Holders, the ADSs shall represent the right to receive the Series B Shares (in the case of Common Unit ADSs) or the Series B Shares resulting from the conversion of the Series L Shares into Series B Shares and the Series D Shares (in the case of Limited Voting Unit ADSs), received by the Depositary or the Custodian upon the separation of the Units.

If Units or other deposited securities are to be redeemed (see "Description of Capital Stock-Other Provisions-Redemption" above) and, as a result, securities registered in the name of or held on behalf of the Custodian are called for redemption by Interceramic, the Depositary will call for the redemption of the appropriate number of ADSs and may adopt any method it may consider equitable and practicable to select the ADSs to be redeemed.

#### Record Dates

Whenever a distribution is to be made, a meeting of shareholders is called or if the Depositary otherwise finds it appropriate, necessary or convenient in respect of any matter, the Depositary will fix a record date, after consultation with Interceramic, for the event or the meeting. In general, the Depositary and Interceramic will attempt to coordinate record dates among holders of securities with those of holders of other classes of Interceramic's securities that are effected by the event or are also called to a meeting. In the case of a notice of meeting at which holders of Interceramic shares may vote, the Depositary shall fix a record date that affords Holders adequate time to instruct the Depositary as to the manner in which the securities are to be voted.

#### Voting of Shares

As soon as practicable after the receipt by the Depositary of notice of any meeting of holders of the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares, the Depositary will mail or cause to be mailed the information contained in the notice of meeting to all record Holders. Holders at the close of business a date specified by the Depositary, which shall be no fewer than eight business days prior to the relevant shareholders' meeting, may (unless otherwise restricted by law or the terms of the Deposit Agreement or the applicable securities) instruct the Depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights, if any, pertaining to the applicable shares comprising the Units represented by their respective ADSs. The Depositary will, if practicable, vote the applicable shares in accordance with the written instructions of Holders.

Although Holders of ADRs are not entitled to attend general meetings of the holders of the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares, all Holders, regardless of nationality, are entitled to exercise all voting rights applicable to the shares comprising the Units represented by their ADSs. Interceramic and the Depositary will use their reasonable efforts to implement arrangements to enable Holders to be able to vote the shares comprising the Units attributable to the ADSs.

If the Depositary does not receive timely instructions from a Holder of ADRs regarding the voting of the shares comprising their Units on or before the date established by the Depositary for that purpose,

the Depositary shall take action to cause the shares to be counted for the purposes of satisfying applicable quorum requirements, but shares for which timely instructions to vote are not received will not be voted by the Depositary.

#### Ownership Restrictions

Interceramic may restrict transfers or, to the extent permitted under applicable law, cause the mandatory sale or disposition of Units and ADRs where any transfer or ownership, as the case may be, might result in ownership of Units or ADRs exceeding the limits under applicable law or the Bylaws. Non-Mexican states and governments are prohibited under the Bylaws from owning shares of Interceramic and are, therefore, prohibited from being beneficial or record owners of ADRs.

#### Inspection of Transfer Books

The Depositary will keep books at its Principal Office for the registration and transfer of ADRs which at all reasonable times will be open for inspection by the Holders and Interceramic. However, any inspection must relate to the business of Interceramic or a matter related to the Deposit Agreement or the ADRs.

#### Reports and Notices

Interceramic furnishes the Depositary with annual reports in English, including a review of operations, and annual audited consolidated financial statements prepared in conformity with Mexican GAAP together with a reconciliation of net income and shareholders' equity to US GAAP. Interceramic also furnishes the Depositary with an English translation of its unaudited quarterly financial statements prepared in accordance with Mexican GAAP. Upon receipt of these reports, the Depositary will promptly mail the reports to all Holders. Interceramic must also provide the Depositary and the Custodian with notice in English of shareholders' meetings or the taking of any action in respect of any cash distributions or the offering of any rights in respect of the Units, and any other reports and communications that are made generally available to holders of Units. The Depositary is required to mail all notices, reports and communications to the Holders at its own expense.

#### Amendment and Termination of the Deposit Agreement

The form of ADRs and the Deposit Agreement may be amended at any time by agreement between Interceramic and the Depositary. Any amendment that imposes or increases any fees or charges (other than taxes and other governmental charges), or that otherwise prejudices any substantial existing right of Holders, will not take effect as to outstanding ADRs until the expiration of 30 days after notice of an amendment has been given to each Holder. Every Holder at the time the amendment becomes effective will be deemed to have accepted to the amendment by continuing to hold its ADR. In no event may any amendment impair the right of a Holder to surrender its ADRs and receive in exchange the underlying Units or other deposited securities and other property represented by the ADRs, except in order to comply with applicable law.

At the direction of Interceramic the Depositary is required to terminate the Deposit Agreement by mailing notice of termination to the Holders of all ADRs then outstanding at least 30 days prior to the date of termination fixed in the notice. The Depositary may also terminate the Deposit Agreement upon delivery to Interceramic of written notice of its election to resign at least 60 days prior to the resignation date provided in the notice, unless a successor depositary accepts its appointment before the end of the 60 day period. If any ADRs subject to the terminated Deposit Agreement remain

outstanding after the date of termination, the Depositary will discontinue the registration of transfer of ADRs, will suspend the distribution of dividends to the Holders, will no longer accept deposits of Units (and shall instruct the Custodian to act accordingly) and will not give any further notices or perform any further acts under the Deposit Agreement, except that the Depositary will continue to:

collect dividends and other distributions pertaining to the Units and any other Units represented by the outstanding ADSs;

sell property and rights and convert Units into cash when required or permitted; and

deliver Units as the Depositary may effect, together with any dividends or other distributions received and the net proceeds of the sale of any rights or other property, in all cases without liability for interest, in exchange for surrendered ADRs in compliance with the Deposit Agreement.

At any time after the expiration of six months from the termination of the Deposit Agreement, the Depositary may sell the remaining Units and hold the net proceeds, together with any other cash then held, without liability for interest, in an unsegregated escrow account, for the *pro rata* benefit of Holders whose ADRs have not then been surrendered. After sale of the Units, the Depositary shall be discharged from all obligations under the Deposit Agreement, except for its obligation to account for any net sales proceeds and other cash and certain indemnification obligations. Upon the termination of the Deposit Agreement, Interceramic will also be discharged from all obligations thereunder, except for certain obligations to the Depositary.

#### Charges of Depositary

The Depositary will charge any party who makes a deposit or to whom ADRs are issued or who surrenders an ADR for the purpose of delivery or withdrawal of deposited Units a fee of up to US \$0.05 for each ADS (or fraction thereof) issued or surrendered. In addition, the Depositary will charge Holders a fee not to exceed \$1.50 per certificate for transfers of ADRs made under the terms of the Deposit Agreement. Interceramic will pay certain expenses, fees or charges of the Depositary and those of the registrar, if any, in accordance with the terms of the Deposit Agreement and any other written agreements between Interceramic and the Depositary, except for mailing expenses, which shall be borne by the Depositary, and except for taxes and other government charges, any applicable share transfer, custody and registration fees on deposit, withdrawal or transfer of Units, certain cable, telex, facsimile transmission and delivery charges and other expenses incurred by the Depositary in the conversion of foreign currency into Dollars, and in connection with compliance with foreign exchange control regulations, which shall be payable by Holders.

#### Liability of Holders for Taxes or Other Charges

Any tax or other governmental charge or expense payable by the Custodian as the registered holder of any Units represented by ADSs shall be payable by the applicable Holder to the Depositary. The Depositary may refuse, and Interceramic shall be under no obligation, to effect any registration of transfer, or split-up or combination of any ADR or any deposit or withdrawal of the Units underlying an ADR until payment of the tax or charge is made, and may withhold or deduct any dividends or other distributions or may sell any or all of the Units represented by ADSs evidenced by an ADR and may apply the applicable dividends or distributions or the proceeds of any sale in payment of the taxes or other governmental charges or expenses and the Holder of the ADR shall remain liable for any deficiency.



## General

Neither the Depositary, Interceramic or their respective agents or controlling persons will be liable to any Holder or other person with an interest in an ADR if they are prevented or delayed in performing an obligation under the Deposit Agreement due to any present or future law, any governmental authority or any circumstances beyond their control, by any provisions of the Bylaws or of any deposited securities or by attributable to the exercise of any discretion permitted under the Deposit Agreement. The obligations of Interceramic and the Depositary under the Deposit Agreement are expressly limited to performing their specified duties in good faith and using their reasonable judgment. Interceramic and the Depositary have each agreed to indemnify the other in certain circumstances arising out of acts performed or omitted by various parties in connection with the Deposit Agreement.

ADSs are transferable on the books of the Depositary, although the Depositary may close the transfer books at any time when it considers closing the books to be expedient in connection with the performance of its duties or upon the reasonable request of Interceramic. The Depositary may refuse to deliver ADRs or Units, register the transfer, split-up or combination of any ADS or make any distribution of, or related to, the Units until it or the Custodian has received proof of legal or beneficial ownership, citizenship, residence or exchange control approval or other information as it may consider necessary or proper.

The execution, delivery, transfer or surrender of ADRs and ADSs generally may be suspended during any period when the transfer books of the Depositary, Interceramic or Indeval are closed, or if a suspension is considered necessary or advisable by the Depositary or Interceramic at any time. The surrender of outstanding ADRs and withdrawal of the underlying Units may not be suspended, however, except as required in connection with temporary delays caused by closing the transfer books of the Depositary, Interceramic or Indeval or the deposit of the Units in connection with voting at a meeting of security holders or with the payment of dividends. The Depositary may also refuse to permit a withdrawal pending the payment of fees, taxes and charges or if necessary to comply with any United States or foreign laws or regulations relating to the ADRs or to the withdrawal of Units. As a condition precedent to the execution and delivery, registration of transfer, split-up, combination or surrender of any ADSs, any ADR, or the transfer and withdrawal of Units, Interceramic, the Depositary or the Custodian may require payment from the Holder, person surrendering the ADR, ADSs or the depositor of any Units of a sum sufficient to reimburse it for any tax or other governmental charge and any stock transfer, custody or registration fee with respect thereto and payment of any applicable fees payable by Holders.

If any ADRs or ADSs are listed on the NYSE or quoted or listed on one or more stock exchanges or quotation systems, the Depositary will act as registrar, or with the approval of Interceramic will appoint a registrar or one or more co-registrars, for registration of the ADRs in accordance with the requirements of the NYSE or any stock exchange of which the ADSs evidenced by ADRs are quoted or listed. Registrars or co-registrars are removable at the request of Interceramic request, and may be removed by the Depositary with the approval of Interceramic, with a substitute or substitutes to be appointed by the Depositary. Currently only the Limited Voting Unit ADRs are listed on the NYSE, and the Common Unit ADRs are neither listed on the NYSE nor listed or quoted on any other stock exchange or quotation system. Although it may choose to do so at some later date, Interceramic currently has no plans to seek a listing or quotation of the Common Unit ADRs on the NYSE or any other stock exchange or quotation system.

## Validity of Securities

The validity of the New Units and the New ADSs will be passed upon for InterCeramic by Mendel Blumenfeld, LLP, El Paso, Texas. The validity of the New Units (including the New Units underlying the New ADSs) will be passed upon by Abogados Mesta y Asociados, S.C., Chihuahua, Chihuahua, Mexico, Mexican counsel for InterCeramic. Mendel Blumenfeld, LLP may rely upon Abogados Mesta y Asociados, S.C., with respect to certain matters governed by Mexican law.

#### Experts

Mancera, S.C., A Member Practice of Ernst & Young Global, independent auditors, have audited the Company's consolidated financial statements and schedules included in the 2002 20-F, as set forth in their report which is included in this Prospectus and elsewhere in the Registration Statement. The financial statements and schedules are included in reliance on Mancera, S.C.'s report, given on their authority as experts in auditing and accounting.

#### Enforceability of Judgments

InterCeramic is a limited liability company with variable capital (*sociedad anonima de capital variable*) organized under the laws of Mexico. All of InterCeramic's officers and all but three of the members of the Board and certain of the experts named in this Prospectus reside in Mexico, and all or a substantial portion of the assets of the directors, officers and experts and over 80 percent of the assets of the Company are located in Mexico. As a result, it may not be possible for persons to affect service of process within the United States upon those persons or to enforce against them or against InterCeramic in United States courts judgments predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States. InterCeramic has been advised by Abogados Mesta y Asociados, S.C., Mexican counsel to InterCeramic, that there is uncertainty as to the enforceability, in original actions in Mexican courts, of liabilities predicated solely on the United States federal securities laws and as to the enforceability in Mexican courts of judgments of United States courts obtained in actions predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the United States federal securities laws.

#### Publicly Available Information About InterCeramic

InterCeramic files reports and other information with the SEC under rules that apply to foreign private issuers. Prospective investors may read and copy these reports and other information filed by the company with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room located at 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Room 1024, Washington, D.C. 20549. Information regarding the operation of the Public Reference Room is available by calling 1-800-SEC-0330. InterCeramic's SEC filings are also available to the public from the SEC's website at <http://www.sec.gov>. The SEC website contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding registrants that make electronic filings with the SEC using its EDGAR system. We are required to file annual reports on Form 20-F and submit reports on Form 6-K and other information with the SEC through the EDGAR system. Information concerning InterCeramic is also available for reading at the offices of the New York Stock Exchange, 20 Broad Street, New York, New York 10005.

InterCeramic provides the Depositary with annual reports in English, which include a review of operations and annual audited consolidated financial statements prepared in conformity with Mexican GAAP, and a reconciliation of net income and shareholders' equity to US GAAP. InterCeramic also provides the Depositary with an English translation of its unaudited quarterly financial statements prepared in accordance with Mexican GAAP. Upon its receipt of this financial information, the Depositary promptly mails the information to all ADR holders of record. InterCeramic also provides the Depositary with notices in English of shareholders' meetings and other reports and

communications that are made generally available to holders of its stock under Mexican law, and the Depository is required to mail this information to the record holders of ADRs.

#### Forward Looking Statements

This Prospectus and the 2002 20-F include forward-looking statements intended to qualify for the safe harbor from liability established by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which reflect management's views about future events and financial performance. In addition, forward-looking statements may be made in future filings with the SEC and in written material, press releases and oral statements issued or made by Interceramic or on its behalf. Statements that are not historical facts, including for example statements about hopes, beliefs, strategies, anticipations and expectations, are forward-looking statements and involve inherent risks and uncertainties. Interceramic's forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections and undue reliance should not be placed upon them. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in forward looking statements for a variety of reasons that may be beyond the control of Interceramic, including effects on the Company and its operations from competition, economic, political and social events that might occur in Mexico, changes in circumstances that might adversely impact access sources of financing on competitive terms, events that might impact the construction industry in Mexico and the United States generally, changes in Mexican GAAP, changes in law and other factors. For a more detailed discussion of these factors, see the text under the heading "Risk Factors" on page 10 above and "Key Information - Risk Factors" under Item 3.D of the 2002 20-F. In any event, the forward-looking statements contained or incorporated in this Prospectus speak only as of their dates and Interceramic does not undertake any obligation to update or revise any of them, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

#### Conversion of Certain Production Information

The Company generally measures its ceramic floor tile production and sales in terms of square meters. For purposes of converting production and sales information from square meters into square feet, the Company uses a convention of 11 square feet to each square meter rather than the actual numerical conversion of 10.762 square feet to each square meter. In Mexico, the measurement of product generally is based upon the actual surface area of the tile produced or sold. In the United States, the Company observes the convention of measuring product based upon the surface area covered by the applied ceramic tile, which includes standard one-quarter inch grout joints.

#### Public Documents

The information presented in this Prospectus and identified as having been extracted from government publications has been presented on the authority of the applicable public official documents.

#### Additional Information

This Prospectus constitutes part of a Registration Statement on Form F-3 (together with all amendments and exhibits, the "Registration Statement") filed by Interceramic with the SEC under the 1933 Act. This Prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement, certain parts of which are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. Reference is hereby made to the Registration Statement for further information regarding the Company and the New Units and New ADSs offered hereby.

---

**Annex A**

**ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 20-F  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,2002**

---

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 20-F**

REGISTRATION STATEMENT PURSUANT TO SECTION 12(b) OR (g) OF THE  
SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

OR

:

**ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES  
EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002.

OR

**G 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: 82-2873

**Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.**

(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

**Ceramics International, Inc.**

(Translation of Registrant's name into English)

**United Mexican States**

(Jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

---

**Ave. Carlos Pacheco 7200**

**Chihuahua, Chih., Mexico**

(Address of principal executive offices)

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

<u><b>Title of each Class</b></u>	<u><b>Name of each exchange on which registered</b></u>
American Depositary Shares, each representing five Limited Voting Units	New York Stock Exchange
Limited Voting Units, which consists of one Series D and one Series L Share	New York Stock Exchange*
Series D Shares, without par value	New York Stock Exchange*
Series L Shares, without par value	New York Stock Exchange*

\*Not for trading, but only in connection with the registration of American Depositary Shares pursuant to the requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Securities registered or to be registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

Securities for which there is a reporting obligation pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Act: None

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Indicate the number of outstanding shares of each of the issuer's classes of capital or common stock as of the close of the period covered by the annual report:

Series B Shares, without par value	65,740,430
Series D Shares, without par value	25,057,860
Series L Shares, without par value	25,057,860

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 such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate by check mark which financial statement item the Registrant has elected to follow:

Item 17  Item 18

---

Table of Contents

Page

PART I

ITEM 1. Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers

ITEM 2. Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable

ITEM 3. Key Information

ITEM 4. Information on the Company

ITEM 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects

ITEM 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees

ITEM 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions

ITEM 8. Financial Information

ITEM 9. The Offer and Listing

ITEM 10. Additional Information

ITEM 11. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

ITEM 12. Description of Securities Other Than Equity Securities

## PART II

ITEM 13. Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies

ITEM 14. Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds

ITEM 15. Controls and Procedures

ITEM 16. [Reserved]

## PART III

ITEM 17. Financial Statements

ITEM 18. Financial Statements

ITEM 19. Exhibits

---

Unless otherwise specified or the context otherwise requires, references to "Interceramic" in this Annual Report on Form F-20 for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 (this "Annual Report") shall mean *Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.*, a limited liability company with variable capital (*sociedad anónima de capital variable*) organized under the laws of the United Mexican States ("Mexico"), and references to the "Company" shall mean Interceramic collectively with its subsidiaries.

The Company maintains its financial books and records in Mexican Pesos ("Pesos," "P." or "Ps") and presents its financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in Mexico ("Mexican GAAP"). Pursuant to Mexican GAAP, financial data for all periods covered by the consolidated financial statements

of the Company and other financial information presented in this Annual Report, unless otherwise indicated, have been restated in constant Pesos with purchasing power as of December 31, 2002.

This Annual Report contains translations of certain Peso amounts into dollars ("Dollars," "US \$" or "\$"), the currency of the United States of America (the "United States"), at specified exchange rates solely for the convenience of the reader. These translations should not be construed as representations that the Peso amounts actually represent Dollar amounts or could be converted into Dollars at the rate or rates indicated. Unless otherwise indicated, Dollar amounts have been translated from Pesos at the exchange rate of Ps 10.39 to US \$1.00, the exchange rate as quoted to the Company by *Casa de Cambio Euromex, S.A. de C.V.* as the rate representing the interbank exchange rate (the "Interbank Rate") at the close of business on December 31, 2002. There are several other commonly available rates of conversion of Pesos to Dollars and no representation can be made as to the accuracy of one rate as compared to any other, many of which may vary significantly from time to time from the Interbank Rate.

The manufacturing operations and the principal offices of the Company are based primarily in Mexico and the Company's consolidated financial statements are expressed in Pesos; however, all of the Company's indebtedness and a significant portion of the other liabilities of the Company are designated in Dollars, and the Company generates a material amount of Dollar denominated revenues and/or expenses payable in Dollars. Such Dollar amounts are translated into Pesos for financial statement purposes in accordance with Mexican GAAP.

The Company generally measures its ceramic floor tile production and sales in terms of square meters. For purposes of converting the Company's production and sales information from square meters into square feet, the Company has used a convention of 11 square feet to each square meter rather than the actual numerical conversion of 10.762 square feet to each square meter. In Mexico, the Company's measurement of product generally is based upon the actual surface area of the tile produced or sold. In the United States, the Company observes the convention of measuring product based upon the surface area covered by the applied ceramic tile, which includes standard one-quarter inch grout joints.

This Annual Report contains forward-looking statements, within the meaning of Section 27A of the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "1933 Act"), and Section 21E of the United States Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "1934 Act"), which reflect the Company's views about future events and financial performance. Statements that are not historical facts, including without limitation statements about the Company's hopes, beliefs, strategies and expectations, are forward-looking statements and involve inherent risks and uncertainties. The Company's forward-looking statements are based on current plans, estimates and projections and, accordingly, undue reliance should not be placed upon them. Actual results could differ materially from those projected in forward looking statements for a variety of reasons that may be beyond the control of the Company, including without limitation effects on the Company from competition, economic, political and social events that might occur in Mexico, changes in circumstances that might adversely impact the Company's ability to access sources of financing on competitive terms, events that might impact the construction industry in Mexico generally, changes in Mexican GAAP, changes in law and other factors. In any event, the forward-looking statements contained in this Annual Report speak only as of their dates and the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise any of them, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. In preparing its financial statements, the Company makes estimates concerning a variety of matters. Some of these matters are highly uncertain, and the estimates involve judgments based on the information available to the Company. Certain discussions in this Annual Report concern matters for which the financial presentation would be materially affected if either (i) the Company relied on different estimates that it could reasonably use or (ii) in the future the Company changes its estimates in response to changes that are reasonably likely to occur.

Interceramic's registered office in Mexico, and principal executive office, is located at Ave. Carlos Pacheco 7200, Chihuahua, Mexico, and its telephone number is 011.52.614.429.1111. The address for the corporate offices of the Company's United States subsidiaries is 2333 South Jupiter Road, Garland, Texas 75041, telephone number 214.503.5500.



## **PART I**

### **ITEM 1. Identity of Directors, Senior Management and Advisers**

Not applicable.

### **ITEM 2. Offer Statistics and Expected Timetable**

Not applicable.

### **ITEM 3. Key Information**

#### **A. Selected Financial Data**

The table on the following page presents selected consolidated financial data of the Company. The data presented should be read in conjunction with, and are qualified in their entirety by reference to, the Consolidated Financial Statements included under Item 18 in this Annual Report (the "Financial Statements"). The Financial Statements have been audited by Mancera, S.C., a member practice of Ernst & Young Global, independent auditors.

The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Mexican GAAP, which differ in certain significant respects from generally accepted accounting principles in the United States ("US GAAP"). See Note 12 to the Financial Statements for a description of the principal differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP as they relate to the Company and reconciliation to US GAAP of net earnings and shareholders' equity.

Pursuant to Mexican GAAP, the Financial Statements and the selected consolidated financial data set forth below have been prepared giving effect to Bulletin B-10, Bulletin B-12 and Bulletin B-15 of the *Instituto Mexicano de Contadores Públicos*, the Mexican Institute of Public Accountants (the "IMCP"). Bulletin B-10, as amended, provides for the recognition of the effects of inflation on financial information. For years ending prior to January 1, 1997, Bulletin B-10 allowed the Company to restate non-monetary assets at current replacement cost, as determined by independent appraisers, to restate the components of shareholders' equity using the Consumer Price Index for Mexico (the "NCPI"), and to record gains or losses in purchasing power from holding monetary liabilities or assets. Bulletin B-10 also requires restatement of all financial statements to constant Pesos as of the date of the most recent balance sheet presented and, accordingly, all data in the Financial Statements and in the selected consolidated financial data set forth below have been restated in Pesos with purchasing power of December 31, 2002, unless otherwise indicated. See Note 1 to the Financial Statements. The effect of these inflation accounting principles has not been reversed in the reconciliation to US GAAP. See Note 12 to the Financial Statements.

The IMCP has published the Fifth Amendment to Bulletin B-10, applicable to financial statements for periods beginning on or after January 1, 1997, which abandons the use of appraisals for the valuation of fixed assets and instead imposes a specific cost method. Under this method, certain fixed assets, such as machinery and equipment, are to be valued based on their historical cost. If an asset was acquired from outside of Mexico, the historical cost is restated using the consumer price index of the country of origin, converted into Pesos at the exchange rate prevailing at the time of valuation. For items acquired in Mexico, or for which the country or origin is uncertain, the historical cost is restated using the NCPI. The Company implemented this change in the Financial Statements commencing with the fiscal year ended December 31, 1997. See Note 1(h) to the Financial Statements.

Bulletin B-12 specifies the appropriate presentation of the statement of changes in financial position when financial statements have been restated in constant Pesos in accordance with Bulletin B-10 and prior years' presentations have been restated accordingly. Bulletin B-12 further requires (i) identification of the generation and application of resources representing differences between beginning and ending financial statement balances in constant Pesos and (ii) that monetary and foreign exchange gains and losses not be treated as nonmonetary items in

the determination of resources provided by operations. Under Bulletin B-15, which became effective on January 1, 1998, prior period financial statements may be restated using an actualization factor determined by weighing the Company's respective operations in the United States and Mexico, each as effected by inflation in the applicable country and currency exchange rates in the applicable currencies. In this respect, Bulletin B-15 is inconsistent with the requirements of Rule 3-20(e) of Regulation S-X promulgated by the United States Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") with respect to filings under the 1933 Act and the 1934 Act, and is treated as a reconciling item in the Financial Statements. *See* Note 1(a) and Note 12 to the Financial Statements.

Effective January 1, 2000, the Company adopted the requirements of the Accounting Principles Bulletin D-4, "Accounting for Income Tax, Asset Tax and Employee Profit Sharing," issued by the IMCP. Bulletin D-4 requires the recognition of deferred taxes on basically all temporary differences in balance sheet accounts for financial and tax reporting purposes, using the enacted income tax rate at the date the financial statements are issued. Through December 31, 1999, deferred taxes were recognized only on temporary differences that were considered to be non-recurring and that had a known turnaround period.

The accumulated effect of this new requirement at the beginning of 2000 was applied to stockholders' equity, without restatement of prior years. As expected, in the Company's first year applying these new rules, the most significant changes were an increase in the provision for deferred taxes and a decrease in stockholders' equity in the amount of Ps 299,564.

## YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2002
	(IN THOUSANDS OF PESOS AS OF					Thnds.
	December 31, 2002(1)					of
						Dollars(9)

**INCOME  
STATEMENT  
DATA:**

**MEXICAN GAAP:**

Net sales	2,580,948	2,765,955	2,845,094	2,971,573	3,058,853	294,404
Cost of sales	(1,615,184)	(1,789,738)	(1,803,285)	(1,866,093)	(1,927,568)	(185,521)
Gross profit	965,763	976,217	1,041,809	1,105,479	1,131,285	108,882
Selling and administrative expenses	(649,369)	(730,174)	(746,299)	(766,972)	(841,221)	(80,964)
Operating income	316,394	246,043	295,510	338,508	290,064	27,918

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Comprehensive financing (cost) income	(251,890)	25,017	(63,547)	(24,964)	(157,527)	(15,161)
Other income (expense) net	(12,167)	(24,808)	(28,614)	(48,760)	(12,432)	(1,197)
Equity in results of associated companies (2)	(1,184)	364	-	1,335	(420)	(40)
Income and asset tax	(24,838)	(16,179)	(15,681)	(17,080)	(19,251)	(1,879)
Deferred income tax	-	-	(36,935)	(29,742)	8,448	813
Employee profit sharing (3)	(2,893)	(3,253)	(2,483)	(3,465)	(3,556)	(342)
Consolidated net income	23,424	226,821	148,250	214,497	105,476	10,152
Minority net income (loss)	4,407	5,613	(764)	23,348	18,405	1,771
Majority net income	19,015	221,207	149,014	191,149	87,071	8,380
Net income per Unit (4)	0.35	4.09	2.73	3.30	1.52	0
Weighted average Units outstanding (000's)(4)	53,969	53,969	54,625	57,928	57,184	57,184

**US GAAP AMOUNTS (5):**

Majority net income (loss)	(55,613)	224,605	118,773	199,051	61,406	5,910
Net (loss) income per Unit (4)	(1.08)	4.37	2.31	3.87	1.19	0
Diluted net income (loss) per Unit (4)	(1.03)	4.16	2.17	3.44	1.07	0

**BALANCE SHEET DATA:**

**MEXICAN GAAP:**

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Current assets	1,235,737	1,215,558	1,244,908	1,239,611	1,263,361	121,594
Property, plant and equipment, net	2,060,656	1,892,265	1,793,691	1,636,396	1,730,033	166,509
Total assets	3,368,540	3,157,751	3,083,339	2,928,828	3,062,653	294,769
Current liabilities	602,189	593,206	560,561	1,336,221	697,113	67,095
Short term debt (6)	248,549	187,800	134,670	1,021,012	261,134	25,133
Long term debt	1,651,905	1,461,696	1,242,466	246,550	948,036	91,245
Total stockholders' equity	1,111,378	1,099,203	925,914	1,025,790	1,089,026	104,815

**US GAAP  
AMOUNTS (5):**

Total stockholders' equity	(77,300)	60,011	250,807	347,355	417,874	40,219
Weighted average units outstanding(10)	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	5,100	491

**OTHER DATA:**

**MEXICAN GAAP:**

Depreciation and amortization	149,507	155,453	143,717	142,702	149,839	14,421
Capital expenditures	(143,971)	(132,890)	(93,937)	(108,808)	(170,191)	(16,380)
Working capital	633,547	622,352	684,347	(96,568)	566,248	54,499
EBITDA (11)	465,901	401,496	439,227	481,210	439,903	42,339

**OPERATING  
INFORMATION:**

Gross profit margin (7)	37.42%	35.29%	36.62%	37.20%	36.98%	36.98%
	12.26%	8.90%	10.39%	11.39%	9.48%	9.48%

Operating profit  
margin (7)

EBITDA (7)	18.05%	14.52%	15.44%	16.19%	14.38%	14.38%
Personnel at period end	3,387	3,387	3,387	3,387	3,089	3,089
<b>EXCHANGE RATE (8)</b>	9.875	9.5	9.61	9.19	10.39	

Notes:

- (1) In thousands , except for earnings per share and Unit and operating information.
- (2) The equity in results of associated companies reflects the participation of the Company in the earnings of certain non-consolidated affiliates. *See* Note 1(g) to the Financial Statements.
- (3) *See* Note 9 to the Financial Statements.
- (4) Calculated by dividing majority net income by the weighted average Units outstanding at the end of the respective period.
- (5) *See* Note 12 to the Financial Statements.
- (6) Includes bank loans and the current portion of long term debt. *See* Note 5 to the Financial Statements.
- (7) Expressed as a percentage of total net sales.
- (8) Interbank Rate at the end of each period. At June 11, 2003, the Interbank Rate was Ps 10.576 to US \$1.00. For the six months from December 2002 through May 2003, the high and low exchange rates were as follows:

Month	High	Low
December 2002	10.464	10.106
January 2003	10.975	10.32
February 2003	11.06	10.775
March 2003	11.227	10.72
April 2003	10.77	10.29
May 2003	10.12	10.44

(9) Solely for the convenience of the reader, figures as of December 31, 2002 have been translated into Dollars as the rate of Ps 10.576 to US \$1.00, the Interbank Rate at December 31, 2002.

(10) The weighted average units outstanding is calculated under US GAAP under which only the fixed portion of stockholders' equity is taken into account.

(11) Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization.

***B. Capitalization and Indebtedness***

Not applicable.

***C. Reasons for Offer and Use of Proceeds***

Not applicable.

***D. Risk Factors***

There are certain risk factors that are specific to Interceramic, its industry and its business. These may include the following:

**Mexican Political, Social, Economic Conditions and Government Policies Might Adversely Impact Sales and Profitability**

Almost 75 percent of the Company's assets are located in Mexico, and on average, 50 percent of consolidated sales each year are achieved in Mexico. As a result, demand for the Company's products and selling prices may decline as a result of adverse general economic and social conditions in Mexico, Mexican political developments, devaluation of the Peso and inflation and high interest rates in Mexico. For example, during the last Mexican economic crisis which started in late 1994 and continued for the next few years, the Company had to cut its selling prices in Mexico in order to maintain market share. Payment of Dollar-denominated debt and other obligations absorbed a larger part of the Company's Peso-generated cash flow, making it difficult for the Company to fund operations and make normal improvements to facilities and equipment. Management during this period of economic difficulties in Mexico spent considerable time in obtaining waivers of financial covenant violations in certain loan agreements with lenders as well as negotiating extended payment terms with many material vendors.

- *Economic Considerations.* Mexico has a history of economic instability, with periods of deep recession quickly interrupting periods of relative economic growth and prosperity. Political and social instability in the past periods have resulted in exchange rate instability and devaluation of the Peso against foreign currency, leading to increased inflation, high domestic interest rates, negative economic growth, reduced consumer purchasing power, high unemployment and liquidity crises. While Mexico has experienced a number of consecutive years of relative political and economic stability since the late 1990's, there can be no assurance that this trend will continue or if it does, for how long.

If the Mexican economy falls into a recession, the business, financial position and results of operations of the Company may suffer materially for a number of reasons, including lack of consumer demand for the Company's products, declining selling prices, increased cost of the materials, supplies and services needed in Mexico to make products and the devaluation of the Peso against the Dollar making payment of Dollar-denominated debt more expensive and difficult.

- *Government Policies.* The Mexican government has exercised and continues to exercise a significant influence over many aspects of the Mexican economy. With the improving economic stability in recent times, the

government has loosened its control over the economy, however in deteriorating economic circumstances the government could be expected to reinsert itself into the economy which could result in governmental controls on prices, currency exchange rates and inflation. Accordingly, Mexican government actions concerning the economy could have a significant effect on the Company and other private sector entities and on market conditions and the prices and returns on Mexican equity securities, including Interceramic's equity securities.

- *Political Considerations.* Political events in Mexico may significantly affect the Company's business conditions, financial condition and results of operations as well as the price of Interceramic's securities. In recent years, political and social unrest and disturbances have adversely impacted the Mexican securities markets.

- *Currency Fluctuations.* All of the Company's debt and a material amount of its revenues and expenses are denominated in Dollars. Accordingly, the Company is affected by fluctuations in the value of the Peso against the Dollar. During periods when the Peso devalues against the Dollar, the Company recognizes foreign exchange losses on its financial statements, while exchange gains are recognized during periods that the Peso strengthens against the Dollar. For example, while in 2001 the Company recognized foreign exchange gains of Ps 49.4 million as the Peso appreciated against the Dollar, in 2002 the opposite was true and the Company recognized foreign exchange losses of Ps 108.4 million. Currency fluctuations are likely to continue to have an effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and cash flow in future periods.

Severe devaluation or depreciation of the Peso may also result in disruption of international foreign exchange markets and limit the Company's ability to convert Pesos into Dollars for purposes of paying debt as well as other obligations that the Company incurs in Dollars. Although the Mexican government does not currently restrict the ability of persons to convert Pesos into Dollars or otherwise export currencies out of Mexico, it has done so in the past and it could institute restrictive policies which might adversely affect the Company's ability to convert Pesos into Dollars in the future.

- *Inflation and Interest Rates.* Although inflation in recent years has been relatively low, Mexico has historically experienced high levels of inflation. Measured by changes in the NCPI, inflation in Mexico was 4.40 percent for 2001, 5.70 percent for 2002 and for the first five months of 2003 was 1.20 percent. High rates of inflation can adversely affect the Company's results of operations for a variety of reasons, including that the Company cannot always match the pace of inflation in the prices of goods and services needed to make products with the price the Company can obtain in the markets for the sale of its products. During periods of high inflation in Mexico, domestic interest rates have increased significantly. During 2002, the interest rate of the 28-day Mexican government securities called "Cetes" averaged 7.09 percent and in 2001 averaged 11.31 percent. On June 11, 2003, the interest rate on the 28-day Cetes was 5.14 percent. High interest rates not only might increase the cost of borrowing money in Mexico, but also might make it more difficult to borrow or acquire goods and services on credit, thereby impairing the Company's ability to manufacture its products as and when needed to service consumer demand.

### **Forward-looking Statements Are Subject to Uncertainty and Actual Results May Not Be as Favorable as Had Been Predicted**

This Annual Report contains certain statements which reflect the views of management with respect to future events and financial performance. Actual results could differ materially from results projected in forward-looking statements as a result of any of the risk factors discussed in this Annual Statement or other unanticipated factors. The words "believe," "expect," "anticipate" and similar expressions identify forward-looking statements. Persons should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this Annual Report. Unless the law requires otherwise, Interceramic may not publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, the occurrence of future events or otherwise.

### **Economic and Political Developments in Other Countries May Lower the Value of Interceramic's Securities**

The market value of the securities of Mexican companies is periodically subject to economic, social and political developments in other countries. Although economic conditions in other countries may differ materially from those in Mexico, and although many of these other countries may have immaterial connections to the Mexican economy, investors' reactions to developments in other countries, particularly in emerging market economies, may result in a decrease in the market value of Interceramic's securities. Recent examples include the 1997 financial crisis in the Asian economies and in those of Russia and Brazil in 1998, each of which resulted in significant reductions in the market values of securities of Mexican companies. The events of September 11, 2001 and the unsettled conditions in the middle-east following the United States' invasion of Iraq have also had an adverse effect on equities world-wide, with the full impact of the events most likely yet to be felt. Continuing instability in many parts of the and concern about further terrorist against the United States and other allied countries has led to a market uncertainty that has and will continue to have investors seeking more conservative investments generally and, accordingly, the value of the Company's securities may be adversely effected.

### **The Construction Business Is Cyclical and a Decrease in Demand for Tile Products May Lower the Company's Sales**

A recession or decline in the construction industry in Mexico or in the United States could result in decreased demand for ceramic tile products and lower price levels. The tile industry is highly dependent on construction activity-including new construction and remodeling-which is cyclical in nature and is significantly affected by changes in general and local economic conditions. These changes include employment levels, financing availability, interest rates, consumer confidence and housing demand. Further, material unanticipated fluctuations in the demand for ceramic tile products could result in increases in inventories which may not be readily saleable by the Company at profitable prices.

### **The Company is Highly Leveraged and Disruptions in Cash Flow May Impair its Ability to Fund Operations**

Although the Company has been decreasing its debt over recent years, it is currently highly leveraged, with consolidated indebtedness of US \$116.4 million and a total debt to equity ratio of 1.10 to 1 as of December 31, 2002. Substantially all of the Company's physical assets have been pledged to secure repayment of its debts. Because a substantial portion of cash available from operations is likely to be used to pay the Company's debts, funds available for operations may be reduced and the ability to generate sufficient cash flow to adequately fund operations may be impaired. Additionally, the Company's highly leveraged position makes it more vulnerable to adverse economic conditions than less leveraged competitors. Furthermore, the discretion of management with respect to certain business matters is limited by covenants contained in some of the Company's loan agreements.

### **The Company Faces Substantial Debt Amortizations in Coming Years**

In June of 2002, the Company executed a Credit Agreement (the "Credit Agreement") with an international consortium of lenders, pursuant to which the Company borrowed US \$100.0 million to refinance the Company's then-maturing \$90.0 million notes (the "Eurobonds") and for other general working capital purposes. Although the loan made to the Company under the Credit Agreement is on generally favorable terms, it provides for significant amortization of principal, with US \$15.0 million due in the remainder of 2003, US \$17.5 million due in 2004, US \$20.0 million due in 2005, US \$22.5 million due in 2006 and the remaining US \$25.0 million due in 2007. These significant debt service obligations may materially impact the Company's cash flow and impede its ability to fund operations. In such event the Company may be required to borrow additional funds or refinance all or a part of the debt represented by the Credit Agreement, although there can be no assurance that it would be able to do so. In the event the Company were to be unsuccessful at refinancing the debt represented by the Credit Agreement under such circumstances, it could result in cash flow difficulties for the Company and have a material, adverse impact on the business, finances and prospects of the Company.

### **The Company Faces Significant Competition in All Markets and Pricing Pressures May Decrease Profitability**



Significant competition generally is reflected in lower prices for the Company's products, and any further decreases in selling prices could decrease profitability and impair the Company's cash flow. The markets for the Company's products in both Mexico and the United States are highly competitive. In Mexico, Interceramic competes for market share primarily with domestic manufacturers and independent distributors of ceramic tile, many with greater resources than Interceramic possesses. Interceramic dedicates significant resources to new and innovative product development, as well as advertising, marketing and product presentation strategies in Mexico in order to generate and maintain consumer interest in its products. A failure of one or more of these strategies could result in decreased sales in Mexico. In the United States, the Company faces significant competition, primarily from Italian and Spanish importers. Much of the competition in the United States is from products similar to the Company's and pricing pressures are significant. In recent years, many European competitors have enjoyed favorable exchange rates against the Dollar and lower costs of production than has the Company.

