



Joe W. Forehand, Chairman & CEO

### To Our Stakeholders:

Accenture is known for stretching industry boundaries and embracing change...and this past year was unlike any we have ever experienced. We capitalized on several big ideas that showcased our entrepreneurial spirit and our ability to innovate and execute. We helped our clients realize significant results, and we continued to build a strong capital structure to position us for long-term growth. In true Accenture fashion, we accomplished our goals without missing a beat, and I could not be more proud of what we have achieved. Let me share with you some of the highlights.

#### Not Just a New Name, a New Company

Our theme this past year was transformation. With the successful resolution of our arbitration on August 7, 2000, we became a fully independent organization. That launched our journey to reinvent our marketplace image to mirror our own internal transformation. On January 1, 2001, we were proudly renamed, redefined and reborn as Accenture.

As part of this reinvention, we established a new vision to stretch our organization. We developed a new strategy to move beyond consulting, redefining Accenture as a "network of businesses" to enhance our consulting and outsourcing expertise through alliances, affiliated companies and other capabilities. And we focused on executing our three strategic imperatives: achieving **bold growth**, fostering a **great place to work** and enhancing our **operational effectiveness**.

To serve our clients and grow our business, we launched several initiatives, including:

- **Making investments in research and development and intellectual property** to anticipate future waves of technological and business change.
- **Developing proprietary offerings** to create value within a given industry and accelerate top- and bottom-line growth.
- **Creating assets**, such as software and business architectures, that enable us to implement market-ready solutions for our clients.