

## MISSION STATEMENT

### GOAL

Empire is committed to building shareholder value through long-term profitability and growth by becoming a market leader in its core operating businesses and by investing in other opportunities to augment this growth in value.

### HOW

We believe that the three key factors in the creation of value are first, strong management, second, financial structures which facilitate growth and third, emphasis on long-term growth in cash flow that exceeds the after-tax dollar cost of capital.

### VALUES

Empire will be a good corporate citizen, upholding the highest standards of integrity and ethical conduct.