### **Import Tariffs in the United States Provide Some Competitors with Pricing Advantages**

United States tile manufacturers can charge less for their products than the Company can because they are not subject to import tariffs, making the Company's products imported from Mexico less competitive and adversely affecting the Company's United States sales revenues. Mexico, the United States and Canada are parties to the North American Free Trade Agreement, or NAFTA, created to establish a "free trade" zone and to eliminate import duties, tariffs and barriers among the three countries. However, under NAFTA tariffs on ceramic tile imported from Mexico into the United States were not eliminated and are to be phased out over a period of 15 years (the current NAFTA tariff rate for substantially all of the Company's products is 6.30 percent). United States producers are not subject to any tariffs in the United States markets and thus enjoy a competitive advantage against importers like the Company. The benefits of NAFTA to the Company may only be realized gradually in increased access to the United States market and increased sales in the United States as the tariffs are reduced. It is also possible that European or United States manufacturers may locate or expand production facilities in Mexico to take advantage of reduced tariff levels, resulting in increased competition not only in the United States market but in the Mexican market as well.

The United States is also a party to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, or GATT. Under GATT, the United States currently imposes a tariff on products like the Company's from non-NAFTA countries at a rate of 9.6 percent. The applicable tariff rate under GATT is scheduled to reduce over time to 8.5 percent in 2005. The reduction of tariff rates under GATT may result in increased competition within the United States ceramic tile markets from European and other foreign producers of ceramic tile products.

### **The Interests of Interceramic's Controlling Shareholders May Not Be the Same as the Interests of Other Shareholders**

Over half of Interceramic's Series B Common Shares, its general voting securities (the "Series B Shares"), are held or controlled by members or associates of the Oscar Almeida Chabre family of Chihuahua, Chihuahua, México (the "Almeida Family" and, collectively with certain associates, the "Controlling Group"). The Controlling Group may have objectives for the Company that differ from those of minority shareholders on a variety of issues, including for example business strategies, product development and capital investment. Because of this, the value of an investment in Interceramic's securities is subject in many respects to the decisions of management over which an investor is unable to exercise any control. By virtue of its ownership, the Controlling Group has the effective power to designate a majority of the Board of Directors of Interceramic (the "Board") and to determine the outcome of other actions requiring a vote of the shareholders, except in very limited cases that require a vote of the holders of Interceramic's two classes of limited voting equity securities, the Series D Dividend Preference Shares (the "Series D Shares") and the Series L Limited Voting Shares (the "Series L Shares"). Further, under Mexican law, holders of Interceramic's equity securities may have less protection as a minority shareholder than is the case under the laws of the United States.

### **A Change in Control May Result in Management Changes and Defaults under Loan Agreements**

As a result of shareholdings and certain agreements, the Controlling Group currently controls a majority of Interceramic's general voting securities. The Almeida Family has controlled the senior management of the Company since its inception, and a loss of control could result in a loss of experienced executive and other management personnel which might harm the Company's ability to competitively operate its business. Also, most of the Company's loan agreements contain provisions that would allow lenders to accelerate their loans if the control of the Company were to change. If all or even a portion of the Company's debts were accelerated, it may be unable to pay or refinance them. The Controlling Group is not obligated to maintain their holdings in Interceramic's securities, however, and if they chose to dispose of all or a portion of their Series B Shares the control of Interceramic could change. Further, on December 7, 2004, all then-outstanding Series L Shares will convert into Series B Shares. Unless the Controlling Group increases its holdings between now and that date, upon the conversion of the Series L Shares the Controlling Group may no longer be able to control Interceramic.

#### **The Ability to Recover Damages from or Enforce a Judgment Against Interceramic May Be Limited**

Interceramic is organized under the laws of Mexico and all of its officers and all but two of the members of the Board reside in Mexico. Also, almost 75 percent of the Company's assets are located in Mexico. As a result, if an investor were to have a claim against Interceramic, whether predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the federal securities laws of the United States or otherwise, it may not be possible to effect service of process within the United States upon Interceramic's management or to enforce the payment by Interceramic or its management of damages that might be awarded by courts in the United States.

#### **ITEM 4. Information on the Company**

##### ***A. History and Development of the Company***

Interceramic was founded on February 17, 1978 as a closely held a limited liability company with variable capital (*sociedad anónima de capital variable*) by certain members and associates of the Almeida Family. Although Interceramic conducts business in Mexico under the "Interceramic" trade name, its charter name is "*Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.*," which translates roughly as "Ceramics International." The current prescribed duration of Interceramic is February 28, 2053. Interceramic became a publicly traded company in Mexico in 1987 and in 1994 completed an initial public offering of securities in the United States. American Depositary Receipts ("ADRs") evidencing five of Interceramic's "Limited Voting Units," which are securities comprised of one Series D Share and one Series L Share, are listed on the *New York Stock Exchange, Inc.* (the "NYSE"). Both Limited Voting Units and "Common Units," which are securities comprised of two Series B Shares, are listed on the *Bolsa Mexicana de Valores, S.A. de C.V.* (the "Mexican Stock Exchange").

Interceramic's registered office in Mexico, and principal executive office, is located at Ave. Carlos Pacheco 7200, Chihuahua, Mexico, and its telephone number is 011.52.614.429.1111. The address for the corporate offices of the Company's United States subsidiaries is 2333 South Jupiter Road, Garland, Texas 75041, telephone number 214.503.5500. The Company's registered agent in the United States for most purposes is Mark E. Mendel, Esq., Mendel • Blumenfeld, LLP, 5809 Acacia Circle, El Paso, Texas 79912, telephone number 915.587.7878.

In its early history, Interceramic manufactured glazed ceramic floor tile from one production facility located in Chihuahua, Mexico, primarily for sale in the Mexican markets through independent distribution. In 1989, it added another production facility in Mexico, which has almost since inception been owned as a "joint venture," initially of Interceramic and *Armstrong World Industries, Inc.* ("Armstrong"), but currently with *Dal-Tile International, Inc.* ("Dal-Tile"), as successor to Armstrong's interest in the venture. Also in the late 1980's, Interceramic commenced distribution of selected products in the United States. While its initial sales into the United States were through independent distribution, the Company has been steadily increasing a network of Company-owned distribution in the United States. The same holds true in Mexico, where independent distribution gave way in the 1994-1995 period to a mixed network of Company-owned distribution and an extensive, exclusive "Interceramic" franchise web throughout

the country. The Company added a new production facility in Chihuahua in 1995, while also opening a manufacturing facility in the United States, in both cases for the production of glazed ceramic wall tile. The Company also manufactures for sale in Mexico grouts and certain adhesives for the installation of ceramic tile products. For the last several years, the Company has focused its efforts in Mexico and the United States on maximizing its profitability and market share through innovation, promotion and marketing. *See* the discussions under B, C and D below.

In late 2000, Interceramic concluded a private placement of certain of 3,636,363 Common Units to *Kohler Co.* ("Kohler"), a leading international producer of bathroom and kitchen fixtures and related products. As a result, Kohler acquired a 6.28 percent stake in the aggregate outstanding capital stock of the Company and an 11.06 percent ownership of the Series B Shares. In the transaction, Kohler paid a price of \$3.30 for each new Common Unit, which was in excess of twice the then market price for a Common Unit on the Mexican Stock Exchange.

In connection with its investment in Interceramic, Kohler and Interceramic entered into a letter agreement (as amended, the "Kohler Agreement") setting forth the terms of the distribution relationship pursuant to which Interceramic would distribute Kohler products, primarily including sinks, bathtubs, sanitary fixtures, faucets and related accessories, in Mexico. Kohler also entered into certain agreements with the Controlling Group. *See* "-B. Business Overview-The Kohler Agreement" below.

As was the case in both 2000 and 2001, during the course of 2002 the Company did not undertake any material capital projects, and most of its capital expenditures during the year were attributable to development and implementation of a new Oracle supply chain management system, the opening of new stores and remodeling of existing stores in the United States and Mexico, and routine upgrades of and improvements to existing equipment and facilities. Aggregate capital expenditures during 2002 were Ps 170.2 million, while in 2001, the Company's capital expenditures were Ps 108.8 million and in 2000 capital expenditures were Ps 93.9 million. During the course of 2003, the Company expects to incur capital expenditures of approximately Ps 140.0 million, again primarily on routine upgrades and replacements of and improvements to existing equipment and facilities.

## ***B. Business Overview***

### **General**

The Company is engaged in the manufacture and distribution of glazed ceramic floor and wall tile and related products, primarily in Mexico and the United States. The Company produces a broad selection of high quality glazed ceramic floor and wall tile for residential and commercial uses. The products it manufactures in its Mexican facilities are marketed by the Company throughout Mexico under the "Interceramic" brand name, using a national network of exclusive franchise stores as well as a number of Company-owned stores in the important Mexico City and Guadalajara markets. In the United States, the Company effects sales under its own brand names, using its sales subsidiary, *Interceramic, Inc.* ("Interceramic USA"), which sells through independent distributors and a network of wholesale/retail stores owned and operated by Interceramic USA under the name *Ceramic Tile International* ("CTI"). Current CTI locations are in Anaheim, California; Dallas, San Antonio, Houston, Fort Worth, Plano, Austin and El Paso, Texas; the Atlanta, Georgia, area; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Las Vegas, Nevada; Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona; and Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Company also sells certain of its Mexican production to Dal-Tile for resale in the United States under Dal-Tile brand names. Through Interceramic USA, the Company also manufactures glazed ceramic wall tile in the United States and distributes the production in the United States using the independent distributors and the CTI network. In addition, the Company imports ceramic floor and wall tile, primarily from Italian and Spanish manufacturers, for distribution and sale in the United States and manufactures and distributes grouts and adhesive materials in Mexico to complement the Company's ceramic tile product lines.

Interceramic commenced production in 1978 using the Italian, single-fired ("*monocottura*") tile production process. The Company was the first tile producer in North America to adopt this technique, which results in lower firing times and energy usage, allowing the production of high quality products at relatively low costs. Since starting

operations to the present, the Company's annual production capacity has gone from 7.2 million to 264.0 million square feet.

Ceramic tile is currently produced by the Company in four facilities, three of which are located in the city of Chihuahua, Mexico, and the other of which is located in the Dallas-Fort Worth area suburb of Garland, Texas.

The Company's first production facility (the "ICSA Plant") is owned and operated by Interceramic and with a production capacity of 124.3 million square feet of glazed ceramic floor tile, currently accounts for 47.08 percent of the Company's installed capacity. The Company manufactures only glazed ceramic floor tile at the ICSA Plant.

The Company's second production facility (the "RISA Plant") is owned and operated by *Recubrimientos Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.* ("RISA"), a company owned 50.01 percent by the Company and 49.99 percent by Dal-Tile, and accounts for 25.00 percent of the Company's current installed capacity. The RISA Plant was constructed in 1989, and has a production capacity of 66.0 million square feet. All production of the RISA Plant is currently glazed ceramic floor tile. As successor to Armstrong under contracts entered into between the Company and Armstrong, Dal-Tile has the right to purchase up to 50 percent of the first quality production of the RISA Plant for sale in the United States.

The Company's third production facility (the "Azulejos Plant"), located adjacent to the RISA Plant, is owned and operated by Interceramic, and accounts for 15.00 percent of the Company's installed capacity. The Azulejos Plant is dedicated to the manufacture of large format wall tile, a popular product in Mexico, and has an annual capacity of 39.6 million square feet. Trim pieces, an important component of the ceramic wall tile markets, particularly in the United States, are also manufactured at the facility, primarily for export.

The Company's fourth production facility (the "Garland Plant"), located in Garland, Texas, is owned and operated by Interceramic USA, and accounts for 12.92 percent of the Company's installed capacity. At the Garland Plant, Interceramic USA is engaged in the manufacture and production of small and larger format glazed ceramic wall tile and related trim pieces, all of which is currently produced for the United States market. Production at the Garland Plant began in the fourth quarter of 1994, and its capacity was doubled in an expansion project that was completed in the fourth quarter of 1995. The annual capacity of the Garland Plant is 34.1 million square feet of 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and 6" x 6" wall tile, together with related trim pieces. In 1997, the Company installed a new production line in the Garland Plant dedicated solely to the production of trim pieces.

In addition, at a facility (the "First ABISA Plant"), located adjacent to the ICSA Plant and owned and operated by a subsidiary of the Company, *Adhesivos y Boquillas Interceramic, S. de R.L. de C.V.* ("ABISA"), the Company manufactures and develops grouts and adhesive materials used in the installation of ceramic tile. In the first quarter of 2001, ABISA opened a second grout and adhesive facility (the "Second ABISA Plant"), located in the central Mexican town of Huichapan. The opening of the Second ABISA Plant more than doubled ABISA's capacity and allows the Company to reduce the shipping costs associated with these high-weight but low-cost products to franchisees in the southern part of Mexico. *Custom Building Products of California, Inc.* ("Custom"), a United States producer of similar products, owns 49.00 percent of ABISA's equity. Another subsidiary of the Company, *Procesadora de Materiales Cerro Grande, S.A. de C.V.* ("Cerro Grande"), owned several mining properties in Mexico from which substantially all the clay currently used by the Company in its Mexican production facilities is derived. In the first half of 2002, Cerro Grande was merged into Interceramic, resulting in these mines becoming owned directly by Interceramic. In 1999, another Company subsidiary, *Cerámica Industrial Maquinada, S.A. de C.V.* ("CIMSA"), which owned and operated a specialized machine shop for the manufacture and reconditioning of molds used in the pressing of ceramic tile, was merged into the Company in order to save on duplicative administrative expenses and operating costs.

In 1998, the Company organized a wholly-owned subsidiary, *Distribución Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.* ("DISA"), to own and operate wholesale/retail locations throughout the Mexico City area. Additionally, in 1999, the

Company organized *Interacabados de Occidente, S.A. de C.V.* ("Occidente"), another wholly-owned subsidiary, to acquire the operations of the Company's franchisee in the Guadalajara area.

### **Production Capacity**

At the end of 2002, the Company had a total annual installed capacity of 264.0 million square feet, of which 190.3 million square feet is allocated to the production of glazed ceramic floor tile and 73.7 million square feet is dedicated to the production of glazed ceramic wall tile. For the past four years, all of the Company's plants have been operating at full capacity. The production capacities of the respective facilities, expressed in millions of square feet per annum, are:

ICSA Plant	124.3
RISA Plant	66.0
Azulejos Plant	39.6
Garland Plant	34.1

In addition to its core business of providing tile for the higher end of the market, the Company also manufactures limited amounts of strategic products for the lower end of the ceramic tile market in Mexico, primarily as a means of introducing potential customers to the higher-end offerings available in the franchise stores. The Company has adopted a strategy in Mexico to de-emphasize the distinctions between commodity and other tile products, instead focusing on a broad "Interceramic" product mix at its franchise stores in order to meet virtually every consumer demand for glazed ceramic tile products.

The Company also manufactures a variety of glazed ceramic wall tile products to complement its floor tile. In Mexico, the Company's wall tile is directed at the medium- and high-end markets. The ceramic wall tile being produced at the Garland Plant is aimed primarily at the United States and Canadian markets, which favor smaller, 4¼" product. However, although it fluctuates during the course of the year, up to a third of the production of the Garland Plant may be at any one time dedicated to a larger format, 6" x 6" wall tile. A material part of the production of wall tile is the manufacture of the related trim pieces for borders, accents and decorative purposes, and both the Azulejos Plant and the Garland Plant are engaged in the production of trim pieces.

### **Ceramic Tile Markets in Mexico and the United States Generally**

Ceramic tile has been used for thousands of years as both functional and decorative veneers on floors and walls. Ceramic tile is just one of many available floor and wall coverings, competing with others such as concrete, carpet, wood, stone, laminates and vinyl. Relative demand for a particular material depends on various factors, and ceramic tiles generally hold a competitive advantage over other available wall and floor coverings in terms of aesthetic appeal, durability, ease of maintenance and fire resistance. Traditionally, their greatest advantage has been their beauty, and their greatest disadvantage has been cost. However, with recent advances in manufacturing and installation technology, the cost gap between ceramic tile and other coverings has narrowed, although installation cost for ceramic tile is typically significantly higher than in the case of alternative floor coverings such as concrete, carpet, laminates and vinyl.

Glazed ceramic tile consumption by product volume increased by a compounded average of 11.85 percent per year in Mexico between 1997 and 2002 and 12.10 percent per year in the United States between 1997 and 2001. In Mexico, double-digit growth has been fueled by increased construction spending associated with economic recovery since the Peso devaluation in 1994 and by rising personal income levels. Growth in the United States reflects increased consumer preference of ceramic tile vis-à-vis other floor covering alternatives and economic expansion of the 1990's. Furthermore, ceramic tile products have benefitted from declining prices associated with improvements in manufacturing technology resulting in a more competitively priced package and narrowing the price gap against other floor covering alternatives.

Mexico consumes considerably less ceramic tile per capita than other countries with similar climatic, cultural, architectural and income characteristics, such as Brazil. This disparity represents substantial potential for market growth in Mexico as the country continues to benefit from increased political and economic stability, proximity to the United States and NAFTA integration. Consumption per capita in the United States is even lower than in Mexico, indicating a large potential for market growth, as ceramic tile gains consumer preference over other floor covering alternatives. This is already evidenced by ceramic tile growth in the United States having outpaced growth of other floor covering formats in recent years due to decreasing prices and shifting architectural trends, which have increasingly emphasized ceramic tile products in construction and remodeling.

## Markets

### *General*

The Company markets its products throughout Mexico, as well as in the United States and Canada and in the past, to a very limited extent, Central America. The vast majority of its sales are in Mexico and the United States, which over the past five years have combined for 99.85 percent of the Company's consolidated sales. Sales in Mexico are made through an extensive franchise network, which includes Company-owned points of sale in the major markets of Mexico City and Guadalajara, while in the United States, Interceramic USA effects sales through independent dealers and CTI stores. In Canada, most sales are made through one distributor located in Toronto who then makes further distribution throughout the country. The chart on the following page summarizes the Company's consolidated sales by markets.

[Chart on Following Page]

Historical Mix of Company Sales by Market

	1999	2000	2001	2002
Mexico				
Revenues*	1,376.5	1,619.1	1,760.1	1,724.4
Percent of Consolidated Sales	49.77	56.91	59.23	56.37

## United States

Revenues*	1,383.0	1,224.1	1,210.3	1,333.5
Percent of Consolidated Sales	49.99	43.02	40.73	43.60

## Other ( Primarily Canada and Latin America )

Revenues*	6.4	1.9	1.2	1.0
Percent of Consolidated Sales	0.24	0.07	0.04	0.03

## Totals

Revenues*	2,765.9	2,845.1	2,971.6	3,058.9
Percent of Consolidated Sales	100.00	100.00	100.00	100.00

\*Millions of Pesos

Although the respective percentages of (i) sales in Mexico and (ii) sales comprised of the aggregate of (A) sales of Company production exported from Mexico, (B) production from the Garland Plant and (C) products manufactured by non-affiliates sold outside Mexico (collectively, "International Sales") have varied from year to year, in order to maintain the presence required in both markets for long term penetration, the Company does not intend to materially change the mix between Mexican and International Sales from roughly 50 percent in each of the markets.

### *Mexico*

The Company believes, based on industry sources, that Mexico's market for glazed ceramic tile in 2002 was at least 1,325 million square feet, divided into two main sectors: floor and wall tile. In 2002, floor tile represented approximately 984 million square feet and wall tile represented approximately 340 million square feet of the Mexican market. Total consumption of glazed ceramic tile products by volume in Mexico has increased at an estimated compound annual growth rate of 12.23 percent over the last eight years. The estimated 1,325 million square feet of sales for 2002 represents a healthy increase of 8.71 percent over an estimated market of about 1,219 million square feet during 2001, a year which showed a much more modest consumption increase of 1.44 percent over the preceding year. However, in 2000 growth over 1999 was 10.95 percent. The increase in 2002 indicates that the lower growth in 2001 was temporary and that trends continue to demonstrate strong growth in the Mexican markets.

The chart on the following page indicates growth in ceramic tile consumption, the construction industry in general and the Mexican gross domestic product, indexed to 1993 as the base year:

[Chart on Following Page]

Index of Ceramic Tile Consumption,  
Construction and GDP in Mexico(1)

Year	Ceramic Tile Growth Index(2)	Construction Growth Index(3)	GDP Growth Index(3)
1993	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
1994	104.64	108.43	104.46
1995	79.58	82.99	97.96
1996	91.18	91.10	103.00
1997	108.32	99.55	109.98
1998	128.65	103.76	115.37
1999	138.10	108.94	119.69
2000	151.48	114.45	127.63
2001	143.49	109.29	127.28
2002	145.41	110.71	127.42
CAGR(4)	4.25	1.14	2.73

(1) Constant Pesos.

(2) Source: *Mexican Association of Ceramic Tile Producers*.(3) Source: *Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática*.

(4) Compounded Annual Growth Rate.



Steady improvement in the Mexican economy since the economic crisis of the mid 1990's has resulted in increased spending on construction of residential and infrastructure projects and corresponding increased demand for construction materials. Further, recovering personal income levels have enabled certain consumers to upgrade or remodel their homes, replacing cement or earthen floors with ceramic tile. Industry studies have indicated that a material percentage of residences in Mexico lack floor coverings of any kind, and the Company believes that remodeling and improvement of existing structures is an important growth area for ceramic tile products. With further improvement in personal income levels and continued political and economic stability in Mexico generally, the Company believes there is significant potential for further growth in ceramic tile consumption.

Prices for glazed ceramic tile in Mexico have generally been decreasing over the past several years for a number of reasons, including increased competition, initially from imports but increasingly from large capacity additions by domestic producers and the savings generated by technological advances in the production process. Despite the industry trend of declining prices, the Company has over the same period been able to increase its selling prices modestly in the extremely competitive market.

Prior to the last major economic crisis in Mexico, a significant share of the ceramic tile market in Mexico, estimated by the Company to be approximately 10.37 percent during 1994, was held by imports, primarily from Spain and Italy. The Peso devaluation had a significant adverse effect on ceramic tile imports in Mexico, decreasing import participation in the domestic markets by almost 90 percent. Since the Mexican economy stabilized late in the 1990's imports have slowly regained market share and at an estimated nine percent of the market in 2002 have almost recovered their pre-devaluation market share. Prior to the devaluation the Company had imported a substantial amount of product for resale in Mexico, but for a number of years the Company imported no foreign tile products for sale in Mexico. Starting late in 2002, the Company resumed imports of foreign product, substantially all of which is aimed at the lower-end of the markets to enable the Company to focus its limited production capacity on higher-end products.

In Mexico, sales are made to contractors, builders and architects for residential and commercial new construction and renovation. In addition, a substantial amount of the sales in Mexico are made directly to the end consumer, with homeowners purchasing tile directly and contracting with an installer to lay the tile. Particularly in the home building and renovation markets, in Mexico consumers are much more likely to be involved in the selection of ceramic tile for their homes than are consumers in the United States. As a result of the Company's strategy to direct most of its product mix among the high and middle ends of the market, the Company considers its customer base to be increasingly influenced by the middle class consumer, particularly those involved in the remodeling or improvement of existing properties.

### *United States*

Based on statistics compiled by the United States Department of Commerce (the "Commerce Department") and estimates and projections reported in a 2002 study of the United States ceramic tile industry by *Economic Industry Reports, Inc.* (the "2002 Study"), the ceramic tile industry in the United States was relatively flat for a number of year until the last decade. Consumption in the United States increased dramatically over the period, increasing by 179.46 percent over 1992 to an estimated market in 2002 of 2,329.0 million square feet compared to 833.4 million square feet in 1992. Similar to Mexico, 2000 saw substantial growth of 10.06 percent over the preceding year while 2001 reflected a virtually flat market, growing by only 0.59 percent over 2000-in the latter case most likely greatly attributable to the uncertainty sparked by the events of September 11, 2001. The market rebounded considerably in 2002, increasing by 13.38 percent over 2001, an increase of more than 270 million square feet. The Company believes that the key to growth in ceramic tile consumption in the United States has been and will continue to be ceramic tile gaining market share over other types of floor and wall coverings. According to the publication "*Specialists in Business Information*," in the period 1993 through 1998 the market for ceramic tile grew at a compound annual rate of 10.7 percent while carpet grew at 2.4 percent, hardwood at 6.2 percent, resilient sheet and tile at 4.1 percent and rubber flooring at 5.8 percent. While the study did not include the figures for "laminated" flooring, a fairly recent and fast growing entrant into the flooring markets, the figures confirm the Company's belief that ceramic tile demand is

increasing faster than demand for most other types of floor products.

Although the overall market for glazed ceramic floor and wall tile in the United States, according to the 2002 Study, increased during the time period from 1990 to 2002 at an average annual rate of 8.96 percent, during the same period, however, the price obtained per unit has been generally decreasing. The average price per unit for glazed ceramic tile products of domestic producers dipped \$0.07 per square foot in 2001 over 2000, but firmed slightly by \$0.01 to an estimated \$1.13 per square foot in 2002. Imports continue to lag behind domestic production in pricing however-having reached a peak of \$0.96 per square foot in 1989, the average price for imported glazed ceramic tile products stood at \$0.77 per square foot at the end of 2002. Imported products in the United States thus trade at an average 31.9 percent discount over domestic products. While glazed ceramic tile prices have slipped, other types of ceramic floor and wall tile have achieved modest price gains over the same periods. For both domestic and foreign producers, the reduction in price per unit is primarily due to competition and reduced production costs. As manufacturers have realized cost savings through technological advances and as a result of competitive pressures in the marketplace, the savings have tended to be passed on to the consumers. Because over half of the United States market is composed of imports, the Company believes that the United States ceramic tile market is representative of global ceramic tile markets. As most of the competitive and technological pressures and advances have already occurred at global pricing levels, the Company expects that prices of glazed ceramic tile in the United States will be substantially the same for the foreseeable future.

In the United States, the Company competes with several domestic producers, as well as imports from Italy, Spain, Mexico and other countries. However, the Company's sales in the glazed ceramic floor and wall tile market in the United States have grown significantly, from approximately US \$14.8 million in 1989 to US \$130.9 million in 2002. Based upon information contained in the 2002 Study, the Company estimates that its share of the glazed ceramic floor tile market in the United States was 6.78 percent at the end of 2002, slightly greater than an estimated market share of almost six percent in 1993. This reflects not only the burgeoning growth of the ceramic tile markets in the United States over the years but also a slight erosion in the Company's market share from around eight percent in the late 1990's.

Although the Company sells its products in other Central and Latin American countries, as well as in Canada, 99.90 percent of International Sales are to the United States. Of the total International Sales by volume during 2002, 82.24 percent consisted of sales of glazed ceramic floor and wall tile manufactured by the Company and the remaining 17.76 percent consisted of tile imported by the Company or purchased by Interceramic USA from United States or foreign producers. Of the total International Sales for 2002, 32.50 percent consisted of sales through independent distributors and 49.86 percent consisted of sales through CTI stores, with the remainder being sold through Dal-Tile and customers in Central and Latin America.

In the United States, the Company sells to CTI, as well as to independent distributors, usually one for each major metropolitan area in the United States other than those in which a CTI store is located. The distributors then sell to floor covering dealers, builders, general contractors, floor covering contractors and the installer trade located in their respective sales areas. The usual customers for the Company's products in the United States are contractors for new residential and commercial construction and, to a lesser degree, industrial construction. In addition, a significant percentage of sales is made in connection with home and office remodeling and renovation, both to the professional contractor, architect and interior decorator, as well as, to a much more limited extent than in Mexico, to the retail consumer.

## **Strategy**

### *General*

For a variety of reasons, including vastly differing economic conditions and income levels, differences in consumer and cultural preferences and disparate climatic conditions, the ceramic tile markets in Mexico and the

United States differ from each other in many material respects. Accordingly, the Company has developed focused business strategies for each market. However, with all of the Company's production facilities currently running at full capacity, the Company is pursuing a basic strategy in both markets to increase its gross margins by focusing its product mix on the higher end segments of the market and gaining market share in these segments. In order to do so, the Company is concentrating on the development of new, innovative and first-class products for sale in both Mexico and the United States. The Company also continues to pursue strict control over operating expenses and further efficiencies in the production process in order to increase margins as much as possible within the limits imposed by current production capacity.

To avoid further erosion of its market share by producing insufficient quantities of products, the Company believes that it will ultimately need to expand its production capacity. However, the Company has yet to complete any definitive plans for expansion, concentrating its efforts in the short-term in the strategies outlined in the preceding paragraph and in accomplishing a number of operational improvements which management believes needed to provide for more corporate accountability and more consistent planning and execution. During the course of 2002, the Company established a number of "private label" programs with third party manufacturers in order to be able to meet product demand as well as to focus its own manufacturing capacity on higher end products. The products developed under the private label programs are aimed at the lower, less expensive segments of the market in order to provide a full-line of ceramic tile product offerings to its customers as well as to enable the Company to dedicate all of its own production capacity to the more innovative, more expensive products.

### *Mexico*

Since the substantial recovery of the Mexican economy in the later years of the 1990's, the Company's central strategy has been increasing market share, primarily through the improvement of the selling prices for its products. This strategy has continued with the Company concentrating on improving its product mix to obtain higher margins on virtually the same volume of product by square meter. The Company has focused on improving its margins by obtaining a better product mix in its franchise stores and is directing its efforts towards obtaining real price increases. This has been achieved to a great extent over the past few years, and will continue to be the Company's prime strategy. The existence of the exclusive franchise stores makes it easier for the Company to introduce new products into the market, without having to develop entirely new distribution systems and networks. Further, with Company-owned distribution in the two dominant domestic markets of Mexico City and Guadalajara, the Company is able to obtain additional margin on sales-a strategy that has proven valuable through the CTI distribution network in the United States.

In 1994, the Company terminated its relationships with poorer distributors and converted the remaining core of its existing distributors into exclusive, franchise distributors. This conversion resulted in several benefits for the Company, including increased time and sales efforts of distributor personnel with respect to the Company's products, increasing the level of promotions and advertising for the Company's products and improving the exhibition of the Company's products in ceramic tile showrooms. The Company believes that presentation of its wide mix of products at exclusive stores prominently bearing the "Interceramic" name has been a major factor in its ability to increase market share since the devaluation. By the end of 1994, all distributors had been either terminated or converted into franchises and at the end of 1995, the Company had 126 franchise stores operating in 73 different Mexican cities. Additional franchises have been opened since then and the entire network consolidated, reviewed and strengthened, and at December 31, 2002, the Company had 185 franchise stores operating in more than 114 Mexican cities.

Since 1997, the Company has owned its own distribution in the Mexico City area and has devoted considerable energies towards establishing its presence in Mexico City through advertising campaigns and opening of new, "Interceramic" stores. At the end of 2002, the Company owned 18 stores in Mexico City. In keeping with the Company's desire to own distribution directly in important markets, in 1999 the Company acquired the operations of its franchisee in the city of Guadalajara, one of the largest markets in Mexico, and was operating ten stores in the area at the end of 2002. During the first quarter of 2002, the Company increased its presence in both the Mexico City and

Guadalajara area markets by purchasing the operations of two existing franchisees, resulting in the acquisition of four stores in Toluca, near Mexico City, and three more stores in Morelia, a center on the main route between Mexico City and Guadalajara.

The Company continually supports each of its exclusive franchises with consulting services covering a variety of operational matters, including inventory maintenance, implementation of inventory systems, marketing and training of sales and management personnel. The Company is strongly committed to the franchise concept in Mexico, and believes that it has reinforced brand recognition with trade customers, architects and other consumers of ceramic tile products.

To improve its position in the Mexican markets as a supplier of a complete line of ceramic tile products, the Company entered into the wall tile market as a manufacturer in the early 1990's. The Company's entrance into the large format wall tile market was a logical extension of its core business, not only because wall tile is a natural complement to floor tile, but also because the Company's existing brand name recognition and position in the Mexican floor tile market gave the Company the ability to establish an immediate presence in the wall tile market. Additionally, as the Company had been importing wall tile for sale into Mexico, it was able to quickly replace the imported products with its own production. The Company is focusing on the high end wall tile market, which had been dominated by European imports; and with the strengthening of the Mexican economy over the past few years, the Company has been able to stay largely out of the commodity wall tile segment. With its existing distribution network and its ability to outperform imports in price, product offering and service, the Company believes it has made a material impact on the Mexican ceramic wall tile market, estimating that its share of the Mexican glazed ceramic wall tile market has gone from about three percent in 1992 to approximately 18 percent at the end of 2002.

The Company also markets products complementary to ceramic tile, such as plumbing fixtures and grouts and adhesives. Promoting package formats consisting of ceramic floor and wall tile, sanitary fixtures and grouts and adhesives increases customer convenience and is in keeping with the usual Mexican practice of providing a complete line of ceramic tile products, sanitary and other bathroom and kitchen fixtures and related products in the same store. This strategy is particularly important to the Company in light of its conversion from independent distributors in Mexico to exclusive franchises. By entering into the production of wall tile, expanding its grout and adhesive production, marketing sanitary fixtures, faucets and kitchen and bathroom accessories and related products the Company provides a full scope of products in the franchise stores. Sanitary fixtures and related products directed toward the high-end market are purchased by the Company from Kohler and resold to the Company's franchisees throughout Mexico. Middle and lower end products are purchased by the franchisees directly from *Ideal Standard, S.A. de C.V.*, a Mexican affiliate of *American Standard, Inc.* (collectively, "American Standard") under the terms of an agreement between the Company and American Standard (the "American Standard Agreement"). See "-The Kohler Agreement" and "-The American Standard Agreement" below.

The Company considers it an important strategic step to develop and market grouts and adhesives for the installation of ceramic tile products. The Company's relationship with Custom was entered into in order to avail the Company of the technical expertise necessary to produce high quality grouts and adhesives. See "-The Custom Agreement" below. Although its capacity has been expanded over the years, the production capacity of the First ABISA Plant is well behind the ceramic tile production of the Company. In 2001, ABISA placed the Second ABISA Plant into production, not only more than doubling the production capacity of ABISA, but also allowing the Company to reduce the costs associated with shipping these products to its franchise locations in the southern part of Mexico. As grouts and adhesives are relatively low priced products but heavy and bulky, minimizing transportation costs is important in keeping them competitively priced.

### *United States*

The fundamental strategy of the Company in the United States has been to increase its market share, initially by taking market share from other producers in a relatively flat ceramic floor tile market, but with the recent growth in

ceramic tile consumption in the United States, also by taking advantage of this growth. The Company believes that ceramic floor tile continues to gain market share in the United States against carpeting and vinyl covering in residential and commercial applications, and that the Company can best exploit this trend by producing innovative, high-design floor and wall tile. Carpeting is currently the overwhelming floor covering of choice in the United States, and in recent years easy to install "laminates"-or synthetic wood or other patterned flooring-has made material gains in the overall flooring industry. Although ceramic tile is generally much more expensive, both in cost and installation, than carpet, laminates and many other alternative floor coverings, the Company believes that as consumer awareness grows and new and innovative product lines are marketed, ceramic tile should gain further market share against other floor coverings.

Management believes that there is substantial demand for quality, competitively priced wall tile in the United States. The Garland Plant was developed to respond to this perceived demand. The Garland Plant was designed as a state-of-the-art wall tile facility, with aggregate annual production capacity of 34.1 million square feet of primarily 4¼" wall tile and related trim pieces such as borders, corners and accents, although the Garland Plant also produces material amounts of 6" x 6", larger format wall tile. The Company's focus continues to be on marketing and developing a strong, distinctive line of products and related trim to take advantage of the sales opportunities it believes to be available in the expanding ceramic tile markets in the United States. Further, the Company is focusing on improving prices obtained on products manufactured in the Garland Plant to enable the Company to achieve better margins.

The Company's penetration of the United States glazed ceramic floor tile market is attributed by management to several factors. Primary among these has been the role of Interceramic USA in coordinating distribution and sales in the United States and providing an ability to furnish distributors and consumers with rapid, consistent and excellent service from the Company's United States employees. Further, the Company believes that its aggressive introductions of new and innovative products into the United States market, together with related marketing campaigns, have also been beneficial.

A pillar of the Company's United States strategy has been to develop and expand its distribution network, not only through independent distributors, but in particular through the expansion of the CTI store network. At the beginning of 1993, CTI operated a total of three stores, and by the end of 2002, it operated 19. Focusing on the southern United States, where ceramic tile is more in demand, at December 31, 2002, CTI stores were located in Dallas, Fort Worth, Plano, Houston, San Antonio, Austin, Spring and El Paso, Texas; the Atlanta, Georgia area; Las Vegas, Nevada; Phoenix and Scottsdale, Arizona; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Anaheim, California and Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The Company consistently records higher sales volumes and better profit margins in the United States through CTI sales as opposed to independent distributors, and will continue to add new CTI stores in the United States when opportunities present themselves, including the possible acquisition of existing ceramic tile stores owned by other parties.

Under the joint venture arrangement with Dal-Tile, RISA sells glazed ceramic floor tile to Dal-Tile for resale under the Dal-Tile and American Olean names in its company-owned outlets and through the American Olean network of independent distributors. The ability to sell RISA production to the large Dal-Tile/American Olean network in the United States provides the Company with the ability to achieve further material, if less direct, sales in the United States.

## **Competition**

### *General*

In addition to the competition that the Company faces from other ceramic tile producers, the Company's products compete with numerous other floor coverings for residential, commercial and industrial uses. Among such coverings are carpet, the increasingly popular laminates, vinyl, stone products (such as marble, granite, slate and

limestone tile) and unglazed tile (such as terra cotta and porcelain). Ceramic tile products are typically more expensive than carpeting, laminate and vinyl coverings, and are generally cheaper than stone products. The cost of installation of tile products, including ceramic tile, is significantly higher than the cost of laying carpet, laminates or vinyl. In general, however, glazed ceramic tile products offer longer wear-time periods and superior resistance to corrosives than do other coverings.

In both Mexico and the United States, it is difficult for the Company to accurately determine its position in the market compared to other competitors due to the lack of reliable production and sales data from companies not under reporting requirements such as those imposed on Interceramic under the 1934 Act. Accordingly, although sufficient information exists both in Mexico and the United States for the Company to judge its position in the overall market, it is unable to accurately fix the market share of most of its major competitors.

### *Mexico*

The Company's production capacity expanded significantly over its first 15 years of operation. However, the Company has not increased production capacity since 1996, other than a trim line added at the Garland Plant and periodic increases in production capacity achieved through improved efficiencies in its existing production processes. For example, during 2000 the Company's ability to increase its percentage of first class production added almost two million square feet of salable production capacity. The Company estimates its current market share of glazed ceramic floor and wall tile to be approximately 18 percent by Dollar sales volume. The Company believes that it is the premier cost-efficient producer of first quality ceramic floor and wall tile in Mexico and that ceramic tile sold under the "Interceramic" name may be sold at premium prices because of its reputation for quality and high brand-name loyalty. The Company believes that its tightly-knit, national network of exclusive Interceramic franchises is a major competitive advantage. In addition, the Company believes that its ownership of the stores in the Mexico City and Guadalajara markets is materially beneficial to the Company's penetration of and presence in those important markets.

In Mexico, the Company competes with a limited number domestic manufacturers of ceramic tile, including Porcelanite, Vitromex, Lamosa and, to a lesser extent, a Mexican affiliate of Dal-Tile. Although there are other domestic producers as well as foreign manufacturers which import tile in the Mexican market, the market is dominated by the four largest producers (including the Company), who collectively account for almost 80 percent of the market. The Company believes that the Mexican market for ceramic tile can be broken down into two broad segments, high quality tile (which comprises approximately one-third of the market) and commodity tile (which comprises approximately two-thirds of the market). High quality tile is distinguished from commodity tile on the basis of strength, durability, innovation and aesthetic design. Selection is also greater at the higher end, with a wider variety of colors, styles and sizes. In the high end segments, quality, selection, innovation and customer service are important aspects of a product's position in the market. Historically, the Company has focused on the medium to high end of the tile market, where initially it faced competition mainly from European imports, and in more recent years, Vitromex and Porcelanite. While following the Peso devaluation competition from imports decreased materially, imports are regaining market share and may prove to be more of a factor in coming years if the Mexican economy continues to grow and stabilize.

