

## SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

### GKN website and share price information

Information on GKN, including this annual report, the latest interim report and the GKN plc share price updated every 20 minutes, is available on GKN's website at [www.gkn.com](http://www.gkn.com). The latest GKN share price is also available within the UK from the Financial Times' Cityline service by telephoning 0906 843 2696. Calls are charged at 60p per minute.

### Shareholding enquiries and information

Administrative enquiries relating to shareholdings should be addressed to GKN's registrar, Lloyds TSB Registrars (see inside back cover for contact details). Correspondence should refer to GKN plc and include the shareholder's full name, address and, if available, 8-digit reference number which can be found on GKN plc share certificates.

By visiting Lloyds TSB Registrars' Shareview website at [www.shareview.co.uk](http://www.shareview.co.uk), shareholders can view information on their shareholdings and recent dividends, obtain guidance on transferring shares and receiving shareholder documents electronically (see below), update their personal details (including changing address details) and set up a new dividend mandate or change their existing mandate.

### Share dealing service

A telephone dealing service has been arranged with Stocktrade which provides a simple way of buying or selling GKN plc Ordinary Shares. Full details can be obtained by telephoning 0845 601 0995 (+44 131 240 0414 from outside the UK) and quoting reference Low Co139.

### Electronic receipt of documents

Shareholders can elect via the GKN or Shareview websites (see inside back cover) to receive certain shareholder documents (including annual and interim reports and notices of shareholder meetings) electronically rather than by post. If shareholders elect for the electronic option, they will receive a notification by e-mail each time a document is published advising them that it is available for viewing on GKN's website. The e-mail will contain a link to the relevant page on the website, providing shareholders with easy access to the document which can then be read or printed. By electing for this electronic option, shareholders will receive documents more speedily, avoid the possibility of delays in the postal system, save postage costs and help conserve natural resources. When registering for this service, shareholders will need to provide their 8-digit reference number which can be found on GKN plc share certificates.

### Financial calendar

Preliminary announcement of results for 2004	24 February 2005
Ordinary Shares quoted ex-dividend	13 April 2005
2004 final dividend record date	15 April 2005
Final date for receipt of DRIP mandate forms (see above right)	25 April 2005
Annual General Meeting	5 May 2005
2004 final dividend on Ordinary Shares payable	10 May 2005
DRIP share certificates and share purchase statements despatched	23 May 2005
CREST participant accounts credited with DRIP shares	24 May 2005
Announcement of half-year results for 2005	August 2005
2005 interim dividend on Ordinary Shares payable	September 2005

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting on Thursday 5 May 2005 will be held at the Institution of Electrical Engineers, Savoy Place, London WC2, commencing at 11.00 a.m. The Notice of Meeting, together with an explanation of the resolutions to be considered at the meeting, is contained in the AGM circular enclosed with this annual report.

### Dividend reinvestment plan

Under the dividend reinvestment plan (DRIP), shareholders can mandate to reinvest cash dividends paid on their Ordinary Shares in further GKN plc Ordinary Shares. Shareholders who would like to receive details of the DRIP should contact the Share Dividend Team at Lloyds TSB Registrars or visit the Shareview website (see inside back cover). New DRIP mandates and any withdrawals of existing mandates must be received by Lloyds TSB Registrars by 25 April 2005 to be valid for the 2004 final dividend. Other key dates are given in the financial calendar (below left).

### GKN single company ISA

Lloyds TSB Registrars operate a Single Company ISA in which GKN plc Ordinary Shares can be held in a tax efficient manner. Full details and an application form can be obtained by telephoning Lloyds TSB Registrars' ISA Helpline on 0870 24 24 244 or by visiting the Shareview website (see inside back cover). Investors should note that the value of any tax benefit will vary according to individual circumstances and the tax rules relating to ISAs may change in the future. If you are in any doubt you should seek professional advice.

