

# VERTICAL

INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED  
弘浩國際控股有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

Stock Code: 8375

**2023**  
ANNUAL REPORT

## **CHARACTERISTICS OF GEM OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED (THE “STOCK EXCHANGE”)**

**GEM has been positioned as a market designed to accommodate small and mid-sized companies to which a higher investment risk may be attached than other companies listed on the Stock Exchange. Prospective investors should be aware of the potential risks of investing in such companies and should make the decision to invest only after due and careful consideration.**

**Given that the companies listed on GEM are generally small and mid-sized companies, there is a risk that securities traded on GEM may be more susceptible to high market volatility than securities traded on the Main Board and no assurance is given that there will be a liquid market in the securities traded on GEM.**

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*This report, for which the directors (the “**Directors**”) of Vertical International Holdings Limited (the “**Company**”) collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of the Stock Exchange (the “**GEM Listing Rules**”) for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The Directors, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, the information contained in this report is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive, and there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein or this report misleading.*

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## CORPORATE INFORMATION

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

#### Executive Directors

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry  
(*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*)  
Ms. Chow Cheung Chu

#### Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. Liu Kwan  
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul  
Mr. Wong Wai Leung

### BOARD COMMITTEES

#### Audit Committee

Mr. Wong Wai Leung (*Chairman*)  
Mr. Liu Kwan  
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul

#### Remuneration Committee

Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul (*Chairman*)  
Mr. Liu Kwan  
Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry

#### Nomination Committee

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (*Chairman*)  
Mr. Liu Kwan  
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul

### COMPLIANCE OFFICER

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry

### HEADQUARTERS AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG

Unit 2212, 22/F  
Global Gateway Tower  
63 Wing Hong Street  
Cheung Sha Wan  
Hong Kong

### COMPANY SECRETARY

Ms. Cheung Yuet Fan

### AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry  
Ms. Cheung Yuet Fan

### AUDITOR

Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited  
Level 8  
K11 ATELIER King's Road  
728 King's Road  
Quarry Bay  
Hong Kong

### REGISTERED OFFICE IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Cricket Square, Hutchins Drive  
P.O. Box 2681  
Grand Cayman, KY1-1111  
Cayman Islands

### HONG KONG BRANCH SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

Tricor Investor Services Limited  
17/F, Far East Finance Centre  
16 Harcourt Road  
Hong Kong

### PRINCIPAL BANK

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited  
1 Queen's Road Central  
Central  
Hong Kong

### COMPANY WEBSITE

[www.verticaltech.com.cn](http://www.verticaltech.com.cn)

### STOCK CODE

8375

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Dear Shareholder,

On behalf of the Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of Vertical International Holdings Limited (the "**Company**"; together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**"), I am pleased to present the annual report of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023.

This year was a challenging year for all businesses. Although overall economic activity gradually started improving again in the year, but economic growth was much slower than prior to the pandemic.

The revenue of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 decreased by 2.4% to approximately HK\$84.3 million from approximately HK\$86.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2022. The main reason for the decrease was attributable to flat demand on traditional electronic capacitors and fierce competition. The group adopts a more aggressive pricing approach and sacrifice short term gross profit margin to maintain the market share.

In addition, we have been aggressively reducing our operating cost whilst working to optimize our supply chain, with the aim to reducing overall production costs and maintain a stable supply of raw materials and components, while to ensure uninterrupted production and delivery to our customers to achieve improvement on our gross profit margin.

We believe that the demand of next generation electronic components for use in electric vehicles will reach a higher level in the world. The rapid shift to electric vehicle in many countries has seen dramatic expansion in the market for capacitors for these vehicles, and we have responded to this by ramping up capital investment in investing and developing next generation electronic components for the electric vehicles, devices and artificial intelligence. We will implement these strategies to lift the Group to another level.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank our shareholders, board members, management team, business partners and all of our own people for their valuable contributions and support in the past years.



# MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

## BUSINESS REVIEW

The Group continued to focus on its key markets including manufacturing and trading of aluminum electrolytic capacitors and trading of electronic components, including semiconductor devices and passive components.

The flat demand on traditional electronic components weakened both local and global consumption market and posed a negative impact on the sales of the Group. The revenue of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 decreased by approximately 2.4% to approximately HK\$84.3 million from approximately HK\$86.4 million for the year ended 31 December 2022 as the Group adopted a more aggressive pricing approach in order to maintain the market share. Revenue from sales of the Group's self-manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors increased to approximately HK\$73.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$69.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2022.

The gross profit of the Group increased by approximately HK\$1.0 million to approximately HK\$6.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$5.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2022 as the management has implemented multiple cost saving initiatives to reduce the production costs. The Group will continue to carefully and extensively review the current situation in relation to costs and resources deployment, and will continue to tighten its control over the operating costs.

## PROSPECTS

We expect the cost of operating will continue to maintain at a high level which will become more challenging for us. The Group will remain conservative towards the overall business environment for the coming periods and to take steps to respond to the environment, including diversifying the procurement routes and/or to relocate the manufacturing activities to another low-cost city or province to reduce costs. Moving forward, the Group will continue to take steps to strengthen the production and sales capabilities in the markets and will take advantage of stepping up development of highly competitive products.



**Management Discussion and Analysis****FINANCIAL REVIEW****Revenue**

The Group's revenue was approximately HK\$84.3 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 and approximately HK\$86.4 million for the corresponding period in 2022, representing a decrease of approximately HK\$2.1 million or 2.4%. The main reason for the decrease was attributable to flat demand on traditional electronic components and excess supply caused fierce price competition. The Group adopted a more aggressive pricing approach to maintain market share.

The revenue for the sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors increased by approximately HK\$4.0 million, from approximately HK\$69.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2022 to approximately HK\$73.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2023. The revenue derived from trading of electronic components decreased to approximately HK\$10.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$16.8 million for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Cost of sales**

The Group's cost of sales primarily consists of cost of goods sold and other direct costs. The cost of sales decreased to approximately HK\$78.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$81.3 million for the year ended 31 December 2022, representing a decrease of approximately 3.9%. The Group's cost of sales decreased along with the decline in revenue for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Gross profit and gross profit margin**

The Group's gross profit increased to approximately HK\$6.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$5.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2022, representing an increase of approximately HK\$1.0 million. The Group's gross profit margin increased from approximately 5.9% for the year ended 31 December 2022 to approximately 7.3% for the year ended 31 December 2023. Such increase was mainly due to the management has implemented multiple cost saving initiatives to reduce the production costs.

**Other gains and losses**

The net amount decreased from approximately loss of HK\$5.6 million for the year ended 31 December 2022 to approximately loss of HK\$2.0 million for the year ended 31 December 2023. It mainly represented effect from the fair value gain on the equity investments at fair value through profit or loss of approximately HK\$2.9 million and impairment of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets of approximately HK\$4.2 million in total for the year ended 31 December 2023.

**Selling and distribution costs**

The Group's selling and distribution costs decreased to approximately HK\$2.8 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$2.9 million for the year ended 31 December 2022, representing a decrease of approximately 3.4%. The decrease was mainly due to the transportation expenses and sales commission paid decreased along with the decline in revenue.

## Management Discussion and Analysis

**Administrative expenses**

Administrative expenses primarily consist of employee benefit expenses, office supplies, depreciation of property, plant and equipment, legal and professional fees and other miscellaneous, general and administrative expenses. Administrative expenses decreased to approximately HK\$13.1 million for the year ended 31 December 2023 from approximately HK\$16.2 million for the year ended 31 December 2022, representing a decrease of approximately HK\$3.1 million. Such decrease was mainly due to management has implemented multiple cost saving initiatives to reduce the operation costs.

**Income tax (expense)/credit**

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group recorded income tax expenses of approximately HK\$0.3 million as compared to income tax credit of approximately HK\$0.5 million for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**Loss for the year**

The Group recorded a loss for the year of approximately HK\$12.2 million for the year ended 31 December 2023, as compared with the loss for the year ended 31 December 2022 of approximately HK\$18.5 million. Such decrease was mainly due to a decrease in other gain and losses and administrative expenses of approximately HK\$3.6 million and HK\$3.1 million respectively for the year ended 31 December 2023 as compared to the corresponding year in 2022.

**Basic loss per share**

The Company recorded basic loss per share for the year ended 31 December 2023 of approximately 4.23 HK cents as compared with basic loss per share of approximately 6.71 HK cents for the year ended 31 December 2022.

**LIQUIDITY, FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND CAPITAL STRUCTURE**

As at 31 December 2023, the Group has total assets of approximately HK\$107.6 million (2022: HK\$133.7 million), which is financed by total liabilities and shareholders' equity (comprising share capital and reserve) of approximately HK\$31.0 million (2022: HK\$32.5 million) and approximately HK\$76.6 million (2022: HK\$101.1 million) respectively. The current ratio as at 31 December 2023 of the Group was approximately 2.2 times (2022: approximately 2.7 times).

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had cash and cash equivalents and restricted bank deposit of approximately HK\$23.6 million (2022: HK\$42.2 million).

The total interest-bearing borrowings of the Group as at 31 December 2023 was approximately HK\$7.1 million (2022: HK\$13.3 million). The gearing ratio (calculated based on lease liabilities, interest bearing bank borrowings, bills discounted with recourse and margin financing and divided by total equity) of the Group as of 31 December 2023 was 0.11 times (2022: 0.14 times).



## Management Discussion and Analysis

### RESERVES

Movements in the reserves of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 are set out in the consolidated statement of changes in equity.

### DIVIDENDS

The Board does not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2023 (dividend for the year ended 31 December 2022: HK\$Nil).

### CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

As at 31 December 2023, the Group did not have any significant capital commitments (2022: HK\$Nil).

### MATERIAL ACQUISITIONS OR DISPOSALS

The Group did not have any material acquisition or disposal during the year ended 31 December 2023.

### CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Group did not have material contingent liabilities as at 31 December 2022 and 2023.