As a result of the Company's perception that it needed to supply lower-end, strategic products to effectively compete against other domestic producers and attract all types of potential consumers to its stores, in 1993 the Company began production of lower-end products, initially marketed under the "Vision" label. At the lower-end market segment, however, profit margins are smaller and competition is almost totally based on price. Particularly in light of its current capacity constraints, the Company redirected its strategy to out-source the production of strategic products as well as to present them as part of a comprehensive Interceramic line available at its exclusive franchise stores, rather than directing sales at specific low-end markets. This has assisted the Company in concentrating its production on higher margin products as the Company has pursued a strategy of developing more innovative, high design products in order to take advantage of the higher selling prices and margins available to the higher quality products. This strategy has proven valuable for several reasons, including helping the Company differentiate its

products from the competition as well as keeping the Company largely out of the price wars that have been waged in the low end market segments. The success of the strategy has been demonstrated by the Company's ability to increase its average sale prices in Mexico while those of its competitors have been generally declining.

Although the Company believes it is the only glazed ceramic tile producer in Mexico with 100 percent of its installed capacity being state of the art, certain of its competitors have invested significantly in modernization and renovation in recent years as well as completing significant capacity expansions. While the Company is fourth among the domestic producers in production capacity, it possesses the highest market share in the high end markets. There are material barriers to entry in the high end markets, and management believes that its current position in the market and, in particular, its strong domestic franchise distribution, are significant competitive advantages.

### *United States*

The United States floor covering market in general, and the ceramic tile industry in particular, is highly competitive in terms of price, service and quality of products. The Company, through Interceramic USA, competes with several domestic manufacturers, such as the domestic market leader Dal-Tile, as well as numerous foreign producers of ceramic tile whose products are sold in the United States at very competitive prices. According to the 2002 Study, there were 33 companies manufacturing glazed ceramic floor and wall tile in the United States at the end of 2002—a dozen more than at the end of 1998—yet 79.0 percent by product volume and 71.5 percent by sales volume of the glazed ceramic floor and wall tile market in 2002 was held by imports. Management believes that Interceramic USA has been successful in penetrating the more mature, highly competitive United States glazed ceramic floor tile market. Innovative products, strong distribution, aggressive marketing and competitive pricing have all contributed significantly to the Company's market penetration in the United States. *See* "-Markets" above.

In the glazed ceramic wall tile industry, the Company faces greater competitive obstacles, due primarily to the relative simplicity of the small format wall tile and the long-term dominance of a handful of domestic producers. The Company continues to work to improve its competitive position in this market by concentrating on the production and marketing of interesting and innovative trim pieces that will better distinguish its products from those of competitors.

### **The Production of Glazed Ceramic Tile**

The ceramic tile production process begins with the excavation of clays to be used in the manufacturing process and the transportation of the clays to the production facilities from mine sites. Upon arrival at the facilities, clay is kept in open storage bins while awaiting processing. Depending on the type of tile being produced, any number from two to more than six different types and colors of clays may be blended together.

The selected clays and water are mixed and pumped into large, rotating cylindrical mills, where the grinding action of thousands of baseball-sized crushing balls made of high density alumina pulverizes pebbles, granules and clumps of clay into a uniform substrate. The resultant mixture, or "body slip," is then pumped out of the ball mills and pumped into holding tanks, called slip tanks, before being pumped into a silo-like structure, called a spray-dryer, where the body slip is subjected to blown hot air to evaporate the water. The result, after each evaporating cycle of the spray-dryer, is a very fine, uniform, powder-like substance similar to exceedingly fine sand. This material is carried by conveyor belt to a separate holding bin. The production method to this point is batched, so that loading unit batches and hoses carry computer programmed amounts of clay and water from slip tanks to the spray drier, to powder storage bins and, finally, to tile presses in a continuous, automated process adjusted to production targets and timing. Spray-drying, for example, can be calibrated to adjust for red-bodied tile or white-bodied tile.

The powder is then fed into molds within a hydraulic press, one press for each production line, where the powder is molded into the selected geometric shape and size for the tile being produced and is subjected to extreme pressures, producing a molded ceramic tile. These presses can produce in excess of 10,000 square feet of tile per

production line per eight-hour shift during an ordinary production shift. The efficiency of the pressing phase is critical to the production process to reduce the presence of gaseous materials which could weaken the tile body.

At this point the tile, which is hard but brittle, is subject to an initial drying stage, and is fed automatically along a conveyor belt where glazes and designs are administered through automated washing, brushing and silk-screening equipment. The glazed tile is then fed into a long, high temperature kiln, accommodating four or more lines of tile, depending on the size of the tile being fired and the type of kiln being used, with ceramic rollers inside the kiln moving the tile along the approximately 260 foot-length of the kiln, depending on the type of kiln used. The single-firing lasts from 45 to 50 minutes from the time the tile is delivered to the kiln door, via continuous feeding conveyor belts, until the tile emerges, fired, at the opposite end. The internal temperature rises steadily from the loading aperture through the length of the enclosed kiln to temperatures as high as 2200° Fahrenheit. The tile that emerges is extremely hard, durable and impact resistant.

Finally, the fired tile, automatically stacked in multiple layer loading trays, is moved by robotic machinery through the quality control inspection points where the tile is magnetically scanned for defects and visually examined for sorting according to variations in the color of the glaze, chipping or other surface defects. Once identified as first, or second quality, the tile is sorted mechanically and then stacked, boxed, sealed and labeled for shipping, all by specialized equipment. The major difference between first quality and second quality tile is in the uniformity of the shading of the products, with some minor surface defects being permitted for second quality tile.

The Company believes that its manufacturing facilities and state of the art technology have resulted in increased efficiencies and high quality products at relatively lower costs as compared to older technology. The adoption of the Italian developed monocottura technology using single-firing of ceramic tile through rapid-cycle kilns revolutionized the production of ceramic tile, resulting in dramatic reductions in the firing times associated with older processes. In addition, the single-fired process permits a better integration with other production cycles required for the manufacture of glazed ceramic tile, such as pressing and glazing, allowing for increased automation and partial robotization. High quality, extremely durable ceramic tile, measured by low porosity, low absorption and impact resistance, is economically achieved by the single-fired process.

### **The Research and Development Center**

Adjacent to the ICSA Plant in Chihuahua, the Company has a specialized Research and Development Center which serves several purposes. The Company is continuously engaged in research and development of harder and more wear-resistant tile, improved combinations of clays, scratch and chip resistant glazes and enamels, and different combinations of colors, designs and surface textures for glazes. In addition, the Research and Development Center has instruments to measure specifications of tile and glaze and to quality control-test production line tile. The facility includes all the machinery and equipment necessary to replicate the entire full scale production process, to several different scales, in order to test and improve production techniques and to subject newly developed products to normal production conditions. It is particularly well-suited for turning out runs of glazed ceramic floor or wall tile to order. The Research and Development Center also enables the Company to develop new products quickly and to be timely in its response to changes in the market for ceramic tile.

### **Raw Materials and Supplies**

The Company is not dependent on any one outside supplier for any of the raw materials used in its business, although it may from time to time purchase supplies (for example, alumina grinding balls) from only one supplier because of price and/or quality considerations.

Generally, making ceramic floor tile requires three types of high quality clay-including green body, red body and grey body clays. Substantially all supplies of clay for floor tile production used in the Mexico operations are obtained from the Company's Cerro Grande mines, which are estimated to have sufficient reserves to supply the



Company's projected needs for manufacture of ceramic floor tile for at least the next 60 years. These mines are located approximately 20 miles from the Company's production facilities in Chihuahua.

Depending on the specific type of wall tile being manufactured, that process may involve the mixing of four to six different types of white body clay. The Company currently owns sources of two types of the white body clays which are used in the production of the large format wall tile at the Azulejos Plant as well as in the production of small format wall tile at the Garland Plant. Although the Company is investigating the possibility of purchasing sources of other white body clays in both the United States and Mexico, it currently is purchasing supplies of these other white body clays from unrelated parties in Mexico and the United States, and has not had nor does it anticipate any difficulties in obtaining and maintaining supplies of these clays.

Although the Company believes that most of its material competitors have access to sufficient sources of raw materials, the Company believes that its Cerro Grande clays are of generally higher quality than that of most competitors, resulting in the production of a clay body with lower porosity and water absorption than bodies formed from many other clays. Further, with the exception of the white clays needed for wall tile production, the Company owns the full range of clays needed for all types and grades of ceramic tile produced by it.

Clay in Mexico is delivered to the production facilities by truck, although some white clays are imported from the United States and delivered by train. In the United States, clay for production at the Garland Plant is transported by train to a location in the Dallas area, where it is loaded in trucks and delivered to the Garland Plant.

Other raw materials, such as enamels, coloring agents, corundum, oxides, various chemicals and reagents and packaging material are commercially available from Mexican, European or United States suppliers. Management believes that adequate quantities of raw materials and supplies required for the manufacture of ceramic tile are and will continue to be readily available from suppliers in the United States, Europe and Mexico.

## **Product Lines**

The Company manufactures and sells glazed ceramic and porcelain floor and wall tile, as well as grouts and adhesives for applying these products. Additionally, under the Kohler Agreement and the American Standard Agreement, in Mexico the Company markets various sanitary fixtures, faucets, bathroom accessories and related products and hardware in its franchise stores. Kohler products are directed at the high-end market while the American Standard products are geared more towards the mid- and low-end. The Company believes that providing a broad product mix is important, particularly in Mexico where customers traditionally expect it and where some of the Company's significant competitors maintain full product lines. See "-Strategy" above.

The Company's products are manufactured according to various use specifications and are marketed accordingly. Residential Light grade tile covers ceramic tile intended to be used in applications where the likely incidence of wear and corrosion is low, such as in bathrooms and kitchens, while Commercial Moderate and Commercial Heavy grade tile is used for different applications in restaurants, shopping malls and public buildings and is sold for commercial (including exterior) application where wear and corrosive conditions are likely to be higher. In between the Residential Light and Commercial Moderate grades, different types of tile range from Residential Moderate and Heavy to Commercial Light.

The Company currently features over 100 different product lines. In Mexico, the Company markets all of its ceramic tile under the "Interceramic" name, with different styles, types, colors and grades being given distinct style names. The Company also markets sanitary and bathroom fixtures, faucets and accessories manufactured by American Standard exclusively in Mexico under the Interceramic brand name and similar products manufactured by Kohler under the Kohler name. In the United States, the Company markets its manufactured products under the Interceramic name only, but American Olean and Dal-Tile products produced by RISA are sold in the United States by Dal-Tile. Particularly in Mexico, the Company's product mix covers most market segments, encompassing all segments under

the "Interceramic" brand with different product names, depending on the type of product and the market segment to which it is directed. This provides distributors with a complete line of ceramic tile and related products, strengthening the exclusive distributorship concept. Regardless of the segment, however, the Company's products are all generally priced higher than competitors' products and are distinguished by higher quality and design. All of the Company's products meet or exceed American National Standards Institute minimum specifications for the various tolerances of ceramic tile, such as water absorption, abrasive hardness, breaking strength, thermal shock, scratch hardness of glaze, frost resistance, warpage and bonding strength.

Each product line is offered in a variety of colors and sizes, and many products are offered in square as well as smaller rectangular shapes for contrast. Each product line features a characteristic surface glaze, depending on the intended use as well as on the style and appearance sought to be achieved. Glazes range from shiny, smooth and vitreous, with uniformity of color, to smooth, matted finishes with the color variations characteristic of marble or porcelain, to surfaces with a grainy texture and mottled appearance. Some of the Company's more popular products have rugged, multi-colored, -shaded or -tinted surfaces with the appearance of hewn stone.

In 1999, the Company launched new products using a "rectified" technique which produces ceramic tile with marble- and granite-like patterns and textures. These relatively expensive products were very well received in the markets, particularly in Mexico. During 2000 the Company launched a coordinated series of floor and wall tile, manufactured in Mexico and in Garland, which provides wall and floor tile in larger formats and with similar features giving the appearance of natural stone. This series is complemented by trim wall and floor pieces produced to match with the exact same design, making perfect match coordinates. Also in 2000, the Company introduced a new line of marbled tile with fine design and high definition, resulting in a look practically like natural marble.

In 2002, the Company began sales of porcelain tile products manufactured in its Mexican facilities, initially in the United States but by the end of the year the Company was selling these products in Mexico as well. A very strong, innovative and attractive product, porcelain tile currently represents the pinnacle of the glazed ceramic tile offerings in the market. By moving into production of these upscale products the Company has effectively responded to a competitive threat led by primarily European manufacturers.

Interceramic USA also imports, primarily from Spain, Italy and Brazil, and purchases from other United States manufacturers, other ceramic tile products such as glazed ceramic wall tile in a variety of styles, shapes, colors and glazes, as well as glazed and unglazed ceramic floor tile, stone and marble products. Interceramic USA also distributes marble and granite floor tile produced by third-party manufacturers, and sells through the CTI network a significant amount of products produced by third parties. For example, CTI's sales for 2002 of US \$84.5 million were comprised of 53.76 percent ceramic tile manufactured by the Company with the balance consisting of products manufactured by other foreign and domestic companies. Beginning in 2002, the Company commenced imports of strategic products, primarily from Italy and Spain, in its "private label" program in order to ensure sufficient quantities of these lower-end products in its customer offerings as well as to allow the Company to dedicate its own production capacity to the higher-end products.

## **Distribution and Marketing**

### ***Distribution***

The Company believes that its continued strength is highly dependent upon its strong and modern distribution channel throughout North America that emphasizes its commitment to the final consumer. In Mexico, the Company effects sales solely through its system of independent franchise distributors and its Company owned stores in the Mexico City and Guadalajara areas. As of December 31, 2002, this network consisted of 30 distributors with 185 outlets located throughout Mexico, each prominently displaying the Interceramic name. Due in part to the prominence of the franchise stores and a series of eye-catching advertising campaigns, market presence is strong throughout all areas of Mexico. The Company is continually monitoring its franchise network, dropping poor performing distributors

or store locations and replacing or substituting as necessary. In late 1997, the Company terminated its relationship with its then franchisee in Mexico City, resulting in the loss of 31 points of sale. However, the Company aggressively pursued a strategy to establish a stronger presence in the Mexican capitol city through the opening of flagship, Company owned stores. The first store opened early in 1998, and by the end of 2002, the Company had 18 stores operating in Mexico City. With the acquisition of the Toluca franchise in early 2002, the Company added four more stores to its Mexico City area presence.

Early in 1999, the Company acquired the business of its franchisee in the Guadalajara, Mexico area through a negotiated transaction under which the Company's Occidente subsidiary took possession of the eight locations in Guadalajara and substantially all of the assets and inventory used at those locations. At the end of 2002, the Company had ten stores in the area. Three more Guadalajara-area stores were added to this total in early 2002 with the purchase of the Morelia franchise.

The Company believes that its relationship with its franchise distributors is one of the most important factors in its success in the Mexican markets. Franchisees are selected very carefully, and are required to carry and market solely products manufactured or otherwise authorized for sale by the Company, offering consumers a complete package that includes ceramic floor and wall tile, grouts and adhesives, sanitary fixtures, faucets, kitchen and bathroom accessories and related products. Additionally, franchisees must follow guidelines regarding store layout and exhibition techniques, provision of qualified customer services, pricing and business standards, designed to insure the perception of the Company and its products in the marketplace as first class in both quality and service. As part of its commitment to the franchise system, the Company has implemented a strong training and operational support program in order to help accelerate and solidify the development of the franchises. In recent years, the Company has also assisted franchisees with store remodeling and construction in order to facilitate the prominent presence of the "Interceramic" stores in their respective communities. The Company believes that the franchise system has proven successful, resulting in greater aggregate levels of sales and allowing the Company to maintain market share despite the poor economic conditions in Mexico in the middle years of the prior decade, and providing the Company with a strong base throughout Mexico during the recent years of modest recovery.

Sales to the United States and Canada are effected through Interceramic USA, which sells to a network of 79 independent distributors with a combined 180 locations, as well as to the 19 CTI locations. The Company has found that sales through CTI stores of Company products are typically much greater than through independent distributors, and the Company intends to continue the development of the CTI network in the United States, particularly in areas where existing distributors are not meeting the market potential. Additionally, Dal-Tile markets floor tile produced at the RISA Plant through its distribution network in the United States. Interceramic USA distributes substantially all Company products sold throughout the United States from its facilities in the Dallas, Texas area. Interceramic USA's facilities in Dallas are headquartered in the Garland Plant, and also include separately leased distribution warehouses.

### ***Marketing***

Advertising and marketing are important to the Company's business strategies, and the Company expends significant amounts annually in respect of advertising and marketing. Because the Mexican and International markets vary in several material respects, the Company takes a different approach in its marketing efforts in the two markets.

In Mexico, the Company promotes brand-name recognition and sales by advertising to the general public in the print and radio media, and has periodically conducted aggressive, nation-wide print and television media advertising campaigns, designed to heighten name recognition and product visibility. Advertising strategy has shifted more to the point of sale, with distinctive, high-profile stores and vignette displays and other materials promoting the Company and its products in the exclusive franchise stores. This involves working closely with its franchise network in creating product display strategies, by arranging product seminars to educate distributors as to product lines and new product introductions as well as by obtaining marketing feedback from distributors as to the success of particular product introductions and market strategies. This careful branding strategy has been demonstrably successful.

Interceramic has for several years conducted an annual survey among female heads of household in Mexico, which has demonstrated a marked recognition of Company products. In the 2002 survey, approximately 52 percent of respondents mentioned Interceramic when asked to recite unaided brands of ceramic tile-almost four times the mentions of any other tile producer, and 46 percent of all respondents mentioned the "Interceramic" brand first.

In the United States, marketing and advertising are effected through trade shows and magazines, showroom displays, catalogues and point of sale displays. Inasmuch as the United States market is dominated by company-controlled outlets of the major domestic manufacturers and large distributors of floor coverings generally, Interceramic USA has adopted an allied products marketing strategy, in which it promotes sales of a variety of Italian, Spanish and Mexican tile in distinctive styles and colors in order to increase demand for products similar to those produced by the Company. By holding itself out as a specialty distributor these types of products, Interceramic USA aims to create additional demand for tile of Company manufacture. Interceramic USA also services its distributors' needs by ordering directly from Italian and Spanish producers and arranging for payment, customs clearance and freight forwarding. Interceramic USA also engages in efforts to educate its distributors and their employees, conducting seminars in sales skills, the ceramic tile industry in general and the Interceramic product lines in particular, as well as holding ceramic tile installation and other clinics designed to make the salesmen more effective advocates of the Company's products.

### **Proprietary Tradenames and Trademarks**

The Company's products are marketed in Mexico and the United States solely under the "Interceramic" trade name, other than the RISA production sold to Dal-Tile for sale under various Dal-Tile product names. Trademarked names are used in the sale of a wide range of the Company's products, including ceramic floor tile, ceramic wall tile, construction materials, glues, epoxy, adhesives, grouts, additives, sealants and cleansers. In Mexico, the Company's use of the slogan "Simply, the Best" in connection with its glazed ceramic tile was important in gaining distributor and customer acceptance and continues today to be the byword of the organization. In the United States, the Company makes extensive use of its slogans "The Best the World has to Offer" and "Imagine the Possibilities." With respect to the American Standard and Kohler products marketed through the franchises in Mexico, the Company has obtained the right to use the related tradenames and trademarks. The Company has the license to use or owns all the trademarks and tradenames necessary for its business.

### **The Dal-Tile Agreement**

In October 1990, the Company and RISA, at that time the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, entered into a Master Investment and Cooperation Agreement (the "Dal-Tile Agreement") with Armstrong and one of its affiliates, pursuant to which Armstrong acquired 49.99 percent of RISA's capital stock in consideration for certain payments by Armstrong. In connection with the acquisition, the Company transferred certain real property and equipment, which together constitute the RISA Plant, to RISA. In a transaction which was consummated in December of 1995, Dal-Tile acquired Armstrong's American Olean ceramic tile business and assumed all of Armstrong's rights and obligations under this relationship.

Pursuant to a supply arrangement, RISA is obligated to make available up to 50 percent of the ceramic tile production of the RISA Plant to Dal-Tile, all in first-class product, in accordance with an annual production program to be established by the parties and reviewed periodically. Dal-Tile has the option to cause production pursuant to this arrangement to be under private label and to request new product offerings. Product pricing is generally based on RISA's standard export market quotes and terms of sale. The following table summarizes historical RISA sales to Dal-Tile:

### **RISA Sales to Dal-Tile**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Million Square Feet</b>	<b>Percentage of Production</b>
1996	25.4	39.2
1997	21.5	33.2
1998	24.2	37.2
1999	14.7	23.3
2000	13.8	20.9
2001	14.0	20.1
2002	21.2	32.3

The increasing share of RISA Plant production purchased by Dal-Tile during the 1996 to 1998 time frame adversely impacted the Company's ability to supply RISA product to its franchise stores in Mexico and for resale in the United States by Interceramic USA. Further, Dal-Tile has emphasized lower end products in its RISA orders, which has not only resulted in generally lower margins from RISA production but has also run counter to the Company's efforts to concentrate production on high-end products. The course of 1999, 2000 and 2001 saw Dal-Tile's purchases decrease substantially, although in 2002 Dal-Tile's purchase of RISA product has increased significantly. If Dal-Tile were to increase its purchases of RISA production to levels approaching its contractual entitlement, the Company's efforts to increase market share in both Mexico and the United States could be impaired.

In connection with the Dal-Tile Agreement, certain additional agreements were entered into relating to, among other things (i) supplies of clay at favored prices by Cerro Grande to RISA to satisfy its production needs; (ii) furnishing the Company's production know-how and technical, production and planning support to RISA and licensing the Company's trademarks and tradenames to RISA; and (iii) certain events pursuant to which Dal-Tile or the Company, as the case may be, would have certain rights of first refusal, preemptive rights and call rights in certain circumstances including upon certain changes in or dispositions of Dal-Tile's or the Company's ownership of the capital stock of RISA. Cerro Grande terminated the clay supply agreement during 1998, although it continues to supply clay to RISA at market rates.

### **The Custom Agreement**

In December of 1993, the Company entered into a series of agreements with Custom (collectively, the "Custom Agreement"), pursuant to which (i) Custom has acquired 49 percent of ABISA's capital stock; (ii) the Company agreed to provide certain administrative services to ABISA and to share the cost, by proportional reimbursement from ABISA, of these and other common expenses; (iii) Custom gave ABISA the exclusive right to distribute Custom products in Mexico; (iv) Custom agreed not to compete with ABISA in Mexico; and (v) Custom agreed to furnish certain materials to ABISA at cost and to provide certain technical assistance.

The Company entered into the Custom Agreement primarily to acquire the technical assistance necessary to enable it to produce quality grouts and adhesives in greater quantities, and the relationship with Custom has proven very beneficial to the Company.

### **The Kohler Agreement**

In addition to addressing the terms of its investment in Interceramic, the Kohler Agreement sets forth the

basic terms of the distribution relationship pursuant to which Interceramic distributes Kohler products, primarily including sinks, bathtubs, sanitary fixtures, faucets and related accessories, in Mexico. These products are directed almost exclusively at the high-end of the market. Prior to entering into the Kohler Agreement, Interceramic had terminated its existing agreement with American Standard-however, a new agreement was entered into with American Standard in October of 2000 under which Interceramic is selling mid- and low-end products in Mexico. *See* "-The American Standard Agreement" below. Under the terms of the Kohler Agreement, Interceramic and Kohler annually set sales objectives for Kohler products in Mexico which are subject to monthly review and adjustment. The distribution relationship is subject to termination by either Kohler or Interceramic for any reason upon certain prior notice.

Kohler has also entered into agreements with the Controlling Group providing, among other things (i) an agreement by the Controlling Group that they would use their best efforts to cause a Kohler representative to be appointed to the Board; (ii) Kohler with a right of first refusal to purchase Interceramic stock owned by the Controlling Group in the event of an unsolicited offer to acquire from the Controlling Group members five percent or more of the equity securities of Interceramic; (iii) Kohler with a "tag-along" right if the members of the Controlling Group were to enter into any transaction which would result in the transfer of 50 percent or more of the Common Units to a third party; and (iv) an agreement by the Almeida Family to buy back from Kohler the Common Units purchased by it in the offering in the event that Interceramic terminates the distribution agreement contained in the Kohler Agreement.

The Company entered into the Kohler Agreement for a number of reasons in addition to facilitating the investment of Kohler in Interceramic's equity securities. The Company believes that Kohler products represent the best that the industry has to offer, and the Company's affiliation with Kohler fits the Company's image as an industry leader in its own right. Further, the ability to distribute these first-class products in the Company's franchise stores nationwide enhances the options available to the consumer in Mexico, who now has a wide range of sanitary fixtures and plumbing products to choose from at all points on the market in the Interceramic franchise store.

### **The American Standard Agreement**

The Company has distributed American Standard products throughout Mexico for a number of years under an exclusive distribution agreement. Prior to entering into the Kohler Agreement in late 2000, the Company terminated this relationship, and entered into a new agreement with American Standard. Under the American Standard Agreement, American Standard granted the Company the right to distribute through its network of franchise distributors certain American Standard products throughout Mexico. These products, aimed at the middle and lower end markets, are made by American Standard in Mexico and carry the "Interceramic" brand name. The Company granted American Standard the right to use the Interceramic name for the limited purpose of sales of these products to the Company and its franchisees in Mexico. Under the American Standard Agreement, certain biannual sales targets are established for the various products. The American Standard Agreement has a stated five year term, but it subject to certain early termination provisions, including 90 days prior notice at the option of either party.

The Company entered into the American Standard Agreement for several reasons, including (i) the American Standard products covered by the agreement, manufactured in Mexico, are priced competitively; (ii) the products fit the mid- and low-end niche of the market which the Kohler products generally do not; (iii) American Standard agreed to manufacture the products using the Interceramic trade name; and (iv) the Company's belief that American Standard would be a reliable source of uniform products that can be effectively marketed in conjunction with the Company's own products.

### ***C. Organizational Structure***

Interceramic, the reporting company, is not only an operating company, but a holding company as well. The following chart describes Interceramic's subsidiaries:

Name of Company	Jurisdiction of Organization	Interest
Interceramic, Inc.	Texas	100.00%
Adhesivos y Boquillas Interceramic, S. de R.L. de C.V.	Mexico	51.00%
Interceramic Trading Company	Texas	100.00%
Recubrimientos Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	50.01%
Materiales en Proceso, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	100.00%
Distribución Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	100.00%
Intercabados del Occidente, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	100.00%
Interceramic de Occidente, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	100.00%
Operadora Interceramic de México, S.A. de C.V.	Mexico	100.00%

#### ***D. Property, Plants and Equipment***

##### **Properties**

The Company operates four glazed ceramic floor and wall tile plants and two grout and adhesive production facilities. All of the Company's production facilities are operating at 100 percent capacity, and have been for some time. See "-B. Business Overview-Production Capacity" above. The Company also leases a number of sales locations in Mexico and the United States, as well as several warehouse locations. All of the Company's properties in the United States are leased, while in Mexico the Company owns many of its facilities and leases a number of others.

The following table describes the material properties currently owned or leased by the Company:

##### Schedule of Properties

Property	Size (1)	Location	Usage
----------	----------	----------	-------

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

ICSA Plant	960,196	Chihuahua, Mexico	Ceramic Floor Tile Manufacture; R&D Center; Warehouses
RISA Plant	2,567,895	Chihuahua, Mexico	Ceramic Floor Tile Manufacture
First ABISA Plant and Central Warehouse	1,389,826	Chihuahua, Mexico	Manufacture of Grouts and Adhesives
Second ABISA Plant	292,027	Huichapan, Mexico	Manufacture of Grouts and Adhesives
Garland Plant	250,000	Garland, Texas	Ceramic Wall Tile Manufacture
Garland Warehouse	270,000	Garland, Texas	Product Warehouse
Cerro Grande Mines	71,718,863	Chihuahua, Mexico	Clay Mines
Azulejos Plant	2,533,290	Chihuahua, Mexico	Ceramic Wall Tile Manufacture

(1) Underlying real estate, expressed in square feet.

The ICSA Plant, located on several combined tracts of land located in the Mexican city of Chihuahua and owned by Interceramic, was subject at December 31, 2002 to a first mortgage lien in favor of *Scotiabank Inverlat, S.A.*, as Administrative Agent ("Scotia"), securing at December 31, 2002 a principal loan balance of US \$100.0 million under the secured term loan facility (the "Term Loan") that the Company consummated in July 2002. See "Item 5-Operating and Financial Review and Prospects-D. Trend Information" below.

The RISA Plant is located on a tract of land, also in Chihuahua, of 2,567,895 square feet, or 59 acres, and is owned by RISA. The real estate is divided into two parcels, "Lot A" of 743,477 square feet is subject to a first mortgage lien in favor of *Banco Nacional de México, S.A.* ("Banamex") securing a principal loan balance of US \$6.0 million at December 31, 2002. The current annual production capacity of the RISA Plant is 66.6 million square feet of glazed ceramic floor tile.

The Azulejos Plant, located adjacent to the RISA Plant, contains 2,533,290 square feet, or approximately 58 acres, and is owned by Interceramic, subject to a first mortgage lien in favor of Scotia securing the Term Loan that is also secured by the ICSA Plant, as discussed above. Production capacity of the Azulejos Plant is 39.6 million square feet of glazed ceramic wall tile annually.

The First ABISA Plant and the Company's central warehouse facility are located adjacent to the ICSA Plant on a parcel of land containing 1,389,826 square feet, which is owned by the Company. As of December 31, 2002, this parcel was subject to a first mortgage lien in favor of Scotia securing the Term Loan that is also secured by the ICSA Plant and the Azulejos Plant. The ABISA Plant is used for the manufacture of grouts, mortars and adhesives for ceramic tile installation.

The Second ABISA Plant is located in the central Mexican town of Huichapan, Hidalgo. The Second ABISA Plant is also used for the manufacture of grouts, mortars and adhesives for ceramic tile installation.

Most of the clay mines owned and operated by the Company are located near the community of Aldama, Chihuahua. Other Cerro Grande mines are located near the Chihuahua communities of Guerrero and Jimenez. At December 31, 2002 the Cerro Grande properties were subject a mortgage lien in favor of Scotia to secure the Term Loan. These properties cover an aggregate of 75,593,903 square feet, or 1,735 acres.



Interceramic USA has pursued a strategy of leasing all of its manufacturing, warehousing and sales locations. Accordingly, Interceramic USA leases its properties pursuant more than 20 different real estate leases. Most of the properties occupied by Interceramic USA are commercial warehouse and retail facilities leased for terms generally not in excess of ten years. Although Interceramic USA owns substantially all of its production machinery and operating assets, the land and building constituting the Garland Plant is being leased by Interceramic USA from *Catellus Development Corporation* ("Catellus") under a build to suit industrial lease (the "Garland Lease") entered into in 1993. The Garland Lease has an initial term of 15 years, with extensions at the option of Interceramic USA for up to 20 additional years. Annual base rent under the Garland Lease currently is approximately US \$900,000, and increases in increments of approximately US \$50,000 in the seventh, 11<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> years of the initial term. Adjacent to the Garland Plant is a 270,000 square foot facility that Interceramic uses for warehousing and some corporate functions. This property is also leased by Interceramic USA from Catellus under a build to suit lease (the "Garland Warehouse Lease"). In connection with the execution of the Garland Warehouse Lease, the term of the Garland Lease was extended by agreement to coincide with the 15 year initial term of the Garland Warehouse Lease. The Garland Warehouse Lease is substantially similar to the Garland Lease, providing for rental payments based upon a yield factor applied against the cost of the facility. Annual base rent under the Garland Warehouse Lease for its initial term averages approximately US \$894,041.

The annual aggregate lease payments made by Interceramic USA during 2002 for its properties in the United States was US \$5.0 million.

### **Environmental Issues**

The Company's operations in Mexico are subject to various federal, state and local laws and regulations regarding a number of environmental concerns, including control of non-toxic materials and residues, emission of toxic gases and particles, usage and discharge of water, emissions of dust and land usage. The Company has obtained and maintained all permits required by law and has conducted its operations in conformity with applicable laws and regulations.

The Garland Plant operates under a permit from the Texas Natural Resources Conservation Commission which regulates the content and quantity of emissions from the facility under Texas law as well as by designation from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The permit was obtained in the ordinary course in connection with the development of the facility. Emissions are subject to periodic monitoring and spot checking, and there have been no compliance problems since commencement of operations. To the Company's knowledge, there are no environmental issues effecting the use or enjoyment of any of its other leased properties and assets in the United States.

### **Expansion Plans**

Although the Company is and has for some time been utilizing 100 percent of its production capacity, there are at present no definitive plans for increasing capacity or otherwise undertaking any material capital investments.

## **ITEM 5. Operating and Financial Review and Prospects**

### ***A. Operating Results***

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Financial Statements. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with Mexican GAAP, which differs in certain significant respects from US GAAP. Note 12 to the Financial Statements provides a description of the principal differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP as they relate to the Company, and a reconciliation to US GAAP of net income and total shareholders' equity. In certain parts of the following discussion, reference is made to Peso amounts translated into "nominal" Dollars. Unlike the convenience translations contained in the Financial Statements, which convert Peso

amounts into Dollars based upon the Interbank Rate at December 31, 2002, translations into nominal Dollars are made at the end of each month during the period, using the Interbank Rate at the end of each applicable month, and adding the aggregate of such translated amounts for the entire period. Translations of results for prior periods in nominal Dollars are not adjusted for subsequent changes in the exchange rate.

### **US GAAP Reconciliation**

During the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001, the Company had net income under US GAAP of Ps 61.4 million and Ps 199.1 million, respectively. Compared to Mexican GAAP, net income under US GAAP was 41.80 percent lower in 2002 but 3.97 percent higher in 2001.

There are several differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP that significantly affect the Company's net income and stockholders' equity, including in particular how the carrying value of plant, property and equipment is restated to reflect effects of inflation. Under Mexican GAAP, the Company restates its fixed assets of non-Mexican origin based on the rate of inflation in the country of origin and the prevailing exchange rate at the balance sheet date, while under US GAAP the Company uses the Mexican inflation rate. In 2002, this resulted in lower net income under US GAAP, because the Mexican inflation exceeded the rate used to restate fixed assets of non-Mexican origin, while in 2001 the opposite was true. Other differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP that affected net income in 2001 and 2002 relate to interest on assets under construction and deferred income tax and employee profit sharing. The differences in stockholders' equity under Mexican GAAP and US GAAP reflect these differences as well. For a discussion of the principal differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP, see Note 12 to the Financial Statements.

### **Use of Estimates in Certain Accounting Policies**

In preparing the Financial Statements, the Company makes estimates concerning a variety of matters. Some of these matters are highly uncertain, and the formation of estimates involves judgments made based on the information available to the Company. In the discussion below, the Company has identified its estimation of the useful lives of property, plant and equipment as the primary matter for which the financial presentation would be materially affected if either (i) different estimates could reasonably have been used or (ii) in the future, changes might be made to the estimates in response to circumstances that are reasonably likely to occur. There are many other areas in which the Company uses estimates about uncertain matters, but the reasonably likely effect of a change or the use of different estimates is not material to the financial presentation.

The Company estimates the useful lives of particular classes of property, plant and equipment in order to determine the amount of depreciation expense to be recorded in each period. Depreciation expense is a very significant element of costs and expenses in the Financial Statements. *See* Note 4 and Note 12 to the Financial Statements.

The estimates are based on historical experience with similar assets, anticipated technological changes and other factors. The Company reviews estimated useful lives each year to determine whether they should be changed,

and at times the estimated useful lives have been changed for particular classes of assets. The estimated useful life of an asset class may be changed in response to technological changes, changes in market or other developments. The shortening of the useful life of an asset results in increased depreciation expense, and in some cases it can result in recognition of an impairment change to reflect a write-down in asset value.

## **Inflation**

Although the annual rate of inflation in Mexico has trended strongly downwards since 1996, Mexico experienced relatively high inflation in the periods covered by the Financial Statements. The annual rates of inflation in Mexico, as measured by changes in the NCPI were 18.61 percent, 12.32 percent, 8.96 percent, 4.40 percent and 5.70 percent for the years 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002, respectively. High rates of inflation may have and in the past have had, a material adverse impact on the Company and its business. *See* "Item 3-Key Information-D. Risk Factors-Mexican Political, Social, Economic Conditions and Government Policies Might Adversely Impact Sales and Profitability" above.

The IMCP has issued Bulletin B-10, "Recognition of the Effects of Inflation on Financial Information," and Bulletin B-12, "Statement of Changes in Financial Position," which outline the inflation accounting methodology that is mandatory for all Mexican companies reporting under Mexican GAAP. Bulletin B-10 requires that all financial information be presented in constant Pesos (having the same purchasing power for each period indicated taking into account inflation) as of the date of the most recent balance sheet. The presentation of financial information in constant Pesos is intended to recognize certain effects of inflation on the financial statements and to permit comparisons between comparable periods in comparable monetary units. The result of this adjustment is that growth rates between periods are stated in "real" terms, eliminating the general effects of inflation. Except where otherwise indicated, financial data for all periods in the Financial Statements and throughout this Annual Report have been restated in constant Pesos with purchasing power as of December 31, 2002. References in this Annual Report to "real" amounts are to inflation-adjusted numbers and to "nominal" amounts are to unadjusted numbers. Unless otherwise specified, all growth rates in the following discussion are stated in real terms.

In accordance with Bulletin B-10, the Company is required to report, as a gain or loss on its net monetary position, the effects of inflation on its monetary assets and liabilities. This net amount, which is reflected in the statement of income within the "Comprehensive Financing Cost" under the caption "Gain on Net Monetary Position," reflects the gain or loss arising from holding a net liability or asset monetary position in an inflationary period because over time a monetary liability can be settled for units of less purchasing power whereas a monetary asset decreases in value in real terms. The Company's operations continually generate monetary assets (primarily in the form of cash, cash equivalents and accounts receivable) while the Company's trade and accounts payable and borrowings result in monetary liabilities.

Bulletin B-10 also requires that the Company restate nonmonetary liabilities using the NCPI and restate the components of shareholders' equity using the NCPI. The fifth amendment to Bulletin B-10 no longer permits restatement of machinery and equipment based on appraisals. Accordingly, the Company's imported machinery and equipment are restated on the basis of the devaluation of the Peso against the currency of origin and applying a factor for inflation in the applicable foreign country. Domestic machinery and equipment are restated based on the NCPI.

Because the Company has significant operations in the United States, for the fiscal year which commenced January 1, 1998 it was required to comply with IMCP Bulletin B-15, "Transactions in Foreign Currency and Translation of Financial Statements of Foreign Operations." Bulletin B-15 requires the application of a factor to the Financial Statements which reflects a weighing of the Company's operations in the United States and Mexico, and applying to each the rate of inflation in the country to which the operations are attributable as well as the currency exchange rate of the currency applicable to the operations. For years prior to 1998, Bulletin B-15 requires the restatement of those years with the application of the principles of Bulletin B-15. In this respect, Bulletin B-15 is inconsistent with the requirements of Rule 3-20(e) of Regulation S-X promulgated by the SEC with respect to filings

under the 1933 Act and the 1934 Act, and is treated as a reconciling item in the Financial Statements. *See* Note 1(a) and Note 12 to the Financial Statements. As applied to the Company, the effect of Bulletin B-15 on the Financial Statements causes certain results for prior years to be different in certain respects than reported previously.

### Results of Operations

The table on the following page sets forth selected statement of operations data for the Company for each of the fiscal years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002, as a percentage of net sales.

[Chart on Following Page]

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2000	2001	2002
Net sales	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%
Cost of sales	(63.38)	(62.80)	(63.02)
Gross profit	36.62	37.20	36.98
Selling and administrative expenses:			
Selling expenses	(16.82)	(16.47)	(18.36)
General and administrative expenses	(8.43)	(8.47)	(8.45)
Research and development	(0.98)	(0.87)	(0.70)
Operating income	(26.23)	(25.81)	(27.51)
Integral cost of financing:			
Interest income	10.39	11.39	9.48
Interest expense	0.28	0.21	0.24
Exchange (loss) gain	(5.72)	(4.67)	(3.51)
Net monetary effect	(1.41)	1.66	(3.54)
Other expenses, net	4.60	1.96	1.66
	(2.25)	(0.84)	(5.15)
	(1.01)	(1.64)	(0.41)

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Equity in results of associated companies	0.00	0.04	(0.01)
Income before income tax and employee profit sharing	7.13	8.91	3.91
Income and asset tax	(0.55)	(0.57)	(0.64)
Deferred income taxes	(1.30)	(1.00)	0.28
Employee profit sharing	(0.09)	(0.12)	(0.12)
Consolidated net income	5.19	7.22	3.43
Minority net (loss) income	(0.03)	0.79	0.60
Majority net (loss) income	5.22	6.43	2.83

**Net Sales**

*2002 v. 2001*

Net sales increased 2.94 percent during 2002 to Ps 3,058.9 million from Ps 2,971.6 million in 2001. Ceramic tile sales represented 81.37 percent of net sales in 2002 compared to 84.35 percent in 2001. Measured in nominal Dollars, net sales increased by 4.15 percent to US \$300.0 million from US \$288.0 million in 2001. Ceramic tile sales by volume of product sold increased in 2002, to 285.8 million square feet from 282.9 square feet in 2001, an increase of 1.03 percent.

