

## **ENVIRON SKIN CARE (PTY) LTD**

The Company was founded by Dr. Fernandes in 1990 and initially operated from small premises comprising a few rooms, a chemist and a handful of staff members manufacturing only two creams. The Company soon expanded their products into a full skin care range and with the expansion came larger premises, a training school and an increased staff compliment. The Company exports to all five major continents namely Africa, North America, Asia, Australasia and Europe.

The Company is a family owned business and as such is one of the very few major skin care products that is manufactured and marketed by the same company. The present members of the Company are Mrs. Val Carstens and Dr. Desmond Fernandes.

Dr. Fernandes studied in South Africa and obtained his Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons in Edinburgh. He initially trained as a Cardiac Surgeon, worked in the National Heart Hospitals of U.K. and then worked with Professor Christian Barnard's cardiac surgery team. He subsequently specialised in the field of plastic surgery in which he has gained the respect of his international peers. He has specialised in facial plastic surgery and was the consultant in charge of cleft lip and palate surgery at the Red Cross War Memorial Children's Hospital in Cape Town, South Africa.

Val Carstens is Dr. Fernandes' sister and is the C.E.O. of Environ Skin Care. After obtaining a secretarial diploma she branched out into the commercial world and became involved in the building and engineering industry. During her career she worked as a secretary to the financial manager of a large building firm and 10 years later joined an engineering firm as the personal assistant to the owner and worked for him for 21 years before venturing into Environ Skin Care. She brought with her a wide range of business experience and has engineered and built up Environ<sup>®</sup> into the company that it is today.