### CHARGES ON GROUP'S ASSETS

As at 31 December 2023, the leasehold land and building with the carrying value of approximately HK\$4.2 million (2022: HK\$4.4 million) is pledged to a bank to secure banking facilities granted to the Group.

### EMPLOYEE INFORMATION

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had 124 full-time employees (2022: 137 full-time employees), including the Directors. Total remuneration for the year ended 31 December 2023 was approximately HK\$18.0 million (2022: HK\$20.0 million). To ensure that the Group is able to attract and retain staff capable of attaining the best performance levels, remuneration packages are reviewed on a regular basis. In addition, discretionary bonus is offered to eligible employees by reference to the Group's results and individual performance.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPOSURE

The Company is mainly operated in its local jurisdiction with most of the transactions settled in its functional currencies of the operations and did not have significant exposure to risk resulting from changes in foreign currency exchange rates.



## Management Discussion and Analysis

The carrying amounts of the foreign currency denominated monetary assets and monetary liabilities other than the functional currencies of the relevant entities comprising the Group are as follows.

	Liabilities		Assets	
	As at 31 December		As at 31 December	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
HK\$	—	—	1,410	111
JPY	—	—	1,592	2,000
US\$	2,066	3,287	9,320	12,689
RMB	—	—	46	49

The Group currently does not have a foreign currency hedging policy. However, the management closely monitors foreign exchange exposure to mitigate the foreign currency risk.

## SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS

As at 31 December 2023, the Group did not hold any significant investments (2022: HK\$Nil).

## EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

On 21 December 2023, Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry and Vertical Technology Investment Limited (a controlling shareholder of the Company and is wholly-owned by Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry) (together known as, the "**Potential Vendors**"), as vendors, and Henan Lixuan Network Technology Company Limited (the "**Potential Purchaser**"), which is ultimately owned as to 90% by Mr. Geng Nan, 10% by Ms. Zhao Baoqin, as purchaser, entered into a memorandum of understanding (the "**MOU**"), which does not constitute a formal agreement in respect of a possible sale of the Potential Vendors' interest in the Company by the Potential Vendors to the Potential Purchaser.

The MOU contemplates a possible sale of 187,840,000 shares of the Company (the "**Shares**") held by the Potential Vendors and representing approximately 65.22% of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of this report ("**Possible Transaction**"). The Potential Purchaser and its ultimate beneficial owners are independent third parties, which are not connected persons (as defined in the Listing Rules) of the Company and are independent of the Company and its connected persons (as defined in the Listing Rules). Pursuant to the terms of the MOU, the Potential Purchaser is entitled and is conducting due diligence review on the business, operations, financial and legal affairs of the Group as at the date of this report. Details of the Possible Transaction are set out in the announcement of the Company dated 27 December 2023, 26 January 2024 and 26 February 2024.

As at the date of this report, save for the MOU, no formal or legally binding agreement has been entered into between the Potential Vendors and the Potential Purchaser in respect of the Possible Transaction.

## Management Discussion and Analysis

**USE OF PROCEEDS FROM RIGHTS ISSUE**

On 21 February 2022, the Company issued 96,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.05 each at a subscription price of HK\$0.21 per ordinary share, in connection with the rights issue on the basis of one rights share for every two existing shares held (the “**Rights Issue**”), resulting in net proceeds of approximately HK\$18.6 million. Details of the Rights Issue are set out in the Company’s prospectus dated 24 January 2022 and the Company’s announcement dated 18 February 2022.

The net proceeds from the Rights Issue from 21 February 2022 to 31 December 2023 were used as follow:

<b>Use of proceeds from the Rights Issue</b>	<b>Planned use of net proceeds (adjusted on a pro rata basis on the actual net proceeds) as described in the prospectus dated 24 January 2022</b> HK\$ million	<b>Amount of proceeds unutilized as at 1 January 2023</b> HK\$ million	<b>Amount of proceeds utilized during the year ended 31 December 2023</b> HK\$ million	<b>Unutilized proceeds as at 31 December 2023</b> HK\$ million
For upgrading its equipment and machines	9.6	5.7	(5.7)	—
For the repayment of bank borrowings	3.8	—	—	—
General working capital	5.2	—	—	—
	<b>18.6</b>	<b>5.7</b>	<b>(5.7)</b>	<b>—</b>

## BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

**Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (温浩然)**, aged 48, was appointed as a Director on 3 January 2017 and re-designated as an executive Director, the chairman and the chief executive officer of our Group on 7 April 2017. Mr. Boon is responsible for our Group's major decision-making, overall strategic planning, determining corporate policies and daily operations and management of our Group. Mr. Boon is also the Compliance Officer of the Company. As one of the founders of our Group, Mr. Boon has over 10 years of experience in the industry of trading and manufacturing electronic components. Mr. Boon is also a director of Vertical Technology (B.V.I.) Limited, Vertical Technology Company Limited (弘峰科技有限公司) ("**Vertical Technology**"), and Vertical Engineering Company Limited (弘峰工程有限公司).

Prior to co-founding our Group, Mr. Boon was a finance professional. From September 2000 to September 2003 he worked as a financial analyst of the personal computing division of IBM China/Hong Kong Limited and was mainly responsible for financial review, budgeting, cash flow forecasting, accounting and project management. After his resignation in September 2003, Mr. Boon had been preparing the business plan of Vertical Technology which commenced business in 2006.

Mr. Boon graduated in June 1997 from the University of Toronto in Canada with a degree of Bachelor of Commerce. He is a member of the CFA Institute (formerly known as the Association for Investment Management and Research), and was designated as chartered financial analyst in September 2001. Mr. Boon is also a member of the Hong Kong Society of Financial Analysts.

**Ms. Chow Cheung Chu (周祥珠)**, aged 39, was appointed as an executive Director of our Group on 7 April 2017 and is principally responsible for the overall management of our Company and supervising of financial activities and internal control of our Group. Ms. Chow joined our Group in January 2015 as the finance manager of Vertical Technology. Since January 2015, Ms. Chow has been managing our Group's financial activities and overseeing our Group's back office functions including finance and accounting, and general administration, from which she has obtained an extensive experience in the management and operation of our Group's business and the industry. She is also responsible for the internal control of our Group and has been monitoring and ameliorating our Group's business workflow.

Prior to joining our Group, Ms. Chow was an auditor and was mainly responsible for accounting, auditing and providing assurance services. She was an audit junior at East Asia Sentinel Limited from May 2009 to May 2010 and an audit semi-senior at Raymond Y.L. Lai & Co. from July 2010 to July 2011, and from January 2012 to December 2012. She was later promoted to the position of audit senior in January 2013 until she resigned in January 2015. She was mainly responsible for handling audit assignments along with related tax and secretarial works.

Ms. Chow obtained her degree of Bachelor of Business Administration with a major in accountancy and a minor in financial services from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University in October 2008. Ms. Chow became a member of the HKICPA in May 2013.

**Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management****INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

**Mr. Liu Kwan (劉筠)**, aged 52, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director on 24 October 2017 and is mainly responsible for overseeing the management of our Group independently and providing independent judgement on the issues of strategy, performance, resources and standard of conduct of our Company.

Mr. Liu has over 18 years of experience in accounting and auditing. He worked at Deloitte & Touche LLP in Canada from September 1997 to October 2000 with the last held position as senior staff accountant, and was primarily responsible for auditing and due diligence review. He was a financial analyst at the TD Securities Division of the Toronto Dominion Bank in Canada from October 2000 to March 2001 and was primarily responsible for business and market analysis. He was at American International Assurance Company, Limited in Hong Kong from October 2001 to November 2005, where he worked as a staff auditor from October 2001 to December 2003, and as a senior auditor from January 2004 to November 2005. He was primarily responsible for auditing and compliance review. He was at New York Life International, LLC in Hong Kong from November 2005 to November 2010, where he worked as a director of audits in the internal audit department from November 2005 to September 2009, and as an assistant general auditor in the internal audit department from October 2009 to November 2010. He was primarily responsible for auditing and risk review. From November 2010 to July 2011, he was at KPMG in Hong Kong with his last held position as senior manager in the risk and compliance division, and was primarily responsible for providing assurance, risk, compliance and business promotion services. From August 2011 to November 2014, he worked as an audit manager at Prudential Services Limited in Hong Kong and was primarily responsible for development, execution and management of audit work. From December 2014 and until June 2022, he worked as the regional anti-money laundering manager of Prudential Services Limited and is primarily responsible for drafting and implementing regional anti-money laundering standards and overseeing the sanctions screening operations in Asia.

Mr. Liu obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree and his Bachelor of Administrative Studies degree from York University in Canada in June 1994 and June 1997 respectively. Mr. Liu became a chartered accountant and a chartered professional accountant of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario (now known as Chartered Professional Accountants of Ontario) in November 2000 and November 2012, respectively. He became a certified internal auditor of the Institute of Internal Auditors in Hong Kong in August 2009 and a certified anti-money laundering specialist of Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists in Hong Kong in May 2016.

**Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul (戚健民)**, aged 49, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director on 24 October 2017 and is mainly responsible for overseeing the management of our Group independently and providing independent judgement on the issues of strategy, performance, resources and standard of conduct of our Company.

Mr. Chik has over 20 years of experience in the IT industry. He has worked at IBM China/Hong Kong Limited in Hong Kong since July 1998 to September 2021 with the last held position as infrastructure architect in global technology services department. Mr. Chik has become a Hong Kong Solutioning Leader of Kyndryl Hong Kong Limited since September 2021 and is responsible for IT consulting, solution design and technology delivery services.

Mr. Chik obtained his degree of Bachelor of Science from the University of Hong Kong in November 1996, and his Master degree of practicing accounting from Monash University in Australia in November 2001. He then obtained a degree of Bachelor of Laws from University of London in August 2005. Mr. Chik was qualified as a certified practicing accountant of CPA Australia in September 2005. He was also a certified information systems auditor from August 2006 to January 2010. He was awarded the Information Technology Infrastructure Library (ITIL) Expert in IT service management in June 2010 and he was also qualified as an ISO/IEC 20000 practitioner in June 2012.

**Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management**

**Mr. Wong Wai Leung (黃偉樑)**, aged 46, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director on 24 October 2017 and is mainly responsible for overseeing the management of our Group independently and providing independent judgement on the issues of strategy, performance, resources and standard of conduct of our Company.

Mr. Wong worked at Ernst & Young in audit assurance from September 2000 to July 2009 with his last held position as senior manager in the assurance and advisory business services department. He was subsequently seconded to the assurance and advisory business services department of the New York office of Ernst & Young in the United States as a senior accountant from November 2004 to March 2006. Mr. Wong worked at Lianjie Capital (Hong Kong) Limited from September 2009 to March 2012 with his last held position as chief financial officer. He was subsequently transferred to Lianjie Sports Investments Limited, a private company which manages investments and trusts for a family office, between April 2012 and December 2015 with his last position as chief financial officer. He was appointed as a director of Lianjie Sports Investments Limited in January 2016. Mr. Wong has become an executive director, chief financial officer and company secretary of Qinqin Foodstuffs Group (Cayman) Company Limited, a company principally engaging in the manufacturing, distribution and sale of food and snacks products in the PRC, since June 2016 up to the present and is responsible for corporate development, investment, accounting and financial matters.

Mr. Wong received a degree of Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in November 2000. He has also been a member of the HKICPA since July 2004, and a fellow member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants since September 2010.

Mr. Wong has been appointed as an executive director of Qinqin Foodstuffs Group (Cayman) Company Limited (親親食品集團(開曼)股份有限公司)(Stock code: 1583) since 22 March 2016, and has been appointed as an independent non-executive director of MediNet Group Limited (醫匯集團有限公司)(Stock code: 8161) since 19 May 2016 and an independent non-executive director of Zhongchang International Holdings Group Limited (中昌國際控股集團有限公司)(Stock code: 859) since 13 May 2020 to 12 May 2021, the shares of which are listed on the Stock Exchange.

**Disclosure required under Rule 17.50(2) of the GEM Listing Rules**

As of the date of this annual report, each of our Directors confirms that save for the information shown on the Section "Corporate Information" of this annual report and save as disclosed above: (i) he/she has not held directorships in the past three years in other listed companies the securities of which are listed on any securities market in Hong Kong or overseas; (ii) save as disclosed in the paragraph headed "Directors' and Chief Executives' Interests and Short Positions in the Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures of the Company and its Associated Corporations" in the Report of the Directors of this annual report, he/she does not have any interests in the shares within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) ("**SFO**"); (iii) there was no information that should be disclosed pursuant to Rules 17.50(2)(h) to 17.50(2)(v) of the GEM Listing Rules; and (iv) to the best of the knowledge, information and belief of our Directors having made all reasonable enquiries, there was no other matter with respect to the appointment of the Directors that needs to be brought to the attention of the shareholders of the Company.

## Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management

### SENIOR MANAGEMENT

**Mr. Li Xinjun (李新軍)**, aged 42, is the deputy general manager of the sales and marketing department of Dongguan Shouke Electronics Technology Limited (“**Dongguan Shouke**”) and is mainly responsible for management of sales assistants and marketing of our Group. Mr. Li was promoted to the position of deputy general manager of the sales and marketing department of Dongguan Shouke on 1 July 2016. He joined Vertical Technology in January 2007 as a salesperson based in the PRC and up to February 2014, where he was responsible for sales and marketing. Mr. Li was subsequently seconded to Dongguan Shouke in March 2014 as a supervisor and focused on sales and marketing.

Mr. Li graduated from 粵北技工學校 in the PRC in July 2003, with a specialisation in electrical and mechanical engineering.

### COMPANY SECRETARY

**Ms. Cheung Yuet Fan (張月芬)** is the company secretary of our Company. She is a director of Corporate Services of Tricor Services Limited (“**Tricor**”), a global professional services provider specializing in integrated business, corporate and investor services. The Company has engaged Tricor as external service provider and appointed Ms. Cheung as the company secretary of the Company since 16 October 2017.

Ms. Cheung has over 30 years of experience in the corporate secretarial field and has been providing professional corporate services to Hong Kong listed companies as well as multinational, private and offshore companies. Prior to joining Tricor, Ms. Cheung worked in the corporate secretarial department of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu in Hong Kong and in various Hong Kong listed companies in the role of company secretary and corporate governance areas. She is a Chartered Secretary, a Chartered Governance Professional and a Fellow of both The Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute (formerly “The Hong Kong Institute of Chartered Secretaries”) and The Chartered Governance Institute (formerly “The Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators”).

Ms. Cheung obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree in Accountancy from City Polytechnic of Hong Kong (now known as City University of Hong Kong).



# CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CULTURE

The Company is committed to ensuring that its affairs are conducted in accordance with high ethical standards. This reflects its belief that, in the achievement of its long-term objectives, it is imperative to act with probity, transparency and accountability. By so acting, the Company believes that shareholder wealth will be maximised in the long term and that its employees, those with whom it does business and the communities in which it operates will all benefit.

Corporate governance is the process by which the Board instructs management of the Group to conduct its affairs with a view to ensuring that its objectives are met. The Board is committed to maintaining and developing robust corporate governance practices that are intended to ensure:

- satisfactory and sustainable returns to shareholders of the Company (the “**Shareholders**”);
- that the interests of those who deal with the Company are safeguarded;
- that overall business risk is understood and managed appropriately;
- the delivery of high-quality products and services to the satisfaction of customers; and
- that high standards of ethics are maintained.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Board of the Company is committed to achieving good corporate governance standards. The Board believes that good corporate governance standards are essential in providing a framework for the Group to safeguard the interests of the Shareholders, enhance corporate value, formulate its business strategies and policies, and enhance its transparency and accountability.

The Company has applied the principles and practices as set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the “**CG Code**”) contained in Appendix C1 to the GEM Listing Rules and has adopted the CG Code as the code to govern the Company’s corporate governance practices.

The Company has in place a corporate governance framework and has established a set of policies and procedures based on the CG Code. Such policies and procedures provide the infrastructure for enhancing the Board’s ability to implement governance and exercise proper oversight on business conduct and affairs of the Company.

Throughout the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company has complied with the code provisions as set out in the CG Code except for the deviation from code provision C.2.1 which is explained in the relevant paragraphs of this corporate governance report. The Company will continue to enhance its corporate governance practices appropriate to the operation and growth of the business of the Group.

The Company will periodically review and improve its corporate governance practices with reference to the latest development of corporate governance.

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT****CODE OF CONDUCT REGARDING SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS**

The Company has adopted the Required Standard of Dealings as the code for securities transactions by the Directors on the guidelines as set out in Rules 5.48 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules. Further, the Company had made specific enquiry with all Directors and each of them has confirmed his/her compliance with the Required Standard of Dealings throughout the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Company has also adopted written guidelines as the code for securities transactions by relevant employees of the Group who are likely to possess inside information in relation to the Company or its securities based on the Required Standard of Dealings as set out in Rules 5.48 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules. No incidence of non-compliance of this code by the relevant employees was noted by the Company.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board currently comprises five members, consisting of two executive Directors and three independent non-executive Directors.

**Executive Directors:**

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (*Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, Chairman of the Nomination Committee and member of the Remuneration Committee*)

Ms. Chow Cheung Chu

**Independent Non-executive Directors:**

Mr. Liu Kwan (*Member of the Audit Committee, the Remuneration Committee and the Nomination Committee*)

Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul (*Chairman of the Remuneration Committee and member of the Audit Committee and the Nomination Committee*)

Mr. Wong Wai Leung (*Chairman of the Audit Committee*)

The biographical information of the Directors are set out on pages 11 to 14 of this annual report.

There is no relationships (including financial, business, family or other material/relevant relationship(s)) between the Board members.

**Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**

Code provision C.2.1 of the CG Code stipulates that the roles of chairman and chief executive should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. The division of responsibilities between the chairman and the chief executive should be clearly established and set out in writing.

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry is the Chairman and the Chief Executive Officer of the Company and is responsible for the Group's major decision-making, overall strategic planning, determining corporate policies and daily operation and management of the Group. In view of Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry is one of the founders of the Group and he has been operating and managing the Group since its establishment, the Board believes that it is in the best interest of the Group to have Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry take up both roles for effective management and business development of the Group. Therefore, the Directors consider that the deviation from the code provision C.2.1 of the CG Code is appropriate in such circumstance.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Independent Non-executive Directors**

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company had met the requirements of the GEM Listing Rules relating to the appointment of at least three independent non-executive directors, representing at least one-third of the Board, with one of whom possessing appropriate professional qualifications or accounting or related financial management expertise.

The Company has received written annual confirmation from each of the independent non-executive Directors in respect of his independence in accordance with the independence guidelines set out in Rule 5.09 of the GEM Listing Rules. The Company considers all independent non-executive Directors are independent.

**Board Independence Evaluation**

The Company has established a Board Independence Evaluation Mechanism which sets out the processes and procedures to ensure a strong independent element on the Board, which allows the Board effectively exercises independent judgment to better safeguard Shareholders' interests.

The objectives of the evaluation are to improve Board effectiveness, maximise strengths, and identify the areas that need improvement or further development. The evaluation process also clarifies what actions of the Company need to be taken to maintain and improve the Board performance, for instance, addressing individual training and development needs of each Director.

Pursuant to the Board Independence Evaluation Mechanism, the Board will conduct annual review on its independence. The Board Independence Evaluation Report will be presented to the Board which will collectively discuss the results and the action plan for improvement, if appropriate.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, all Directors have completed the independence evaluation in the form of a questionnaire individually. The Board Independence Evaluation Report was presented to the Board and the evaluation results were satisfactory.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Board reviewed the implementation and effectiveness of the Board Independence Evaluation Mechanism and the results were satisfactory.