The Company's volume sold in Mexico during 2002 decreased by 4.58 percent over 2001, to 168.6 million square feet from 176.7 million square feet. Continuing a trend linked to the events of September 11, 2001, the net average selling price for the Company's ceramic tile products in Mexico for 2002 decreased by 1.69 percent to Ps 8.07 per square foot from the Ps 8.21 per square foot achieved in 2001.

While the Company experienced a decrease in its average selling prices in the International markets by 14.59 percent in 2002 over 2001, International Sales of Ps 1,334.5 million for 2002 registered an important increase of 10.15 percent over International Sales of Ps 1,211.5 million in 2001. Volume sold in this markets increased by 10.38 percent to 117.2 million square feet in 2002 from 106.1 million square feet in 2001.

*2001 v. 2000*

Net sales increased 4.45 percent during 2001 to Ps 2,971.6 million from Ps 2,845.1 million in 2000. Ceramic tile sales represented 84.35 percent of net sales in 2001 compared to 88.31 percent in 2000. Measured in nominal Dollars, net sales increased by 10.88 percent to US \$288.0 million from US \$259.8 million in 2000. Ceramic tile sales by volume of product sold increased in 2001, to 282.9 million square feet from 260.7 square feet in 2000, an increase of 8.50 percent.

The Company's volume sold in Mexico during 2001 increased by 7.59 percent over 2000, to 176.7 million square feet from 164.3 million square feet. However, the net average selling price for the Company's ceramic tile products in Mexico in 2001 decreased by 6.26 percent to Ps 8.22 per square foot from the Ps 8.76 per square foot achieved in 2000, with much of the decrease coming in the final quarter of the year.

In the International markets, the Company was able to increase the volume of product sold during 2001 compared to 2000, to 106.1 million square feet from 96.5 million square feet, an increase of 10.03 percent. Intense price competition, however, led to a decrease in average selling prices over 2000 by 14.04 percent, and International Sales for 2001 of Ps 1,211.5 million lagged sales of Ps 1,226.0 million by a slight 1.19 percent. Measured in nominal Dollars, however, International Sales of US \$117.8 million in 2001 increased by 5.01 percent over sales of US \$111.8 million in 2000. Contrary to expectations, International Sales in the second half of 2001 actually posted gains, increasing by 4.56 percent over sales in the second half of 2000.

### **Cost of Sales**

The Company's cost of sales consists of production costs of products manufactured by the Company and, to a much lesser extent, costs of products, principally imported ceramic and other types of floor tile, which the Company buys for resale. Production costs consist mainly of costs of raw materials, labor, depreciation, energy and other overhead expenses, the proportionate amounts of which have been fairly consistent in both Mexico and the United States. During 2002, 27.41 percent of the production costs in Mexico was for raw materials, 25.44 percent for labor, 7.12 percent for depreciation, 14.61 percent for energy and the remaining 25.42 percent attributable to other overhead expenses such as maintenance, spare parts and water usage fees. In the United States, the Company's production costs have been proportionately somewhat different from those in Mexico. In 2002, the production costs of the Garland Plant consisted of 23.54 percent for raw materials, 32.72 percent for labor, 14.86 percent for depreciation, 9.54 percent for energy and the remaining 19.34 percent for other overhead expenses.

#### *2002 v. 2001*

Cost of sales increased by 3.29 percent during 2002 to Ps 1,927.6 million from Ps 1,866.1 million in 2001 in large part due to increased sales. Expressed as a percent of sales, cost of sales represented 63.02 percent of sales in 2002 as compared to 62.80 percent in 2001, the increases caused mainly by a slightly poorer mix of products sold.

#### *2001 v. 2000*

Cost of sales increased by 3.48 percent during 2001 to Ps 1,866.1 million from Ps 1,803.3 million in 2000. As a percentage of sales, however, the cost of sales in 2001 improved over 2000, representing 62.80 percent of sales in 2001 as compared to 63.38 percent of sales in 2000. This improvement is further evidence of the Company's success at reducing employee and other production costs.

### **Gross Profit**

#### *2002 v. 2001*

Gross profit for 2002 was Ps 1,131.3 million as compared to Ps 1,105.5 million in 2001, an increase of 2.33 percent. The Company's gross margin for the year decreased however, to 36.98 percent from a gross margin of 37.20 percent in 2001, a 0.22 point reduction.

#### *2001 v. 2000*

Gross profit for 2001 was Ps 1,105.5 million as compared to Ps 1,041.8 million in 2000, an increase of 6.11 percent. The Company's gross margin in 2001 was 37.20 percent, 0.58 points greater than gross margin of 36.62 percent in 2000. This healthy increase reflects the Company's ability to improve its sales while at the same time reducing the proportion the cost of sales bears to sales.

### **Operating Expenses**

*2002 v. 2001*

Operating expenses during 2002 increased by 9.68 percent over operating expenses in 2001, to Ps 841.2 million from Ps 767.0 million. As a percentage of sales, operating expenses represented 27.50 percent in 2002 compared to 25.81 percent in 2001, an increase of 1.69 percentage points. Most of the increase is attributable to heavy investment in the expansion of its Company-owned stores in Mexico and the United States and preparations for the movement of greater amounts of product through its distribution as the "private label" program was initiated late in 2002. Management expects that as the greater volume of product moves through its stores over the course of 2003, operating expenses will return to previous levels.

*2001 v. 2000*

Operating expenses during 2001 increased by 2.77 percent over operating expenses in 2000 to Ps 767.0 million from Ps 746.3 million. Yet as a percentage of sales, operating expenses represented 25.81 percent in 2001 compared to 26.23 percent in 2000, a 0.42 percentage point decrease. The improvement represents the Company's continued efforts during the course of the year to reduce its operating expenses as a percentage of sales, a focus that the Company is maintaining during 2002.

### **Comprehensive Financing Cost**

Comprehensive financing cost can significantly impact the financial statements of a company in periods of high inflation. Income statements for companies reporting under Mexican GAAP are required to present all financial effects of operating and financing the business under inflationary conditions. For presentation purposes, all effects relating to financing are listed under comprehensive financing cost and include (i) interest earned on cash and temporary investments and interest paid on borrowed funds; (ii) foreign exchange gains or losses associated with monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies; and (iii) losses or gains resulting from holding monetary assets exposed to inflation net of gains or losses resulting from having monetary liabilities adjusted for inflation. To the extent a company has monetary liabilities that exceed its monetary assets in a period of inflation, the company will generate a monetary position gain, and to the extent a company has monetary assets that exceed its monetary liabilities in a period of inflation, the company will generate a monetary position loss. The Company's foreign exchange position is affected by its assets or liabilities denominated in foreign currencies. The Company records a foreign exchange gain or loss if the exchange rate of the Peso to the currency in which the monetary assets or liabilities are denominated fluctuates.

*2002 v. 2001*

Comprehensive financing cost for 2002 was a loss of Ps 157.5 million compared to a loss of Ps 25.0 million in 2001. This increased loss was mainly due to a foreign exchange loss of Ps 108.4 million resulting from currency exchange rate changes during the year, as during 2001 the Company recognized foreign exchange gain of Ps 49.4 million. Monetary effect for 2002 was Ps 50.9 million compared to monetary effect of Ps 58.3 million in 2001. The replacement of the Company's outstanding, relatively high-rate Eurobonds during 2002 with the significantly lower cost Term Loan resulted in a decrease in interest expense by 22.55 percent over 2001. Interest income for 2002 also increased over 2001, by 22.26 percent.

*2001 v. 2000*

Comprehensive financing cost for 2001 was a loss of Ps 25.0 million compared to a loss of Ps 63.5 million in 2000. The loss posted in 2001 was the product of a foreign exchange gain of Ps 49.4 million, monetary effect of Ps 58.3 million, interest income of Ps 6.1 million and interest expense of Ps 138.8 million. In 2000, the components of comprehensive financing cost were a foreign exchange loss of Ps 40.2 million, monetary effect of Ps 131.3 million, interest income of Ps 8.0 million and interest expense of Ps 162.6 million. Interest expense for 2001 was 14.67 percent

lower than interest expense in 2000, and interest income was 23.37 percent lower in 2001 than in 2000.

### **Other Income or Expenses**

#### *2002 v. 2001*

Other expenses in 2002 were down significantly to Ps 12.0 million compared to Ps 50.1 million recorded in 2001. The difference is mainly due to a high level of equipment write-offs in 2001.

#### *2001 v. 2000*

Other expenses in 2001 were Ps 50.1 million as compared to Ps 28.6 million in 2000. The increase is in large part the result of the write-off of certain obsolete machinery and equipment.

### **Provision for Income and Asset Tax and Deferred Taxes**

Effective January 1, 1999, the corporate income tax rate in Mexico was increased from 34 percent to 35 percent. However, corporate taxpayers have the option of deferring a portion of the tax so that the tax payable will represent 30 percent of taxable income (32 percent for 1999). Starting with the 2003 tax year, there will be a one percentage point reduction in the income tax rate per year until the rate reaches 32 percent. The earnings on which there is a deferral of taxes must be identified and maintained on the Company's books in a "net reinvested tax profit" account ("CUFINRE"). This is to ensure that the earnings on which the taxpayer has chosen to defer taxes remains clearly identified for later periods. The asset tax of 1.8 percent for each of 2000, 2001 and 2002 is payable individually by Interceramic and each of its Mexican subsidiaries. The tax is levied on the average value of most assets, net of certain liabilities.

#### *2002 v. 2001*

In 2002 the Company's provision for income and asset tax and deferred taxes was Ps 14.6 million, a decrease of 70.91 percent over the provision of Ps 50.3 million recorded in 2001. Provision for income and asset tax and deferred taxes represented 9.22 percent of income before the provisions and employee profit sharing in 2002 compared to 17.68 percent in 2001. Most of the decrease resulted from differences in foreign exchange loss deductions for the years.

#### *2001 v. 2000*

In 2001 the Company's provision for income and asset tax and deferred taxes was Ps 46.8 million, a decrease of 11.01 percent over the provision of Ps 52.6 million recorded in 2000. Provision for income and asset tax and deferred taxes represented 17.68 percent of income before the provisions and employee profit sharing, while in 2000 it was 25.87 percent.

### **Employee Profit Sharing**

The Company is required under Mexican law to pay to employees, in addition to their agreed compensation and benefits, profit sharing in an aggregate amount equal to ten percent of pretax income, determined for statutory employee profit sharing purposes, on an unconsolidated basis. These amounts are payable on a per-company basis, so that subsidiaries calculate and pay the accrued liability separately. In conformity with Bulletin D-4, deferred employee profit sharing should be recognized only on temporary differences determined in the reconciliation of current year net income for financial and tax reporting purposes, provided there is no indication that the related liability or asset will not be realized in the future.



The Company's statutory employee profit-sharing obligation, on a consolidated basis, has historically been lower than ten percent of pretax income as reported on the Company's financial statements in accordance with Mexican GAAP. In 2002, 2001 and 2000, this provision was Ps 3.6 million, Ps. 3.5 million and Ps 2.5 million, respectively.

### **Minority Net Income**

This account in the Financial Statements relates to the interest of Dal-Tile in RISA and Custom's interest in ABISA.

*2002 v. 2001*

Minority net income posted in 2002 was Ps 18.4 million, compared to Ps 23.3 million in 2001. For 2002 minority net income represented 0.06 percent of sales while in 2001 it was 0.43 percent of sales.

*2001 v. 2000*

Minority net income recorded in 2001 was Ps 23.3 million, compared to a loss of Ps 0.8 million in 2000. For 2001, minority net income represented 0.43 percent of sales, while the minority net loss in 2000 equaled a negative 0.03 percent of sales.

### **Majority Net Income**

This account in the Financial Statements consists of consolidated net income, less the portion attributable to Dal-Tile's ownership interest in RISA and that of Custom in ABISA.

*2002 v. 2001*

Majority net income for 2002 decreased significantly by 54.45 percent to Ps 87.1 million for a majority net income of Ps 191.1 million in 2001. For 2002 majority net income represented 0.03 percent of sales compared to 6.78 percent in 2001.

*2001 v. 2000*

Majority net income for the year of 2001 increased significantly over 2000-by 28.28 percent-to Ps 191.1 million from a majority net income of Ps 149.0 million in 2000. For 2001, majority net income represented 6.43 percent of sales compared to 5.24 percent in 2000.

## ***B. Liquidity and Capital Resources***

### **General**

With improved financial results and reducing debt levels over the most recent three years the Company has generated more consistent positive cash flows than in past years. However, the Company has relied to a great extent upon short term borrowings for liquidity in the years covered by the Financial Statements and while management considers cash generated from operations sufficient for the Company's working capital needs in the short term, any material unexpected increase in operating expenses could result in the need for further borrowing by the Company. The US \$100.0 million in debt incurred by the Company in connection with the Term Loan is to amortize completely over the five year term of the Term Loan-unlike the Eurobonds, which paid interest only until their maturity date of August 1, 2002. The retirement of US \$100.0 million in debt over a five-year period will require substantial free cash generation by the Company, and any adverse development with respect to the Company's cash flow could make it

difficult for the Company to meet its payment obligations with respect to the Term Loan. *See* "-D. Trend Information" below.

The Company has financed most of its capital improvements and expansions through long-term borrowing as well as equity and other securities offerings. Proceeds from securities offerings have also been used to reduce and to consolidate debt.

### **Securities Offerings**

In December of 1994, Interceramic consummated a capital restructuring and initial public offering of equity securities in the United States (the "1994 Offering"), pursuant to which its capital structure was reorganized into the Common Units, each comprised of two Series B Shares, and the Limited Voting Units, each comprised of one Series D Share and one Series L Share. In the 1994 Offering, 3,480,000 Limited Voting Units and 1,044,000 ADRs were sold in Mexico and the United States, respectively, resulting in net proceeds to the Company of Ps 360.2 million. The proceeds from the 1994 Offering were used in part to pay bank debt and trade obligations of the Company, as well as for maintenance of a general working capital reserve that greatly assisted the Company in the liquidity crisis that followed in the wake of the Peso devaluation.

In May of 1996, Interceramic had a rights offering in Mexico (the "1996 Offering") of 331,000 Limited Voting Units for the sole purpose of making Limited Voting Units available upon the exercise of options which may be granted to certain Mexican and United States employees of the Company pursuant to an incentive stock option plan which was approved by the Board and the shareholders of Interceramic on April 30, 1996 (the "Plan"). Under Mexican law, Interceramic was required to offer the securities intended for reservation under the Plan to existing securities holders first, before making them available to a trust organized by Interceramic for the purpose of holding the Limited Voting Units until options were exercised. Although Interceramic was not seeking, nor anticipating that existing holders would exercise any rights in the 1996 Offering, a total of 4,780 Limited Voting Units were subscribed for by existing holders, leaving 326,220 available for the Plan. In the 1996 Offering, the Company received Ps 86,937 from securities holders who exercised their preemptive rights. A similar offering was made in Mexico in May of 1997, when Interceramic's capital was increased by 1,100,000 Limited Voting Units in order to allocate more securities to the Plan. As was the case in the 1996 Offering, a number of shareholders exercised their preemptive right, purchasing an aggregate of 126,063 Limited Voting Units. *See* "Item 6-Directors, Senior Management and Employees-E. Share Ownership-Stock Option or Other Incentive Plans," below.

In April of 1997, Interceramic completed a rights offering (the "1997 Offering") which was registered with the SEC under the 1933 Act pursuant to which each holder of record of the Common Units and Limited Voting Units, including holders of ADRs, each evidencing five Common Units ("CU ADRs"), and ADRs, each evidencing Limited Voting Units ("LVU ADRs"), was given the right to subscribe for a certain number of additional Common Units and/or Limited Voting Units or, with respect to holders of ADRs, additional CU ADRs and/or LVU ADRs. An aggregate of 3,301,000 Common Units and 6,699,000 Limited Voting Units were available for subscription in the Rights Offering, and all Units were subscribed. The 1997 Offering resulted in net proceeds to the Company of Ps 138.6 million, substantially all of which were used to pay certain short-term debt and current maturities of long-term debt.

In November of 2000, Interceramic made a public rights offering registered with the SEC under the 1933 Act (the "2000 Offering") of Common Units to holders of record in the United States and in Mexico, primarily to enable Interceramic to make a private placement of certain of the unsubscribed Common Units to Kohler. Despite the price per Unit in the 2000 Offering being in excess of twice the then market price for a Common Unit on the Mexican Stock Exchange, 6,137 Units were subscribed for resulting in proceeds to Interceramic of Ps 217,503. Upon the close of the 2000 Offering and the deregistration of the unsubscribed Units under the 1933 Act, Interceramic was able to complete a private placement of 3,636,363 Common Units to Kohler (the "Kohler Placement"), resulting in proceeds to the Company of US \$12.0 million. The proceeds received by the Company were used to pay down certain short-term

indebtedness of Interceramic USA and to pay certain trade and account creditors of the Company.

### **Outstanding Indebtedness**

At December 31, 2002, the Company had Ps 87.5 million of cash equivalents and Ps 1,209.2 million of indebtedness. Of the Company's total indebtedness at December 31, 2002, Ps 948.0 million was long term and Ps 261.1 million was short term.

At December 31, 2002, all of the Company's indebtedness was denominated in Dollars, comprised of Ps 1,046.1 million of accrued interest on and principal amount of the Term Loan, an additional Ps 94.9 million in unsecured indebtedness, Ps 63.4 million of indebtedness secured by machinery, equipment, buildings and land, accounts receivable and inventory and Ps 4.8 million of financial instruments due to suppliers and others.

At December 31, 2001, the Company had Ps 222.3 million of cash equivalents and Ps 1,267.6 million of indebtedness. Of the Company's total indebtedness at December 31, 2001, Ps 246.6 million was long term and Ps 1,021.0 million was short term.

At December 31, 2001, all of the Company's indebtedness was denominated in Dollars, comprised of Ps 947.1 million of principal and accrued interest on the Eurobonds, an additional Ps 46.5 million of unsecured indebtedness, Ps 266.2 million of indebtedness secured by machinery, equipment, buildings and land, accounts receivable and inventory and Ps 7.8 million of financial instruments due to suppliers and others.

At December 31, 2000, the Company had Ps 139.7 million of cash equivalents and Ps 1,377.1 million of indebtedness. Of the Company's total indebtedness at December 31, 2000, Ps 1,242.5 million was long term and Ps 134.6 million was short term.

At December 31, 2000, all of the Company's indebtedness was denominated in Dollars, comprised of Ps 1,007.9 million of principal and accrued interest on the Eurobonds, an additional Ps 191.6 million of unsecured indebtedness, Ps 174.6 million of indebtedness secured by machinery, equipment, buildings and land, accounts receivable and inventory and Ps 3.0 million of financial instruments due to suppliers and others.

In 2002 resources provided by operations was a gain of Ps 152.5 million compared to a gain of Ps 323.2 million in 2001. Inventories increased by 19.39 percent during the year over 2001 to Ps 774.2 million in 2002 from Ps 648.5 million at the end of 2001.

In 2001 resources provided by operations was a gain of Ps 323.2 million compared to a gain of Ps 312.7 million in 2000. Inventories decreased by 17.31 percent during the year over 2000 to Ps 648.5 million in 2001 from Ps 784.3 million at the end of 2000.

In 2000, resources provided by operations was a gain of Ps 312.7 million compared to a gain of Ps 353.1 million in 1999. Inventories increased by 0.16 percent during the year over 1999 to Ps 784.3 million from Ps 783.0 million at the end of 1999.

In 2002, Ps 1,370.3 million principal amount of debt was paid by (i) Ps 95.8 million from cash flow from operations and (ii) Ps 1,274.5 million in new borrowings. The Company also paid Ps 125.8 million in interest charges during the year from operating cash flow.

In 2001, Ps 104.5 million principal amount of debt was paid by (i) Ps 29.4 million from cash flow from operations and (ii) Ps 75.1 million in new borrowings. The Company also paid Ps 138.8 million in interest charges from operating cash flow.

In 2000, Ps 206.0 million principal amount of debt was paid by (i) Ps 67.6 million from cash flow from operations; (ii) Ps 105.9 million from the Kohler Placement; and (iii) Ps 32.5 million in new borrowings. The Company also paid Ps 162.6 million in interest charges from operating cash flow.

Debt was reduced during 2002 by 4.61 percent over 2001, primarily due to the cash flow generated from operations, which allowed the Company to pay scheduled amortizations without increasing its debt level. Because all of the Company's debt is denominated in Dollars, the foreign exchange rate between the Peso and the Dollar can have a material effect on the Company's financial reporting. The effect is recognized on the Company's income statements where it was reported for 2002 as a net loss of Ps 108.4 million and for 2001 as a net gain of Ps 49.4 million. The operating effect of any exchange rate losses is ameliorated to some extent by the fact that the Company generates significant Dollar-denominated revenues. As all of the Company's debt is Dollar denominated, it does not effect inflation accounting on the Company's financial statements.

The Company's primary objective is to reduce its debt levels through application of available cash generated from operations. The rapid amortization scheduled for the Term Loan will, in the absence of further borrowings in the interim, reduce the Company's indebtedness to virtually nothing in the coming five-year period. In order to generate the excess cash needed to reduce its debt, the Company has focused on the reduction of expenses and improvement in selling prices. Further, to assist in reducing debt, the Company has no definite capital expansion plans in the short term.

### **Financing Arrangements**

Prior to the Eurobonds, the Company had financing relationships with more than 13 lenders. As a result of the completion of the Eurobond and the prepayment of most of these relationships, the Company's debt structure became much more manageable with fewer lending relationships, freeing management from much of the time that had been spent in monitoring and managing these relationships. At December 31, 2001, the Company's outstanding indebtedness consisted of US \$90.0 million of the Eurobonds and an additional US \$35.6 million in other indebtedness, while at December 31, 2002, the Company's outstanding indebtedness consisted of US \$100.0 million of the Term Loan and an additional US \$16.4 million in other indebtedness.

The Eurobonds were replaced in July of 2002 with the Term Loan in an aggregate principal amount of US \$100.0 million. The Term Loan has two tranches, the "Term A Loan" in the amount of US \$40.0 million, which generally bears interest at a LIBOR rate plus 1.70 percent and amortizes in quarterly payments commencing July 31, 2003 until July 31, 2005, when the Term A Loan is to be paid in full. The first two principal installments on the Term A Loan are US \$6.25 million each, the next four installments are US \$3.125 million each and the final installments are US \$5.0 million each.

The Term Loan is secured by certain of the Company's assets, including most real property and equipment as well as accounts receivable and inventory of the Company located in Mexico, the production machinery and equipment of Interceramic USA located in the United States and Interceramic's stock in RISA. Under the Credit Agreement, the value of collateral pledged to secure the Term Loan must at all times equal or exceed 1.4 times the principal balance of the Term Loan outstanding from time to time. Further, the payment of the Term Loan and the performance of the Company's obligations under the provisions of the Credit Agreement is guaranteed by Interceramic USA and the Occidente and DISA subsidiaries in Mexico.

The "Term B Loan" tranche of the Term Loan is in the amount of US \$60.0 million, and generally bears interest at a LIBOR rate plus 2.30 percent. The Term B Loan amortizes in quarterly payments commencing July 31, 2003 until July 31, 2007, when the Term B Loan is to be paid in full. The first ten principal installments on the Term B Loan are US \$1.25 million each, the next four installments are US \$5.625 million each and the final installments are US \$8.333 million each.

In 1994, the Company borrowed a total of US \$38.5 million from the *International Finance Corporation of the World Bank* (the "IFC"). At December 31, 2002, the IFC loan had only one remaining tranche of US \$2.0 million principal amount remaining on "Loan C," bearing interest at LIBOR plus 2.75 percent, with interest payable semiannually and principal payable in annual installments of US \$2.0 million each, with the final payment due April 15, 2003. This loan was paid in full at its maturity in April 2003.

The Company also had four lines of credit available to it as of December 31, 2002 for short-term cash flow borrowings. The first was a US \$25.0 million line of credit, provided to Interceramic USA by *Comerica Bank*, Detroit, Michigan ("Comerica"), which has terms applicable to it which restrict, limit or otherwise condition the availability of borrowings thereunder. At December 31, 2002, there was no amount drawn down on this facility. The Comerica facility was replaced in the second quarter of 2003 with a US \$25.0 million facility provided by *Wells Fargo Bank Texas, National Association* ("Wells Fargo"). The second line available to the Company at year end 2002 was a US \$6.0 million line of credit from Banamex to RISA, of which at December 31, 2002 the full available amount was drawn down. The third and fourth lines of credit at December 31, 2002 were provided to Interceramic by Banamex and *BBVA Bancomer, S.A.* ("Bancomer") in the respective amounts of US \$2.0 million and US \$5.0 million. Both of these lines were drawn down to the full available amount at the end of 2002.

In most of its loan documentation, the Company is required to observe standard covenants with respect to major transactions, mergers and combinations, disposition of assets, information reporting requirements and other matters, including (i) agreements with respect to the maintenance of the Controlling Group's ownership of the Company and its continuing control of the management of the Company and (ii) limitations on incurring additional indebtedness, creating liens on the Company's assets, paying dividends and intercompany indebtedness, making capital expenditures and incurring or permitting certain loans, investments or guaranties. Substantially all of the Company's long term debt loan documentation contains provisions cross defaulting the applicable debt with other Company debt. Additionally, under the terms of the IFC financing the Company was required to maintain certain financial covenants, and at December 31, 2002, the Company was in compliance with each of these covenants.

Under the Credit Agreement applicable to the Term Loan, the Company is required to observe several financial ratios, requiring a (i) consolidated leverage ratio for the fiscal year 2002 of less than 3.25; (ii) a fixed charge coverage ratio of at least 1.25; (iii) an interest coverage ratio of at least 3.00 for the fiscal year 2002; and (iv) a current ratio of at least 1.50. At December 31, 2002 the Company was in compliance with each of these covenants. The leverage ratio changes to 3.00 for fiscal year 2003 and to 2.50 thereafter, while the interest coverage ratio required changes to 4.00 in 2005.

The Comerica loan documentation contained certain covenants applicable to Interceramic as a guarantor of the loan, including maintenance of a consolidated current ratio of at least 1.25. In addition, the Comerica documentation requires, among other covenants, that Interceramic USA maintains a net worth of at least US \$20.0 million. As of December 31, 2002, the consolidated net worth of Interceramic USA was US \$ 25.4 million.

The Wells Fargo loan documentation entered into in the second quarter of 2003 also has a number of financial covenants applicable to Interceramic USA, including (i) a fixed charge coverage ratio of at least 1.5; (ii) a tangible net worth of at least US \$29.5 million (increasing by a factor of net income for years after 2003); (iii) a leverage ratio of no more than 1.75; and (iv) maximum capital expenditures of US \$4.0 million on an annual basis.

Under the terms of the US \$ 6.0 million long term credit agreement with Banamex, RISA is required to maintain (i) a debt service coverage ratio of greater than 3.00; (ii) a current ratio of at least 1.30; and (iii) and a leverage ratio of less than 3.00 and, at December 31, 2002, RISA was in compliance with its financial covenants under this agreement.

### ***C. Research and Development***

The Company is continually working on new product development in order to provide more innovative and appealing products for the marketplace. Particularly in a very competitive industry and with technological changes and advances commonplace, the Company believes innovation to be critical to its strategies of increasing its selling prices and focusing on the higher end markets. The Company's research and development efforts are generally directed in designing new textures and finishes as well as "trim" and other decorative pieces to complement and enhance "field" tile. These research and development efforts involve many persons throughout the Company, and are directed by a Vice President of Innovation. New design ideas are then developed and tested at the Company's Research and Development Center in Chihuahua, Mexico, which contains a complete, small-scale production line. See "Item 4-Information on the Company-B. Business Overview-The Research and Development Center" above.

In 2002, the Company had research and development expenditures of Ps 21.3 million, while in 2001 and 2000 the expenditures for research and development were Ps 25.7 million and Ps 27.9 million, respectively.

#### ***D. Trend Information***

*The following discussion is based primarily upon unaudited financial information for the first quarter of 2003 provided by the Company. The actual financial results of the Company for the first quarter of 2003 could differ significantly from the results discussed below. Peso amounts provided below may be converted into Dollars at an exchange rate of Ps 10.78 to US \$1.00, the Interbank Rate as of March 31, 2003.*

Under the influence of the general global economic downturn, lower pricing pressures and a major slip in the value of the Peso-resulting in a 20 percent devaluation from March 2002 to March 2003-the first quarter of 2003 saw the Company focusing efforts on maintaining product sales levels and improving operating results. The results were mixed, with the quarter generally comparing unfavorably with the same quarter last year but showing improvement over the final quarter of 2002. Consolidated sales of US \$74.2 million for the first quarter of the year were 3.16 percent behind first quarter sales in 2002. Sales in Mexico for the first quarter were down 5.06 percent from the first quarter of 2002, at US \$42.0 million, although this result was impacted by the drop in the value of the Peso as Mexican sales for the first quarter of 2003, measured in real Pesos, were higher than in the first quarter of 2002. Additionally, product sales in Mexico remained fairly healthy. During the first quarter of the year Interceramic sold 4.2 million square meters of tile in Mexico, an increase of 12.16 percent over the amount of product sold in the first quarter last year.

In the International markets results were mixed as well. At US \$32.1 million, International Sales were only 0.55 percent behind first quarter sales of US \$32.3 million in the first quarter of 2002. However, the amount of product sold in the International markets dipped considerably, down 11.80 percent to 2.4 million square meters from the 2.8 million square meters sold in the first quarter of last year. While this generally reflects improved margins in International Sales, it also demonstrates a need for renewed emphasis on increasing market share in the United States.

The lower sales for the quarter in combination with basically the same cost of sales over the first quarter of the preceding year is reflected in a decrease in operating income from US \$8.4 million in 2002 to US \$6.4 million in the first quarter this year. While disappointing, the operating income for the quarter did show a healthy growth of 6.98 percent over operating income of US \$6.0 million in the last quarter of 2002, an encouraging trend. In the face of tough markets, the Company has been relatively successful at keeping operating expenses in check, with operating expenses for the first quarter of 2003 representing 27.15 percent of sales compared to figures of 27.14 percent and 27.41 percent for the first and last quarters, respectively, of last year.

Decreased borrowing costs attributable to the Term Loan have continued to improve the Company's debt service coverage ratio which stood at 5.0 at the end of the first quarter of 2003 compared to 3.8 at the same time last year. As might be expected the ratio of debt to EBITDA soured slightly, going from 2.4 at the end of the first quarter 2002 to 2.9 at the end of the first quarter this year.

As discussed in "-B. Liquidity and Capital Resources" above, late in the second quarter of 2003 Interceramic USA replaced the Comerica facility with the Wells Fargo facility on terms that management considers favorable to those contained in the Comerica documentation. Interceramic has guaranteed the obligations of Interceramic USA under the Wells Fargo documentation.

***E. Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.***

During the year ended December 31, 2002 and at the date of this Annual Report, the Company had no off-balance sheet arrangements that have or are reasonably likely to have a current or future effect on the Company's financial condition, changes in financial condition, revenues or expenses, results of operations, liquidity, capital expenditures or capital resources that could be considered to be material.

***F. Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations.***

The following table presents a summary as of December 31, 2002 of the Company's known contractual obligations:

**Payments Due by Period (1)**

<b>Contractual Obligations</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Less than One Year</b>	<b>One to Three Years</b>	<b>Three to Five Years</b>	<b>More than Five Years</b>
Long-term Debt Obligations	1,136,440	188,404	688,184	259,852	0
Capital Lease Obligations	638,531	80,754	190,414	168,885	198,478
Purchase Obligations	0	0	0	0	0
Other Long-term Liabilities (2)	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,774,971</b>	<b>269,158</b>	<b>878,598</b>	<b>428,737</b>	<b>198,478</b>

(1) Thousands of Pesos.

(2) As reflected on the balance sheet included with the Financial Statements under Mexican GAAP.

- (3) Debt due 2004, 2005 and 2006
- (4) Debt due 2007, 2008, and 2009

## ITEM 6. Directors, Senior Management and Employees

### *A. Directors and Senior Management*

The Board is composed of a minimum of 13 members and a maximum of 20 members, as determined by the shareholders at Interceramic's annual general ordinary shareholder's meeting. Under the *Estatutos Sociales* of Interceramic (the "Bylaws"), the holders of the Series D Shares are entitled to vote, as a class, on the election of two directors and their corresponding alternates and the holders of the Series L Shares are entitled to vote, as a class, on the election of two directors and their corresponding alternates. The holders of Series B Shares are entitled to elect all remaining directors. Additionally, the Bylaws provide that at least 25 percent of the members of the Board must be independent from the Company, as must be their respective designated alternates. The 16 current members of the Board were elected at shareholders' meetings held on September 9, 2002, and will serve for the remainder of the year or until their successors are duly elected or qualified. The Board is responsible for the management of the business of Interceramic. Officers of Interceramic serve at the discretion of the Board. In addition to the Board and the officers of Interceramic, Interceramic has statutory auditors, who are elected annually at the general ordinary shareholders' meeting. Under Mexican law, the duties of statutory auditors include, among other things, the examination of the operations, books, records and any other documents of Interceramic and the presentation at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting of a report of such examination.

### **Board of Directors**

The following table sets forth the current directors of the Company, their ages, years of service as a director and their principal occupation (with the Company, unless otherwise specified):

<u>Name (Age)</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Years as a Director</u>
<i>Elected by Holders of the Series B Shares:</i>		
Oscar Almeida Chabre (76)	Chairman of the Board	25
Víctor D. Almeida García (44)	Vice Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	24



Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Alfredo Harp Calderoni (33)	Vice President, Fundation Alfredo Harp Helu, A.C.	5
David Kohler (36)	Group President, Kitchen and Bath Group, Kohler Co	2
Federico Terrazas Torres (70)	Chairman, Grupo Cementos de Chihuahua, S.A. de C.V.	14
Norma A. de Champion (46)	President, Automobile Dealerships	19
Diana E. Almeida (40)	Director	9
Patricia A. de Dall' Amico (38)	Director	9
Jesús Olivas Corral (40)	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	3
Luis Ferreiro Maíz (45)	Executive Vice President of Manufacturing	4
Humberto Maese Cordero (47)	Vice President of Innovation	8
Carlos Elias Terrazas (45)	President, Comercial Corporativa del Norte, S.A. de C.V.	*
Humberto Valles Hernandez (67)	Retired Partner, Mancera S.C.	*

*Elected by Holders of the Series D Shares:*

Sergio Mares Delgado (46)	President, Grupo Futurama, S.A. de C.V.	*
Augusto Champion Chapa (47)	Chairman, Arquitectura Habitacional e Industrial, S.A. de C.V.	10

*Elected by Holders of the Series L Shares:*

Mark M. Blaugrund (61)	President, RECON Real Estate Consultants, Inc.	14
Sylvia Almeida (42)	President, Corporacion Administrativa y Técnica, S.A. de C.V.	8

\* First elected in September 2002.

*Oscar Almeida Chabre, Chairman of the Board.* Mr. Almeida was the founder of the Company and has been Chairman of the Board since its inception. He is a graduate of the School of Banking and Accounting in Mexico City and has been a member of the board of directors of several Mexican banks. In addition, Mr. Almeida has been a member of the board of directors of banks in the United States and other industrial and commercial conglomerates in Mexico. He is also Chairman of *Grupo Cencor, S.A. de C.V.* ("Grupo Cencor"). Mr. Almeida is the father of Víctor D. Almeida García, Diana E. Almeida, Patricia A. de Dall'Amico, Sylvia Almeida and Norma A. de Champion. Additionally, one other director, Augusto Champion Chapa, is a son-in-law of Mr. Almeida.

*Víctor D. Almeida García, Vice Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer.* Mr. Almeida has been with the Company since its inception. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelors Degree of Business Administration in Accounting. He serves on the Regional Board of Directors of Banamex and has been a member of the board of directors of two commercial banks located in El Paso, Texas. He has been President of Grupo Cencor since 1984.

*Alfredo Harp Calderoni.* Mr. Harp is a private investor, he has served as Chairman of SINCAS, Banamex-Accival and as a member of the Board of Directors of Banamex. He is currently Vice President of Fundación Alfredo Harp halu, A.C. He is an honors graduate of Universidad Anahuac in Mexico City.

*David Kohler.* Mr. Kohler is Group President of the Kohler Co. Kitchen and Bath Group and a member of Kohler's Board of Directors. He has served in a wide variety of capacities for Kohler since 1988, assuming his present duties in 1999. Mr. Kohler holds a Masters Degree in Management from the J.L. Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and a Bachelors Degree in Political Science from Duke University. He is also a member of the Board of Directors of Menasha Corporation. Mr. Kohler was first elected to the Board in 2000 pursuant to an agreement between Kohler and the Controlling Group, under which the members of the Controlling Group agreed to use their best efforts to cause a Kohler representative to be elected to the Board.

*Federico Terrazas Torres.* Mr. Terrazas is Chairman of the Board of *Cementos de Chihuahua, S.A. de C.V.*, a cement manufacturer with operations in the State of Chihuahua and in New Mexico and South Dakota in the United States.

*Norma A. de Champion.* Ms. Champion is President of *Autocamiones de Chihuahua, S.A. de C.V.*, *Autos Internacionales de Chihuahua, S.A. de C.V.* and *Autos Europeos de Chihuahua, S.A. de C.V.*, affiliates of the Almeida Family which sell Chrysler, Honda and Mercedes Benz automobiles, respectively, throughout the State of Chihuahua. She has a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science from the University of Texas at Austin.

*Diana E. Almeida.* Ms. Almeida graduated from the University of Colorado at Boulder with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration. She is Director of Consulting for *Corporación Administrativa y Técnica, S.A. de C.V.* ("Coratec"), an affiliate of the Almeida Family.

*Patricia A. de Dall'Amico.* Mrs. Dall'Amico is a private investor.

*Jesús Olivas Corral, Executive Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer.* Mr. Olivas has served as Vice President of Finance and Chief Financial Officer since 1996. He has been with the Company since 1985, starting as an Information System Analyst. From 1987 to 1991 he was Finance Manager and from 1991 to 1995 he served as the Director of Finance. He graduated with a Degree in Finance from Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in 1985.

*Luis Ferreiro Maiz, Executive Vice President of Manufacturing.* Mr. Ferreiro has served as Vice President of Manufacturing since January 1996. From 1983 to 1985 he was the Materials Manager of Cerro Grande. From 1985 to 1986 he was the Production Manager of the Company and from 1986 through April 1990 he was the Plant Director. From May 1990 through December 1995 he was the Vice President of Operations. He graduated with a Degree in Engineering from the University of Chihuahua in 1980.

*Humberto Maese Cordero, Vice President of Innovation.* Mr. Maese served as Vice President of Marketing and Sales from 1987 to 1996, when his position changed to emphasize the Company's efforts in product innovation. From 1986 through 1987 he was Vice President of Sales and Marketing for the Grupo Cencor and its subsidiaries and from 1982 through 1986 he was President of *Ladrillera Industrial, S.A. de C.V.*, a subsidiary of Grupo Cencor. He received a Bachelors Degree and a Masters Degree in Business Administration from the University of Texas at Austin and is qualified as a Certified Public Accountant in the State of Texas.

*Carlos Elias Terrazas.* Mr. Elias is newly elected to the Board. He is president of *Comercial Corporativa del Norte, S.A. de C.V.* an investment and services company located in Chihuahua, Chihuahua. He graduated from Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in 1981 with a degree in Business Administration.

*Humberto Valles Hernandez.* Mr. Hernandez is newly elected to the Board. He is a retired member of *Mancera S.C., Member of Ernst & Young Global.* He graduated with a degree in Public Accountancy from Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey..

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

*Sergio Mares Delgado.* Mr. Mares is the President of *Grupo Futurama, S.A. de C.V.*, a discount and department store chain in northern Mexico. He graduated from Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in 1980 with a degree in Mechanical Administration Engineering.

*Augusto Champion Chapa.* Mr. Champion is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, and an architect and commercial builder with operations throughout Mexico. He serves on the Regional Board of Directors of Banamex.

