

ACE LTD
Reported by
SMURFIT DERMOT F

FORM 5
(Annual Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 02/12/01 for the Period Ending 12/31/00

Telephone	441 295 5200
CIK	0000896159
Symbol	ACE
SIC Code	6331 - Fire, Marine, and Casualty Insurance
Industry	Insurance (Prop. & Casualty)
Sector	Financial
Fiscal Year	12/31

ACE LTD

FORM 5

(Annual Statement of Changes in Beneficial Ownership)

Filed 2/12/2001 For Period Ending 12/31/2000

Address	ACE BLDG 30 WOODBOURNE AVE HAMILTON HM 08 BERMU, 00000
Telephone	809-295-5200
CIK	0000896159
Industry	Insurance (Prop. & Casualty)
Sector	Financial
Fiscal Year	12/31

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U.S. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

FORM 5

ANNUAL STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,
Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or
Section 30(f) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

Check box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

Form 3 Holdings Reported

Form 4 Transactions Reported

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person*

SMURFIT	Dermot	F.
(Last)	(First)	(Middle)
Gloucester Lodge		
12 Gloucester Gate, Regent's Park		
	(Street)	
London	ENGLAND	NW1 4HG
(City)	(State)	(Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol

ACE Limited (NYSE:ACL)

3. IRS Identification Number of Reporting Person, if an Entity (Voluntary)

4. Statement for Month/Year

December 2000

5. If Amendment, Date of Original (Month/Year)

6. Relationship of Reporting Person to Issuer (Check all applicable)

Director 10% Owner
 Officer (give title below) Other (specify below)

7. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check applicable line)

Form filed by one Reporting Person
 Form filed by more than one Reporting Person

Table I -- Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (mm/dd/yy)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)			5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned at End of Issuer's Fiscal Year (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Owner- ship Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr.4)	7. Nature of Indirect Ownership (Instr. 4)
			Amount	(A) or (D)	Price			
Ordinary Shares	2/24/00	A(1)	58	A	(1)			
Ordinary Shares	2/25/00	A(1)	179	A	(1)			
Ordinary Shares	6/8/00	A(1)	34	A	(1)			
Ordinary Shares	6/9/00	A(2)	1,230	A	(2)			
Ordinary Shares	6/9/00	A(1)	105	A	(1)			
Ordinary Shares	11/16/00	A(1)	25	A	(1)			
Ordinary Shares	11/17/00	A(1)	75	A	(1)	5,136	D	

* If the form is filed by more than one Reporting Person, see Instruction 4(b)(v).

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

(Print or Type Responses)

(Over)

Table II -- Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conver- sion or Exer- cise Price of Deriv- ative Secur- ity	3. Trans- action Date (Month/ Day/ Year)	4. Trans- action Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5) ----- (A) (D)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) ----- Date Expira- tion Date	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Securities (Instr. 3 and 4) ----- Amount or Number of Shares	8. Price of Deriv- ative Secur- ity (Instr. 5)	9. Number of Deriv- ative Secur- ities Benefi- cially Owned at End of Year (Instr. 4)	10. Owner- ship of Deriv- ative Secur- ity: Direct (D) or In- direct (I) (Instr. 4)	11. Nature of Bene- ficial Owner- ship (Instr. 4)
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Explanation of Responses:

- (1) Represents Ordinary Shares granted as a meeting award pursuant to the ACE Limited 1995 Outside Directors Plan (the "Plan"), which meets the requirements of Rule 16b-3.
- (2) Represents Ordinary Shares granted as a director retainer award pursuant to the Plan. Such Ordinary Shares will vest on May 10, 2001, assuming the reporting person is a director of ACE Limited on such date.

Signed for Dermot F. Smurfit pursuant to a power of attorney on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission

By: /s/ Peter Mear

9th of Feb. 2001

**Signature of Reporting Person

Date

** Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations.

See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this form, one of which must be manually signed. If space provided is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.