WORLD HOUSEWARE (HOLDINGS) LTD: IS THE CHAIRMAN WORTH HIS SALT?

Whether or not shareholders of World Houseware (Holdings) Ltd think that Management is worth \$HK14.53 million per year, with the Chairman, getting \$HK8.50 million of that pool of money, is for them to decide, of course, but **TARGET** has no compunctions in stating that that amount of money is unreal, considering the performance of this publicly listed company over the past 5 Financial Years.

While the Turnover for the 2002 Financial Year, ended December 31, 2002, rose, Year-on-Year, by about 4.47 percent to about \$HK679.65 million, and the Net Profit Attributable to Shareholders rose, Year-on-Year, by about 14 percent to about \$HK42.03 million, the Directors determined to treat themselves to a 44-percent increase in Total Emoluments.

There are 6 Executive Directors, headed by Mr Lee Tat Hing, the Chairman, and his wife, Madame Fung Mei Po, the Vice Chairwoman, unchanged from the 2001-Year, but the increased amount of money, apportioned to these 2 Directors, was considerably changed by the conclusion of the 2002-Year.

Note 8 to the 2002 Annual Accounts gives one, a complete picture of the situation:

Directors' Emoluments

	Financial Year ended December 31	
	2002	2001
	All Figures are Denominated	
	in \$HK'000	
<u>Directors' Fees</u> :		
	NT'1	NT'1
Executive	Nil	Nil
Independent Non-Executive	345	300
Other Emoluments Paid to Executive Directors:		
Salaries	11,818	7,764
Performance Related Incentive Payments	2,298	1,933
Retirement Benefit Scheme Contributions	<u>72</u>	<u>65</u>
TOTAL	<u>14,188</u>	<u>9,762</u>
Total Directors' Emoluments	14,533	10,062

In addition to the above, the company provides a luxury furnished flat for the Chairman and his wife, the rateable value of which was said to be about \$HK586,000 per annum.

On the basis that the Chairman and Vice Chairwoman (sic) get the lion's share of Directors' Emoluments, this husband-and-wife team are taking home about \$HK11 million per annum, plus living, buckshee in a luxury furnished flat.

All in all, **TARGET** estimates that they are dragging close to \$HK1 million per month out of this publicly listed company.

Not bad going!

While the above is, without question ... CLICK TO ORDER FULL ARTICLE

While TARGET makes every attempt to ensure accuracy of all data published, TARGET cannot be held responsible for any errors and/or omissions.

If readers feel that they would like to voice their opinions about that which they have read in TARGET, please feel free to e-mail your views to editor@targetnewspapers.com or targnews@hkstar.com. TARGET does not guarantee to publish readers' views, but reserves the right so to do subject to the laws of libel.

Site Meter