*Mark M. Blaugrund.* Mr. Blaugrund, a private investor, is the founder and President of RECON Real Estate Consultants Inc. in El Paso, Texas, a commercial real estate company.

*Sylvia Almeida.* Ms. Almeida graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a Bachelors Degree in Business Administration, majoring in Accounting and minoring in Data Processing. She has been employed at Coratec since 1983, where she is currently President.

**Senior Management of Interceramic**

The following table sets forth the current executive officers of Interceramic, their ages, current position with the Company and years of service with the Company:

<u>Name (Age)</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Years With Company</u>
Víctor D. Almeida García (44)	President and Chief Executive Officer	24
Luis Ferreiro Maiz (45)	Executive Vice President of Manufacturing	20
Humberto Maese Cordero (47)	Vice President of Innovation	24
Jesús Barney (41)	Director of Franchise Subsidiaries	4
Alfredo Hernández García (55)	Director of Sales and Marketing, Mexico	16
Felipe Matán Merino (45)	Technical Director	20
Jesús Olivas Corral (40)	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	18

Norma A. de Champion (46)

Secretary

19

*Jesús Barney, Director of Franchise Subsidiaries.* Mr. Barney was named Director of Franchise Subsidiaries in March of 1999, when he rejoined the service of Interceramic. He first started with Interceramic in 1984 as an analyst, moving later to RISA as Administrative Director of the construction and start up process of the plant. He graduated with a Degree in Public Accountancy from the Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey in 1984.

*Alfredo Hernández García, Director of Customer Service.* Mr. Hernández was named Director of Sales and Marketing, Mexico in 1997. He has been with the Company since 1986, starting as an accountant. From 1990 to 1994, he was Administrative Director of RISA and from 1995 to 1997, he served as Interceramic's Director of Customer Service. Prior to becoming Director of Customer Service, Mr. Hernández was responsible for the Company's DISA subsidiary in Mexico City. He graduated with a degree in Public Accountancy from the University of Chihuahua in 1978.

*Felipe Matán Merino, Technical Director.* Mr. Matán has been Technical Director of the Company since 1998, coming from the position of Director of Research and Development for the Company, a position he had held since 1987. He had served the Company in a variety of positions prior to that time, having started with the Company in 1982 as supervisor of raw materials control. Mr. Matán graduated with a Degree in Engineering from the Technological Institute of Chihuahua in 1982.

#### **Senior Management of Interceramic USA**

Interceramic USA is governed by a Board of Directors (the "USA Board"), appointed annually by Interceramic as the sole shareholder of Interceramic USA. The USA Board is currently comprised of three members, Oscar Almeida Chabre, Víctor D. Almeida García and Jesús Olivas Corral. Mr. Olivas was elected to the USA Board in 1999, while the other members have served on the USA Board for in excess of ten years each.

The following table sets forth the current officers of Interceramic USA, their ages, current position and years of service with the Company:

<u>Name (Age)</u>	<u>Occupation</u>	<u>Years With Company</u>
Víctor D. Almeida García (44)	President and Chief Executive Officer	24
Jesús Olivas Corral (40)	Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	18
Steve Belken (47)	Executive Vice President of United States Operations	4

Jim Banks (52)	Vice President of Sales, United States	11
Mark E. Mendel (46)	Secretary	15

*Steve Belken, Executive Vice President of United States Operations.* Mr. Belken began his service with Interceramic USA in February of 1999, starting as manager of the accounting department at Interceramic USA. Mr. Belken was named to his present position in March of 2001. Prior to coming to Interceramic USA, Mr. Belken served 18 years in various positions in finance and operations management in both the building products and consumer product industries. He graduated with a Degree in Public Accountancy from the University of Texas at Arlington.

*Jim Banks, Vice President of Sales, United States.* Mr. Banks has been working for the Company since 1992, when he was named branch manager of a CTI store in Dallas, Texas. Advancing to the position of a regional manager for CTI, Mr. Banks oversaw CTI expansions in Fort Worth, Plano and Austin, Texas as well as supervised CTI locations in San Antonio, Texas. He became director of sales for all of CTI and was promoted to his current position in 1999, which gives him responsibility for the independent distribution throughout the United States and in Canada.

*Mark E. Mendel, Secretary.* Mr. Mendel is an attorney and a partner in the El Paso, Texas firm of Mendel • Blumenfeld, LLP. Mr. Mendel is general United States counsel to the Company, and commenced his representation of the Company in 1985. He is a 1978 graduate of Washington & Lee University and a 1981 graduate of Texas Tech University School of Law.

#### *B. Compensation*

For the year ended December 31, 2002, the aggregate compensation paid by the Company to its directors, alternate directors and executive officers for services in all capacities was approximately Ps 34.2 million (approximately US \$3.3 million using the Interbank Rate as of December 31, 2002). Options to acquire up to 177,000 Limited Voting Units were granted to certain of these individuals during 2002. See "-E. Share Ownership" below.

#### *C. Board Practices*

The Company has no employment agreements with any director, officer or employee, all such persons serving at the will of their respective superiors. On July 16, 2001, the Company entered into agreements with certain officers of Interceramic and Interceramic USA for the provision of benefits in the event of a change in control of Interceramic. These agreements, which expire on December 31, 2005, provide for (i) payment of bonuses to five current officers in an amount aggregating US \$1.7 million upon a change in control of the Company and (ii) payment to the same five officers of certain amounts which, currently, range from US \$230,00 to US \$500,000, in the event of a change in control of the Company followed by the applicable officer either being terminated from the employment of the Company or leaving the Company with cause. Interceramic has organized and maintains an audit committee of this Board. For information on the directors and executive officers of the Company, see "-A. Directors and Senior Management" above.

#### *D. Employees*

As part of the Company's efforts to reduce its cost of production and build a leaner, more efficient along the model of the premier European tile manufacturers, it has been working on reducing its workforce across the board. At the end of 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Company had 3,089, 3,127 and 3,381 employees, respectively. The following chart provides a breakdown of location and function of the Company's workforce:

	2000	2001	2002
<b>United States</b>			
Manufacturing	303	268	253
Sales and Administration	303	324	362
Total	606	592	615
<b>Mexico</b>			
Manufacturing	2,069	1,779	1,602
Sales and Administration	669	726	844
Other	37	30	28
Total	2,775	2,535	2,474
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,381</b>	<b>3,127</b>	<b>3,098</b>

### *E. Share Ownership*

#### **Shareholdings of Directors and Senior Management**

The chart on the following page describes the shareholdings of members of the Board and senior management of the Company who own in excess of one percent of the applicable class:

Shareholder	Number of Common Units	Percent of Class	Number of Limited Voting Units	Percent of Class	Options Granted
Oscar E. Almeida	14,439,080	43.93	1,880,211	7.50	30,000
Victor D. Almeida	585,737	1.78	0	0.00	30,000

The following members of the Board and senior management of the Company own less than one percent of the equity securities of Interceramic: Mark M. Blaugrund, Humberto Maese Cordero, Jesús Olivas Corral, Luis Ferreiro Maiz, Felipe Matán and Alfredo Hernández García.

### **Stock Option or Other Incentive Plans**

On April 30, 1996, the Plan was approved, pursuant to which certain employees and executives of the Company may be granted options from time to time during its term to purchase an amount of Limited Voting Units per eligible employee as set by a committee of the Board. During 1996, an aggregate of 326,220 Limited Voting Units were available for purchase by employees under the Plan. Due to certain peculiarities of Mexican law, all of the shares allocable under the Plan were issued to and purchased by a trust established expressly for that purpose (the "ISOP Trust"). The purchases by the ISOP Trust were funded by contributions made by the Company, and, upon the exercise of a stock option by an employee, the employee in effect purchases the applicable shares directly from the ISOP Trust. In addition to termination by expiration, under the Plan options may terminate for certain other reasons, including death, disability or cessation of employment with the Company.

At December 31, 1996, options to purchase all 311,000 Limited Voting Units had been granted and were outstanding (the "1996 Options"). The purchase price for Limited Voting Units subject to the 1996 Options is Ps 11.48 per Unit. The 1996 Options were generally not exercisable until July 3, 1998, and expired if not exercised by July 3, 2001. Of the total 1996 Options (i) 53,000 were exercised in June 2001; (ii) 138,000 lapsed due to the option holders leaving the employment of the Company prior to exercise; and (iii) 120,000 expired unexercised on July 3, 2001.

At a meeting of the shareholders of Interceramic held on May 20, 1997, an increase in the capital of Interceramic by 1,100,000 Limited Voting Units was approved. Interceramic's intention in connection with this capital increase was to dedicate the shares authorized by the increase for issuance during 1997, 1998 and 1999 pursuant to the Plan. However, although Interceramic was neither seeking nor expecting shareholders to exercise their statutory preemptive right to acquire the shares being made available in connection with the capital increase, an aggregate of 126,063 new Units were subscribed for and purchased by shareholders exercising their preemptive rights, resulting in Interceramic receiving proceeds of Ps 1.8 million on June 23, 1997. The remaining 973,937 Units remain available for purchase under the Plan. On June 11, 1997, the Company granted options to acquire a total of 333,000 Limited Voting Units to participants in the Plan (the "1997 Options"). The purchase price for Limited Voting Units subject to the 1997 Options is Ps 13.96 per Unit. Of the total 1997 Options (i) 33,000 were exercised on June 11, 2002; (ii) 159,000 lapsed due to the option holders leaving the employment of the Company; and (iii) 141,000 expired unexercised on June 11, 2002. are generally not exercisable until June 11, 1999, and expire if not exercised by June 11, 2002. On May 20, 1998, the Company granted options to acquire a total of 350,000 Limited Voting Units to participants in the Plan (the "1998 Options"). The purchase price for Limited Voting Units subject to the 1998 Options is Ps 12.30 per Unit. The 1998 Options may not, generally, be exercised until May 20, 2000, and expire if not exercised by May 20, 2003. Of the total 1998 Options (i) 10,000 were exercised in May 2003; (ii) 178,000 lapsed due to option holders leaving the employment of the Company prior to exercise; and (iii) 162,000 expired unexercised on May 20, 2003.

On April 23, 1999, the Company granted options to acquire an aggregate of 360,000 Limited Voting Units to certain participants in the Plan (the "1999 Options"). The purchase price for Limited Voting Units subject to the 1999 Options is Ps 9.40 per Unit. The 1999 Units may not be exercised until April 23, 2001 and expire if not exercised by April 23, 2004.

In the first half of 2000, the Board decided to cease granting options under the Plan, and terminated it for all purposes other than to govern options previously granted. However, in 2001 the Board decided to reassign certain expired options under the Plan, and on July 16, 2001 options to acquire an additional 570,000 Limited Voting Units (the "July 2001 Options") were granted to certain officers of Interceramic and Interceramic USA at an exercise price of Ps 17.0 per Unit. Further, on November 12, 2001, additional options to acquire 77,000 Limited Voting Units (the "November 2001 Options") were granted to certain officers of Interceramic at an exercise price of Ps 17.0 per Unit. The July 2001 Options and the November 2001 Options represented reassignment of options to acquire Limited Voting Units that had either previously expired or lapsed. During 2002, the option price of the July 2001 options and the November 2001 Options was adjusted to Ps 12.15 per Unit. In August of 2002, the Company granted options to acquire 177,000 Limited Voting Units (the "2002 Options") to certain officers of Interceramic at an exercise price of



Ps 12.15 per Unit. These options also represented reassignment of options to acquire Units that had either lapsed or expired.

As of June 1, 2003, officers and directors of the Company, as a group, held options to acquire an aggregate 1,201,000 Limited Voting Units.

**ITEM 7. Major Shareholders and Related Party Transactions**

**A. Major Shareholders**

The following table sets forth certain information concerning the ownership of the capital stock of the Company as of February 17, 2003 with respect to each shareholder of the Company known to the Company to be the beneficial owner of more than ten percent of either the Common Units or the Limited Voting Units, as well as the holdings of all directors and officers of the Company as a group.

Identity of Owner	Shares Owned				Aggregate Percentage Outstanding Shares
	Common Units		Limited Voting Units		
	Number	% of Class	Number	% of Class	
Oscar Almeida Chabre (1)	15,958,657	52.95	1,880,211	8.73	34.52
Banamex Trust (2)	3,507,836	11.64	1,627,893	7.56	9.94
Accival (3)	4,462,680	14.81	6,446,267	29.94	21.11
Kohler	3,636,363	12.07	0	0.00	7.04
Other Officers and Directors	404,664	1.34	56,079	0.26	0.89
Other Shareholders	2,169,315	7.19	11,521,310	53.51	26.50
Total	30,139,515	100.00	21,531,760	100.00	100.00

(1) Owned directly by Oscar Almeida Chabre or members of his immediate family.

(2) Shares owned beneficially by Mexican individuals other than members of the Almeida Family and held in a trust (the "Banamex Trust") administered by Banamex. See "-The Banamex Trust" below.

(3) Based upon information provided by Indeval. Accival is *Acciones y Valores de México, S.A. de C.V.* a prominent Mexican brokerage house and an affiliate of Banamex.

### **The Banamex Trust**

The Banamex Trust was formed in order to provide a controlling position in the Common Units (or Series B Shares) subsequent to the completion of the Kohler Placement in November of 2000. The control arrangement was required under certain of Interceramic's loan documentation, particularly the arrangement with the IFC, which requires that the Almeida Family retain effective voting control over Interceramic. However, upon the completion of the Kohler Placement, the Almeida Family owned only 48.6 percent of the Common Units. IFC agreed to the use of the Banamex Trust as a method for the Almeida Family to retain voting control over the Common Units, as pursuant to an agreement between the Almeida Family and the beneficial owners of the Banamex Trust, the Banamex Trust and the Almeida Family will vote their respective Common Units coincident with each other. As the result of some stock repurchases effected by the Company primarily during 2002, the ownership of Common Units by the Almeida Family currently exceeds 50 percent, and this arrangement is no longer necessary to ensure the required degree of control.

### **Holdings in the United States**

Given the wide-spread nature of holdings of securities in book-entry form both in the United States and in Mexico, it is difficult for Interceramic to determine with any accuracy the extent of its holdings in the United States. However, at February 17, 2003 (i) 34.4 thousand, or 0.11 percent, of the outstanding Common Units were trading in the United States as ADRs and (ii) 4.6 million, or 20.67 percent, of the issued and outstanding Limited Voting Units were trading in the United States as ADRs. Interceramic does not believe that a material amount of the Common Units and Limited Voting Units trading on the Mexican Stock Exchange are beneficially owned by United States residents or citizens.

### ***B. Related Party Transactions***

Two Mexican distributors of ceramic tile and related products that are owned and controlled by the Almeida Family accounted for approximately 16.48 percent of the consolidated unit sales of the Company in Mexico during 2002. The largest of these, *Grupo Comercial Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.* ("GISA"), accounted for sales of approximately 19.9 million square feet of ceramic tile (Ps 173.4 million) in that period, making it the second largest customer of the Company by unit volume, while *Materiales Arquitectónicos Decorativos, S.A. de C.V.* ("MASA"), purchased approximately 7.9 million square feet of ceramic tile (Ps 72.8 million) from the Company in that period, making it the fourth largest customer by unit volume. In 2001 and 2000, GISA and MASA accounted for Company sales in the respective amounts of (i) with respect to GISA, Ps 153.4 million and Ps 162.1 million, and (ii) with respect to MASA, Ps 79.9 million and Ps 78.1 million.

The Company believes that sales to these affiliated customers have been and will continue to be on commercially reasonable terms, no less favorable to the Company than those conducted in comparable arms-length transactions with customers not affiliated with the Company.

The Company contracts with Coratec for certain internal auditing services and computer programming for general accounts, accounts payable and receivables and other accounting services (charged according to program running time). In 2002, 2001, and 2000 the Company paid Coratec Ps 22.4 million, Ps 24.5 million, and Ps 31.9 million respectively, for their services.

Grupo Cencor owns all of the stock of *Corporación Aerea Cencor, S.A. de C.V.* ("Coracen"), which provides air taxi services to the Company in order to accommodate some of the regional business travel requirements of the Company's officers and directors as well as current and prospective customers and clients of the Company. The total value of the services provided by Coracen to the Company in 2002 of Ps 9.4 million was equal to 1.13 percent of the

total operating expenses and equivalent to 0.31 percent of sales for such period. In 2001 and 2000, the total values of Coracen services were Ps 7.4 million and 8.0 million, respectively.

A director of the Company, Augusto Champion Chapa, owns a controlling interest in *Arquitectura Habitacional e Industrial, S.A. de C.V.* ("Arquitectura"), an architectural design and construction company based in the City of Chihuahua. Arquitectura has provided design and construction services on several of the Company's projects. Another director, Mark M. Blaugrund, owns a controlling interest in *RECON Real Estate Consultants, Inc.* ("Recon"), an El Paso, Texas based commercial real estate company. Recon has received real estate commissions from the Company in connection with numerous property leases for Interceramic USA and CTI, including with respect to the Garland Lease and the Garland Warehouse Lease.

The Company or its subsidiaries have entered into other contracts with members or affiliates of the Controlling Group but which are, in the aggregate, not believed to be material to the Company on a consolidated basis.

Certain of the officers and directors of the Company are also equity owners, officers or directors of various other Controlling Group affiliates.

The Company believes that the various transactions and contracts entered into with these persons are, in general, upon terms and conditions no more or less favorable to the Company than would be the case if it were dealing with independent third parties.

At December 31, 2002 and as of the date of this Annual Report, there are no loans outstanding from the Company to any officer or director of the Company or any member of the Controlling Group.

### ***C. Interests of Experts and Counsel***

Not applicable.

## **ITEM 8. Financial Information**

### ***A. Consolidated Statements and Other Financial Information***

#### **Financial Statements**

See "Item 19-Exhibits" for a list of the Financial Statements filed under Item 18.

#### **Legal Proceedings**

In the normal course of its business operations Interceramic and its subsidiaries have either been plaintiffs or been named as defendants in a variety of legal actions. The Company believes that all pending actions or proceedings are covered by insurance or are not material to the financial condition, business and affairs of the Company, taken as a whole.

#### **Dividend Policies**

The Board has no set policy on dividends, Interceramic having paid only one dividend in its history. In recent years, all available cash generated from operations has been applied to working capital and the reduction of indebtedness, and management expects this to continue for the foreseeable future.

### ***B. Significant Changes***

In the opinion of management, there have been no significant changes to the Company on a consolidated basis since the date of the Financial Statements. See "Item 5-Operating and Financial Review and Prospects-D. Trend Information" above.

**ITEM 9. The Offer and Listing**

*A. Offer and Listing Details*

**Price History**

In December of 1994, Interceramic completed the 1994 Offering, at which time the LVU ADRs commenced trading on the NYSE. The LVU ADRs are issued under the terms of a Deposit Agreement dated December 15, 1994, as amended (the "LVU Deposit Agreement"), among *Citibank, N.A.*, as depositary (the "Depositary"), Interceramic and the registered holders from time to time of the LVU ADRs. At December 31, 2002, 870,145 LVU ADRs were outstanding and trading on the NYSE. The CU ADRs are issued under the terms of an Amended and Restated Deposit Agreement dated December 15, 1994, as amended (the "CU Deposit Agreement" and, collectively with the LVU Deposit Agreement, the "Deposit Agreement"), among the Depositary, Interceramic and the registered holders from time to time of the CU ADRs, and trade in the United States in an unrestricted program, but not on any established market. Historically, there has been extremely limited trading in the CU ADRs in the United States and the volume of Common Units in the program has decreased over the years. At December 31, 2002, approximately 6,876 CU ADRs were outstanding.

*High and Low Prices for Past Five Fiscal Years on the NYSE*

The table below shows the high and low sales prices in Dollars of the LVU ADRs on the NYSE for the preceding five fiscal years:

<b>Year</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
2002	13.00	4.75
2001	10.13	6.90
2000	9.63	4.25
1999	6.68	2.69
1998	8.75	2.56

*High and Low Prices by Quarter for Past Two Fiscal Years on the NYSE*

The table below shows the high and low sales prices in Dollars and the average daily trading volume in the LVU ADRs on the NYSE for the preceding two fiscal year periods:

**Average Daily**

Period	Dollars per ADR(1)		Trading
	High	Low	Volume in ADRs(1)
<b>2001:</b>			
First Quarter	10.13	8.05	2,435
Second Quarter	8.35	7.40	492
Third Quarter	8.75	8.05	208
Fourth Quarter	7.90	6.90	247
<b>2002:</b>			
First Quarter	7.90	7.10	1,050
Second Quarter	11.95	7.80	2,334
Third Quarter	8.60	4.90	8,163
Fourth Quarter	7.00	4.75	3,550
<b>2003:</b>			
First Quarter	6.51	5.75	1,037
Second Quarter(2)	5.82	5.35	576

(1) Source: NYSE; the Company.

(2) To June 13, 2003

*High and Low Prices by Quarter for Past Two Fiscal Years on the Mexican Stock Exchange*

The table below shows the high and low sales prices in nominal Pesos and the average daily trading volume in the Common Units and the Limited Voting Units on the Mexican Stock Exchange for the preceding two fiscal periods:

Nominal Pesos per Common Unit(1)	Average Daily Trading Volume in Common Units(1)
----------------------------------	---

<b>Period</b>	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	
<b>2001:</b>			
First Quarter	18.0	18.0	809
Second Quarter	18.0	17.0	23
Third Quarter	18.0	18.0	2
Fourth Quarter	18.0	16.2	81
<b>2002:</b>			
First Quarter	16.20	16.20	0
Second Quarter	16.20	16.20	0
Third Quarter	13.77	11.00	26
Fourth Quarter	11.51	11.30	24,277
<b>2003:</b>			
First Quarter	12.00	11.30	42,550
Second Quarter(2)	12.00	12.00	0

(1) Source: NYSE; the Company.

(2) To June 13, 2003

<b>Period</b>	<b>Nominal Pesos per Limited Voting Unit(1)</b>		<b>Average Daily Trading Volume in Limited Voting Units(1)</b>
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>	
<b>2001:</b>			
First Quarter	18.0	18.0	5
Second Quarter	18.0	17.0	21

Third Quarter	17.0	17.0	65
Fourth Quarter	17.0	15.3	6
<b>2002:</b>			
First Quarter	15.3	12.60	1,132
Second Quarter	19.4	14.50	714
Third Quarter	16.5	11.00	13,847
Fourth Quarter	12.01	12.00	56,155
<b>2003:</b>			
First Quarter	12.51	12.00	8,663
Second Quarter(2)	12.50	11.18	25,169

(1) Source: Mexican Stock Exchange.

(2) To June 13, 2003.

*High and Low Prices for the Most Recent Six Months on the NYSE*

The table below shows the high and low sales prices in Dollars of the LVU ADRs on the NYSE for the seven preceding months:

<b>Period</b>	<b>Dollars per ADR(1)</b>	
	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
December, 2002	6.75	5.60
January, 2003	7.10	6.35
February, 2003	6.35	5.90
March, 2003	6.15	5.80
April, 2003	5.82	5.40
May, 2003	5.50	5.35
June, 2003(2)	5.50	5.45

- (1) Source: NYSE; the Company.
- (2) At June 11, 2003.

### ***B. Plan of Distribution***

Not applicable.

### ***C. Markets***

#### **New York Stock Exchange**

The LVU ADRs have been listed and trading on the NYSE since December of 1994 under the symbol "ICM." The NYSE traces its origins back to 1792 and is arguably the best known securities exchange in the world. The NYSE registered as a national securities exchange with the SEC on October 1, 1934. The Governing Committee was the primary governing body of the NYSE until 1938, at which time the NYSE hired its first paid president and created a 33 member Board of Governors. The Board of Governors included NYSE members, non-member partners from both New York and out-of-town firms, as well as public representatives. In 1971 the NYSE was incorporated as a not-for-profit corporation. In 1972 the members voted to replace the Board of Governors with a twenty-five member Board of Directors, comprised of a Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, 12 representatives of the public and 12 representatives from the securities industry.

The largest equities marketplace in the world, at the end of 2002, the NYSE was home to 2,783 companies worth US \$13.4 trillion in global market capitalization. As of year-end 2002, the NYSE had 349.9 billion shares listed and available for trading and during the course of 2002, the NYSE handled US \$10.3 trillion in trades. Over two-thirds of the roster of NYSE companies have listed within the last 12 years. These companies include a cross-section of leading United States companies, mid-size and small capitalization companies. Non-United States issuers play an increasingly important role on the NYSE. Currently, more than 470 non-United States companies were listed on the NYSE-more than triple the number five years ago.

Trading on the NYSE commences on the NYSE at 9:30 a.m. New York, New York time and ends at 4:00 p.m. Trading occurs Monday through Friday of each week during the year, other than nine recognized holidays. Further information regarding the NYSE may be found on its web page at [www.nyse.com](http://www.nyse.com) from which substantially all of the foregoing information has been obtained.

#### **The Mexican Stock Exchange**

Interceramic securities have traded on the Mexican Stock Exchange since 1987, and since the restructuring of its capital stock in 1994, the Common Units have traded as "ceramic ub" and the Limited Voting Units as "ceramic uld." The Mexican Stock Exchange, which was founded in 1894 and has operated continuously since 1907, is located in Mexico City and is Mexico's only stock exchange. The Mexican Stock Exchange is organized as a corporation with its shares being held by approximately 30 brokerage firms.

Equity trading takes place on the Mexican Stock Exchange each weekday other than holidays, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., local time, although offers to buy and to sell may be made starting at 8:00 a.m. Each trading day is divided into six trading sessions with ten minute periods separating each session. Trades in securities listed on the Mexican Stock Exchange can, subject to certain requirements, also be effected off of the Mexican Stock



Exchange. However, due primarily to Mexican tax considerations relating to capital gains, most transactions in listed Mexican securities are carried out on the Mexican Stock Exchange. The Mexican Stock Exchange and the *Comisión Nacional Bancaria y de Valores*, the Mexican national securities commission (the "CNBV"), have implemented an automatic trading system which has substantially replaced trading on the floor of the Mexican Stock Exchange.

As of December 31, 2002, the shares of 169 Mexican companies, excluding mutual funds, were listed on the Mexican Stock Exchange. In 2001, the ten most actively traded equity issues represented approximately 69.08 percent of the total volume of equity issues traded thereon. There is no formal over-the-counter market for securities in Mexico. Although there is substantial participation by the public in the trading of securities on the Mexican Stock Exchange, a major part of such activity reflects transactions by institutional investors. Further information regarding the Mexican Stock Exchange may be found on its web page at [www.bmv.com.mx](http://www.bmv.com.mx).

***D. Selling Shareholders***

Not applicable.

***E. Dilution***

Not applicable.

***F. Expenses of the Issue***

Not applicable.

**ITEM 10. Additional Information**

***A. Share Capital***

Not applicable.

***B. Memorandum and Articles of Association***

Interceramic was organized on February 17, 1978 by the establishment of Public Deed Number 4,347 given at the Office of the Public Notary Number 4 in the City of Chihuahua. This was followed by the filing of its *Acta Constitutiva*, or articles of incorporation (the "Articles"), with the *Registro Público de Comercio del Distrito Morelos en la Ciudad de Chihuahua* (the "Public Registry of Property and Commerce of the Morelos District of the City of Chihuahua" or the "Public Registry") on March 16, 1978. The Bylaws contain most of the material provisions regarding the governance of Interceramic, and copies of the Bylaws have also been filed with, and can be examined at, the Public Registry. In addition, an English translation of the Bylaws, as amended to date, are filed as an Exhibit to this Annual Report. See "Item 19-Exhibits" below. An English translation of the Articles, as amended to date, was filed as an Exhibit to the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2000.

**Corporate Purposes**

Pursuant to Article 2 of the Articles, Interceramic's corporate objectives and purposes include:

- the manufacture, purchase and sale of all types of tile and related products;

- the manufacture and purchase of parts and machinery for production purposes;
- acquisition of all fixed assets necessary to set up or install plants, factories and warehouses;
- purchase of lots and easements as is necessary to obtain raw materials;
- purchase or rent all necessary buildings, machinery, equipment and vehicles necessary for the purchase and transportation of the above mentioned products;
- acquisition of lots and homes, as well as construction of homes;
- obtain mortgages and loans of all types and obtain financing to reach any of the corporate objectives;
- enter into distribution, commission and retail contracts;
- organize, finance and otherwise promote all types of companies and retail establishments;
- acquisition of stock and shares of other companies;
- service as economic and technical consultants to professionals, construction workers, construction companies and companies in general;
- enter into any acts and contracts as generally allowed by law;
- service as technical, economic and administrative consultants to subsidiary companies, as well as providing any other services to subsidiaries; and

- provide qualified personnel to subsidiaries that so request.

### **Certain Matters Regarding Directors**

The Bylaws contain no restriction on the ability of a director to vote on any matter in which the director has a material interest; however the Board has a formally adopted policy pursuant to which if a director has a material interest in a matter pending before the Board, the director must announce the nature of the interest and excuse the director from debate, consideration and voting on the issue. The Bylaws do not contain any restriction on the ability of the directors to establish their compensation, either in the aggregate or for any particular director. Additionally, neither the Bylaws nor Board policy impose an age limitation on directors nor impose any shareholding requirement.

With respect to borrowing powers, the Board generally delegates the power to exercise a variety of corporate powers to one or more officers of Interceramic by a power-of-attorney. Typically, this power is sufficient to enable the grantee to borrow money and undertake virtually all ordinary corporate powers on behalf of Interceramic over the course of the year. In practice, material transactions are brought for discussion before the Board at regularly called monthly meetings although formal Board votes are rarely conducted.

Interceramic USA operates somewhat differently, and the borrowing power is in all material respects exercised only upon express resolution by the Interceramic USA board of directors.

### **Outstanding Capital Stock**

The authorized capital stock of Interceramic consists of 124,571,150, shares, divided into three classes of stock without par value, the Series B Shares in the amount of 75,445,430, the Series D Shares in the amount of 25,057,860 and the Series L Shares in the amount of 25,057,860, of which on December 31, 2002, 103,342,550 were issued and outstanding, consisting of 60,279,030 Series B Shares and 21,531,760 shares each of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares. Pursuant to the Bylaws, until December 7, 2004 (the "Separation Date"), the Series B Shares are required to trade in pairs of two as Common Units, and the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares are required to trade in pairs of one share of each class as Limited Voting Units.

### **Units**

The Bylaws require that Interceramic's capital stock trade as either Common Units or Limited Voting Units until the Separation Date. Upon later sales, if any, by Interceramic of its capital stock, until the Separation Date sales will be of the applicable Common Units or Limited Voting Units, and neither the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares nor the Series L Shares will be sold in any form other than Common Units and Limited Voting Units. In connection with each subsequent sale of Common Units or Limited Voting Units, if any, the applicable Units will separate with all other then outstanding Units on the Separation Date, regardless of when the Units were first offered and sold, unless, in connection with any sale, Interceramic requests and the *Registro Nacional de Valores e Intermediarios* (the "RNVI") maintained by the CNBV, approves a longer period for the applicable Units to trade in Unit form.

On the Separation Date, the Series L Shares will convert to Series B Shares, and thereafter, the Series L Shares will cease to exist as a class of Interceramic's capital stock, and all voting and other rights previously applicable to holders of Series L Shares will no longer exist, other than to the extent rights may be available under the Bylaws to holders of Series B Shares.

### **Changes in Capital Stock, Preemptive Rights and Redemption**

The capital stock of Interceramic may be increased or decreased by a resolution passed at a general extraordinary meeting of the holders of the Series B Shares-however, the Series B Shares must at all times exceed 50 percent of Interceramic's capital stock.

If the capital stock is increased, shareholders will have preemptive rights to subscribe for the new shares in proportion to their holdings relative to all capital stock then outstanding, except in the case of shares issued:

- in connection with mergers;
- upon the conversion of convertible debentures; or
- for placement in public offerings, if the shareholders at a general extraordinary shareholders' meeting called for that purpose approve the issuance of shares and the waiver of preemptive rights.

Interceramic may resell shares retained in the treasury as a result of share repurchases conducted on the Mexican Stock Exchange without triggering the preemptive rights of shareholders. The subscription period for the exercise of preemptive rights is determined by the shareholders' meeting which approved the increase in the capital stock. However, the subscription period may not be less than 15 days after publication in the *Periodico Oficial del Estado* (the "Official Gazette") of a notice of the issuance of new shares. Holders of ADRs may not be entitled to receive any rights to purchase securities which have not been registered under the 1933 Act or other applicable law and which are not exempt from the registration requirements of the 1933 Act. Except for the waiver of preemptive rights made at a shareholders meeting for shares to be issued under a public offering program approved by the shareholders and CNBV, preemptive rights cannot be waived in advance and cannot be represented by an instrument that is negotiable separately from the corresponding share.

The variable portion of Interceramic's capital is subject to redemption by resolution passed at a general extraordinary shareholders' meeting if:

- a reduction of share capital is necessary to absorb losses;
- a reduction of share capital is proportional among all shareholders;
- a reduction of share capital is made to relieve shareholders of their obligation to make additional payments with respect to partially paid in shares; or
- a reduction of share capital is made as a result of repurchases of shares in open market transactions conducted on the Mexican Stock Exchange.

#### **Purchase of Shares by Interceramic**

At the direction of the Board, Interceramic may repurchase its shares on the Mexican Stock Exchange at any time at the prevailing market price. In accordance with Article 14 Bis 3, I, of the *Ley del Mercado de Valores* (the "Mexican Securities Law"), Interceramic may acquire its own stock in transactions on the Mexican Stock Exchange at the then current market price without violating the prohibition contained in first paragraph of Article 134 of the *Ley General de Sociedades Mercantiles* (the "Mexican Companies Law"), if the repurchased shares are then applied in reduction of the shareholders equity or, as the case may be, in reduction of paid-in capital, in the event it is resolved to hold them as treasury shares, in which case shareholder approval of the repurchase shall not be required.

When the acquisition of Interceramic's own shares is applied against paid-in capital, converting the shares into treasury shares shall be done by reducing paid-in capital by an amount equivalent to the "face value" of the shares. For this purpose, "face value" is equal to the quotient of the paid-in capital divided by the number of shares of Interceramic stock then issued and outstanding. The remaining balance of the repurchase cost of the shares shall be charged to a "Reserve for Repurchase of Own Stock" account. If the purchase price of the shares is less than their face value, paid-in capital must be reduced in an amount equivalent to the face value of the shares acquired.

When an acquisition of shares is not to be applied against paid-in capital, a special account called "Company's Own Stock" shall be credited in an amount equivalent to the purchase price of the shares. The "Company's Own Stock" account shall be maintained as a debit account within shareholders equity.

At the annual general ordinary shareholders meeting each year, the shareholders shall determine for the applicable fiscal year by resolution the maximum amount of money that shall be available for use by Interceramic for the repurchase of its own stock for the year, with the only limitation being that the amount to be determined for this purpose shall in no event exceed the total balance of the net income of Interceramic, including retained earnings. The Board is required to designate the responsible person or persons within Interceramic with the authority to make repurchases of Interceramic's own stock in accordance with this policy.

While its own shares are owned by Interceramic, such shares can not be voted or otherwise represented at any shareholders meetings of any type for any purpose.

Shares held in the "Company's Own Stock" account or as treasury shares may, notwithstanding the provisions established in the Mexican Companies Law, be resold by Interceramic and placed within the public market, in which event the corresponding increase in paid-in capital will not require the approval of either the Board or the shareholders. The amount received by Interceramic from resales of such shares shall be applied to (i) in the event the repurchase of the shares was applied against paid-in capital and conversion into treasury shares, increase the paid-in capital in an amount equivalent to the face value of the shares, restoring the "Reserve for Repurchase of Own Stock" with the remaining balance, if any, or, (ii) in the event the repurchase of such shares was not applied against paid-in capital, the "Company's Own Stock" account shall be reduced in an amount equal to the amount received in respect of such shares, reducing the "Reserve for Repurchase of Own Stock" in the event the amount received by Interceramic was less than the amount paid by it for such shares at the time they were initially purchased. The amount of profit, if any, realized upon the resale of any such shares shall be maintained on the books of the Company in an account called "Stock Premium."

In no event shall Interceramic be entitled to purchase its own stock if the acquisition of such stock would result in a reduction of the fixed portion of Interceramic's paid-in capital.

The repurchase and subsequent resales of Interceramic's own stock, the reports of repurchases and resales that must be presented before to the annual general ordinary shareholders meeting, the standards for the disclosure of financial information, and also the forms and terms on which these actions must be disclosed to the CNBV, to the Mexican Stock Exchange and to the public markets shall be governed by the terms of the *circulares* ("Regulations") of the CNBV.

Unless a share repurchase is conducted through a tender offer, Interceramic's directors, officers, statutory auditors and the secretary of the Board, and holders of ten percent or more of Interceramic's outstanding shares, may not sell shares to, or purchase repurchased shares from Interceramic. Regulations under the Mexican Securities Law require that if Interceramic decides to repurchase shares representing three percent or more of its share capital, the repurchase must be conducted by means of a public tender offer.

Companies or other entities controlled by Interceramic may not purchase, directly or indirectly, shares of Interceramic or shares of companies or entities that are shareholders of Interceramic.

### **Registration and Transfer**

All of the shares of Interceramic are evidenced by share certificates in registered form, with registered dividend coupons attached. Dividend coupons may only be presented for payment by the registered holders of the corresponding share. Shareholders of Interceramic may either hold their shares directly, in the form of physical certificates, or indirectly, in the form of book entries through institutions that have accounts with Indeval. Accounts may be maintained at Indeval by brokers, banks, other financial entities or other entities approved by the CNBV ("Indeval Participants"). Interceramic maintains a stock registry and only those persons listed in the stock registry and those holding physical certificates or certificates indicating ownership issued by Indeval and any relevant Indeval Participants, will be recognized as shareholders by Interceramic.

### **Shareholders' Meetings and Voting Rights**

The holders of Series B Shares, voting at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting, are entitled to elect all but four of the members of the Board and the corresponding alternate directors and to vote on any matter coming before shareholders at any general meeting of Interceramic's shareholders.

The holders of Series D Shares, voting as a class, are entitled to vote on:

- the election of two members of the Board and the corresponding alternate directors;
- any corporate action that would prejudice the rights of the Series D Shares as a class; and
- the removal of the Series D Shares, the Limited Voting Units or the securities that represent them from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and cancellation from registration of those shares with RNVI.

The holders of Series L Shares, voting as a class, are entitled to vote on:

- the election of two members of the Board and the corresponding alternate directors;
- any corporate action that would prejudice the rights of the Series L Shares as a class; and

- the removal of the Series L Shares, the Limited Voting Units or the securities that represent them from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and cancellation from registration of those shares with RNVI.

Additionally, voting together as a single class with the holders of the Series B Shares, the holders of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares are entitled to vote at an extraordinary general meeting on:

- transformation of Interceramic from one type of company to another;
- any merger of Interceramic, even if Interceramic is the surviving entity;
- extension of Interceramic's existence beyond its prescribed duration of December 31, 2053;
- dissolution of Interceramic before December 31, 2053;
- a change of Interceramic's corporate purposes; and
- a change of Interceramic's nationality.

Under the Bylaws, holders of shares of any series are also entitled to vote as a class in a special meeting governed by the same rules that apply to extraordinary meetings on any action that would impair the rights of holders of shares of the effected series, and a holder of shares of the series would be entitled to judicial relief against any action taken without a vote under those circumstances.

General shareholders' meetings may be general ordinary meetings or general extraordinary meetings. General extraordinary meetings are those called to consider certain matters specified in Article 182 of the Mexican Companies Law and the Bylaws including, principally, amendments of the Bylaws, liquidation, merger and transformation from one form of company to another and increases and reductions of the fixed portion of the capital. In addition, the Bylaws require a general extraordinary meeting to consider the removal of Interceramic's shares from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and from registration of the shares with the RNVI. General ordinary meetings, which are held at least once a year, are called to consider all other matters including any acquisition representing an investment of more than 20 percent of Interceramic's shareholders' equity as set forth in its most recent balance sheet filed with the CNBV and any sale of a subsidiary controlled by Interceramic which represents more than 20 percent of Interceramic's shareholders' equity as set forth in its balance sheet. The Bylaws, however, provide for certain circumstances in which acquisitions may be approved by the Board alone.

Special meetings of holders of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares are required to consider the removal of the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares, as applicable, or the Limited Voting Units from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or any foreign stock exchange and cancellation registration of the shares with the RNVI. All other matters on which holders of Series D Shares or Series L Shares are entitled to vote will be considered at an extraordinary general meeting. Holders of Series D Shares and Series L Shares are entitled to attend, but not to address, meetings of shareholders at which they are not entitled to vote.