**Appointment and Re-election of Directors**

Code provision B.2.2 of the CG Code stipulates that every director, including those appointed for a specific term, shall be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years.

Each of the executive Directors has entered into a service agreement with the Company for an initial term of three years commencing from 13 November 2017 (the "Listing Date") and will be renewed automatically for successive terms of one year immediately after the expiry of the then current term, unless terminated by not less than three months' notice in writing served by either party.

Each of the independent non-executive Directors has entered into a letter of appointment with the Company with a term of three years commencing from 13 November 2023, unless terminated by not less than three months' notice in writing served by either party.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

All the Directors of the Company are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at the annual general meetings. Pursuant to the articles of association of the Company ("**Articles**"), any Director appointed by the Board either to fill a casual vacancy on the Board or as an addition to the existing Board shall hold office until the first annual general meeting of the Company after his/her appointment and shall then be eligible for re-election. At each AGM, one-third of the Directors for the time being (or, if their number is not a multiple of three, the number nearest to but not less than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation provided that every Director (including those appointed for a specific term) shall be subject to retirement at an AGM at least once every three years and being eligible to offer themselves for re-election.

### **Responsibilities, Accountabilities and Contributions of the Board and Management**

The Board is responsible for leadership and control of the Company and oversees the Group's businesses, strategic decisions and performance and is collectively responsible for promoting the success of the Company by directing and supervising its affairs. The Board makes decisions objectively in the interests of the Company.

The Board regularly review the contribution required from a Director to perform his/her responsibilities to the Company, and whether the Director is spending sufficient time performing them that are commensurate with their role and the Board responsibility.

The Board includes a balanced composition of executive Directors and independent non-executive Directors so that there is a strong independent element on the Board, which can effectively exercise independent judgement.

All Directors, including independent non-executive Directors, have brought a wide spectrum of valuable business experience, knowledge and professionalism to the Board for its efficient and effective functioning.

The Directors have timely access to the information of the Company as well as the services and advice from the company secretary and senior management of the Company. The Directors may, upon request, seek independent professional advice in appropriate circumstances, at the Company's expenses for discharging their duties to the Company.

The Board reserves for its decision all major matters relating to policy matters, strategies and budgets, internal control and risk management, material transactions (in particular those that may involve conflict of interests), financial information, appointment of Directors and other significant operational matters of the Company. Responsibilities relating to implementing decisions of the Board, directing and coordinating the daily operation and management of the Company are delegated to its management team.

All Directors shall ensure that they carry out duties in good faith, in compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders at all times.

### **Continuous Professional Development of Directors**

Directors keep abreast of responsibilities as a Director and of the conduct, business activities and development of the Company.

Every newly appointed Director will receive formal, comprehensive and tailored induction on the first occasion of his/her appointment to ensure appropriate understanding of the business and operations of the Company and full awareness of Director's responsibilities and obligations under the GEM Listing Rules and relevant statutory requirements. The induction materials, including directors' manual and legal and regulatory update have been provided to the Directors upon appointment.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

Directors should participate in appropriate continuous professional development and training courses to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills to ensure that their contribution to the Board remains informed and relevant. Internally-facilitated briefings for Directors will be arranged and reading material on relevant topics will be issued to Directors where appropriate.

The Directors have participated in the following trainings during the year ended 31 December 2023:

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**Types of Training (Note)**
**Executive Directors**

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry

B

Ms. Chow Cheung Chu

A, B

**Independent non-executive Directors**

Mr. Liu Kwan

B

Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul

B

Mr. Wong Wai Leung

B

Note: *Types of Training*

A: *Attending training sessions, including but not limited to, briefings, seminars, conferences and workshops*

B: *Reading relevant news alerts, newspapers, journals, magazines and relevant publications*

**BOARD COMMITTEES AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE FUNCTIONS**

The Board has established three committees, namely, the audit committee, remuneration committee and nomination committee, for overseeing particular aspects of the Company's affairs. All Board committees of the Company are established with defined written terms of reference. The terms of reference of the Board committees are posted on the Company's website and the Stock Exchange's website and are available to the Shareholders upon request.

The majority of the members of each Board committee are independent non-executive Directors and the list of the chairman and members of each Board committee is set out under "Corporate Information" on page 3 of this annual report.

**Audit Committee**

The Company established the audit committee (the "**Audit Committee**") on 24 October 2017 with written terms of reference in compliance with the CG Code. On 27 December 2018, the Board adopted the revised written terms of reference of the Audit Committee by a resolution passed on the same date. An up to date version of the revised written terms of reference is available on the website of the Stock Exchange and of the Company. The main duties of the Audit Committee are to assist the Board in reviewing the financial information and reporting process, risk management and internal control systems, audit plan and relationship with external auditors, and arrangements to enable employees of the Company to raise, in confidence, concerns about possible improprieties in financial reporting, internal control or other matters of the Company.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Audit Committee comprises three independent non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Wong Wai Leung, Mr. Liu Kwan and Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul (including one independent non-executive Director who possesses the appropriate professional qualifications or accounting or related financial management expertise). Mr. Wong Wai Leung has been appointed as the chairman of the Audit Committee.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Audit Committee held four meetings to review the remuneration, terms of engagement and independence of the Company's auditor, the Company's risk management and internal control systems and financial reporting matters, and the arrangements for employees to raise concerns about possible improprieties. The Audit Committee also reviewed the Group's annual financial results and report for the year ended 31 December 2022; quarterly financial results and report for the three months and nine months ended 31 March 2023 and 30 September 2023 respectively; and interim financial results and report for the six months ended 30 June 2023 before submission to the Board for approval.

The Audit Committee met the external auditors twice a year without the presence of the executive Directors.

The Audit Committee has also held a meeting on 18 March 2024 and in conjunction with management of the Company reviewed the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed risk management and internal control systems and financial reporting matters including a review of the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 and the independent auditor's report thereon before submission to the Board for approval.

The Audit Committee has also reviewed the compliance with the deed of non-competition given by the controlling Shareholders as defined and stated in the prospectus of the Company dated 31 October 2017. The Company has obtained an annual written confirmation from the Company's controlling Shareholders in respect of their compliance with the terms of the deed of non-competition.

### Remuneration Committee

The Company established the remuneration committee (the "**Remuneration Committee**") on 24 October 2017 with written terms of reference in compliance with the CG Code. On 28 December 2022, the Board adopted the revised written terms of reference of the Remuneration Committee by a resolution passed on the same date. The primary functions of the Remuneration Committee include making recommendations to the Board on the remuneration packages of individual executive Directors and senior management, reviewing and making recommendations to the Board on the Company's policy and structure for all remuneration of Directors and senior management and on the establishment of a formal and transparent procedure for developing policy on such remuneration and to ensure that no Director or any of his/her associates will participate in deciding his/her own remuneration, and to review and/or approve matters relating to share schemes under Chapter 23 of the GEM Listing Rules.

The Remuneration Committee comprises one executive Director, Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry, and two independent non-executive Directors, Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul and Mr. Liu Kwan. Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul has been appointed as the chairman of the Remuneration Committee.

The Remuneration Committee shall report to the Board after each meeting of the Remuneration Committee.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Company's remuneration policy is to ensure that the remuneration offered to employees, including Directors and senior management, is based on their duties and responsibilities, workload, and time devoted to the Group and the performance of the Group. The remuneration packages of Executive Directors are also determined with reference to the Company's performance and profitability, the prevailing market conditions and the performance or contribution of each Executive Director. The remuneration for the Executive Directors comprises basic salary, pensions and discretionary bonus. Executive Directors shall receive options to be granted under the Company's share option scheme. The remuneration policy for Independent Non-executive Directors is to ensure that Independent Non-executive Directors are adequately compensated for their efforts and time dedicated to the Company's affairs, including their participation in Board committees. The remuneration for the Independent Non-executive Directors mainly comprises Director's fee which is determined with reference to their duties and responsibilities by the Board. Independent Non-executive Directors shall not receive options to be granted under the Company's share option scheme. Individual Directors and senior management have not been involved in deciding their own remuneration.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Remuneration Committee held one meeting to review and make recommendations to the Board on the remuneration packages of executive Directors and non-executive Directors, and to review the Company's policy and structure for the remuneration of all Directors and senior management.

### Nomination Committee

The Company established the nomination committee (the "**Nomination Committee**") on 24 October 2017 with written terms of reference in compliance with the CG Code. The principal duties of the Nomination Committee include reviewing the Board structure, size and composition, making recommendations on any proposed changes to the Board to complement the Company's corporate strategy, making recommendations to the Board on the appointment and succession planning of Directors, and assessing the independence of independent non-executive Directors.

The Nomination Committee comprises one executive Director, Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry, and two independent non-executive Directors, Mr. Liu Kwan and Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul. Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry has been appointed as the chairman of the Nomination Committee.

In assessing the Board composition, the Nomination Committee would take into account various aspects as well as factors concerning Board diversity as set out in the Company's board diversity policy (the "**Board Diversity Policy**") which has been revised and adopted by the Board on 27 December 2018. The Nomination Committee would discuss and agree on measurable objectives for achieving diversity on the Board, where necessary, and recommend them to the Board for adoption.

In identifying and selecting suitable candidates for directorships, the Nomination Committee would consider the candidate's relevant criteria as set out in the Company's director nomination policy (the "**Director Nomination Policy**") necessary to complement the corporate strategy and achieve Board diversity, where appropriate, before making recommendation to the Board. The Director Nomination Policy as adopted by the Board sets out the procedure and criteria in the nomination and appointment of Directors.

The Nomination Committee shall report to the Board after each meeting of the Nomination Committee.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Nomination Committee held one meeting to review the structure, size and composition of the Board, the Director Nomination Policy, the Board Diversity Policy and the independence of the independent non-executive Directors, as well as to consider the qualifications of the retiring directors standing for election at the AGM. The Nomination Committee considered that an appropriate balance of diversity perspectives of the Board is maintained and that the review on the progress on achieving the objectives as set out in the Board Diversity Policy had been conducted and that all findings were satisfactory.

