

Responsibility Statement by Management

To the best of our knowledge, and in accordance with the applicable reporting principles, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities, financial position and profit or loss of the group, and the group management report includes a fair review of the development and performance of the business and the position of the group, together with a description of the principal opportunities and risks associated with the expected development of the group.

Hanover, 4 March 2008

The Executive Board

Frenzel

Baier

Behrendt

Engelen

Feuerhake

Long