A general ordinary meeting of the holders of Series B Shares must be held at least once each year within the first four months following the end of the preceding fiscal year to consider the approval of the financial statements of Interceramic and certain of its subsidiaries for the preceding fiscal year, to elect all of the directors entitled to be elected by the holders of the Series B Shares, to elect statutory auditors and members of any executive committee of the Board, to determine the compensation of all directors, statutory auditors or members of an executive committee, and to determine the allocation of the profits of the preceding year.

The quorum for a general ordinary meeting of the holders of the Series B Shares on first call is at least 50 percent of the Series B Shares, and action may be taken by a majority of the Series B Shares present. If a quorum is not available, a second meeting may be called at which action may be taken by a majority of the Series B Shares present, regardless of the number of shares represented at the meeting.

The quorum for a general extraordinary meeting at which holders of the Series B Shares, but not holders of Series D Shares or Series L Shares, are entitled to vote is at least 75 percent and at least 50 percent of all of the outstanding Series B Shares on first and successive calls, respectively, and action may be taken by a vote of at least 50 percent of the outstanding Series B Shares. With respect to general extraordinary meetings at which Series D Shares and/or the Series L Shares are entitled to vote, the quorum requirement is at least 75 percent and at least 50 percent of all shares entitled to vote on first and successive calls, respectively, and action may be taken by a vote of at least 50 percent of all of the stock entitled to vote.

At special meetings of the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares for the removal of Series D Shares, the Series L Shares, the Limited Voting Units or the securities that represent them, as the case may be, from listing on the Mexican Stock Exchange or a foreign stock exchange or cancellation of registration with the RNVI, the quorum requirement is at least 75 percent or at least 50 percent of the shares entitled to vote on first and successive calls, respectively, and action may be taken by the vote of at least 50 percent of the outstanding Series D Shares or Series L Shares. At special meetings of the Series D Shares and/or the Series L Shares on all other matters, the quorum requirement is at least 75 percent of all the applicable shares on the first call, and at least 50 percent on successive calls, and action may be taken by the vote of at least 50 percent of all outstanding Series D Shares or Series L Shares.

For a description of procedures for voting of the Series B Shares comprising the Common Units underlying the Common Unit ADRs, and for voting of the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares comprising the Limited Voting Units underlying the Limited Voting Unit ADRs, see "-Voting of American Depositary Shares" below.

Holders of 15 percent of Interceramic's outstanding capital stock may have any shareholder action set aside by filing a complaint with a court of law within 15 days of close of the meeting at which the action was taken and showing that the challenged action violates Mexican law or the Bylaws. In addition, any holder of Interceramic's capital stock may bring an action at any time within five years challenging any shareholder action. Relief under these provisions is only available to holders (i) who were entitled to vote on, or whose rights as shareholders were adversely affected by the challenged shareholder action and (ii) whose shares were not represented when the action was taken or, if represented, were voted against it.

Shareholders' meetings may be called by the Board, the statutory auditors of Interceramic or a Mexican court. The Board or the statutory auditors are required to call a meeting of the shareholders at the written request of the holders of ten percent of the Series B Shares or, in the case of a meeting at which holders of Series D Shares and/or



the Series L Shares would be entitled to vote with the Series B Shares, at the written request of the holders of ten percent of the outstanding Series B Shares, Series D Shares and Series L Shares combined. In the event that a meeting is not called within 15 days following the date of request, a Mexican court may require the meeting to be called. Notices of meetings and proposed agendas must be published in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Chihuahua at least 15 days prior to the meeting. Meetings at which holders of Series D Shares and/or Series L Shares are not entitled to vote may be held without any publication if 100 percent of the Series B Shares are represented. To be entitled to vote at a meeting, shareholders must deposit their shares with Interceramic's Secretary at its office in the City of Chihuahua or any appointed registrar, or certificates evidencing a deposit with a Mexican or foreign banking institution or with a Mexican exchange broker. If entitled to attend the meeting, a shareholder may be represented by proxy. All meetings of Interceramic's shareholders must be held in the City of Chihuahua. Holders of Interceramic's shares do not have cumulative voting rights.

## **Dividends**

At each annual meeting of the holders of the Series B Shares, the Board submits the financial statements of Interceramic for the previous fiscal year, together with a financial report by the Board, to the holders of the Series B Shares for approval. The holders of the Series B Shares, once they have approved the financial statements, determine the allocation of Interceramic's net profits for the preceding year. Holders of the Series B Shares are required by law to allocate at least five percent of the net profits to a legal reserve, which is not thereafter available for distribution except as a stock dividend, until the amount of the legal reserve equals 20 percent of Interceramic's historical capital stock (before effect of restatement). Thereafter, the shareholders may determine and allocate a certain percentage of net profits to any special reserve, including a reserve for open-market purchases of Interceramic's shares. The remainder of net profits is available for distribution in the form of dividends to the shareholders. The Bylaws currently provide that, except to the extent of the Fixed Preference (as defined in the following paragraph), all shares outstanding and fully paid at the time a dividend is declared are entitled to share equally in any dividend. Shares which are only partially paid participate in a dividend in the same proportion that the shares have been paid at the time of the dividend.

Holders of each Series D Share, including Series D Shares comprising the Limited Voting Units underlying the Limited Voting Unit ADRs, are entitled to receive the Fixed Preference—an annual, cumulative dividend of five percent of the theoretical per share value of the Series D Shares as set forth in the Bylaws, or nominal Ps 0.025 per share, before any dividends are payable in respect of the Series B Shares and the Series L Shares. Following payment in full of the Fixed Preference, holders of Series B Shares and the Series L Shares are entitled to receive, if available, an amount per share equal to the Fixed Preference paid per Series D Share that year. Following payment in full of an amount equal to the Fixed Preference per Series D Share, Series B Share and Series L Share, the holders of the Series D Shares, the Series B Shares and the Series L Shares share equally on a per share basis, in any amounts remaining for distribution.

## **Liquidation**

Upon liquidation of Interceramic, one or more liquidators will be appointed to wind up its affairs. The Bylaws provide that, other than the Liquidation Preference payable with respect to the Series D Shares, all fully paid and outstanding shares of capital stock will be entitled to participate equally in any distribution upon liquidation. Shares which are only partially paid participate in a liquidating distribution in the proportion that they have been paid at the time of liquidation. Holders of Series D Shares are entitled to the Liquidation Preference equal to the sum of all accrued but unpaid Fixed Preference dividends and the theoretical per share value of the Series D Shares as set forth in the Bylaws, or nominal Ps 0.50 per share, before any distribution is made in respect of Interceramic's other capital stock. Following payment in full of any preferential amounts, holders of Series B Shares and Series L Shares will be entitled to receive, if available, an amount per share equal to the Liquidation Preference paid per Series D Share. Following payment in full at an amount equal to the Liquidation Preference per Series D Share, Series B Share and Series L Share, the holders of the Series D Shares, the Series B Shares and the Series L Shares will share equally,

on a per share basis, in any remaining amounts payable in respect to Interceramic's capital stock, regardless of the date of liquidation.

Upon the liquidation of Interceramic, holders of fully paid shares are entitled to receive pro rata any proceeds remaining after the payment of Interceramic's debts and taxes and the expenses of the liquidation in the manner described in the preceding paragraph; holders of shares that have not been paid in full will only be entitled to liquidation proceeds in proportion to their paid-in amount.

### **Variable Capital and Withdrawal Rights**

Interceramic's capital stock includes a variable capital portion, which can at a maximum equal ten times the fixed capital portion. An aggregate of Ps 7.0 million has been allocated on the records of Interceramic to fixed capital. The fixed portion of Interceramic's capital stock cannot be withdrawn.

The outstanding variable portion of Interceramic's capital stock may be fully or partially withdrawn by the shareholders. A shareholder who wishes to effect a total or partial withdrawal of the variable portion of its shares must notify Interceramic in writing pursuant to the Bylaws. If notice of withdrawal is received prior to the first day of the last quarter of the fiscal year, the withdrawal will be effective at the end of the fiscal year in which the notice is given. Otherwise, the withdrawal will become effective at the end of the following fiscal year. Upon a shareholder's election to withdraw its variable capital as described above, the share capital of Interceramic is reduced.

Reimbursement of withdrawn shares is at the lower of 95 percent of the average price per share quoted on the Mexican Stock Exchange during the 30 days on which the shares were quoted prior to the date on which the withdrawal becomes effective or the book value per share as calculated from Interceramic's financial statements (as approved at the annual ordinary shareholders' meeting) for the fiscal year at the end of which the withdrawal becomes effective. A shareholder that has exercised its withdrawal rights can request reimbursement by Interceramic on the day following the general ordinary shareholders' meeting at which the financial statements referred to above are approved.

Because the fixed portion of capital cannot be withdrawn, requests for withdrawals are satisfied only to the extent of the available variable capital and in the order in which they are received; requests which are received simultaneously are fulfilled pro rata to the extent of the available variable capital.

Any variable portion of Interceramic's capital stock may be increased or decreased by resolution of shareholders at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting. Increases and decreases in the capital stock must be recorded in Interceramic's book of capital variations.

### **Notification in the Event of Certain Securities Acquisitions**

The Bylaws provide that in the event a shareholder of Interceramic, either acting singly or collectively with other persons, acquires in excess of 15 percent of the Series B Shares outstanding, whether as comprising Common Units prior to the Separation Date or trading separately thereafter, the person is required to make a filing with Interceramic, describing itself and the persons in the applicable group. Failure to make the filing will result in the inability of the applicable persons to exercise voting rights with respect to Series B Shares owned by them in excess of 15 percent of the then outstanding Series B Shares.

### **Stated Duration of Interceramic**

The duration of Interceramic is through February 28, 2053.

### **Appraisal Rights**

If and when the shareholders approve a change of corporate purpose, change of nationality of the corporation or transformation from one type of company to another, any shareholder who has voted against a change in the corporate purpose has the right to withdraw from Interceramic and receive the book value (as set forth in the latest balance sheet approved by the general ordinary shareholders' meeting) attributable to the shares, as long as the shareholder makes its request during the 15-day period following the adjournment of the meeting at which the change was approved.

### **Actions Against Directors**

Pursuant to Article 161 of the Mexican Companies Law, civil actions against directors may be initiated by resolution passed at a general ordinary shareholders' meeting. In the event the shareholders decide to bring an action, the directors against whom the action is to be brought immediately cease to be directors. Additionally, shareholders representing not less than 15 percent of the outstanding shares may directly bring an action against directors as long as the shareholders did not vote against bringing the action at the relevant shareholders' meeting and the claim covers all the damages alleged to have been caused to Interceramic and not only the portion corresponding to those shareholders. Any recovery of damages with respect to the action will be for the benefit of Interceramic and not for the shareholders bringing the action.

### **Shareholders' Conflicts of Interest**

Pursuant to the Mexican Companies Law, any shareholder that has a direct or indirect conflict of interest with respect to a transaction must abstain from voting with respect to that transaction at the relevant shareholders' meeting. A shareholder that votes on a transaction in which its interest conflicts with that of Interceramic may be liable for damages in the event the relevant transaction would not have been approved without the shareholder's vote.

### **Restriction on Foreign Investment**

Ownership by non-Mexicans of shares of Mexican enterprises is regulated by the *Ley de Inversión Extranjera* (as amended, the "Foreign Investment Law") and the *Reglamento de la Ley para Promover la Inversión Mexicana y Regular la Inversión Extranjera* (as amended, the "Foreign Investment Regulations"). The *Comisión Nacional de Inversiones Extranjeras* (the "Foreign Investment Commission") is responsible for the administration of the Foreign Investment Law and the Foreign Investment Regulations.

The Foreign Investment Law reserves certain economic activities exclusively for the Mexican government, certain other activities exclusively for Mexican individuals or Mexican corporations and limits the participation of non-Mexican investors to certain percentages in regard to enterprises engaged in certain activities specified in the Foreign Investment Law. Foreign investors may freely participate in up to 100 percent of the capital stock of Mexican companies or entities except for existing companies engaged in specified reserved activities as referred to above. Although Interceramic is not engaged in an industry in which foreign ownership is restricted, the Foreign Investment Law requires that Interceramic register any foreign owner of its shares, or the depositary with respect to ADRs representing its shares, with the National Registry of Foreign Investment maintained by the Ministry of Commerce and Industrial Development of Mexico. A foreign owner of shares that has not been registered is not entitled to vote or to receive dividends with respect to its unregistered shares. Interceramic has registered the Depositary for this purposes with respect to the ADRs.

Neither the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares nor the Series L Shares have restrictions on ownership by non-Mexican nationals.

In addition, as required by Mexican law, the Bylaws provide that non-Mexican shareholders of Interceramic formally agree with the Foreign Affairs Ministry to be considered as Mexicans with respect to the shares that they acquire or hold as well as to the property, rights, concessions, participation or interests owned by Interceramic or to

the rights and obligations derived from any agreements Interceramic has with the Mexican Government and not to invoke the protection of their own governments. If a shareholder should invoke governmental protection in violation of its agreement, its shares would be forfeited to the Mexican government. In the opinion of Abogados Mesta y Asociados, S.C., Mexican counsel to Interceramic, under this provision a non-Mexican shareholder is not deemed to have waived any other rights it may have, including any rights under the United States securities laws, with respect to its investment in Interceramic.

### **Voting of American Depositary Shares**

As the holder of the Units underlying the ADRs, the Depositary will receive notice of meetings of Interceramic's shareholders. As soon as practicable after the receipt by the Depositary of notice of any meeting of holders of the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares, the Depositary will mail or cause to be mailed the information contained in the notice of meeting to all holders of record of the applicable ADRs on the applicable record date (the "Holders"). Holders at the close of business a date specified by the Depositary, which shall be no fewer than eight business days prior to the relevant shareholders' meeting, may (unless otherwise restricted by law or the terms of the Deposit Agreement or the applicable securities) instruct the Depositary as to the exercise of the voting rights, if any, pertaining to the applicable shares comprising the Units represented by their respective ADRs. The Depositary will, if practicable, vote the applicable shares in accordance with the written instructions of Holders.

Although Holders of ADRs are not entitled to attend general meetings of the holders of the Series B Shares, the Series D Shares or the Series L Shares, all Holders, regardless of nationality, are entitled to exercise all voting rights applicable to the shares comprising the Units represented by their ADRs. Interceramic and the Depositary will use their reasonable efforts to implement arrangements to enable Holders to be able to vote the shares comprising the Units attributable to the ADRs.

If the Depositary does not receive timely instructions from a Holder of ADRs regarding the voting of the shares comprising their Units on or before the date established by the Depositary for that purpose, the Depositary shall take action to cause the shares to be counted for the purposes of satisfying applicable quorum requirements, but shares for which timely instructions to vote are not received will not be voted by the Depositary.

Further information regarding the Deposit Agreement and the rights and obligations of Interceramic, the Depositary and the holders of ADRs thereunder may be found in Interceramic's Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement on Form F-3, filed with the SEC on November 2, 2000, Registration No. 333-12776.

### ***C. Material Contracts***

Other than the American Standard Agreement and the Kohler Agreement, and the recently executed Credit Agreement, the Company has not entered into any contracts that could be considered material to the Company in the past two fiscal years. See "Item 4-Information on the Company-B. Business Overview-The American Standard Agreement" and "-The Kohler Agreement" and "Item 5-Operating and Financial Review and Prospects-D. Trend Information" above.

### ***D. Exchange Controls***

Mexico abolished its exchange control system on November 11, 1991. *Banco de México*, the Mexican central bank ("Banco de México"), has in recent years consistently has made foreign currency available to Mexican private sector entities (such as the Company) to meet their foreign currency obligations. Nevertheless, in the event of renewed shortages of foreign currency, there can be no assurance that Banco de México would continue to make foreign currency available to private sector companies or that foreign currency needed by the Company to service foreign currency obligations could be purchased in the open market without substantial additional cost.

Neither the Mexican government directly nor Banco de México impose any restrictions on the ability of Interceramic to make dividend, interest or other payments to holders of Interceramic's securities.

### *E. Taxation*

#### **United States Taxes**

##### *General*

The following is a general summary of certain United States federal income tax consequences of the ownership and sale of Units and ADRs, in each case, except as otherwise noted, by a US Holder (as defined below). The tax treatment of a holder may vary depending upon the particular situation of the holder. The following summary of United States federal income tax consequences is limited to holders who hold Units as "capital assets," within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and whose "functional currency," within the meaning of Code Section 985, is the Dollar. Certain holders (including without limitation insurance companies, tax-exempt organizations, financial institutions, persons subject to the alternative minimum tax, holders that are not US Holders, broker-dealers and beneficial holders of five percent or more of the voting power or value of the shares of Interceramic) may be subject to special rules not discussed below. The discussion below also does not address the effect of any United States state or local tax law on a holder. Additionally, the discussion is based upon United States federal income tax law as currently in effect, which is subject to change. As used herein, the term "US Holder" means any beneficial or record holder who is either an individual who is a citizen or resident of the United States, a partnership, corporation or other entity organized in or under the laws of the United States or any state thereof, or an estate or trust that is subject to United States federal income taxation without regard to the source of its income.

##### *Ownership and Sale of Units and ADRs*

In general, for United States federal income tax purposes, US Holders of Units and ADRs will be treated as the owners of the Common Units or Limited Voting Units and the Series B Shares or the Series D Shares and the Series L Shares comprising the Common Units and the Limited Voting Units, respectively.

##### *Taxation of Dividends and Stock Distributions*

For tax years ending before January 1, 2003, dividends paid out of current or accumulated earnings and profits with respect to Units will be includible in the gross income of a US Holder as ordinary income when the dividends are received by the custodian for the Units underlying the ADRs and the CU ADRs in the United States (the "Custodian") and will not be eligible for any dividends received deduction otherwise allowable to corporations under Code Section 243. Such dividends paid in Pesos will be includible in the income of a US Holder in a Dollar amount calculated by reference to the exchange rate in effect on the day the Pesos are received by the Custodian. US Holders should consult their own tax advisors regarding the treatment of any foreign currency gain or loss on any Pesos received which are not converted into Dollars on the day the Pesos are received by the Custodian. Dividends generally will constitute foreign source "passive income" (or in the case of certain holders, "financial services income") for United States foreign tax credit purposes. For tax years beginning after December 31, 2002 and ending prior to January 1, 2009, dividends payable by certain corporations, including the Company, will be taxed at capital gains rates, generally 15 percent for most US Holders, while US Holders in the ten percent and 15 percent tax brackets are taxed on capital gains at a rate of five percent.

Amounts withheld in respect of Mexican taxes on dividends will, subject to certain generally applicable limitations and exceptions, be eligible for the foreign tax credit available under the Code or, at the election of the US Holder, be deductible in computing taxable income. Under recent amendments to the Code, foreign tax credits may not be available for withholding taxes attributable to dividends paid in respect of securities held for short periods of

time or for certain short-term or hedged positions taken in respect of securities.

Distributions of additional shares to US Holders with respect to the Units (and accompanying distributions with respect to ADRs) that are made as part of a pro rata distribution to all shareholders of the Company generally will not be subject to United States federal income tax.

A holder of Units or ADRs that is, with respect to the United States, not a US Holder (a "Non-US Holder") will not be subject to United States federal income or withholding tax on dividends paid with respect to the Units (or with respect to ADRs), unless such income is effectively connected with the conduct by the holder of a trade or business in the United States.

#### *Taxation of Capital Gains*

Gain or loss realized by a US Holder on the sale or other taxable disposition of Units or ADRs will be subject to US federal income taxation as capital gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between such holder's basis in the Units or ADRs and the amount realized on the sale or other disposition. Capital gains and losses recognized on a sale or other disposition of Units or ADRs by a US Holder generally will be treated as United States source income. Deposits and withdrawals of Units for ADRs by US Holders will not be subject to United States federal income tax.

A Non-US holder of Units or ADRs will not be subject to United States federal income or withholding tax on gains realized on the sale of Units or ADRs unless (i) such gain is effectively connected with the conduct by the holder of a trade or business in the United States or (ii) in the case of gain realized by an individual holder, the holder is present in the United States for 183 days or more in the taxable year of the sale and certain other conditions are met.

### **Mexican Taxes**

#### *General*

The following is a general summary of certain anticipated Mexican tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of Units and ADRs, in each case, by a person that is not a resident of Mexico, as defined below.

This summary does not constitute, and should not be considered as, legal or tax advice to holders. The summary is for general information purposes only and is based upon the tax laws of Mexico as in effect on the date hereof, which are subject to change. Holders should consult their own tax advisors as to United States, Mexican or other tax consequences of the ownership and disposition of Units and ADRs.

An income tax treaty between the United States and Mexico took effect beginning January 1, 1994. Except as described below under "-Taxation of Capital Gains," the treaty does not have any material effect on the Mexican tax consequences described herein. Holders should consult with their tax advisors as to their entitlement to benefits afforded by the tax treaty.

For purposes of Mexican taxation, a natural person is a resident of Mexico if it has established its home in Mexico, unless it has resided in another country for more than 183 calendar days during a year and can demonstrate that he had become a resident of that country for tax purposes, and a legal entity is a resident of Mexico if and to the extent that it has business activities in Mexico. A Mexican citizen or a legal entity with its corporate domicile in Mexico and established under Mexican law is presumed to be a resident of Mexico unless such person or entity can demonstrate otherwise. If a legal entity has a permanent establishment or fixed base in Mexico, such permanent establishment or fixed base shall be required to pay taxes in Mexico in accordance with relevant tax provisions.

#### *Taxation of Dividends*

Effective January 1, 2000, dividends, either in cash or in any other form, paid with respect to the Units will be subject to the Mexican corporate tax, which the Company will be required to pay at a rate of 35 percent of 1.5385 times the amount of the dividend, if the dividend is not paid from earnings which have already been taxed.

*Taxation of Capital Gains*

The sale or other disposition of ADRs will not be subject to Mexican tax. Deposits and withdrawals of ADRs will not give rise to Mexican tax or transfer duties.

Gains realized on the sale or other disposition of Units will not be subject to any Mexican tax if the sale is carried out through the Mexican Stock Exchange or any other recognized securities market, as determined by Mexican tax authorities, including the NYSE. Gains realized on sales or other dispositions of Units made in other circumstances would be subject to Mexican income tax. Under the terms of the United States-Mexico income tax treaty, gains of a (less than 25 percent) US Holder eligible for benefits under the treaty on disposition of Units will not generally be subject to Mexican tax, provided they are not attributable to a permanent establishment or fixed base of such US Holder in Mexico. Gains of a Non-US Holder eligible for benefits under a treaty to which Mexico is a party may be exempt, in whole or in part, from Mexican tax under the applicable treaty. Holders should consult with their tax advisors to determine their entitlement to benefits accorded under any applicable tax treaty.

*Other Mexican Taxes*

There are no inheritance or succession taxes applicable to the ownership, transfer or disposition of Units or ADRs. There are no Mexican stamp, issuer, registration or similar taxes or duties payable by holders of Units or ADRs.

***F. Dividends and Paying Agents***

Not applicable.

***G. Statement by Experts***

Not applicable.

***H. Documents on Display***

Copies of documents referenced in this Annual Report may be obtained from Jesús Olivas Corral at the Company's office in Mexico at Ave. Carlos Pacheco 7200, Chihuahua, Chihuahua, México, telephone number 011.52.614.429.1161, or from Mark E. Mendel, Esq., Mendel • Blumenfeld, LLP, 5809 Acacia Circle, El Paso, Texas 79912, telephone number 915.587.7878.

**ITEM 11. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk**

The Company is exposed to market risk from changes in currency exchange rates and interest rates, in addition to the market risk inherent to material operations in economies of developing countries such as Mexico. The Company has identified its major sources of market risk, and in part chose to cause all of its indebtedness to be denominated in Dollars as a result. The Company is also exposed to market risk from changes in the price of natural gas, a material cost of production for the Company that historically has been subject to significant and rapid swings in price. In 2001, the Company entered into hedge agreements for the price of natural gas in order to reduce some of the market risk with respect to natural gas prices.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Interest rate risk exists principally with respect to the Company's indebtedness that bears interest at floating rates. At December 31, 2002, the Company had outstanding approximately US \$116.4 million of indebtedness, approximately 0.49 percent of which bore interest at fixed interest rates and approximately 99.51 percent of which bore interest at floating rates of interest. The interest rate on all of the Company's variable rate debt is determined by reference to LIBOR. Fundamental to variable rate obligations is the risk that interest rates will increase, particularly if rates increase without corresponding economic and price growth in the Company's operations.

### **Foreign Currency Risk**

The Company's principal exchange rate risk involves changes in the value of the Peso relative to the Dollar. Decreases in the value of the Peso relative to the Dollar will result in foreign exchange losses as the aggregate amount in Pesos of the Company's Dollar denominated indebtedness increases. Further, decreases in the Peso with respect to the Dollar increase the cost in Pesos of Dollar denominated expenses, including debt service obligations and amounts due third party vendors and suppliers.

During the course of 2002, the Peso weakened considerably in value against the Dollar, going from Ps 9.19 to US \$1.00 at December 31, 2001 to Ps 10.39 to US \$1.00 at December 31, 2002. During the course of 2002, the Peso has continued to lose value against the Dollar, standing at Ps 10.5075 to US \$1.00 at June 9, 2003.

At December 31, 2002 (i) approximately 43.6 percent of the Company's consolidated revenues were denominated in Dollars ; (ii) approximately 47.4 percent of the Company's total assets were denominated in Dollars; (iii) all of the Company's indebtedness was denominated in Dollars; (iv) approximately 73.8 percent of the Company's total liabilities were denominated in Dollars; and (v) roughly half of the Company's consolidated costs and operating expenses were denominated in Dollars. From an operating perspective, the Company believes that foreign exchange risk is substantially mitigated by the significant portion of its revenues that are denominated in Dollars, although weakening of the Peso against the Dollar can result and has in the past resulted in significant foreign exchange losses for financial statement purposes.

### **Commodity Price Risk**

In the Company's Mexican operations, the cost of natural gas constituted approximately 9.97 percent of the cost of production in 2002, while in the United States natural gas purchases accounted for approximately 6.62 of the cost of production. The price of natural gas is subject to significant variations during the course of a year. For example, at January 1, 2000 the average price for natural gas to the Company was US \$9.81 per MMBtu, on June 1, 2001 the same quantity of natural gas cost US \$2.35 and at year end, the price stood at US \$2.35 per MMBtu. As increases in natural gas prices can rarely be offset by correspondingly higher prices for the Company's products, unusually large increases or decreases in the price of natural gas can have a significant impact on the Company's operating profitability.

To protect the Company against some of the market risk related to natural gas prices, in 2001 the Company entered into a fixed price contract for natural gas with *Petróleos Mexicanos* ("Pemex"), the Mexican state oil and gas company, locking in the price of US \$4.00 per MMBtu, plus an amount equal to the difference between certain market prices of United States gas companies. Under this formula, the price per MMBtu to the Company as of May 30, 2003 was US \$ 4.00, while the market price on the same day was US \$ 4.79. This arrangement is in effect until December 2003.

### **Sensitivity Analysis Disclosure-2002**

#### *Interest Rates*



A hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable change of 250 basis points in the interest rate applicable to the Company's variable rate indebtedness at December 31, 2002 would have resulted in additional interest expense of approximately US \$0.7 million.

*Exchange Rates*

A hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable ten percent change in currency exchange rate of the Peso relative to the Dollar at the beginning of 2002 would have resulted in additional interest expense for the year of approximately Ps 10.0 million, reflecting the increased cost in Pesos of servicing the Company's Dollar denominated indebtedness. Such a change would have also resulted in an estimated additional foreign exchange loss of approximately Ps 10.0 million, reflecting the increased value in Pesos of the Company's Dollar denominated indebtedness.

*Natural Gas Prices*

A hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable ten percent change in the price of natural gas at the beginning of 2002 would not have resulted in any additional natural gas expense to the Company for the year given the Company's fixed price contract with Pemex. In the event, during the course of 2002, the price of natural gas actually decreased substantially, with the result that for a large part of 2002 the Company was paying substantially more than the market price under its contract with Pemex.

**Sensitivity Analysis Disclosure-2001**

*Interest Rates*

A hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable change of 250 basis points in the interest rate applicable to the Company's variable rate indebtedness at December 31, 2001 would have resulted in additional interest expense of approximately US \$0.6 million.

*Exchange Rates*

A hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable ten percent change in currency exchange rate of the Peso relative to the Dollar at the beginning of 2001 would have resulted in additional interest expense for the year of approximately Ps 10.9 million, reflecting the increased cost in Pesos of servicing the Company's Dollar denominated indebtedness. Such a change would have also resulted in an estimated additional foreign exchange loss of Ps 2.2 million, reflecting the increased value in Pesos of the Company's Dollar denominated indebtedness.

*Natural Gas Prices*

A hypothetical, instantaneous and unfavorable ten percent change in the price of natural gas at the beginning of 2001 would not have resulted in additional natural gas expense to the Company for the year given the Company's fixed price contract with Pemex. In the event, during the course of 2001 the price of natural gas actually decreased substantially, with the result that for a large part of 2002 the Company was paying substantially more than the market price under its contract with Pemex.

**ITEM 12. Description of Securities Other Than Equity Securities**

Not applicable.

## **PART II**

### **ITEM 13. Defaults, Dividend Arrearages and Delinquencies**

There have been no defaults by the Company under any of its financing arrangements, nor has there been any dividend arrearages or any other material delinquency.

### **ITEM 14. Modifications to the Rights of Security Holders and Use of Proceeds**

There have been no modifications to the rights of any security holders since the date of the Company's last Annual Report on Form 20-F. There are no reports with respect to use of proceeds applicable to the Company.

### **ITEM 15. Controls and Procedures**

The Company has established and maintains disclosure controls and procedures that are designed to ensure that material information relating to Interceramic and its subsidiaries required to be disclosed in the reports that it files or submits under the 1934 Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission's rules and forms, and that such information is accumulated and communicated to the Company's management, including its Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Within the 90 days prior to the filing date of this Annual Report, the Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of disclosure controls and procedures. Based on that evaluation of these disclosure controls and procedures, the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the date of such evaluation.

The Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer have also concluded that there were no significant changes in the Company's internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect the internal controls subsequent to the date that Interceramic completed its evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

### **ITEM 16. [Reserved]**

Not applicable.

## **PART III**

### **ITEM 17. Financial Statements**

The Company has responded to Item 18 in lieu of responding to this Item.

### **ITEM 18. Financial Statements**

See Item 19(a) for a list of the Financial Statements filed under this Item.

**ITEM 19. Exhibits**

Page

(a) *List of Financial Statements:*

<u>Index to Financial Statements</u> .....	F-1
<u>Report of Independent Auditors</u> .....	F-2
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets at December 31, 2001 and 2002</u> .....	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Income of the Company and subsidiaries for each of</u> the three years in the periods ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 .....	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity of the Company</u> and subsidiaries for each of the three years in the periods ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 .....	F-6
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position of the Company</u> and subsidiaries for each of the three years in the periods ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 .....	F-8
<u>Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements of the Company and subsidiaries for</u> each of the two years in the periods ended December 31, 2001 and 2002 .....	F-10

(b) *Financial Statement Schedules:*

Report of Independent Auditors ..... S-1

Schedule I Condensed Financial Information of Registrant ..... S-2

S-15 Schedule II Valuation and Qualifying Accounts .....

(c) Consent of Independent Auditors ..... C-1

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 12 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form 20-F and has duly caused this amended Annual Report on Form 20-F to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

June 30, 2003.

CERAMICA, S.A. de C.V.

INTERNACIONAL DE

Corral

By: Jesús Olivas

Jesús Olivas Corral

Chief Financial Officer

**CERTIFICATIONS**

I, Víctor D. Almeida García, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 20-F of Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.;

2. Based on my knowledge, this Annual Report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which

such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this Annual Report;

3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this Annual Report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this Annual Report;

4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in 1934 Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the Registrant and have:

a. designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this Annual Report is being prepared;

b. evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Annual Report (the "Evaluation Date"); and

c. presented in this Annual Report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;

5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the Registrant's auditors and the audit committee of Registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):

a. all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the Registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and

b. any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal controls; and

6. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have indicated in this annual report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

**DATED: June 30, 2003.**

García

Víctor D. Almeida

Víctor D. Almeida García, President, Chief

Executive Officer and Director

I, Jesús Olivas Corral, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this Annual Report on Form 20-F of Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this Annual Report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this Annual Report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this Annual Report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the Registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this Annual Report;
4. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in 1934 Act Rules 13a-14 and 15d-14) for the Registrant and have:
  - a. designed such disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that material information relating to the Registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this Annual Report is being prepared;
  - b. evaluated the effectiveness of the Registrant's disclosure controls and procedures as of a date within 90 days prior to the filing date of this Annual Report (the "Evaluation Date"); and
  - c. presented in this Annual Report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures based on our evaluation as of the Evaluation Date;
5. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation, to the Registrant's auditors and the audit committee of Registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent function):
  - a. all significant deficiencies in the design or operation of internal controls which could adversely affect the Registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data and have identified for the Registrant's auditors any material weaknesses in internal controls; and
  - b. any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the Registrant's internal controls; and
6. The Registrant's other certifying officer and I have indicated in this annual report whether or not there were significant changes in internal controls or in other factors that could significantly affect internal controls subsequent to the date of our most recent evaluation, including any corrective actions with regard to significant deficiencies and material weaknesses.

**DATED: June 30, 2003.**

Corral

Jesús Olivas

Jesús Olivas Corral, Executive Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer and Director

**Certification Pursuant to 18.U.S.C. Section 1350**

**As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. (the "Company") on Form 20-F for the periods ending December 31, 2002 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Annual Report"), I the undersigned, being the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Annual Report fully complies with the requirements of sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the 1934 Act; and

2. The information contained in the Annual Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

**DATED: June 30, 2003.**

Almeida García  
García, President,

Chief Executive Officer and Director

Víctor D.  
Víctor D. Almeida

**Certification Pursuant to 18.U.S.C. Section 1350**

**As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

In connection with the Annual Report of Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. (the "Company") on Form 20-F for the periods ending December 31, 2002 as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Annual Report"), I the undersigned, being the Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

1. The Annual Report fully complies with the requirements of sections 13(a) or 15(d) of the 1934 Act; and

2. The information contained in the Annual Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

**DATED: June 30, 2003.**

Jesús

Olivas Corral

Jesús Olivas Corral, Executive Vice President,  
Chief Financial Officer and Director

---

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Financial Statements

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Report of Independent Auditors</u>	F-2
Consolidated Financial Statements	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 31, 2001 and 2002</u>	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Income for the years ended</u>	
December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002	F-5
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity for the years</u>	
ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002	F-6



Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position for the years

ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002

F-7

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

F-9

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

To the Stockholders of

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries as of December 31, 2001 and 2002, and the related consolidated statements of income, changes in stockholders' equity and changes in financial position for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in Mexico and in the United States of America. Such 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 Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and subsidiaries at December 31, 2001 and 2002, and the consolidated results of operations, and changes in financial position for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in Mexico, which differ in certain respects from those followed in the United States of America (see Note 12 to the accompanying consolidated financial statements).

As mentioned in Note 1k to the accompanying consolidated financial statements, effective January 1, 2000, the Company adopted the requirements of Bulletin D-4, Accounting for Income Tax, Asset Tax and Employee Profit Sharing, issued by the Mexican Institute of Public Accountants.

C.P.C. Jose Antonio Reyes Cedeno

Mancera, S.C.