The Nomination Committee has also held a meeting on 18 March 2024 to review the structure, size and composition of the Board, the Director Nomination Policy, the Board Diversity Policy and the independence of the independent non-executive Directors, and to consider and recommend to the Board on the re-election of Directors at the forthcoming AGM.

### Board Diversity Policy

The Board Diversity Policy, which was adopted by the Company on 24 October 2017 and subsequently revised by a Board resolution passed on 27 December 2018, sets out the approach to achieve diversity of the Board. The Company recognizes and embraces the benefits of having a diverse Board and sees increasing diversity at the Board level as an essential element in maintaining the Company's competitive advantage.

Pursuant to the Board Diversity Policy, the Nomination Committee will review annually the structure, size and composition of the Board and where appropriate, make recommendations on changes to the Board to complement the Company's corporate strategy and to ensure that the Board maintains a balanced diverse profile.

In relation to reviewing and assessing the Board composition, the Nomination Committee is committed to diversity and will consider a number of aspects, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, professional qualifications, skills, knowledge, length of service and industry and regional experience.

The Company aims to maintain an appropriate balance of diversity perspectives that are relevant to the Company's business growth and is also committed to ensuring that recruitment and selection practices of Board positions are appropriately structured so that a diverse range of candidates are considered.

An analysis of the Board's current composition based on the measurable objectives is set out below:

#### Gender

Male: 4 Directors

Female: 1 Director

#### Age Group

31–40: 1 Director

41–50: 3 Directors

51–60: 1 Director

#### Designation

Executive Directors: 2 Directors

Independent Non-executive Directors: 3 Directors

#### Educational Background

Commerce: 1 Director

Business Administration: 2 Directors

Arts and Administrative Studies: 1 Director

Science, Accounting and Law: 1 Director

#### Nationality

Chinese: 5 Directors

#### Business Experience

Accounting & Finance: 4 Directors

Information Technology: 1 Director

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

At present, the Nomination Committee considered that the Board is sufficiently diverse. The Board has a balance of skills, experience and diversity of perspectives appropriate to the requirements of the Company's business. The Board will consider setting measurable objectives to implement the Board Diversity Policy and review such objectives from time to time to ensure their appropriateness and ascertain the progress made towards achieving those objectives.

The Nomination Committee will review the Board Diversity Policy, as appropriate and on a regular basis, to ensure its effectiveness.

**Gender Diversity**

The Company values gender diversity across all levels of the Group.

Details on the gender ratio in the workforce of the Group together with relevant data can be found in the Environmental, Social and Governance Report on pages 56 to 58.

The Board had targeted to achieve and had achieved at least 20% of female Directors and 40% of female employees including female senior management of the Group and considers that the above current gender diversity is satisfactory.

**Director Nomination Policy**

The Board has delegated its responsibilities and authority for selection and appointment of Directors to the Nomination Committee. The Company has adopted the Director Nomination Policy which sets out the selection criteria and process and the Board succession planning considerations in relation to nomination and appointment of Directors of the Company and aims to ensure that the Board has a balance of skills, experience and diversity of perspectives appropriate to the Company and the continuity of the Board and appropriate leadership at Board level.

The Director Nomination Policy sets out the factors for assessing the suitability and the potential contribution to the Board of a proposed candidate, including but not limited to the following before moving onto the nomination process:

- Character and integrity;
- Qualifications including professional qualifications, skills, knowledge and experience that are relevant to the Company's business and corporate strategy;
- Diversity aspects under the Board Diversity Policy, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, professional experience, skills, knowledge, length of service and industry and regional experience;
- Requirements of independent non-executive Directors on the Board and independence of the proposed independent non-executive Directors in accordance with the GEM Listing Rules; and
- Commitment in respect of available time and relevant interest to discharge duties as a member of the Board and/or Board committee(s) of the Company.

Where there is more than one candidate, the Nomination Committee shall rank the candidates by order of preferences based on the needs of the Company and where appropriate, to make recommendations to the Board.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

The Director Nomination Policy also sets out the procedures for the selection and appointment of new Directors and re-election of Directors at general meetings. The Nomination Committee shall also review the overall contribution and service to the Company of the retiring director including their participation and performance before making recommendations to the shareholders in respect of the proposed re-election of directors at the general meeting.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, there was no change in the composition of the Board.

The Nomination Committee will conduct regular review on the Director Nomination Policy, as appropriate, to ensure its effectiveness.

### Corporate Governance Functions

The Board is responsible for performing the functions set out in the code provision A.2.1 of the CG Code.

The Board reviewed the Company's corporate governance policies and practices, training and continuous professional development of Directors and senior management, the Company's policies and practices on compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the compliance of the Required Standard of Dealings for securities transactions by Directors and written guidelines for securities transactions by relevant employees as well as the Company's compliance with the CG Code and disclosure in this corporate governance report.

### REMUNERATION BANDS OF MEMBERS OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT

The remuneration bands of the members of senior management who are not Directors of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023 are as follows:

Remuneration bands	Number of Individuals
HK\$Nil to HK\$1,000,000	1

### ATTENDANCE RECORD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The attendance record of each Director at the Board and Board committee meetings and the general meetings of the Company held during the year ended 31 December 2023 is set out in the table below:

	Attendance/Number of Meetings					
	Board	Audit Committee	Remuneration Committee	Nomination Committee	Annual General Meeting	Extraordinary General Meeting
<b>Executive Directors</b>						
Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry	4/4	N/A	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Ms. Chow Cheung Chu	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/1	1/1
<b>Independent Non-Executive Directors</b>						
Mr. Liu Kwan	4/4	4/4	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul	4/4	4/4	1/1	1/1	1/1	1/1
Mr. Wong Wai Leung	4/4	4/4	N/A	N/A	1/1	1/1

Four regular board meetings were held during the year ended 31 December 2023.

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

On 23 March 2023, the Chairman of the Board held a meeting with the independent non-executive Directors without the presence of other Director.

Independent non-executive Directors have attended the AGM and EGM to gain and develop a balanced understanding of the views of Shareholders.

### **RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL**

The Board acknowledges its responsibility for the risk management and internal control systems and reviewing their effectiveness. Such systems are designed to identify, evaluate and manage risk exposures that may impact the continued efficiency and effectiveness of our operation or provide reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss, rather than to eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives.

The management is responsible for establishing, implementing and monitoring the risk management and internal control systems. The Board has the overall responsibilities for evaluating and determining the nature and extent of the risks (including ESG risks) it is willing to take in achieving the Company's strategic objectives, and overseeing the management in the design, implementation and monitoring of the risk management and internal control systems. Such duties have been carried out and performed with the assistance of the management and the Audit Committee.

The Company has engaged an independent internal control advisor for providing the internal audit function and performing independent review of the adequacy and effectiveness of the internal control systems annually, including reviewing guidelines and policies which are implemented through our operational process, as well as examining key issues in relation to the financial, operational, compliance and risk management practices with an aim to, among other matters, improve our Group's corporate governance. The independent internal control advisor is also responsible for providing its findings and any recommendations for improvement to the Audit Committee.

The Board is dedicated to safeguard the interests of Shareholders and the continuity of the Group by maintaining an optimal capital structure in its capital risk management. To mitigate the Group's credit risks in relation to the collectability of trade receivables, the Board has adopted credit risk management policies and procedures for conducting ongoing credit evaluation and close monitoring of material overdue payments. Regular meetings have also been conducted by the Board and senior management to formulate conservative strategies for mitigating the Group's financial risks including overseeing the interest rate exposure and compliance with liquidity requirements.

The Company has in place the Whistleblowing Policy for employees of the Company and those who deal with the Company to raise concerns, in confidence and anonymity, with the Audit Committee about possible improprieties in any matters related to the Company.

The Company has also in place the Anti-Corruption Policy to safeguard against corruption and bribery within the Company. The Company has an internal reporting channel that is open and available for employees of the Company to report any suspected corruption and bribery. Employees can also make anonymous reports to the Audit Committee, which is responsible for investigating the reported incidents and taking appropriate measures. The Company continues to carry out anti-corruption and anti-bribery activities to cultivate a culture of integrity, and actively organizes anti-corruption training and inspections to ensure the effectiveness of anti-corruption and anti-bribery.

With a view to identifying, handling and disseminating inside information, procedures have been implemented by the Group to ensure that unauthorized access and use of information are strictly prohibited.

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT**

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Board, as supported by the Audit Committee, our compliance officer and the independent internal control advisor providing the internal audit function, reviewed the risk management and internal control systems, including the financial, operational and compliance controls as well as those relating to the Company's ESG performance and reporting, for the mentioned period, and considered that such systems are effective and adequate. The annual review also covered the financial reporting and staff qualifications, experiences and relevant resources.

**DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY IN RESPECT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for preparing the financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Directors are not aware of any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The report of the independent auditors of the Company about their reporting responsibilities on the financial statements is set out in the Independent Auditor's Report on pages 70 to 76.

**AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION**

Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited is appointed as the external auditor of the Company, the Audit Committee has been notified of the nature and services charges of non-audit services performed by Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited's affiliates and considered that such services have no adverse effect on the independence of the external auditor. During the year ended 31 December 2023, the total fees paid/payable in respect of audit services and non-audit services provided by Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited and its affiliates are set out below:

<b>Services rendered to the Company</b>	<b>Fees paid and payable HK\$</b>
Audit services:	
2023 annual audit	580,000
Non-audit services:	
Risk advisory services	95,000
Taxation	29,300
	704,300

**COMPANY SECRETARY**

Ms. Cheung Yuet Fan of Tricor Services Limited, external service provider, has been engaged by the Company as the company secretary. Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry, Chairman of the Company, is the primary contact person at the Company who would work and communicate with Ms. Cheung on the Company's corporate governance and secretarial and administrative matters. Ms. Cheung has confirmed that for the year ended 31 December 2023, she has taken no less than 15 hours of relevant professional training.