### Taxation

Market values of GKN plc Ordinary Shares, 'B' Shares (issued and redeemed under the return of capital in 2000) and Brambles Industries plc Ordinary Shares (issued in connection with the demerger of GKN's Industrial Services businesses in 2001) for Capital Gains Tax (CGT) purposes are as follows:

#### First day of trading market values<sup>(a)</sup>

	GKN Ordinary Shares	'B' Shares	Brambles Ordinary Shares
30 May 2000 <sup>(b)</sup>	914.5p (98.736774%)	11.7p (1.263226%)	–
7 August 2001 <sup>(c)</sup>	282.5p (43.943224%)	–	360.375p (56.056776%)

(a) The stated market values are used to allocate the base cost of GKN Ordinary Shares, on the basis of the relative percentages specified, between GKN Ordinary Shares and 'B' Shares and between GKN Ordinary Shares and Brambles Ordinary Shares in calculating any CGT liability under the 'B' Share return of capital and the Industrial Services businesses demerger arrangements. Worked examples and guides to the general tax position of UK shareholders under these arrangements are available on request from GKN's Corporate Centre (see inside back cover) and on GKN's website at [www.gkn.com](http://www.gkn.com).

(b) Being the first day of trading of the 'B' Shares.

(c) Being the first day of trading of the Brambles Ordinary Shares. From this date, the market price of GKN Ordinary Shares reduced to reflect the value of the businesses demerged into the Brambles Group.

## 1965/1982 market values

	GKN Ordinary Shares unadjusted for 'B' Shares or demerger <sup>(a)</sup>	GKN Ordinary Shares adjusted for 'B' Shares but not demerger <sup>(b)</sup>	GKN Ordinary Shares adjusted for 'B' Shares and demerger <sup>(b)</sup>	'B' Shares <sup>(b)</sup>	Brambles Ordinary Shares <sup>(b)</sup>
6 April 1965	116.175p	114.707p	50.406p	1.468p	64.301p
31 March 1982	104.870p	103.545p	45.501p	1.325p	58.044p

(a) Adjusted for subsequent rights and capitalisation issues (prior to the issue of the 'B' Shares on 30 May 2000) and the two for one GKN Ordinary Share split in May 1998.

(b) If the GKN Ordinary Shares in respect of which the 'B' Shares/Brambles Ordinary Shares were issued were held by you on 6 April 1965 or 31 March 1982, you will be deemed to have also held the 'B' Shares/Brambles Ordinary Shares on such date. In such cases, the 1965/1982 market values (adjusted as described in note (a) above) are apportioned between GKN Ordinary Shares and 'B' Shares and, if you also received Brambles Ordinary Shares, between GKN Ordinary Shares and Brambles Ordinary Shares using the relative percentages specified above in respect of the first day of trading market values. The apportioned market values are shown in the table.

## GKN American Depositary Receipts

GKN has a sponsored Level 1 American Depositary Receipt (ADR) programme for which The Bank of New York acts as Depositary. Each ADR represents one GKN plc Ordinary Share. The ADRs trade in the US over-the-counter (OTC) market under the symbol GKNLY. When dividends are paid to shareholders, the Depositary converts such dividends into US dollars, net of fees and expenses, and distributes the net amount to ADR holders. For enquiries, The Bank of New York can be contacted by telephone on +1-800-345-1612 or +1-888-BNY-ADRS (toll-free for US residents only), via their website at [www.adrbny.com](http://www.adrbny.com) or by e-mail enquiry to [shareowners@bankofny.com](mailto:shareowners@bankofny.com).

## Unsolicited mail

GKN is obliged by law to make its share register publicly available and as a consequence some shareholders may have received unsolicited mail. Shareholders in the UK wishing to limit the amount of such mail should contact the Mailing Preference Service whose address is DMA House, 70 Margaret Street, London W1W 8SS. Alternatively they may be contacted by telephone on 020 7291 3310, via their website at [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk) or by e-mail enquiry to [mpps@dma.org.uk](mailto:mpps@dma.org.uk).

## Shareholder analysis

Holdings of Ordinary Shares at 31 December 2004:

	Shareholders		Shares	
	Number	%	Number (million)	%
<b>Holdings</b>				
1-500	10,748	30.0	2.6	0.4
501-1,000	7,249	20.2	5.5	0.8
1,001-5,000	14,596	40.8	33.5	4.6
5,001-50,000	2,634	7.4	29.8	4.1
50,001-100,000	148	0.4	10.5	1.5
100,001-500,000	259	0.7	62.1	8.6
500,001-1,000,000	68	0.2	47.9	6.6
above 1,000,000	97	0.3	530.4	73.4
	35,799	100	722.3	100

## Shareholder type

Individuals	29,288	81.8	46.3	6.4
Institutions	5,940	16.6	668.0	92.5
Other corporates	571	1.6	8.0	1.1
	35,799	100	722.3	100

In addition, GKN plc held 13.3 million of its own Ordinary Shares in treasury as at 31 December 2004.