A Member Practice of Ernst & Young Global

Chihuahua, Chih., Mexico

February 3, 2003

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Balance Sheets

(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002)

---

*December 31,*

*2001                      2002                      2002*

---

*Thousands of*

US Dollars

ASSETS

Current assets:

Cash and cash equivalents		Ps222,301
Ps87,472	\$8,419	

Accounts receivable:

Trade		297,793
300,316	28,904	

Related parties		46,757
59,196	5,697	

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Other accounts receivable			26,198
44,053	4,240		
Less allowance for doubtful			
accounts			(26,017)
(25,882)	(2,491)		
			344,731
377,683	36,350		
Inventories, net			648,516
775,048	74,596		
Prepaid expenses			24,063
23,158	2,229		
Total current assets			
		1,239,611	1,263,361
			121,594
Investment in affiliated companies			9,065
7,351	708		
Property, plant and equipment			2,767,487
3,076,518	296,104		
Accumulated depreciation			(1,131,091)
(1,346,485)	(129,594)		
			1,636,396
1,730,033	166,510		
Other assets			43,756
<u>61,908</u>	<u>5,958</u>		
-			
TOTAL ASSETS			
<u>Ps2,928,828</u>	<u>Ps3,062,653</u>	<u>\$294,770</u>	

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Balance Sheets (Continued)

(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002)

December 31,

2001                      2002                      2002

*Thousands of*

US Dollars

LIABILITIES

Current liabilities:

Notes payable to banks			Ps	-	Ps
72,730	\$7,000				
Current portion of long-term debt				1,021,012	
188,404	18,133				
Accounts payable to suppliers				144,446	
283,768	27,312				
Related parties				11,837	
18,334	1,765				
Accrued expenses				155,271	
127,080	12,231				
Income tax and employee					

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

profit sharing				3,613
6,797	654			
<hr/>				
Total current liabilities				
		1,336,179	697,113	67,095
Long-term debt				246,550
948,036	91,245			
Other liabilities				
3,011	-	-		
Labor obligations				3,344
4,398	423			
Deferred income taxes				313,954
324,080	31,192			
TOTAL LIABILITIES				<u>1,903,038</u>
<u>1,973,627</u>	<u>189,955</u>			
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Capital stock				683,507
678,551	65,308			
Paid-in capital				1,179,475
1,179,475	113,520			
Stock repurchase reserve				<u>26,213</u>
<u>170,783</u>	<u>16,437</u>			-
Cumulative comprehensive				
(loss ) income:				
Retained earnings				194,640
187,444	18,041			

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Net income for the year			191,149
87,071	8,380		
Cumulative effect of deferred taxes			(299,564)
(299,564)	(28,832)		
Deficit from restatement of			
stockholders' equity			(1,196,452)
(1,188,051)	(114,345)		
Effect of translation of foreign			
subsidiaries			<u>47,946</u>
<u>72,593</u>	<u>6,987</u>		
Cumulative comprehensive income (loss)			<u>(1,062,281)</u>
<u>(1,140,507)</u>	<u>(109,769)</u>		
Majority stockholders' equity			826,914
888,302	85,496		
Minority stockholders' equity			198,876
200,724	19,319		
-			
Total stockholders' equity			
		1,025,790	1,089,026
			104,815

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND  
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Ps2,928,828      Ps3,062,653      \$294,770

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

## Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

## Consolidated Statements of Income

(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002)

		Years ended December 31,		
2002	2002	2000	2001	
Thousands of				
US Dollars				
Net sales		Ps2,845,094	Ps2,971,573	Ps3,058,853
\$294,404				
Cost of sales			(1,803,285)	(1,866,093)
(1,927,568)	(185,522)			
Gross profit			1,041,809	1,105,480
1,131,285	108,882			
Selling and administrative				
expenses			(746,299)	(766,972)
(841,221)	(80,964)			
Operating income			295,510	338,508
290,064	27,918			
Comprehensive financing cost:				
Interest income			7,980	6,115
7,476	720			

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Interest expense		(162,646)	(138,785)
(107,475)	(10,344)		
Foreign exchange (loss) gain, net		(40,171)	49,393
(108,381)	(10,431)		
Gain on net monetary position		131,290	58,313
50,853	4,893		
		_____	_____
		(63,547)	(24,964)
(157,527)	(15,162)		
Other expense, net		(28,614)	(3,681)
(12,432)	(1,197)		
Write-off of assets		-	(45,079)
-	-		
		_____	_____
Income before provision for income			
tax and employee profit sharing		203,349	264,784
120,105	11,559		
Income and asset tax		(52,616)	(46,822)
(11,073)	(1,066)		
Employee profit sharing		(2,483)	(3,465)
(3,556)	(342)		
		_____	_____
Net income		148,250	214,497
105,476	10,151		
Minority net (loss) income		<u>(764)</u>	<u>23,348</u>
<u>18,405</u>	<u>1,771</u>		

NET INCOME

**OF MAJORITY**

STOCKHOLDERS



Ps149,014    Ps191,149                      Ps87,071                      \$8,380

Weighted average number of

Units outstanding ("Ceramic UB"

and "Ceramic ULD" outstanding)

(in thousands)

57,184                      57,184    54,625                      57,928    —

**NET INCOME PER UNIT**

1.52                      \$ 0.15    Ps 2.73                      Ps 3.30    Ps

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Stockholders' Equity

(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002)

Cumulative comprehensive( loss) income									
	Capital Stock	Paid-in Capital	Stock Purchase Reserve	Retained (Deficit) Earnings	Cumulative Effect of Deferred Taxes	Deficit from Restatement of Stockholder's Equity	Effect of Translation of Foreign Subsidiaries	Net Income	Comprehensive Income
Balance at December 31, 1999	Ps 679,380	Ps 1,057,435	Ps 26,213	Ps (175,581)	Ps -	Ps (990,240)	Ps 38,541	Ps 221,207	
Stock issued	4,127	122,040	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfer from net income	-	-	-	221,207	-	-	-	(221,207)	-
Cumulative effect of deferred taxes	-	-	-	-	(299,564)	-	-	-	-

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Comprehensive income:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	149,014	149,014
Result from holding nonmonetary assets	-	-	-	-	-	(147,286)	-	-	(147,286)
Result from translation of foreign subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,502	-	35,502
Comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ps 37,230
<b>Balance at December 31, 2000</b>	<b>Ps 683,507</b>	<b>Ps 1,179,475</b>	<b>Ps 26,213</b>	<b>Ps 45,626</b>	<b>Ps (299,564)</b>	<b>Ps (1,137,526)</b>	<b>Ps 74,043</b>	<b>Ps 149,014</b>	
Transfer from net income	-	-	-	149,014	-	-	-	(149,014)	-
Minority stockholders' refund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minority stockholders' dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Comprehensive income:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	191,149	191,149
Result from holding nonmonetary assets	-	-	-	-	-	(58,926)	-	-	(58,926)
Result from translation of foreign subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	(26,097)	-	(26,097)
Comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ps 106,126
<b>Balance at December 31, 2001</b>	<b>Ps 683,507</b>	<b>Ps 1,179,475</b>	<b>Ps 26,213</b>	<b>Ps 194,640</b>	<b>Ps (299,564)</b>	<b>Ps (1,196,452)</b>	<b>Ps 47,946</b>	<b>Ps 191,149</b>	
Transfer from net income	-	-	-	191,149	-	-	-	(191,149)	-
Increase of stock repurchase reserve	-	-	198,345	(198,345)	-	-	-	-	-
Repurchase of common stock	(4,956)	-	(53,775)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Minority stockholders' dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Comprehensive income:	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	87,071	87,071
	-	-	-	-	-	8,401	-	-	8,401

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Result from holding nonmonetary assets									
Result from translation of foreign subsidiaries	-	-	-	-	-	-	24,647	-	24,647
Comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Ps 120,119
<b>Balance at December 31, 2002</b>	<b>Ps 678,551</b>	<b>Ps 1,179,475</b>	<b>Ps 170,783</b>	<b>Ps 187,444</b>	<b>Ps (299,564)</b>	<b>Ps (1,188,051)</b>	<b>Ps 72,593</b>	<b>Ps 87,071</b>	
<b>Thousands of US Dollars</b>	<b>\$ 65,308</b>	<b>\$ 113,520</b>	<b>\$ 16,437</b>	<b>\$ 18,041</b>	<b>\$ (28,832)</b>	<b>\$ (114,345)</b>	<b>\$ 6,987</b>	<b>\$ 8,380</b>	

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position

(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002)

---

		Years ended December 31,		
		2000	2001	
2002	2002			

Thousands of

US Dollars

**OPERATING ACTIVITIES:**

Net income	Ps149,014	Ps191,149	Ps87,071
\$8,380			

Adjustments to reconcile net

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

income to net resources provided

by operating activities:

Depreciation		143,717	142,702
149,839	14,421		
Write-off of assets		-	45,079
-	-		
Deferred income tax		36,935	29,742
(8,448)	(813)		
Minority net income (loss)		(764)	23,348
18,405	1,771		

		328,902	432,020
246,867	23,759		

Variations in operating

assets and liabilities:

Accounts receivable		44,422	(47,853)
(32,047)	(3,084)		
Inventories		(88,394)	62,833
(168,328)	(16,201)		
Other assets		5,610	(8,081)
(15,272)	(1,470)		
Accounts payable to suppliers		(37,483)	(47,285)
139,322	13,409		
Other accounts payable		59,608	(68,406)
(12,055)	(1,160)		

TOTAL RESOURCES PROVIDED

BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES

Ps312,665    Ps323,228                    Ps158,487                    \$15,253

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position (Continued)

*(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002)*

			Years ended December 31,	
			2000	2001
2002	2002			

Thousands of

US Dollars

FINANCING ACTIVITIES:

Proceeds from sale of capital

stock		Ps	126,167	Ps	-	Ps	-
\$	-						

Repurchase of capital stock				-	-
(58,731)	(5,653)				

Minority stockholders' refund				-	(15,321)
-	-				

Minority stockholders' dividends				-	(6,930)
(6,002)	(578)				

Proceeds from long-term debt

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

and bank loans			32,468	75,097
1,274,539	122,670			

Repayment of long-term debt

and bank loans			(206,000)	(104,463)
(1,370,296)	(131,886)			

Monetary gain from

financing activities			(111,651)	(23,818)
(113,415)	(10,915)			

Exchange (gains) losses generated

by financing activities			12,823	(56,391)
150,780	14,512			

RESOURCES USED IN

FINANCING ACTIVITIES

<u>(146,193)</u>	<u>(131,826)</u>	<u>(123,125)</u>	<u>(11,850)</u>
------------------	------------------	------------------	-----------------

INVESTING ACTIVITIES:

Increase of property, plant

and equipment, net			(93,937)	(108,808)
(170,191)	(16,380)			

RESOURCES USED IN

INVESTING ACTIVITIES

(93,937)	(108,808)	(170,191)	(16,380)
----------	-----------	-----------	----------

Net increase (decrease) in cash

<b>and cash equivalents</b>		72,535	82,594
(134,829)	(12,977)		

Cash and cash equivalents at

<b>beginning of year</b>		67,172	139,707
222,301	21,396		

CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

<b>AT END OF YEAR</b>		<u>Ps 139,707</u>	<u>Ps222,301</u>	<u>Ps</u>
<u>87,472</u>	<u>\$ 8,419</u>			

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

*(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of December 31, 2002 and thousands*

*of US Dollars, except for number of shares and units, minimum dividend per share,*

*market value per unit and exchange rates, which are stated in Pesos (Ps))*

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE BUSINESS AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Description of the business

Internacional de Ceramica, S.A. de C.V. ("Interceramic"), its subsidiaries, Recubrimientos Interceramic, S.A. de C.V. ("Recubrimientos") and Interceramic, Inc., which is located in Garland, Texas, are all engaged in the manufacture and marketing of ceramic floor and wall tiles, the extraction of clay for the manufacture of ceramic tiles and marketing of bathroom furniture. The other subsidiaries, which are listed below, are engaged primarily in the marketing of ceramic tiles and in the manufacture and marketing of adhesives in the Mexico City and Guadalajara metropolitan areas and in the United States. Interceramic and its subsidiaries are hereinafter referred to collectively as the "Company."

Significant accounting policies

The consolidated financial statements of the Company have been prepared in Mexican Pesos ("Ps") in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Mexico ("Mexican GAAP").

The significant accounting policies and practices followed in the preparation of the consolidated financial statements are described below:

a **Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Interceramic and all of its subsidiaries. All material intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The subsidiaries included in the consolidated financial statements are as follows, along with corresponding ownership:

	Ownership interest at	
	December 31,	
	2001	2002
-		
Interceramic, Inc.	100.00	100.00
Recubrimientos Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.	50.01	50.01
Adhesivos y Boquillas Interceramic, S. de R.L. de C.V.	51.00	51.00
Distribucion Interceramic, S.A. de C.V.	100.00	100.00
Interacabados del Occidente, S.A. de C.V.	100.00	100.00
Procesadora de Materiales Cerro Grande, S.A. de C.V.	99.99	(*)
Interceramic Trading Co.	100.00	100.00
Materiales en Proceso, S.A. de C.V.	100.00	100.00
Interacabados del Noroeste, S.A. de C.V.	100.00	(*)
Interceramic de Occidente, S.A. de C.V.	100.00	100.00
Operadora Interceramic de Mexico, S.A. de C.V.	100.00	100.00



(\*) In April, 2002, Procesadora de Materiales Cerro Grande, S.A. de C.V. and Interacabados del Noroeste, S.A. de C.V. were merged into Interceramic.

The caption "Minority interest" refers to the interest of the minority stockholders in less than wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Company.

In conformity with Mexican Accounting Principles Bulletin B-15, "Transactions in Foreign Currency and Translation of Financial Statements of Foreign Operations," the Company translated the financial statements of its foreign subsidiaries as follows:

-The financial information reported by the foreign subsidiaries was adjusted to conform with Mexican GAAP.

-The financial statements were restated at December 31, 2001 and 2002, based on the United States Consumer Price Index (the "CPI"). The monetary effects for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 were determined based on the annual inflation factor derived from the CPI for the respective year.

- Balance sheets were translated into Mexican Pesos at the prevailing exchange rate at the end of the year and income statement accounts were translated at the weighted average exchange rate for the year. Translation adjustments are reflected in a separate component of stockholders' equity entitled "Effect of translation of foreign subsidiaries."

Previously reported consolidated financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 2001 are presented in constant currency at December 31, 2002, using a common restatement factor determined based on the weighted average net sales in currency included in the consolidated financial statements, taking into consideration the inflation rate of the foreign country and the exchange rates for those years. Such factors were 1.0176 and 1.0983 for 2000 and 2001, respectively.

**b. Estimates in financial statements**

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Actual results could differ from these estimates.

**c. Concentration of risk**

The Company distributes its products through Company-owned and independent franchise locations in Mexico. The Company distributes its products in the United States and Canada mainly through its network of Company-owned Ceramic Tile International ("CTI") stores and a network of 79 independent distributors with a combined total of 180 locations. On a regular basis, the Company assesses the credit worthiness of its customers and typically obtains personal guarantees or liens to secure amounts due from its customers. No single customer represents more than 5% of the Company's consolidated sales.

**d. Recognition of the effects of inflation**

The Company recognizes the effects of inflation on financial information as required by Mexican Accounting Principles Bulletin B-10, "Accounting Recognition of the Effects of Inflation on Financial Information." Consequently, the amounts shown in the accompanying financial statements and in these notes are expressed in thousands of constant Pesos as of December 31, 2002.

Certain concepts and procedures required by the application of Bulletin B-10 are explained below:

The Company follows the specific-cost method to restate its inventories.

Imported machinery was restated based on the rate of inflation in the country of origin and the prevailing exchange rate at the balance sheet date. Machinery and equipment of domestic origin was restated based on the Mexican National Consumer Price Index (the "NCPI").

At December 31, 2001 and 2002, capital stock, paid in capital, stock repurchase reserve, retained earnings, cumulative effect of deferred taxes, effect of translation of foreign subsidiaries, and net income were restated by using a common restatement factor, which was determined based on the weighted average net sales in each currency.

The gain or loss on net monetary position represents the effects of inflation, as measured by the NCPI, on the Company's monetary assets and liabilities. During inflationary periods, losses are incurred by holding monetary assets, whereas gains are realized by holding monetary liabilities. The net monetary effect is included in the consolidated statements of income as part of the "comprehensive financing cost.

The deficit from restatement of stockholders' equity consists principally of the initial cumulative monetary position result and the cumulative deficit from holding non-monetary assets. The (loss) gain from holding non-monetary assets represents the amount by which the (decrease) increase in the specific value of assets was (lower) higher than the rate of inflation.

**e. Cash equivalents**

Cash equivalents are shown at cost plus accrued interest through the balance sheet date. The stated value approximates fair value.

All highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase are considered cash equivalents and are carried at cost which approximates their fair market value.

**f. Inventories and cost of sales**

Inventories are recorded initially at acquisition or production cost and then restated to reflect replacement cost, which is not in excess of market value.

Cost of sales represents the estimated replacement cost at the time sales were realized, expressed in constant Pesos at the end of the year.

**g. Investment in shares of affiliated companies**

Investments in companies in which the Company has an ownership interest of between 10% and 50% and over which the Company exercises significant influence, are accounted for using the equity method. Investments in companies in which the Company has an ownership interest of less than 10% are recorded at cost and restated for changes in the NCPI.

**h. Property, plant and equipment**

Through December 31, 1996, the values of property, plant and equipment were determined by an independent appraiser registered with the National Banking and Securities Commission ("NBSC").

Effective January 1, 1997, Bulletin B-10 eliminated the use of appraisals to present property, plant and equipment in the financial statements.

At December 31, 2001 and 2002, this caption was restated as follows:

The appraised value of imported machinery as of December 31, 1996, as well as the cost of subsequent additions to such machinery, were restated based on the rate of inflation in the respective country of origin and then translated using the prevailing exchange rate at the balance sheet date (specific inflation factors).

The appraised value of land, buildings and other fixed assets of domestic origin at December 31, 1996, and the cost of subsequent additions to such assets were restated based on the NCPI.

At December 31, 2002, approximately 90% of machinery and equipment was restated based on specific factors and 10% was restated based on the NCPI.

Depreciation is computed on the restated values, using the straight-line method based on the estimated useful lives of the assets as determined periodically by management based on technical studies.

**i. Exchange differences**

Transactions in foreign currency are recorded at the exchange rate at the time of the transactions. Exchange differences are determined from the date of the transactions to the time of settlement or valuation at the balance sheet date and are charged or credited to income.

**j. Labor obligations**

Under Mexican labor law, employees are entitled to a compensation payment (a "seniority premium") upon death, dismissal or at retirement after 15 or more years of service. Seniority premium costs are recognized periodically during the years of service rendered by employees, based on actuarial computations made by an independent actuary, using the projected unit credit method and financial assumptions, net of inflation, as required by Mexican Accounting Principles Bulletin D-3 ("Labor Obligations"). Termination payments are charged to income in the year in which the decision to dismiss an employee is made.

**k. Income taxes and employee profit sharing**

Effective January 1, 2000, the Company adopted the requirements of the Mexican Accounting Bulletin D-4, "Accounting for Income Tax, Asset Tax and Employee Profit Sharing." Bulletin D-4 requires the recognition of deferred taxes on all temporary differences in balance sheet accounts for financial and tax reporting purposes, using enacted income tax rates. Through December 31, 1999, deferred taxes were recognized only on temporary differences that were considered to be non-recurring and that had a known turnaround period.

As established in Bulletin D-4, the cumulative effect of deferred taxes, at the beginning of 2000, was applied to stockholders' equity, without restating the financial statements of prior years.

The initial effect of applying Bulletin D-4 represented a decrease to majority stockholders' equity as of January 1, 2000 of Ps 299,564.

The Company periodically evaluates the possibility of recovering deferred tax assets and if necessary, adjusts the related valuation reserve.

Employee profit sharing is a statutory obligation payable to employees that is determined in accordance with the provisions of both Mexican labor and income tax law.

In conformity with Bulletin D-4, deferred employee profit sharing is recognized only on temporary differences determined in the reconciliation of current year net income for financial and tax reporting purposes, provided there is no indication that the related liability or asset will not be realized in the future.

Current year employee profit sharing is charged to results of operations and represents a current liability due and payable in a period of less than one year.

Asset tax, which is a minimum income tax is payable based on the average value of most assets net of certain liabilities. Since income tax may be credited against asset tax, the latter is actually payable only to the extent that it exceeds current year income tax.

Current year income tax is charged to results of operations and represents the tax liability due and payable in less than one year.

#### **1. Long-lived assets**

The Company periodically evaluates potential impairment loss relating to long-lived assets by assessing whether the unamortized carrying amount can be recovered over the remaining life of the assets through undiscounted future expected cash flows generated by the assets. If the sum of the expected future undiscounted cash flows is less than the carrying value of the assets, a loss is recognized for the difference between the carrying value of the assets and the expected future undiscounted cash flows. Long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. During 2000, 2001 and 2002, due to ongoing profitable operations, no long-lived asset impairment was recognized.

Effective January 1, 2004 the Company will be required to adopt Bulletin C-15 for Mexican GAAP which modifies the method in which companies must measure potential impairment losses relating to long-lived assets. Under the provisions of the bulletin an impairment loss of long-lived assets will be required to be recognized when the carrying value of assets, measured at the cash generating unit level, exceeds the recoverable value. A cash generating unit (joint venture, subsidiary, production line, division or segment) is the minimum identifiable grouping of assets that generate cash flows that are independent of other groups of assets. The recoverable value is defined as the greater of the value in use (present value of the estimated future net cash flows using an appropriate discount rate) or an estimated net selling price between interested parties, which is reasonable and verifiable. Impairment losses may be reversed in future periods when the recoverable value exceeds the carrying value of the related assets and it can be clearly justified and demonstrated that the change is permanent and verifiable. The Company has evaluated the effect of this new rule for the year 2002, and it is not expected to result in any material change to the financial statements.

*m. Revenue recognition*

The Company recognizes revenue when goods are shipped and invoiced. Revenue from retail operations is recognized, generally, at the point of sale. Returns and allowances are estimated and accrued based on historical results.

**n. Net income per unit**

Net income per unit is determined on the basis of the average weighted number of units issued and outstanding. The Company's units are each comprised of two shares that are traded together as one unit. A "UB" unit is comprised of two Series B Shares and a "ULD" unit is comprised of one Series L Share and one Series D Share.

**o. Comprehensive income**

Mexican Accounting Bulletin B-4, "Comprehensive Income," became effective January 1, 2001. Bulletin B-4 establishes the rules with respect to reporting and presenting comprehensive income and the component elements of such income. Bulletin B-4 has no effect on net income or stockholders' equity. Comprehensive income consists of net income or loss for the year plus those items that are reflected directly in stockholders' equity and that do not constitute capital contributions, reductions or distributions such as deficit from restatement of stockholders' equity, effect of translation of foreign subsidiaries and deferred taxes allocated to equity.

**p. Convenience translation**

Solely for the convenience of the reader, the consolidated financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2002 have been translated into United States Dollars ("US \$" or "Dollars") at the exchange rate of Ps 10.39 per US \$1.00, the rate of exchange at December 31, 2002. The translation should not be construed as a representation that the Peso amounts have been or could be converted into Dollars at this or any other rate.

**q. Reclassifications**

Certain amounts in the 2000 and 2001 consolidated financial statements have been reclassified to conform with the 2002 presentation.

**2. RELATED PARTIES**

In the normal course of business, the Company has transactions with related parties and affiliated companies. Affiliated companies are those in which the Company's principal stockholders have significant equity interests or control of management. The main transactions with these companies consist of ceramic tile sales for resale in Mexico and in the United States. Such transactions are negotiated on terms and prices comparable to similar transactions with other non-related customers.

During the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002, the Company had the following transactions with related parties:

---

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

	2000	2001	
2002			
Sales of ceramic tile:			
Affiliated companies			
Grupo Comercial Interceramic,			
S.A. de C.V.	Ps162,121	Ps153,372	
Ps173,439			
Materiales Arquitectonicos y Decorativos,			
S.A. de C.V.	78,093	79,907	
72,747			
Joint venture			
Dal-Tile International, Inc.	<u>69,801</u>	<u>71,671</u>	
<u>96,925</u>			
	<u>Ps 310,015</u>	<u>Ps 304,950</u>	
<u>Ps343,111</u>			
Inventory purchases:			
Stockholders			
Kohler Co.	Ps54,882	Ps85,033	Ps
82,113			
Joint venture			

Custom Building Products, Inc.	<u>11,073</u>	<u>10,465</u>
<u>6,733</u>		

Ps65,955Ps95,498Ps88,846

Fees paid for administrative services  
and other items:

Affiliated companies:

Corporacion Administrativa

y Tecnica, S.A. de C.V.  
Ps24,455      P s22,351

Ps31,878

Corporacion Aerea Cencor,

S.A. de C.V.  
7,372              9,433

7,969

Joint ventures

Custom Building Products, Inc.  
=      \_\_\_\_\_ =

2,685

Ps31,784

Ps42,532

Ps31,827

Purchases from stockholders and joint ventures comprise bathroom fixtures and adhesives to be resold in Mexico.

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Fees paid for administrative services relate to management consulting, use of computer systems, maintenance of equipment and air-taxi service provided by related companies.

Fees paid to joint ventures relate to ceramic sales and payment of fees for technical assistance.

An analysis of amounts due to and from related parties is as follows:

	December 31,	
	2001	2002
<hr/>		
Trade receivables:		
Grupo Comercial Interceramic,		
S.A. de C.V.	Ps 21,781	Ps
28,701		
Materiales Arquitectonicos y Decorativos,		
S.A. de C.V.	11,474	
9,537		
Dal-Tile International, Inc.	12,413	
20,503		
Others	1,089	
455		
	<hr/>	
	Ps 46,757	Ps
59,196		



**Accounts payable:**

Custom Building Products, Inc 9,913		Ps 652	Ps
Kohler Co. 8,225		10,800	
Others 196		385	
		<hr/>	
<hr/>	11,837	Ps 18,334	Ps

3. INVENTORIES

Inventories consisted of the following:

		December 31,
		2001
2002		
Finished goods	Ps 510,295	Ps 617,257
Work in process	35,429	26,665
Raw materials and supplies	80,923	73,861
Merchandise in transit	21,869	57,265
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>Ps648,516</u>	<u>Ps775,048</u>

The reserve for obsolete and slow-moving inventories was Ps 66,790 and Ps 65,142 at December 31, 2001 and 2002, respectively, and has been deducted from finished goods and raw materials and supplies.



	_____	_____
Net carrying value	Ps 2,767,487	Ps 3,076,518

During the year ended December 31, 2001, the Company wrote off machinery and equipment due to physical deterioration. The retired machinery and equipment was replaced in 2002. The write off resulted in a charge of Ps 45,079 in the year ended December 31, 2001.

During 2000, 2001 and 2002, there was no capitalization of comprehensive financing costs relating to construction in progress.

Depreciation for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 was Ps 143,717, Ps 142,702 and Ps 149,839, respectively.

Estimated useful lives at December 31, 2002 were as follows:

Buildings	19 years
Machinery and equipment	11 years
Furniture and fixtures	3 years
Automotive equipment	2 years

#### 5. BANK LOANS AND NOTES PAYABLE

Notes payable to banks and outstanding long-term debt at December 31, 2001 and 2002 were as follows:

December 31, 2001				
Type of loan rates	Total	Maturities		Interest
		Current portion	Long-term	
Unsecured - 16.00%	Ps 46,507	Ps 21,691	Ps 24,816	5.13%

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Secured - 8.55%	266,151	49,150	217,001	5.13%
	_____	_____	_____	
Total bank loans	312,658	70,841	241,817	
Notes due to supplier 5.00%	7,723	2,990	4,733	
Eurobonds 10.25%	947,181	947,181	-	
	_____	_____	_____	
	<u>Ps 1,267,562</u>	<u>Ps 1,021,012</u>	<u>Ps 246,550</u>	

---

December 31, 2002

---

Maturities

Type of loan Interest rates	Total	Current portion	Long-term
Unsecured 5.13% - 7.64%	Ps 22,128	Ps 21,377	Ps 751
Secured 4.71%	63,368	1,028	62,340
Syndicated loan 3.87%	1,046,072	162,922	883,150
	_____	_____	_____
Total bank loans	1,131,568	185,327	946,241

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Notes due to supplier 5.00%	4,872	3,077	1,795
	<u>Ps1,136,440</u>	<u>Ps188,404</u>	<u>Ps948,036</u>

At December 31, 2001 and 2002, all bank loans were denominated in Dollars. All secured and syndicated bank loans were collateralized by property, plant and equipment, accounts receivable and inventory amounting to Ps 1,170,030 and Ps 1,786,982 at December 31, 2001 and 2002, respectively.

The Company has a Ps 259,750 (US \$25,000) line of credit with Comerica Bank available through August 2003. At December 31, 2002 no amount was outstanding under this facility.

In August of 2001, the Company obtained long term supplier financing from Oracle to purchase software in the amount of Ps 8,165 (US \$888). The agreement requires monthly payments of principal and interest through June 2004.

The Eurobonds were represented by guaranteed notes, with a nominal value of Ps 947,181 (US \$90,000) and were issued at 99.728% of their face value. The maturity date was August 1, 2002. Interest was payable semi-annually beginning on February 1, 1998 at the annual rate of 9.75%. The Eurobonds were guaranteed by Interceramic, Inc. On July 31, 2002, principal of and accrued interest on the Eurobonds was fully paid.

In June 2002, the Company entered into a syndicated loan agreement with several financial institutions and Scotiabank Inverlat, S.A., as administrative agent, for US \$ 100,000 which was used in part to repay the US \$90,000 Eurobond and with the remainder available for working capital purposes. The loan is divided into two tranches: "Term A Loans" for US \$40,000 with a three-year maturity and interest at LIBOR plus 1.70% and "Term B Loans" for US \$ 60,000 with a five-year maturity and interest at LIBOR plus 2.30%. The Company will begin paying principal on a quarterly basis beginning in July 2003. Interest is payable on a quarterly basis beginning in October of 2002. This loan is collateralized by land, buildings and equipment, accounts receivable, inventory and shares owned by the Company in a joint venture. The Company's subsidiaries Distribucion Interceramic, S.A. de C.V., Interacabados del Occidente, S.A.de C.V. and Interceramic, Inc. also provided certain guarantees.

In March 2002, the Company entered into a US \$ 6,000 revolving line of credit agreement with Banamex. The term of the agreement is through March 2005. At December 31, 2002 the Company had Ps 62,340 outstanding under this agreement.

At December 31, 2002, future maturities of long-term debt were as follows:

Maturities	Amount
<hr/>	<hr/>

2004	Ps 184,005
2005	270,273
2006	233,906
2007	259,852
	<hr/>
	<u>Ps 948,036</u>

The syndicated loan and outstanding bank loan agreements establish certain obligations and restrictive covenants with respect to certain transactions including the payment of cash dividends, mergers and combinations, the disposal of fixed assets, information reporting requirements and others. In addition, the Company is required to maintain certain financial ratios. At December 31, 2002, the Company was in compliance with all obligations and restrictions established by these agreements.

#### 6. FOREIGN CURRENCY POSITION

The Company had the following US Dollar denominated assets and liabilities at December 31, 2001 and 2002:

	(Thousands of US Dollars)	
	December 31,	
	2001	2002
<hr/>		
Total assets	\$ 138,328	<u>\$ 139,783</u>
<hr/>		
Current liabilities	118,029	48,755
Long-term liabilities	<u>24,428</u>	<u>91,245</u>
Total liabilities	\$142,457	\$140,000

Net short position \$4,129 \$ 217

Dollar denominated assets and liabilities were translated to Mexican Pesos using the Interbank Rates at December 31, 2001 and 2002 of Ps 9.19 and Ps 10.39 per US \$1.00, respectively. The exchange rate at February 3, 2003 was Ps 10.91 per US \$1.00.

Foreign currency denominated sales in 2000, 2001 and 2002 were Ps 1,226,044 (US \$111,825), Ps 1,211,464 (US \$117,420) and Ps 1,334,451 (US \$130,871), respectively (calculated using the Interbank Rate at the end of each month), and represented 43.1%, 40.8% and 43.6% of total net sales, respectively.

Most of the Company's machinery and equipment is imported, primarily from Italy and Spain.

During the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002, the Company imported inventory and machinery and equipment into Mexico totaling US \$21,452, US \$21,153 and US \$29,690, respectively.

#### 7. LABOR OBLIGATIONS

The Company recognizes its liability for seniority premiums as services are rendered based on actuarial computations, using the projected unit-credit method. The following is a summary of consolidated financial data based on actuarial studies as of December 31, 2001 and 2002:

	2001	2002
Accumulated benefit obligation	Ps 4,823	Ps 4,398
Projected benefit obligation	5,578	4,953
Unamortized transition liability	1,798	1,567
Actuarial gains	436	154
Net projected liability	3,344	3,232
Net current liability	3,344	4,398

Additional liability	-	1,166
Intangible asset-1,166		

The components of net periodic cost during 2000, 2001 and 2002 were follows:

	2000	2001	2002
Service cost	Ps 750	Ps 704	Ps 649
Interest cost	224	238	235
Amortization of transition liability	104	88	71
Amortization of actuarial losses	(41)	(13)	(9)
FAS 88 adjustment	-	-	297
Inflation effects	<u>450</u>	<u>337</u>	<u>213</u>
	<u>Ps 1,487</u>	<u>Ps 1,354</u>	<u>Ps 1,456</u>
Benefits paid	-	-	1,269

The transition liability is being amortized over a period of 21 years.

During year 2002, the Company adjusted under the terms of FAS 88 its labor obligations liabilities due to employee terminations which were made as a result of restructuring plan established in 1999.

The significant assumptions considered in determining the net periodic cost during the years ended December 2000, 2001 and 2002 were:



	2000	2001	2002
Discount rate	6.00%	5.50%	5.50%
Rate of pay increases	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
Effect of inflation	11.00%	5.00%	5.00%

The Company's subsidiary located in the United States has a defined contribution savings plan covering substantially all its employees. Total contributions for 2000, 2001 and 2002 were approximately Ps 1,956 (US \$200), Ps 2,683 (US \$292) and Ps 2,899 (US \$279), respectively.

#### 8. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

The Company's capital stock is variable with a fixed minimum of Ps 7,000.

The Company's capital stock consists of three series of shares (B, L and D).

Series B Shares are common registered shares with no par value and full voting rights. They may be freely subscribed, and until December 7, 2004, they can be traded only as "Common Units," each consisting of two Series B Shares (traded as "Ceramic UB").

Series L Shares are registered shares with limited voting rights and with no par value. They may be freely subscribed, and until December 7, 2004 can be traded only as "Limited Voting Units," each consisting of one Series L Share and one Series D Share trading together (traded as "Ceramic ULD").

Series D Shares are preferred registered shares with limited voting rights, without par value, and until December 7, 2004 can be traded only together with one Series L Share as Limited Voting Units (traded as "Ceramic ULD"). The Series D Shares are entitled to a minimum preferred dividend of Ps 0.025 per share. Whenever in a given period no minimum preferred dividend is declared or it is paid only partially, such dividend or the unpaid amount shall accumulate for future periods. The minimum accumulated preferred dividend at December 31, 2001 and 2002 is Ps 4,953 and Ps 5,489.

In December 2004, the Series L Shares will convert to Series B Shares, and thereafter, the Series L Shares will cease to exist as a class of Company's capital stock, and all voting and other rights previously applicable to holders of Series L Shares will no longer exist, other than to the extent rights may be available under the Bylaws to holders of Series B Shares. After December 2004 the Series D shares will retain their minimum preferred dividend and limited voting rights.

An analysis of the authorized and outstanding capital stock as of December 31, 2001 and 2002 is as follows:

December 31,

		2001		2002	
Series	Units	Number of		Number of	
		Shares	Units	Shares	Units
B "Ceramic UB"		65,740,430	32,870,215	63,179,030	31,589,515
L "Ceramic ULD"		25,057,860	25,057,860	21,431,860	21,431,860
D		25,057,860	-	21,431,860	-
		<u>115,856,150</u>	<u>57,928,075</u>	<u>106,042,750</u>	<u>53,021,375</u>
Number of					
authorized shares		<u>124,571,150</u>	<u>62,285,575</u>	<u>114,757,750</u>	<u>57,378,875</u>

By approval at the regular stockholders' meeting held on August 15, 2000, it was decided to increase the authorized Capital Stock through the issuance of 16,000,000 Series B Shares represented by 8,000,000 Common Units. After their offering, a total of 7,285,000 Series B Shares represented by 3,642,500 Common Units were subscribed for and fully paid.

In 1996, the Company established a Stock Option Plan (the "Plan"), pursuant to which certain employees and executives of the Company may be granted options from time to time during its term to purchase an amount of Limited Voting Units per eligible employee as set by a committee of the Board. An aggregate of 1,297,000 Limited Voting Units have been made available for purchase by employees under the Plan. Due to certain peculiarities of Mexican law, all of the shares allocable under the Plan were issued to and purchased by a trust established expressly for that purpose. The purchases by the Trust were funded by contributions made by the Company, and, upon the exercise of a stock option by an employee, the employee in effect purchases the applicable shares directly from the Trust. In addition to termination by expiration, under the Plan options may terminate for certain other reasons, including death, disability or cessation of employment with the Company.

At December 31, 2002, the Trust held 1,211,000 Limited Voting Units. Amounts contributed to the Trust by the Company are included in the component entitled "other accounts receivable." At December 31, 2002, the amount due from the Trust amounted to Ps 15,223 and includes proceeds received from employees who exercised their options during 2001 and 2002.

During 2000, the Board decided to cease granting options under the Plan, and terminated it for all purposes other than to govern options previously granted. However, in 2001 and 2002 the Board decided to reassign certain expired options under the Plan, and in July 2001 options to acquire an additional 570,000 Limited

Voting Units (the "July 2001 Options") were granted to certain officers of the Company at an exercise price of Ps 17.0 per Unit. In November 2001, additional options to acquire 77,000 Limited Voting Units (the "November 2001 Options") were granted to certain officers of the Company at an exercise price of Ps 17.00 per Unit. In August 2002, additional options to acquire 177,000 Limited Voting Units were granted to certain officers of the Company at an exercise price of Ps 12.15 per Unit. Additionally, the Board decided to reduce the exercise price of the July 2001 Options and the November 2001 Option to Ps 12.15 per Unit. The July 2001 Options and the November 2001 Options represented reassignment of options to acquire Limited Voting Units that had either previously expired or lapsed.

A summary of the changes in the outstanding options granted under the Plan during the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 is presented below:

	2000	2001	2002
	Number of Units		
Options outstanding at beginning of year:	1,297,000	1,297,000	1,244,000
Granted	-	-	-
Exercised	-	(53,000)	(33,000)
Expired	-	(647,000)	(177,000)
Reassigned	-	647,000	177,000
Options outstanding at end of year	1,297,000	1,244,000	1,211,000
Weighted average price of outstanding options at December 31,	Ps 11.72	Ps 14.43	Ps 11.68
Options exercisable at December 31,	937,000	597,000	387,000
Weighted average exercise price of exercisable options	Ps 12.65	Ps 11.62	Ps 10.69

During 2001 and 2002, options to purchase 53,000 and 33,000 Limited Voting Units were exercised, at an average price of Ps 11.42 and Ps 13.96 per Unit, respectively.

The weighted exercise price of options that expired in 2001 and 2002, were Ps 11.87 and Ps 13.33, respectively.

On August 15, 2000, at a regular stockholders' meeting, it was approved to cancel shares that were held in the Company's Treasury. The shares held in the Company's treasury consisted of 988,674 Series B Shares, 579,157 Series L Shares and 579,157 Series D Shares, representing 494,337 Common Units and 579,157 Limited Voting Units.

During 2002 the Company increased the reserve for repurchase of shares by Ps 198,345 and repurchased 1,280,700 Common Units and 3,626,000 Limited Voting Units for Ps 58,731.

In conformity with the Mexican Corporations Act, at least 5% of net income of each year must be appropriated to increase the legal reserve. This practice must be continued until the legal reserve reaches 20% of capital stock issued and outstanding. As of December 31, 2002 the Company had not appropriated any of its retained earnings to income the legal reserve.

9. INCOME TAXES, ASSET TAX AND EMPLOYEE PROFIT SHARING

Interceramic and each of its subsidiaries in Mexico are each subject to the payment of income and asset tax. These taxes are computed by Interceramic and each subsidiary separately and each one files its own tax return.

An analysis of income and asset tax expense for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 is as follows:

	2000	2001	2002
Current year income tax			
and asset tax	Ps 15,681	Ps 17,080	Ps 19,521
Deferred income tax			
expense (benefit)	36,935	29,742	(8,448)
	<u>Ps 52,616</u>	<u>Ps 46,822</u>	<u>Ps 11,073</u>

An analysis of the deferred tax liabilities (assets) at December 31, 2001 and 2002 is as follows:

	December 31,	
	2001	2002
Deferred tax liabilities		
Inventories	Ps 128,675	Ps 117,618
Fixed assets	287,444	292,654
Foreign subsidiaries deferred		
tax liabilities and effect		



Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

tax liabilities:	Ps (65,966)	Ps (35,158)	Ps 10,126
Less:			
Prior year restatement	29,338	6,414	18,932
Change in deferred income taxes recorded in deficit from restatement of stockholders' equity	61,347	49,289	(34,494)
Change in deferred income taxes recorded in minority stockholders' equity	12,216	9,197	(3,012)
Deferred income tax expense (benefit) included in statements of income	<u>36,935</u>	<u>Ps29,742</u>	<u>Ps (8,448)</u>

The Company incurred tax losses in prior years, which, in conformity with the current Mexican income tax law, may be carried forward, restated for inflation following the procedures defined in the law, and applied against taxable earnings generated in the next ten years.

The Company also has recoverable asset tax paid in prior years in excess of income tax. In conformity with current tax legislation, asset tax actually paid in a given year may be recovered, restated for inflation following the procedure defined in the law, by means of a refund mechanism in any of the succeeding ten years in which income tax exceeds asset tax. In 2000, 2001 and 2002, Interceramic was not required to pay any asset tax because it exercised the option of taking immediate deduction of its investments in fixed assets. Certain subsidiaries paid asset tax of Ps 6,145, Ps 5,922 and Ps 5,043 in 2000, 2001 and 2002, respectively.

An analysis of the available tax loss carryforwards and recoverable asset tax for the Company's Mexican subsidiaries at December 31, 2002, restated for inflation, is as follows:

Year of tax loss or payment of asset tax	Year of expiration	Tax loss carryforwards (restated amount)	Recoverable asset tax (restated amount)
1995	2005	Ps 19,458	Ps -
1996	2006	-	5,266
1997	2007	5,892	13,424
1998	2008	56,549	3,608
1999	2009	15,953	5,297

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

2000	2010	214	5,179
2001	2011	193	5,728
2002	2012	15,602	5,043
		Ps 113,861	Ps 43,545

Interceramic, Inc., the Company's US subsidiary, has net operating loss carryforwards for federal income tax purposes, which if not utilized to offset future taxable income, will expire at various dates as summarized below:

Year of tax loss	Year of expiration	Tax loss carry forwards restated amount
1995	2010	Ps 58,634
1996	2011	105,776
1997	2017	129,730
1998	2018	23,359
1999	2019	16,144
2000	2020	61,772
2001	2021	28,681
		Ps 424,096

A reconciliation of the difference between income taxes computed at the statutory income tax rate and the Company's effective income tax rate is as follows:

---

	Years ended December 31,	
	2000	2001
2002		
	_____	_____
Income tax expense at the statutory		

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

rate on income before income

tax and employee profit sharing 42,037	Ps 71,172	Ps 92,675	Ps
Inflationary effects (165)	(55,803)	(17,621)	
Other 12,582	37,247	(14,207)	
Change in valuation allowance (29,507)	-	(14,025)	
Effect of change in income tax rates (13,874)	-	-	
-			
Net income tax expense <u>11,073</u>	<u>Ps 52,616</u>	<u>Ps 46,822</u>	<u>Ps</u>

During 2002 the income tax law was changed to reduce the statutory income tax rate for 35% in 2002 to 32% in 2005 through an annual one percentage point reduction in the statutory rate beginning in 2003.

At December 31, 2001 and 2002, the Company had the following equity account balances for income tax purposes:

	Balance of Restated Contribute Fiscal	Balance of Net Tax	Reinvested Net
	<u>Capital Account ("CUCA")</u> <u>"CUFINRE")</u>	<u>Profit Account ("CUFIN")</u>	<u>Account (</u>
2001	Ps 1,992,453	Ps 54,363	Ps 31,947
2002	Ps 1,829,751	Ps 90,187	Ps 18,593



Beginning year 1999 and up to 2001, Income Tax law allowed the option of deferring payments of part of income taxes due during those years. Deferring of said tax and related income is controlled through the Reinvested Net Fiscal Account ( "CUFINRE"). Earnings distributed in excess of fiscal balances from CUFINRE and CUFIN, will be subject to enacted corporative income tax rate. Effective January 1, 2002, the above-mentioned option of deferring a portion of income tax, was eliminated.

