

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

The period under review marked another year of sluggish growth in Hong Kong and globally. Although the Group managed to substantially reduce its total cashburn subsequent to the re-structuring of its major business unit, QuotePower International Limited, it had yet to return to profitability. The declining values of some of our telecommunications assets and property holdings have also resulted in paper losses during the year, further impacting on our profit and loss account and balance sheet. Given the expected challenges ahead of us, the Group will continue with its prudent fiscal policy and focus on increasing its cash reserves.

### RESULTS

For the fiscal year ended 31st March 2003, the Group posted an aggregate loss of HK\$41.4 million including provisions amounting to approximately HK\$23.2 million for unrealized investment losses, investment write-downs and revaluation of an investment property. Loss per share was 8.9 cents, as compared to a loss of 9.8 cents per share in the preceding year.

### DIVIDEND

The directors recommend the payment of a final dividend of 1.0 cent per share. No interim dividend was declared during the year.

### BUSINESS REVIEW AND PROSPECTS

QuotePower, a provider of Financial Information Products and Securities Trading Systems, reported a loss of HK\$3 million on a turnover of HK\$19 million. Although its revenue for the year had shrunk from HK\$32 million for the previous year due to the drying up of new sales of securities trading systems, QuotePower's losses were also substantially reduced from HK\$31.4 million as recorded in the preceding year. With the roll-out of new quotation services in the mobile space, we are hopeful that new revenue streams will emerge in the coming years. We believe the Company is now advantageously placed against its major competitors in being able to provide to customers the widest array of information products through multiple delivery channels.

ABC QuickSilver, our subsidiary in wireless applications development, incurred a loss of HK\$4.4 million during the year. Our primary focus in the coming year will be to narrow the gap between revenue and expenses of the Company.

In the months ahead, our Group will still be faced with the dual challenge of a weak local economy and a tough short-term outlook for telecommunications investments. We are nonetheless confident that our long-term holdings in cellular operator Far Eastone of Taiwan and broadband operator eAccess of Japan will be able to generate attractive returns to the Group in the not too distant future.

**Michael Tse Chi Hung**  
*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 20th June 2003