10. INDUSTRY SEGMENT INFORMATION

Financial information by country is as follows:

	2000				
	Mexico	United States	Eliminations and other adjustments		
Consolidated					
Net sales:					
Unaffiliated customers 2,845,094	Ps 1,688,863	Ps 1,156,231	Ps	-	Ps
Inter-area transfers <u>                  -</u>	<u>          627,403</u>	<u>                  -</u>	<u>                  -</u>	<u>          (627,403)</u>	<u>                  -</u>
<u>2,845,094</u>	<u>Ps 2,316,266</u>	<u>Ps 1,156,231</u>	<u>Ps</u>	<u>(627,403)</u>	<u>Ps</u>
Interest expense, net					
of monetary effect (31,356)	Ps (33,379)	Ps (9,430)	Ps	11,453	Ps
Net income 149,014	Ps 119,406	Ps 29,286	Ps	322	Ps
Depreciation 143,717	Ps 105,335	Ps 38,382	Ps	-	Ps
Capital expenditures 93,937	Ps 87,163	Ps 6,774	Ps	-	Ps

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Total assets 3,083,338	Ps 3,439,366	Ps 758,754	Ps (1,114,782)	Ps
Long-lived assets:				
Property, plant and equipment 1,793,690	Ps 1,482,882	Ps 310,808	Ps -	Ps
Other assets <u>44,740</u>	<u>742,800</u>	<u>5,928</u>	<u>(703,988)</u>	<u>        </u>
<u>1,838,430</u>	<u>Ps 2,225,682</u>	<u>Ps 316,736</u>	<u>Ps (703,988)</u>	<u>Ps</u>

2001

---

	Mexico	United States	Eliminations and other adjustments	Consolidated
<hr/>				
Net sales:				
Unaffiliated customers 2,971,573	Ps 1,831,091	Ps 1,140,482	Ps -	Ps
Inter-area transfers =	<u>740,486</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(740,486)</u>	<u>        </u>
<u>2,971,573</u>	<u>Ps 2,571,577</u>	<u>Ps 1,140,482</u>	<u>Ps (740,486)</u>	<u>Ps</u>
Interest expense, net of monetary effect (80,472)	Ps (81,237)	Ps (9,788)	Ps 10,553	Ps

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Net income 191,149	Ps 186,071	Ps 6,748	Ps (1,670)	Ps
Depreciation 142,702	Ps 103,259	Ps 39,443	Ps -	Ps
Write off of assets 45,079	Ps 45,079	Ps -	Ps -	Ps
Capital expenditures 108,808	Ps 95,937	Ps 12,871	Ps -	Ps
Total assets 2,928,828	Ps 3,400,887	Ps 705,156	Ps (1,177,215)	Ps
Long-lived assets:				
Property, plant and equipment 1,636,396	Ps 1,356,221	Ps 280,175	Ps -	Ps
Other assets <u>52,821</u>	<u>691,237</u>	<u>4,695</u>	<u>(643,111)</u>	<u>        </u>
<u>1,689,217</u>	<u>Ps 2,047,458</u>	<u>Ps 284,870</u>	<u>Ps (643,111)</u>	<u>Ps</u>

2002

---

	Mexico	United States	Eliminations and other adjustments	
Consolidated				
Net sales:				
Unaffiliated customers 3,058,853	Ps 1,813,319	Ps 1,245,534	Ps -	Ps

---

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Inter-area transfers	<u>832,112</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(832,112)</u>	<u>-</u>
=				
	Ps 2,645,431	Ps 1,245,534	Ps (832,112)	Ps 3,058,853
Interest expense, net				
of monetary effect	Ps (61,402)	Ps 4,780	Ps -	Ps
(56,622)				
Net income	Ps 20,156	Ps 83,740	Ps (16,825)	Ps
87,071				
Depreciation	Ps 105,132	Ps 44,707	Ps -	Ps 149,839
Capital expenditures	Ps 142,755	Ps 27,436	Ps -	Ps
170,191				
Total assets	Ps 3,722,263	Ps 805,730	Ps (1,465,340)	Ps
3,062,653				
Long-lived assets:				
Property, plant and				
equipment	Ps 1,445,392	Ps 284,641	Ps -	Ps
1,730,033				
Other assets	<u>645,729</u>	<u>4,616</u>	<u>(581,246)</u>	<u>-</u>
<u>69,099</u>				
<u>Ps2,091,121</u>	<u>Ps289,257</u>	<u>Ps(581,246)</u>	<u>Ps1,799,132</u>	

Geographical sales by customer location is as follows:

	<u>Mexico</u>	<u>United States</u>		
	Total	Wholly owned	Independent	Total
sales	Domestic sales	distributors	distributors	Others (*) U.S. sales
Net sales 2000	<u>Ps 1,619,050</u>	<u>Ps 707,230</u>	<u>Ps 447,172</u>	<u>Ps 71,642</u>
<u>Ps 2,845,094</u>				<u>Ps 1,226,044</u>
Net sales 2001	<u>Ps 1,760,110</u>	<u>Ps 731,761</u>	<u>Ps 406,840</u>	<u>Ps 72,862</u>
<u>Ps 2,971,573</u>				<u>Ps 1,211,463</u>

Net sales 2002	<u>Ps 1,724,402</u>	<u>Ps 862,557</u>	<u>Ps 374,063</u>	<u>Ps 97,831</u>	<u>Ps 1,334,451</u>
<u>Ps 3,058,853</u>					

(\*) A small part of these sales did not occur in the United States.

## 11. COMMITMENTS AND

### CONTINGENCIES

The Company has entered into rental agreements for office space, manufacturing facilities and equipment used in its operations under non-cancelable operating leases. A summary of future minimum lease payments under these agreements at December 31, 2002 are as follows:

2003	Ps 80,754
2004	66,551
2005	63,047
2006	60,816
2007	56,295
Thereafter	311,068

---

Total future minimum rental payments Ps 638,531

Rental expense incurred under operating leases for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002 was Ps 44,937, Ps 53,711 and Ps 51,463 (US \$5,453), respectively.

Under certain lease agreements the respective monthly lease payments will increase annually in accordance with the NCPI.

The Company negotiated supply agreements to obtain a portion of its natural gas supply from Pemex at a fixed price. The supply agreements are for the period from January 1, 2001 through December 31, 2003. If the Company does not purchase the monthly amounts established in the supply agreements then it is responsible to pay Pemex the difference between the negotiated and actual volumes consumed times the fixed price. During 2001 the Company executed promissory notes in the amount of Ps 47,503 to guarantee its obligations under these agreements through their expiration date.

The Company is party to various claims, legal actions, and complaints arising in the ordinary course of business. In the opinion of independent lawyers, all such matters are without merit or are of such nature, or involve such amounts, that an unfavorable disposition would not have a material effect on the financial position or results of operations of the Company.

## 12. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN MEXICAN AND UNITED STATES GENERALLY ACCEPTED ACCOUNTING

### PRINCIPLES

The Company's consolidated financial statements are prepared in conformity with Mexican GAAP, which differs in certain significant respects from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States ("US GAAP").

The Mexican GAAP consolidated financial statements reflect certain effects of inflation provided under Bulletin B-10, as amended, whereas financial statements prepared under US GAAP are presented on a historical-cost basis. The following reconciliation to US GAAP does not include the reversal of the adjustments required under Bulletin B-10 as its application represents a comprehensive measure of the effects of price-level changes as a result of inflation in the Mexican economy and is considered a more meaningful presentation than historical-cost based financial reporting for both Mexican and US accounting purposes.

The other principal differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP applicable to the Company's consolidated financial statements are discussed below and include a presentation of the effect on the Company's consolidated stockholders' equity and consolidated net income, in thousands of constant Mexican Pesos with purchasing power at December 31, 2002. An explanation of the adjustments, where appropriate, is provided below.

Consolidated stockholders' equity and consolidated net income, adjusted for the effect of certain material differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP, are as follows:

2002	December 31,		
	2000	2001	
	<u>Sub note</u>		
Majority Stockholders' equity under			
<b>Mexican GAAP</b>	Ps 720,788	Ps 826,914	Ps
888,301			

US GAAP adjustments:

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Translation of foreign subsidiaries (31,066)	-	a)	(9,057)	
Capitalization of interest, net of accumulated depreciation 13,347	12,452	b)	16,105	
Valuation of fixed assets based on NCPI 270,118		c)	262,414	287,076
Depreciation of fixed assets based on NCPI (94,182)		c)	(52,458)	(77,515)
Deferred income taxes (1) (105,149)	(64,136)	d)		(111,631)
Deferred employee profit sharing (1) (135,161)	(163,380)	d)		(157,499)
Variable capital shares (469,521)		e)	(474,477)	(474,477)
Employee stock purchase trust (15,254)	(13,971)	f)		(16,566)
Minority interest of reconciling items 49,485	43,038	g)		64,033
Tax benefit of stock issuance cost <u>9,155</u>		h)	<u>9,155</u>	<u>9,155</u>
Stockholders' equity under US GAAP				
	<u>Ps 250,807</u>	<u>Ps 347,355</u>	<u>Ps 417,874</u>	

---

December 31,

2000                      2001

2002

*Sub note*

<b>Net income under Mexican GAAP</b>	Ps 149,014	Ps 191,149	Ps
87,071			
US GAAP adjustments:			
Translation of foreign subsidiaries	<i>a)</i>	(1,870)	
(7,180) -			
Capitalized interest, net of depreciation	<i>b)</i>	(2,629)	
(2,758) (895)			
Depreciation of fixed assets based on NCPI	<i>c)</i>	(21,019)	
(25,056) (16,667)			
Deferred income taxes (1)	<i>d)</i>	29,599	
35,106 26,563			
Deferred employee profit sharing (1)	<i>d)</i>	(25,512)	
22,338 (28,219)			
Minority interest in reconciling items	<i>g)</i>	<u>(8,810)</u>	—
<u>(14,548)</u> <u>(6,447)</u>			
Net income under US GAAP	<u>Ps 118,773</u>	<u>Ps 199,051</u>	<u>Ps</u>
<u>61,406</u>			

(1) Deferred income taxes and employee profit sharing are reflected net of the effect on net monetary position.

The computation of basis and diluted earnings per share is as follows:

Numerator:

Net income under US GAAP	Ps 118,773	Ps 199,051	
Ps 61,406			
Preferred stock dividends	<u>(691)</u>	<u>(662)</u>	
<u>(536)</u>			
Numerator for basic earnings per share	Ps 118,082	Ps 198,389	
Ps 60,870			



Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Preferred stock dividends	<u>691</u>	<u>662</u>
<u>536</u>		
Numerator for basic earnings per share	Ps 118,773	Ps 199,051
Ps 61,406		

Denominator:

Basic weighted average "Ceramic UB" and

"Ceramic ULD" units outstanding (in thousands)	53,328
56,684                      55,960	

Employee stock options	<u>189</u>	<u>1,144</u>
<u>32</u>		

Diluted weighted average "Ceramic UB" and

"Ceramic ULD" outstanding (in thousands)	<u>53,517</u>	<u>57,828</u>
<u>55,992</u>		

Basic net income per unit	<i>i)</i> Ps <u>2.21</u>	<u>Ps 3.50</u>
Ps <u>1.09</u>		

Diluted income per unit	<i>i)</i> Ps <u>2.22</u>	<u>Ps 3.50</u>
Ps <u>1.10</u>		

Consolidated statements of changes in stockholders' equity

Consolidated statements of changes in stockholders' equity, adjusted for the effect of certain material differences between Mexican GAAP and US GAAP, are as follows:

	2000	2001	2002
Stockholder's equity beginning of year			
under US GAAP	Ps 60,757	Ps 250,807	Ps 347,355
Stock issued	124,582	-	-
Employee stock purchase trust	-	1,313	1,283
Repurchase of Company's own shares	-	-	(53,795)
Comprehensive income:			
Net income	118,773	199,051	61,406
Result of holding non-monetary assets	(137,441)	(81,375)	20,364

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Deferred income taxes resulting from the effect of holding non-monetary assets	21,784	41,536	(14,450)
Effect of translation of foreign subsidiaries	62,352	(63,976)	55,711
Stockholder's equity at end of year			
under US GAAP	<u>Ps 250,807</u>	<u>Ps 347,356</u>	<u>Ps 417,874</u>

a) Translation of Foreign Subsidiaries

As explained in Note 1a, in conformity with Bulletin B-15, "Transactions in Foreign Currency and Translation of Financial Statements of Foreign Operations," the Company restated the financial statements at December 31, 2000 and 2001, using a common restatement factor determined based on the weighted average selling rate for each currency, taking into consideration the inflation rate of the foreign (non-Mexican) country and the exchange rates for those years. For US GAAP purposes, those financial statements would have been restated based on the NCPI. Factors derived from the NCPI, published by the Banco de Mexico, were 1.1036 and 1.0570 for 2000 and 2001, respectively.

b) Capitalized Interest

The Company capitalizes the comprehensive financing cost related to specific borrowings on assets under construction in conformity with Mexican GAAP. Under US GAAP, interest must be considered an additional cost of constructed assets and capitalized and depreciated over the lives of the related assets. The amount of interest capitalized for US GAAP purposes totaled Ps 1,373, Ps 1,329 and Ps 3,416 for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002, respectively. The depreciation of amounts previously capitalized under US GAAP amounted to Ps 4,002, Ps 4,087 and Ps 4,311, for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002, respectively.

c) Valuation and depreciation of Fixed Assets Based on the NCPI

As explained in Notes 1d and 1h, in conformity with the Bulletin B-10, the Company restated the value of imported machinery using the alternative method (i.e., the rate of inflation in the country of origin and prevailing exchange rate at the balance sheet date) under Mexican GAAP. For US GAAP purposes, those assets would have been restated based on the NCPI.

At December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002, net plant, property and equipment under US GAAP would be Ps 2,016,517, Ps 1,797,822 and Ps 1,824,151, respectively.

Rates used to adjust prior year balances under Mexican GAAP were 1.1176 and 1.0983, compared to the rates of inflation in Mexico that were used to determine the above balances under US GAAP of 1.1036 and 1.0570 in 2000 and 2001, respectively.

d) Income Taxes and Employee Profit Sharing

Under Mexican GAAP, through December 31, 1999 deferred income taxes were provided for identifiable non-recurring temporary differences (those expected to reverse over a known period of time) at rates in effect at the end of the period covered by the financial statements. Benefits from loss carryforwards were not recognized before the period in which the carryforwards are utilized. For purposes of the reconciliation to USGAAP, the Company has applied SFAS No. 109, which requires that deferred income taxes be determined using the liability method for all temporary differences between financial reporting amounts and the tax basis

of assets and liabilities, and that deferred taxes on such differences be measured at the enacted income tax rates for the year in which such taxes are expected to be payable or refundable.

Mexican Accounting Bulletin D-4, "Deferred Income Tax," became effective on January 1, 2000. Under Bulletin D-4, all deferred income taxes, including those arising from recurring temporary differences between book and taxable income, and the tax effects of tax loss carryforwards, have been recognized in the financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002. Such deferred income taxes have been calculated under the assets and liability method that compares the book and tax values of the Company's assets and liabilities. From this comparison temporary differences are determined based on enacted tax rates.

The deferred employee profit sharing expense or benefit is calculated similarly. Under US GAAP, employee profit sharing expense would be considered as a component of operating expenses.

The portion of deferred taxes attributable to the excess of indexed costs over replacement cost and the effect of translation of foreign subsidiaries have been reflected as an adjustment to the deficit from restatement of stockholders' equity. As a result, under US GAAP, deferred income taxes (benefit) charged directly to the deficit from restatement of stockholders' equity were Ps 21,784, Ps 41,588, and Ps (14,450) for the year ended December 31, 2000, 2001 and 2002.

Income before income taxes and income taxes under US GAAP for the Company's domestic and foreign operations were as follows:

	<i>Years ended December 31,</i>		
	2000	2001	2002
Income before income taxes:			
Domestic	Ps 132,349	Ps 179,754	Ps 45,159
Foreign	20,658	6,916	25,976
	<u>Ps 153,007</u>	<u>Ps 186,670</u>	<u>Ps 71,135</u>

Current provision for income  
and asset taxes:

Domestic	Ps 13,725	Ps 16,017	Ps 18,528
Foreign	1,759	422	993

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Ps 15,484      Ps 16,439      Ps 19,521

Deferred income tax expense (benefit):

Domestic	Ps 18,750	Ps (28,819)	Ps (6,792)
Foreign	-	-	-
	<u>Ps 18,750</u>	<u>Ps (28,819)</u>	<u>Ps (6,792)</u>
<i>Total tax expense (benefit)</i>	<u>Ps 34,234</u>	<u>Ps (12,380)</u>	<u>Ps 12,729</u>

The material components of the net deferred income tax liabilities under US GAAP consisted of the following:

	<i>December 31,</i>		
	2000	2001	2002
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Deferred income tax liabilities:			
Inventories	Ps 151,716	Ps 123,841	Ps 117,618
Property, plant and equipment	469,157	382,714	356,791
Foreign subsidiaries deferred			
tax liabilities and effect of translation	<u>17,468</u>	<u>23,593</u>	<u>49,249</u>
Total deferred income tax liabilities	<u>638,341</u>	<u>530,148</u>	<u>523,658</u>
Deferred income tax assets:			
Tax loss carryforwards	289,436	206,073	82,907
Asset tax paid	20,993	39,037	43,545
Other	<u>18,086</u>	<u>20,158</u>	<u>15,101</u>

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Total deferred income tax assets	328,515	265,268	241,553
Valuation allowance	<u>(146,421)</u>	<u>(143,349)</u>	<u>(106,113)</u>
Total deferred income tax assets	<u>182,094</u>	<u>21,919</u>	<u>35,441</u>
Net deferred income tax liabilities under			
US GAAP	Ps 456,247	Ps 408,229	Ps 388,216
Less:			
Net deferred income tax liabilities			
under Mexican GAAP	(344,719)	(313,954)	(324,080)
Effect of translation of foreign Subsidiaries (1)	<u>103</u>	<u>10,874</u>	<u>-</u>
Adjustment to net deferred tax liabilities	<u>Ps 111,631</u>	<u>Ps 105,149</u>	<u>Ps 64,136</u>
Current year change adjustment to net deferred income			
tax liabilities to reconcile to US GAAP	Ps (7,815)	Ps 6,482	Ps (41,013)
Less change in deferred income taxes			
recorded in deficit from restatement			
of stockholders' equity	<u>(21,784)</u>	<u>(41,588)</u>	<u>14,450</u>
Adjustment to deferred income tax			
expense (benefit) under US GAAP	<u>(29,599)</u>	<u>Ps (35,106)</u>	<u>Ps (26,563)</u>

(1) Represents the difference associated with the net deferred tax liabilities under Mexican (see sub note a )

The material components of the net deferred employee profit sharing liability under US GAAP consist of the following:

	Year ended December 31		
	2000	2001	2002
Deferred employee profit sharing liability:			
Inventories	Ps 43,348	Ps 35,383	Ps 34,594
Property, plant and equipment <u>116,895</u>	<u>144,116</u>	<u>122,652</u>	—
Total deferred employee profit sharing liabilities <u>151,489</u>	<u>187,464</u>	<u>158,035</u>	—
Deferred employee profit sharing asset:			
Other	Ps 1,287	Ps 4,281	Ps (7,234)
Unrealized exchange loss <u>(4,657)</u>	<u>28,678</u>	<u>18,593</u>	—
Total deferred employee profit sharing assets	<u>(29,965)</u>	<u>(22,874)</u>	<u>11,891</u>

Net deferred employee profit

sharing liabilities under

US GAAP

Ps 157,499    Ps 135,161    Ps 163,380

e) Variable Capital Shares

Under Mexican GAAP, the variable capital shares have been classified as a component of stockholders' equity. Under US GAAP, the full amount of the variable capital shares has been deducted from stockholders' equity to reflect the optional redemption available to the holders of these shares.

f) Employee Stock Purchase Trust

Under Mexican GAAP, the amount contributed to the Trust is carried as an asset in anticipation of repayment upon the exercise of the stock options by employees. Under US GAAP, this amount is deducted from stockholders' equity to reflect the subscription receivable due to the Company upon exercise of the options.

For purposes of Mexican GAAP, no compensation expense has been recorded by the Company with respect to these share transactions or with respect to the dividends on stock held by the trust. Under US GAAP, compensation expense is recognized for the difference, if any, between the exercise price of the shares and their market value, on the respective dates the options were granted and shares held by the trust were allocated to employees. The exercise price of each option is equal to the market prices of the Company's stock on the date of grant.

In August 2002, the Company repriced options to acquire 647,000 units from Ps 17.00 to Ps 12.15 per unit. Under US GAAP, as a result of reducing the exercise price, the options are subject to variable accounting from the date of modification to the date the options are exercised, are forfeited or expire unexercised. Under variable accounting estimates of compensation expense are recorded based on the quoted market price of the stock at intervening dates and the vesting periods associated with the options. The estimated compensation expense may fluctuate because of changes in quoted market price of the stock. Therefore, the accounting for a variable plan requires the recomputation of estimated compensation expense until the measurement date. No additional compensation expense, however, would be recorded by the Company during the year ended December 31, 2002 since the market price of the units at December 31, 2002 was less than their repriced exercise price.

SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation," requires presentation of pro forma information as if the Company had accounted for its employee stock options granted, under the fair value method of that statement. For purposes of pro forma disclosure, the estimated fair value of the options at the date of the grant is amortized to expense over the vesting period. Under the fair value method, the Company's US GAAP net income and net income per unit would have been as follows:

---

Year ended December 31		
2000	2001	2002

Net income	Ps 115,181	Ps 196,434	Ps 60,557
Net income per unit	Ps 2.08	Ps 3.39	Ps 1.08

The fair values of the options granted were determined using a Black-Scholes option-pricing method with the following assumptions:

	<i>2000</i>	<i>2001</i>	<i>2002</i>
	_____	_____	_____
Dividend yield	-	2.5%	2.5%
Volatility	-	47%	32%
Risk-free interest rate	-	7.44%	7.18%
Expected life in years	-	3	5
Fair value per unit	6.24	5.02	3.54

g) Minority Interest

Under Mexican GAAP, the minority interest in consolidated subsidiaries is presented as a separate component within the stockholders' equity section in the consolidated balance sheet. For US GAAP purposes, the minority interest is not included in stockholders' equity.

h) Tax Benefit of Stock Issuance Cost

In 1994, the Company charged costs relating to an issuance of equity directly to equity. The tax benefit of such costs would also be charged to equity under US GAAP.

i) Earnings Per Share

Earnings per share ("EPS") are computed according to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 128, "Earnings per Share." Basic EPS is computed dividing net earnings by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, excluding stock option plan shares. Diluted EPS is computed dividing net earnings by the sum of the weighted average number of common shares outstanding, including stock-option shares that are potentially dilutive. Under Mexican GAAP units subscribed and issued to the Trust are considered outstanding for purposes of calculating earnings per unit. For US GAAP purposes the basic weighted average number of units outstanding excludes the average number of units held by the trust while the diluted weighted average number of units outstanding includes the dilutive units held by the trust. Units held by the Trust have a dilutive effect only when the average market price of the units during the year exceed the exercise price of the options.



Disclosure About Fair Value of Financial Instruments

In accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 107, "Disclosures about Fair Value of Financial Instruments," under US GAAP, information is provided about the fair value of certain financial instruments. The estimated fair value of a financial instrument is the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties.

The following methods and assumptions are used to estimate the fair value of financial instruments including:

- Cash and cash equivalents; the carrying amounts approximate fair value because of the short maturity of such instruments.
- Notes payable to bank and long-term debt. The fair value is estimated based on current rates offered for similar debt. At December 31, 2001 and 2002 the fair value of notes payable to banks and long-term debt was Ps 1,325,401 (US \$119,512) and Ps 1,209,167 (US \$116,378), respectively.

Restrictions from Debt Obligations

The Company has certain restrictions from debt obligations on its capital stock and retained earnings such as limitations on its ability to declare or pay dividends or make distribution on or with respect to its capital stock, limitations on purchase, redemption or other wise retire or acquire for value capital stock, maintenance of certain financial ratios and restrictions on encumbrances of assets and creation indebtedness. At December 31, 2001 and 2002, the retained earnings not available for distribution amounted to Ps 187,328 and Ps 187,444, respectively

Advertising

The Company expenses advertising costs as they are incurred. Total advertising expenses charged to operations were approximately Ps 54,671, Ps 53,508 and Ps 54,804 in 2000, 2001 and 2002, respectively.

Research and Development Expenditures

The Company had research and development expenditures of Ps 21,344 in 2002, while in 2001 and 2000 the expenditures for research and development were Ps 24,707 and Ps 26,742, respectively.

Write-off of Assets and Other Expenses

In accordance with Mexican GAAP, the following costs and expenses were recorded in the components entitled "other expenses" or "write-off of assets" after operating income:

	<i>Year ended December 31,</i>		
	2000	2001	2002
	_____	_____	_____
Severance paid to employees	Ps 30,953	Ps 7,103	Ps 9,826

Write off of assets	-	<u>42,329</u>	-
	<u>Ps30,953</u>	<u>Ps49,432</u>	<u>Ps9,826</u>

Under US GAAP, these costs and expenses would be included in operating income.

#### Asset Impairment

Long-lived assets to be held and used are recorded at cost. Management reviews long-lived assets and related intangible assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying amount of such assets may not be recoverable. Recoverability of these assets is determined by comparing the forecasted, undiscounted net cash flows of the operation to which the assets relate to the carrying amount including associated long-lived assets of such operation. If the operation is determined to be unable to recover the carrying amount of its assets, then intangible assets are written down first, followed by tangible long-lived assets of the operation, to fair value. Fair value is determined based on discounted cash flows or appraised values, depending upon the nature of the assets. For 2000, 2001 and 2002, due to ongoing profitable operations, no long-lived asset impairment evaluation was considered necessary.

#### Accounting for the Cost of Computer Software Developed or Obtained for Internal Use

Effective January 1, 2000, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants issued Statement of Position 98-1, "Accounting for the Cost of Computer Software Developed or Obtained for Internal Use" ("SOP 98-1"). SOP 98-1 requires the capitalization of certain costs incurred after the date of adoption in connection with developing or obtaining software for internal-use. Because the Company was already capitalizing such costs, SOP 98-1 did not have any effect on results operations or financial position under US GAAP.

#### Selected Financial Data under US GAAP

Summarized consolidated financial information on a US GAAP basis as of and for the years ended December 31, 2000 and 2001 after restatement to present all amounts in thousands of constant Mexican Pesos of equivalent purchasing power based the NCPI ( see sub note c ) as of December 31, 2002:

	<u>2002</u>		<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>
	<u>At December 31,</u>			
	P	s	Ps	P
Current assets	1,212,704		1,177,819	1,249,390
Non-current assets	2,050,552		1,857,862	1,995,580
Current liabilities	748,584		1,448,458	849,680
Non-current liabilities	2,125,347		1,098,943	1,819,751
Minority interest	138,518		141,925	157,686

Year ended December  
31,

Sales	2,809,354	2,860,012	3,058,853
Cost of sales	1,835,234	1,873,281	1,954,956
Operating Income	237,197	248,554	262,675
Net income	118,773	199,051	61,406

Cash Flow Information

Under US GAAP, a statement of cash flows is prepared based on the provisions of FAS No. 95 " Statement of Cash Flows" in lieu of a statement of changes in financial position required by Mexican GAAP. FAS 95 establishes specific presentation requirements and requires additional disclosures, such as the amount of interest and income taxes paid and other non-cash items. This statement does not provide specific guidance for the preparation of cash flows for price level adjusted financial statements.

Cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities have been adjusted for the effects of inflation or monetary items.

Below are the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flow required by US GAAP:

	Year ended December 31		
	2000	2001	
2002			
<hr/>			
Net income	Ps 18,773	Ps 199,051	Ps
61,406			
Adjustments to reconcile net income			
to net cash provided by operating			
activities:			
Depreciation	141,912	137,341	
149,839			

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Depreciation per NCPI 16,667		21,019	25,056	
Write off of assets 43,386	-	-		
Deferred income tax (28,560)		15,571	8,066	
Deferred employee profit sharing (22,338) 28,215		25,512		
Minority net income (loss) 22,471 18,405		(755)		
Exchange (loss) gain 150,780		12,663	(54,276)	
Allowance for doubtful accounts 3,237 (1,056)		3,368		
Inflation effect on financing activities (56,122) (50,853)		(129,642)		
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
<u>344,843</u>		<u>208,421</u>	<u>305,872</u>	-

	Year ended December 31	
	2000	2001
2002		
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

Changes in:



Financing activities

Proceeds from sale of capital stock	124,581	
-		
Repurchase of capital stock (58,731)	-	-
Minority stockholders' refund (14,745)	-	-
Minority stockholders' dividends (6,670) (6,002)	-	-
Proceeds from long-term debt and		
bank loans	42,686	65,515
1,274,539		
Repayment of long-term debt and		
bank loans	(115,450)	(98,300)
(1,370,296)		
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash (used) provided by financing		
activities	<u>51,817</u>	<u>(54,200)</u>
<u>(160,490)</u>		
Effect of inflation accounting	<u>(36,018)</u>	<u>44,2601</u>
<u>44,914</u>		
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash		
equivalents	70,597	75,997
(126,478)		
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning		

of year	67,356	137,953
213,950		

-

Cash and cash equivalents at end of

year	Ps 137,953	Ps 213,950	Ps
87,472			

\_\_\_\_\_

Supplemental cash flow disclosures:

Interest paid	<u>Ps 155,555</u>	<u>Ps 118,633</u>
<u>Ps 123,846</u>		

Income taxes paid	<u>Ps 3,251</u>	<u>Ps 9,186</u>
<u>Ps 34,854</u>		

Report of Independent Auditors

on

Financial Statement Schedules

The Board of Directors

Internacional de Ceramica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Internacional de Ceramica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries (collectively, the "Company") as of December 31, 2001 and 2002, and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002. and have issued our report thereon dated February 9, 2001 included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for the year ended December 31, 2002 (the "Form 20-F"). Our audit also included the financial statement schedules listed in Item 19(b) of the Form 20-F. These schedules are the responsibility of the Company's

management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion based on our audit of the Company.

In our opinion, the financial statement schedules referred to above, when considered in relation to the Financial Statements taken as whole, present fairly in all material respects the information set forth therein.

Mancera, S.C.

Mancera, S.C.

& Young International

Member of Ernst

Chihuahua, Chih., Mexico

June 30, 2003

---

Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V.

Index to Consolidated Financial Statements

	<u>Page</u>
Financial Statements for the Six Months Ended September 30, 2002, 2003(Unaudited)	
<u>Consolidated Balance Sheets</u> .....	F-1
<u>Consolidated Statements of Income</u> .....	F-3
<u>Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position</u> .....	F-4

---



**Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries****Consolidated Balance Sheets***(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of September 30, 2003)*

---

*September 30,**(Unaudited)*

<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>			
			<i>Thousands of US Dollars</i>		
<b>ASSETS</b>					
<b>Current assets:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	Ps 167,306	Ps 179,433	\$ 16,268		
Accounts receivable:					
Trade	304,630	350,901	31,813		
Related parties	53,318	59,234	5,352		
Other accounts receivable	57,041	49,471	4,504		
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(27,496)	(30,066)	(2,726)		
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>			
387,493	429,540	38,943			

Inventories, net	757,827	898,822	81,489
Prepaid expenses	58,112	26,377	2,391
_____	_____	_____	
<b>Total current assets</b>	1,370,738	1,534,172	139,091
Investment in affiliated companies	9,501	7,148	648
Property, plant and equipment	3,134,164	3,336,658	302,508
Accumulated depreciation	(1,350,085)	(1,549,053)	(140,440)
_____	_____	_____	
1,784,079	1,787,605	162,068	
Other assets	76,541	106,612	9,666
_____	_____	_____	
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<u>Ps 3,240,859</u>	<u>Ps 3,435,537</u>	<u>\$ 311,473</u>

For general information regarding past fiscal periods of the Company, see the notes accompanying the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements as of December 31, 2002 included in Annex A to the Prospectus.

(1) Convenience translation at the rate of Ps 11.03 to US \$1.00, the Interbank Rate as of September 30, 2003.

**Consolidated Balance Sheets (Continued)***(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of September 30, 2003)**September 30,**(Unaudited)*

<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>			
			<i>Thousands of US Dollars</i>		
<b>LIABILITIES</b>					
<b>Current liabilities:</b>					
Notes payable to banks	Ps	1,303	Ps	110,813	\$ 10,046
Current portion of long-term debt		235,539		237,056	21,492
Accounts payable to suppliers		234,496		256,171	23,225
Related parties		7,930		504	46
Accrued expenses		195,436		234,809	21,288
Income tax and employee profit sharing		4,223		7,198	653
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>678,927</b>		<b>846,551</b>	<b>76,750</b>
Long-term debt		1,078,197		1,069,198	96,935
Other liabilities		1,364		-	-
Deferred income taxes		371,556		374,652	33,967

<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<u>2,130,044</u>	<u>2,290,401</u>	<u>207,652</u>
--------------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

**STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**

Capital stock	717,413	741,772	67,250
---------------	---------	---------	--------

Paid-in capital	1,238,286	1,238,286	112,265
-----------------	-----------	-----------	---------

Stock repurchase reserve	<u>233,940</u>	<u>131,460</u>	<u>11,919</u>
--------------------------	----------------	----------------	---------------

Cumulative comprehensive

(loss )income:

Retained earnings	196,790	254,274	23,053
-------------------	---------	---------	--------

Net income (loss) for the period	2,871	(15,379)	(1,394)
----------------------------------	-------	----------	---------

Cumulative effect of deferred taxes	(314,501)	(314,501)	(28,513)
-------------------------------------	-----------	-----------	----------

Deficit from restatement of

stockholders' equity	(1,225,484)	(1,209,040)	(109,614)
----------------------	-------------	-------------	-----------

Effect of translation of foreign

subsidiaries	<u>50,336</u>	<u>76,213</u>	<u>6,910</u>
--------------	---------------	---------------	--------------

Cumulative comprehensive income (loss)	<u>(1,289,988)</u>	<u>(1,208,433)</u>	<u>(109,558)</u>
--	--------------------	--------------------	------------------

Majority stockholders' equity	899,651	903,084	81,876
-------------------------------	---------	---------	--------

Minority stockholders' equity	211,164	242,052	21,945
-------------------------------	---------	---------	--------

<b>Total stockholders' equity</b>	<u>1,110,815</u>	<u>1,145,136</u>	<u>103,821</u>
-----------------------------------	------------------	------------------	----------------

**TOTAL LIABILITIES AND**

<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>	<u>Ps 3,240,859</u>	<u>Ps 3,435,537</u>	<u>\$ 311,473</u>
-----------------------------	---------------------	---------------------	-------------------

**For Significant Accounting Policies see Note 1 to the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements**

---

**Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries**
**Consolidated Statements of Income***(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of September 30, 2003)**Nine Months ended September 30,**(Unaudited)*

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2003</u>	
				<i>Thousands of US Dollars</i>
Net sales		Ps 2,382,205	Ps 2,518,250	\$ 228,309
Cost of sales		(1,486,734)	(1,630,621)	(147,835)
-				
Gross profit		895,471	887,629	80,474
Selling and administrative expenses		(655,937)	(696,170)	(63,116)
Operating income		239,534	191,459	17,358

Comprehensive financing cost:

Edgar Filing: INTERNACIONAL DE CERAMICA SA DE CV - Form 424B3

Interest income	4,993	5,946	539
Interest expense	(89,353)	(58,404)	(5,295)
Foreign exchange (loss) gain, net	(96,639)	(66,649)	(6,043)
Gain on net monetary position	36,583	30,983	2,809
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
	(144,416)	(88,124)	(7,990)
Other expense, net	(10,244)	(9,489)	(860)
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Income before provision for income tax and employee profit sharing	84,874	93,846	8,508
Income and asset tax	(66,441)	(78,715)	(7,136)
Employee profit sharing	(4,417)	(7,453)	(676)
Participation in Associated Companies	513	-	-
	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>	<u>                    </u>
Net income	14,529	7,678	696
Minority net income	<u>11,658</u>	<u>23,057</u>	<u>2,090</u>
<b>NET INCOME (LOSS) OF MAJORITY STOCKHOLDERS</b>	<u>Ps 2,871</u>	<u>Ps (15,379)</u>	<u>\$ (1,394)</u>
Weighted average number of Units outstanding ("Ceramic UB" and "Ceramic ULD" outstanding (in thousands)	<u>57.912</u>	<u>49.343</u>	<u>49.343</u>



by operating activities:

Depreciation	116,193	126,587	11,477
Deferred income tax	39,469	40,777	3,697
Minority net income (loss)	11,658	23,057	2,090
Participation in Associated Companies	(513)	-	-
Other accounts	(13,035)	(4,680)	(424)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	156,643	170,362	
15,446			

Variations in operating

assets and liabilities:

Accounts receivable	(25,573)	(30,078)	(2,727)
Inventories	(76,975)	(85,129)	(7,718)
Other assets	(62,923)	(46,060)	(4,176)
Accounts payable to suppliers	83,703	(42,639)	(3,866)
Other accounts payable	12,901	87,249	7,910
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

TOTAL RESOURCES PROVIDED

**BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES** Ps 87,776 Ps 53,705 \$ 4,869

**For Significant Accounting Policies see Note 1 to the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements**



---

**Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries**
**Consolidated Statements of Changes in Financial Position (Continued)***(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of September 30, 2003)**Nine Months ended September 30,**(Unaudited)*

<i>2002</i>	<i>2003</i>	<i>2003</i>
_____	_____	_____

*Thousands of  
US Dollars*

**FINANCING ACTIVITIES:**

Repurchase of capital stock	(1,990)	(52,379)	(4,749)
Minority stockholders' dividends	-	(9,224)	(836)
Proceeds from long-term debt			
and bank loans	1,230,223	458,068	41,529
Repayment of long-term debt			
and bank loans	(1,256,011)	(323,653)	(29,343)
Other Financing activities	10,062	22,415	2,032

RESOURCES USED IN

<b>FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>	<u>(17,716)</u>	<u>95,227</u>	<u>8,633</u>
-----------------------------	-----------------	---------------	--------------

**INVESTING ACTIVITIES:**

Increase of property, plant

and equipment, net	(136,141)	(61,333)	(5,560)
--------------------	-----------	----------	---------

RESOURCES USED IN

<b>INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	<u>(136,141)</u>	<u>(61,333)</u>	<u>(5,560)</u>
-----------------------------	------------------	-----------------	----------------

**Net increase (decrease) in cash**

<b>and cash equivalents</b>	(66,081)	87,599	7,942
-----------------------------	----------	--------	-------

Cash and cash equivalents at

<b>beginning of year</b>	233,387	91,834	8,326
--------------------------	---------	--------	-------

**CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

<b>AT END OF YEAR</b>	<u>Ps 167,306</u>	<u>Ps 179,433</u>	<u>\$ 16,268</u>
-----------------------	-------------------	-------------------	------------------

**For Significant Accounting Policies see Note 1 to the Audited Consolidated Financial Statements**

5

---

**Internacional de Cerámica, S.A. de C.V. and Subsidiaries**

**Consolidated Balance Sheets (Continued)**

*(Thousands of Constant Mexican Pesos as of September 30, 2003)*

**1. FINANCIAL COVENANTS**

Over the course of the third quarter, Interceramic determined that the Company was not in compliance with two financial ratios contained in covenants in the Credit Agreement applicable to its US \$100.0 million syndicated loan facility, a "fixed charge coverage" ratio and a "leverage" ratio. With uncertainty over how quickly and to what extent financial performance will improve in the short term, Interceramic commenced discussions with its lenders over a waiver of the non-compliance or an amendment to the Credit Agreement more in line with its expectations. By September 30, 2003, Interceramic had reached agreement with the lenders on a series of amendments to the Credit Agreement that management believes will provide the Company with sufficient flexibility going forward. The documents for these amendments were completed as of October 31, 2003.

6

---

---

No person has been authorized to give any information or to make any representations other than those contained in this Prospectus and, if given or made, any information or representations other than those contained in this Prospectus must not be relied upon as having been authorized. This Prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy any securities other than the securities to which it relates or an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy the securities by any person in any circumstances in which an offer or solicitation is unlawful.

---

INTERNACIONAL DE CERÁMICA,  
S.A. DE C.V.

Offering of 32,732,026 Units

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
<u>Summary Information</u>	1
<u>Risk Factors</u>	10
<u>Use of Proceeds</u>	16
<u>Dividend Policy</u>	16
<u>Recent Developments and Results</u>	17
<u>The Rights Offering</u>	21

The Extended Offering 28

Taxation 29

Description of Capital Stock 32

Description of American Depositary Shares  
40

Validity of Securities 47

Experts 47

Enforceability of Judgments 48

Publicly Available Information About  
Interceramic 48

Public Documents 49

Additional Information 49

2002 Form 20-F Annex A

Index to Financial Statements F-1

---

---

---