All Directors have access to the advice and services of the company secretary on corporate governance and board practices and matters.

## SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

To safeguard Shareholders' interests and rights, a separate resolution is proposed for each substantially separate issue at Shareholders' meetings, including the election of individual Directors. All resolutions put forward at Shareholders' meetings of the Company will be voted on by poll pursuant to the GEM Listing Rules and poll results will be posted on the website of the Company and of the Stock Exchange after each Shareholders' meeting of the Company.

### Convening an Extraordinary General Meeting by Shareholders and Putting Forward Proposals at General Meetings

- One or more Shareholders (including a recognised clearing house (or its nominees)) holding as at the date of deposit of the requisition in aggregate not less than one-tenth of the voting rights, on a one vote per share basis, in the share capital of the Company (the "**Eligible Shareholder(s)**") shall at all times have the right to make a requisition to convene an extraordinary general meeting ("**EGM**") and add resolutions to the meeting agenda, and such requisition should be made in writing to the Board or the Secretary of the Company.
- Eligible Shareholders who wish to convene an EGM for the purpose of making proposals or moving a resolution at the EGM must deposit a written requisition (the "**Requisition**") signed by the Eligible Shareholder(s) concerned to the principal place of business of the Company in Hong Kong at Unit 2212, 22/F, Global Gateway Tower, 63 Wing Hong Street, Cheung Sha Wan, Kowloon, Hong Kong, for the attention of the Chairman of the Board.
- The Requisition must state clearly the name of the Eligible Shareholder(s) concerned, his/her/their shareholding in the Company, the reason(s) to convene an EGM, the agenda proposed to be included, the details of the business(es) proposed to be transacted in the EGM, signed by the Eligible Shareholder(s) concerned.
- The Company will check the Requisition and the identity and the shareholding of the Eligible Shareholders will be verified with the Company's branch share registrar. If the Requisition is found to be proper and in order, the Chairman of the Board will ask the Board to convene an EGM within 2 months and/or include the proposal or the resolution proposed by the Eligible Shareholder(s) at the EGM after the deposit of the Requisition. On the contrary, if the Requisition has been verified as not in order, the Eligible Shareholder(s) concerned will be advised of this outcome and accordingly, the Board will not call for an EGM and/or include the proposal or the resolution proposed by the Eligible Shareholder(s) at the EGM.
- If within 21 days of the deposit of the Requisition the Board has not advised the Eligible Shareholder(s) of any outcome to the contrary and fails to proceed to convene such EGM, the Eligible Shareholder(s) himself/herself/themselves convene a physical meeting at only one location which will be the principal meeting place in accordance with the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company, and all reasonable expenses incurred by the Eligible Shareholder(s) concerned as a result of the failure of the Board shall be reimbursed to the Eligible Shareholder(s) concerned by the Company.

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT****Putting Forward Enquiries to the Board and Contact Details**

For putting forward any enquiries to the Board, Shareholders may send written enquiries to the Company. The Company will not normally deal with verbal or anonymous enquiries.

Shareholders may send their enquiries as mentioned above to the following:

Address: Unit 2212, 22/F, Global Gateway Tower,  
63 Wing Hong Street, Cheung Sha Wan,  
Kowloon, Hong Kong  
(For the attention of the Board of Directors)

Email: info@verticaltech.com.cn

Fax: (852) 3690 2521

**CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS**

On 5 January 2023, a special resolution was proposed and passed by the Shareholders at the Company's extraordinary general meeting for the amendment to its Articles. Details of the amendments are set out in the circular dated 15 December 2022 to the Shareholders. An up to date version of the Articles is also available on the Company's website and the Stock Exchange's website.

**POLICIES RELATING TO SHAREHOLDERS****Shareholders' Communication Policy**

The Company has in place a shareholders' communication policy (the "**Shareholders' Communication Policy**") to ensure that Shareholders' views and concerns are appropriately addressed. The Board reviewed the implementation and effectiveness of the Shareholders' Communication Policy and the results were satisfactory.

The Company has established a number of channels for maintaining an on-going dialogue with its Shareholders as follows:

**(a) Corporate Communication**

"Corporate Communication" as defined under the GEM Listing Rules refers to any document issued or to be issued by the Company for the information or action of holders of any of its securities, including but not limited to the following documents of the Company: (a) the Directors' report, annual accounts together with a copy of the auditor's report and, where applicable, its summary financial report; (b) the interim report and, where applicable, its summary interim report; (c) a notice of meeting; (d) a listing document; (e) a circular; and (f) a proxy form. The Corporate Communication of the Company will be published on the Stock Exchange's website ([www.hkex.com.hk](http://www.hkex.com.hk)) in a timely manner as required by the GEM Listing Rules. Corporate Communication will be provided to Shareholders and non-registered holders of the Company's securities in both English and Chinese versions or where permitted, in a single language, in a timely manner as required by the GEM Listing Rules. Shareholders and non-registered holders of the Company's securities shall have the right to choose the language (either English or Chinese) or means of receipt of the Corporate Communication (in printed form or through electronic means).

## CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

**(b) Announcements and Other Documents pursuant to the GEM Listing Rules**

The Company shall publish announcements (on inside information, corporate actions and transactions etc.) and other documents (e.g. Memorandum and Articles of Association) on the Stock Exchange's website in a timely manner in accordance with the GEM Listing Rules.

**(c) Corporate Website**

Any information or documents of the Company posted on the Stock Exchange's website will also be published on the Company's website ([www.verticaltech.com.cn](http://www.verticaltech.com.cn)).

**(d) Shareholders' Meetings**

The annual general meeting and other general meetings of the Company are primary forum for communication between the Company and its Shareholders. The Company shall provide Shareholders with relevant information on the resolutions(s) proposed at a general meeting in a timely manner in accordance with the GEM Listing Rules. The information provided shall be reasonably necessary to enable Shareholders to make an informed decision on the proposed resolution(s). Shareholders are encouraged to participate in general meetings or to appoint proxies to attend and vote at the meetings for and on their behalf if they are unable to attend the meetings. Where appropriate or required, the Chairman of the Board and other Board members, the chairmen of board committees or their delegates, and the external auditors should attend general meetings of the Company to answer Shareholders' questions (if any). The chairman of the independent board committee (if any) should also be available to answer questions at any general meeting to approve a connected transaction or any other transaction that is subject to independent Shareholders' approval.

**(e) Shareholders' Enquiries***Enquiries about Shareholdings*

Shareholders should direct their enquiries about their shareholdings to the Company's branch share registrar in Hong Kong:

Tricor Investor Services Limited  
17/F, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong  
Email: [is-enquiries@hk.tricorglobal.com](mailto:is-enquiries@hk.tricorglobal.com)  
Tel: (852) 2980 1333  
Fax: (852) 2810 8185

*Enquiries about Corporate Governance or Other Matters to be put to the Board and the Company*

The Company will not normally deal with verbal or anonymous enquiries. Shareholders may send any enquiries to the following:

Address: Unit 2212, 22/F, Global Gateway Tower,  
63 Wing Hong Street, Cheung Sha Wan,  
Kowloon, Hong Kong  
(For the attention of the Board of Directors)

Email: [info@verticaltech.com.cn](mailto:info@verticaltech.com.cn)  
Fax: (852) 3690 2521

**CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT****Dividend Policy**

The Company has adopted a dividend policy (the “**Dividend Policy**”) on payment of dividends, which sets out the principles and guidelines that the Company intends to apply in relation to the declaration, payment or distribution of dividends to Shareholders.

The Company do not have any pre-determined dividend payout ratio. Depending on the financial results and conditions of the Company and the Group, and the conditions and factors as set out in the Dividend Policy, including but not limited to cash flow situation, business conditions and strategies, future operations and earnings, and capital requirements and expenditure plans of the Group, as well as the interests of Shareholders and any restrictions on payment of dividends, dividends may be proposed and/or declared by the Board during a financial year and any final dividend for a financial year will be subject to the Shareholders’ approval.



# REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Directors are pleased to present the report and the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023.

## CORPORATE REORGANISATION

The Company was incorporated in the Cayman Islands as an exempted company with limited liability on 3 January 2017 under the Companies Act, Cap.22 (Law 3 of 1961, as consolidated and revised) of the Cayman Islands. The shares of the Company (the “**Shares**”) have been listed on GEM of the Stock Exchange since 13 November 2017 (the “**Listing Date**”).

In preparing for the initial listing of the Shares on GEM of the Stock Exchange, the companies comprising the Group underwent a group reorganisation as described below (the “**Reorganisation**”). Prior to the Reorganisation, Vertical Technology Company Limited (“**Vertical Technology**”) and its subsidiaries, the operating subsidiaries of the Group, were controlled by Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (“**Mr. Boon**”). As part of the Reorganisation, investment holding companies, Vertical Technology (B.V.I.) Limited (“**Vertical (BVI)**”) and the Company, were incorporated and interspersed between Vertical Technology and Mr. Boon. Since then, the Company became the holding company of the Group on 17 March 2017. The Group comprising the Company, Vertical (BVI) and Vertical Technology, resulting from the Reorganisation has always been under the common control of Mr. Boon since their respective date of incorporation and before and after the Reorganisation.

The consolidated financial information of the companies comprising the Group has been prepared as if the Company had always been the holding company of the Group.

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Company is an investment holding company. The principal activities of the Group are manufacturing and trading of aluminum electrolytic capacitors and trading of electronic components. The principal activities of the Company’s subsidiaries are set forth in note 35 to the consolidated financial statements.

## REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

The revenue and segment information of the Group for the year are set forth in note 5 to the consolidated financial statements.

## RESULTS AND DIVIDENDS

The results of the Group for the year and the financial position of the Group and the financial position of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are set forth in the consolidated financial statements on pages 77 to 78 and 141 of this annual report.

The Board does not recommend the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2023 (dividend for the year ended 31 December 2022: HK\$Nil).



## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

### BUSINESS REVIEW

A review of the business of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023, a discussion on the Group's business development and an analysis of the Group's performance using financial key performance indicators are provided in the "Management Discussion and Analysis" on pages 5 to 10. In addition, discussions on the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Group, the Group's environmental policies and performance, the Group's compliance with the relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the Group, particulars of important events affecting the Group since the financial year ended 31 December 2023 and key relationships with its stakeholders are contained in this "Report of the Directors".

### PRINCIPAL RISK AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Group's financial condition and results of operations would be affected by a number of factors. The principal risks and uncertainties relating to the Group are set out below:

- We face intense competition in the aluminum electrolytic capacitors industry;
- Our Group's revenue relies on the PRC market and sales of major product;
- We do not have any long term contracts with our customers;
- Our Group's operation is highly dependent on our key management personnel and skilled and qualified employees.

### ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Environmental policy is set out in the section of "Environmental, Social and Governance Report" in this report on pages 42 to 69.

### COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

To the best of the Directors' knowledge, information and belief, having made all reasonable enquiries, our Group has complied in material respects with the relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the business and operation of our Group during the year ended 31 December 2023.

### KEY RELATIONSHIPS

The Group understands the importance of maintaining a good relationship with its customers, suppliers and stakeholders in meeting its short-term and long-term goals.

The Group has established good reputation for making high quality and reliability products. The Group communicates with its customers from time to time in order to collect feedback from them as a valuable tool to measure and improve the quality of products as well as customer's satisfaction.

The Group maintains a list of approved suppliers which are selected with reference to, among other things, material/service quality, reliability and price. The Group generally enters into a framework agreement for quality assurance with the suppliers which govern the quality of the raw material and/or electronic components that the Group purchases from the suppliers and performs annual evaluation on the Group's suppliers with respect to raw materials/service quality, reliability and timely delivery.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

**MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS**

For the year ended 31 December 2023, our largest customer accounted for approximately 14.2% (2022: 17.7%) of our total revenue, while the percentage of our total revenue attributable to our five largest customers in aggregate was approximately 53.9% (2022: 53.0%).

For the year ended 31 December 2023, our largest supplier accounted for approximately 8.7% (2022: 12.7%) of our total purchases, while the percentage of our total purchases attributable to our five largest suppliers in aggregate was approximately 36.1% (2022: 40.0%).

As far as the Company is aware, as at the date of this annual report, none of the Directors, their close associates nor any Shareholders (which to the knowledge of the Directors own more than 5% of the Company's share capital) had any interest in the Group's customers and suppliers as disclosed above.

**EMOLUMENT POLICY**

The Remuneration Committee will review and determine the remuneration and compensation packages of the Directors with reference to their duties and responsibilities, workload, and time devoted to our Group and the performance of our Group. The Directors may also receive options to be granted under the share option scheme.

**EQUITY-LINKED AGREEMENTS**

Save for the share option scheme as set out in this report, no equity-linked agreements were entered into by the Group, or existed during the year.

**PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT**

Details of the movements in property, plant and equipment of the Group during the year are set out in note 14 to the consolidated financial statements.

**SHARE CAPITAL**

Details of the movements in share capital of the Company during the year are set out in note 28 to the consolidated financial statements.

**PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS**

There are no provision for pre-emptive rights under the Articles or the laws of the Cayman Islands, being the jurisdiction in which the Company is incorporated, which would oblige the Company to offer new shares on a pro rata basis to existing Shareholders.

**RESERVES**

Details of movements in reserves of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 are set out in the consolidated statement of changes in equity.

**DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES**

Under the Companies Act of the Cayman Islands and subject to the provisions of the Articles, the share premium account of the Company may be applied for distribution to shareholders provided that immediately following the date on which the distribution or dividend is proposed to be paid, the Company is able to pay its debts as they fall due in the ordinary course of business.

As at 31 December 2023, the aggregate amount of distributable reserves of the Company, including share premium and retained profits of the Company, amounted to approximately HK\$40 million (2022: HK\$56 million).

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

**SUBSIDIARIES**

Details of the subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are set out in note 35 to the consolidated financial statements.

**SHARE OPTION SCHEME**

The Company has adopted a share option scheme on 24 October 2017 (the "**Scheme**") as approved by a resolution of the then sole Shareholder passed on 24 October 2017.

Details of the Scheme are as follows:

1. Purpose of the Scheme  
To enable the Company to grant options to the eligible participants, as incentive or reward for their contribution to the Group to subscribe for the Shares thereby linking their interest with that of the Group. The basis of eligibility shall be determined by the Board from time to time.
2. Eligible participants to the Scheme  
Any employee, adviser, consultant, service provider, agent, client, partner or joint-venture partner of the Company or any subsidiary (including any director of the Company or any subsidiary) who is in full-time or part-time employment with or otherwise engaged by the Company or any subsidiary at the time when an option is granted to such person under the Scheme or any person who, in the absolute discretion of the Board, has contributed or may contribute to the Group.
3. Total number of shares available for issue under the Scheme and percentage to the issued shares as at the date of this annual report  
16,000,000 shares (Upon the Share Consolidation of every five shares of HK\$0.01 each into one share of HK\$0.05 each taking effect on 12 January 2022, the maximum number of shares available to be granted pursuant to the options granted under the Share Option Scheme was adjusted to 16,000,000 Consolidated Share of HK\$0.05 each.) (equivalent to 5.56% of the total number of Shares in issue as at the date of this annual report).
4. Maximum entitlement of each participant under the Scheme  
Not exceeding 1% of the total number of Shares in issue for the time being in any 12-month period. Any further grant of share option in excess of such limit must be separately approved by the Shareholders in general meeting.
5. The period within which the option may be exercised by the grantee under the Scheme  
A period which shall not be more than ten (10) years after the offer date and subject to the provisions for early termination as contained in the Scheme.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

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|----|--|--|
| 6. | The vesting period of options granted under the Scheme   | Unless otherwise determined by the Board, there is no performance target required to be achieved and no vesting period required under the Scheme for the holding of an option before it can be exercised.  |
| 7. | The amount payable on application or acceptance of the option and the period within which payments or calls must be made | The payment or remittance of HK\$1.00 within 21 days from, and inclusive of, the offer date or within such other period of time as may be determined by the Board pursuant to the GEM Listing Rules.   |
| 8. | The basis of determining the exercise price  | Being determined by the Board and shall be at least the highest of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) the closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheet on the offer date;</li> <li>(b) the average closing price of the Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheets for the five business days immediately preceding the offer date; and</li> <li>(c) the nominal value of a Share on the offer date.</li> </ul> |
| 9. | The remaining life of the Scheme   | The Scheme is valid and effective for a period of ten (10) years commencing on 24 October 2017 (being the date of adoption of the Scheme).   |

No share option has been granted under the Scheme since its adoption and up to the date of this annual report.

## DIRECTORS

The Directors (the "**Board**") during the year and up to the date of this report are as follows:

### Executive Directors

Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*)  
Ms. Chow Cheung Chu

### Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. Liu Kwan  
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul  
Mr. Wong Wai Leung

In accordance with article 83(3) of the Articles, any Director appointed by the Board to fill a casual vacancy on the Board or as an addition to the existing Board shall hold office only until the first annual general meeting of the Company after his/her appointment and shall then be eligible for re-election.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

In accordance with the articles 84(1) and (2) of the Articles, at each annual general meeting one-third of the Directors for the time being (or, if their number is not a multiple of three (3), the number nearest to but not less than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation provided that every Director shall be subject to retirement at an annual general meeting at least once every three years. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election and shall continue to act as a Director throughout the meeting at which he retires. Any Director appointed by the Board pursuant to article 83(3) shall not be taken into account in determining which particular Directors or the number of Directors who are to retire by rotation.

In accordance with articles 84(1) and (2) of the Articles, Mr. Liu Kwan and Mr. Wong Wai Leung shall retire at the forthcoming AGM and, being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election at the AGM.

### DIRECTORS' SERVICE CONTRACTS

Each of the executive Directors has entered into a service agreement with the Company for an initial term of three years commencing from the Listing Date and will continue thereafter until terminated by not less than three months' notice in writing served by either party on the other.

Each of the independent non-executive Directors has entered into a letter of appointment with the Company for a term of three years commencing from 13 November 2023, which may be terminated by not less than three months' notice in writing served by either party on the other.

None of the Directors has a service contract with the Company or any of its subsidiaries which is not determinable by the Group within one year without payment of compensation other than statutory compensation.

### DIRECTORS' AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S BIOGRAPHIES

Biographical details of the Directors and the senior management of the Group are set out on pages 11 to 14 of this annual report.

### EMOLUMENTS OF DIRECTORS AND FIVE HIGHEST PAID INDIVIDUALS

Details of the emoluments of the Directors and the five highest paid individuals of the Group are set out in note 12 to the consolidated financial statements of this annual report.

### DIRECTORS' INTEREST IN CONTRACTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Save for the related party transactions disclosed in note 32 to the consolidated financial statements, no Director had a material interest, either directly or indirectly, in any contract of significance to the business of the Group to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was a party during the year ended 31 December 2023.

### MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company did not enter into or have any management and administration contracts in respect of the whole or any substantial part of the business of the Company.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

**DIRECTORS' RIGHT TO ACQUIRE SHARES**

Other than as disclosed in the paragraph headed "Disclosure of Interests" below, at no time during the year ended 31 December 2023 was the Company or any of its subsidiaries a party to any arrangement to enable the Directors or chief executives of the Company (including their spouses or children under 18 years of age) to have any right to subscribe for securities of the Company or any of its associated corporations as defined in the SFO or to acquire benefits by means of acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS****Directors' and Chief Executives' Interests and Short Positions in the Shares, Underlying Shares and Debentures of the Company and its Associated Corporations**

As at 31 December 2023, the interests and short positions in the Shares, underlying Shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) (the "SFO")) held by the Directors and chief executives of the Company which had to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions which were taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO) or which as entered in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, or otherwise required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Rules 5.46 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules are set out as follows:

**(a) Long position in the Shares of the Company**

Name of Director	Nature of interest	Number of Shares held (Note 1)	Percentage of shareholding in the Company
Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry	Beneficial owner	7,840,000 (L)	2.72%
("Mr. Boon") (Note 2)	Interest in a controlled corporation	180,000,000 (L)	62.50%

**(b) Long position in the shares of the associated corporation of the Company**

Name of Director	Nature of interest	Name of associated corporation	Number of shares interested (Note 1)	Percentage of shareholding in the associated corporation
Mr. Boon	Beneficial owner	Vertical Technology Investment Limited ("Vertical Investment")	1 (L)	100%

Notes:

(1) The letter "L" denotes long position in the share interests.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

- (2) Vertical Investment held direct interests of 180,000,000 Shares. Vertical Investment is wholly and beneficially owned by Mr. Boon. Therefore, Mr. Boon is deemed to be interested in all the Shares held by Vertical Investment under the SFO. Mr. Boon also directly held 7,840,000 Shares of the Company.

Save as disclosed above, as at 31 December 2023, none of the Directors or chief executive of the Company had any interest or short position in the Shares, underlying Shares or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations which was required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions which were taken or deemed to have under the SFO), or which were required, pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, to be entered in the register referred to therein or which were required, pursuant to Rules 5.46 to 5.67 of the GEM Listing Rules relating to securities transactions by Directors to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange.

### Substantial Shareholders' Interests in the Shares and Underlying Shares of the Company

As at 31 December 2023, the following persons (not being a Director or chief executive of the Company) had or were deemed or taken to have an interest or short position in the Shares or the underlying Shares which would fall to be disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Divisions 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO, or which would be recorded in the register of the Company required to be kept under Section 336 of the SFO, who are directly or indirectly interested in 5% or more of the Shares:

### Long positions in the Shares of the Company

Name of Shareholder	Nature of interest	Number of Shares held (Note 1)	Percentage of shareholding in the Company
Vertical Investment (Note 2)	Beneficial owner	180,000,000 (L)	62.50%
Ms. Sun Koon Kwan ("Ms. Sun") (Note 3)	Interest of spouse	187,840,000 (L)	65.22%

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" denotes long position in the share interests.
- (2) Vertical Investment is wholly and beneficially owned by Mr. Boon. He is deemed to be interested in all the Shares held by Vertical Investment under the SFO.
- (3) Ms. Sun is the spouse of Mr. Boon. Ms. Sun is deemed to be interested in the same number of Shares in which Mr. Boon is interested by virtue of the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, as at 31 December 2023, none of the Directors is aware of any other person who had any interest or short position in the Shares or underlying Shares which would fall to be disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Divisions 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO, or which would be recorded in the register of the Company required to be kept under Section 336 of the SFO, who are directly or indirectly interested in 5% or more of the Shares.

### DIRECTORS' INTEREST IN COMPETING BUSINESS

During the year ended 31 December 2023, none of the Directors or the controlling Shareholders or their respective close associates (as defined in the GEM Listing Rules) of the Company had an interest in a business which competed with or might compete with the business of the Group.

## CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group had not entered into any connected transactions or continuing connected transactions that are not exempted under Rule 20.71 of the GEM Listing Rules.

Related party transactions of the Group during the year are disclosed in note 32 to the consolidated financial statements of this annual report. They did not constitute connected transactions or continuing connected transactions, which are required to comply with the disclosure requirements in accordance with Chapter 20 of the GEM Listing Rules.

## PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES

During the year ended 31 December 2023, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

## NON-COMPETITION UNDERTAKING BY THE CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDERS

Each of the controlling Shareholders, namely Vertical Investment and Mr. Boon (together the "**Controlling Shareholders**"), entered into a deed of non-competition in favour of the Company on 24 October 2017 (the "**Deed of Non-competition**"), details of which have been set out in the prospectus of the Company dated 31 October 2017 (the "**Prospectus**").

The Company has received an annual confirmation from the Controlling Shareholders in respect of their compliance with the non-competition undertakings under the Deed of Non-competition throughout the year ended 31 December 2023. The independent non-executive Directors have also reviewed the compliance with the non-competition undertakings under the Deed of Non-competition by the Controlling Shareholders and confirmed that the Controlling Shareholders have not been in breach of the Deed of Non-competition during the year ended 31 December 2023.

## LOAN AGREEMENTS WITH COVENANT RELATING TO SPECIAL PERFORMANCE OF THE CONTROLLING SHAREHOLDERS

On 7 March 2022, Vertical Technology Company Limited ("**Vertical Technology**"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, as borrower; Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited, as lender; and each of the Company and Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry ("**Mr. Boon**"), the chairman of the Board, the chief executive officer, an executive Director and a controlling shareholder of the Company, as guarantor, entered into a banking facility letter ("**Facility Letter**") in relation to the general banking facilities granted under the SME Financing Guarantee Scheme ("**Scheme**") guaranteed by the HKMC Insurance Limited. The Facility Letter is comprised of a revolving loan facility and an overdraft facility of up to HK\$18,000,000 (with the aggregate outstanding amount of the overdraft facility not exceeding HK\$8,000,000), which will be made available by the Lender to Vertical Technology on the terms and conditions therein contained subject to, among others, the fulfillment of certain conditions precedent.

According to the terms of the Facility Letter, all amounts borrowed under the revolving loan facility shall be repaid or reborrowed at the end of the relevant drawdown period and the principal shall be repaid every twelve (12) months after the date of each drawdown. In addition, the purpose of entering into the Facility Letter is to finance the acquisition of assets or general working capital of Vertical Technology so as to facilitate its business operations. Furthermore, the revolving loan facility and the overdraft facility under the Facility Letter shall be cancelled and ceased to be operated after the guarantee period as stated in the relevant guarantee issued by HKMCI pursuant to the Scheme.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

Pursuant to the Facility Letter, certain specific performance obligations are imposed on Mr. Boon, under which Mr. Boon agrees and undertakes to the Lender that (i) he shall remain directly or indirectly as the largest shareholder of the Company; and (ii) he shall remain as the chairman or executive Director of the Company.

As at the date of this annual report, Mr. Boon directly or indirectly holds 65.22% of the issued share capital of the Company.

Please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 7 March 2022 for more details.

## DONATIONS

No charitable or other donations were made by the Group during the year (2022: HK\$Nil).

## SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

Based on the information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of the Directors, at least 25% of the Company's total issued share capital was held by the public as required under the GEM Listing Rules during the year ended 31 December 2023 and up to the date of this annual report.

## CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

### For attending and voting at the annual general meeting

The register of members of the Company will be closed from Monday, 13 May 2024 to Friday, 17 May 2024, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. For determining the entitlement of members of the Company to attend and vote at the AGM, all share transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's branch share registrar in Hong Kong, Tricor Investor Services Limited at 17/F., Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong for registration not later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 10 May 2024.

## COMPARISON OF BUSINESS OBJECTIVES WITH ACTUAL BUSINESS PROGRESS

An analysis comparing the business objectives as set out in the prospectus with the Group's actual business progress from Listing Date to 31 December 2023 ("Review Period") is set out below:

### Business objectives

- To increase the production capacity of our Group's chip-type aluminum electrolytic capacitors
- To establish the second production plant in Dongguan, Guangdong Province, the PRC
- To continue research and development effort
- To promote our branded products

### Actual business progress during the Review Period

- The Group has fully utilized the amount for acquiring necessary machinery and equipment.
- The Group has fully utilized the amount for paying rental and fitting out expenses for the Group's second production plant.
- The Group has fully utilized the amount for recruiting and retaining additional staff, and investing time and resource into research and development department.
- The Group has fully utilized the amount for recruiting additional sales staffs and issued booklets for marketing events.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

**PERMITTED INDEMNITY PROVISIONS**

Under the articles of association of the Company, every Director shall be indemnified and secured harmless out of the assets and profits of the Company from and against all actions, cost, charges, losses, damages and expenses incurred or sustained by him/her as a Director provided that this indemnity shall not extend to any matter in respect of any fraud or dishonesty attached to him/her. The Company has arranged an appropriate insurance cover in respect of legal action against the Directors.

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITIES**

Details of the Company's environmental and social responsibility practices are set out in the Environmental, Social and Governance Report on pages 42 to 69 in this annual report.

**AUDITOR**

Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited has been appointed as the auditor of the Company and has audited the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023.

The Company has not changed its external auditor during the year ended 31 December 2023 and up to the date of this annual report. A resolution will be proposed at the forthcoming AGM for the re-appointment of Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited as the auditor of the Company.

**EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD**

Save as disclosed in note 37 to the consolidated financial statements and elsewhere in this annual report, the Group does not have any other significant events after the reporting period.

On Behalf of the Board

**Boon Ho Yin Henry**

*Chairman*

Hong Kong 18 March 2024



# ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## ABOUT THIS REPORT

### Scope and Boundary

This Environmental, Social and Governance Report (the “**ESG Report**”) covers the Group’s management approach, strategies, priorities, and objectives during the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023 (the “**Reporting Year**”). The Group published the ESG report in accordance with the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide (the “**ESG Reporting Guide**”), Appendix C2 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**GEM Listing Rules**”).

The Group aims to promote sustainable development and business responsibility. Therefore, while the Group actively develops and seeks opportunities, it also considers factors including environment, society, and ethics to ensure the Group can achieve a balance between business development, social demand and environmental impacts. The Group also emphasizes developing positive connections with its stakeholders (including customers, investors, shareholders, suppliers, workers, and other organizations) to understand and respond to their expectations. The Group will keep close connections with stakeholders in order to meet their expectations and requests.

In the course of preparing the ESG Report, the Group conducted a thorough review and assessment towards its existing environmental and social policies with aims to achieve better performance in aspects of environment, social, corporate governance and operation in the future and make more contributions to the communities where it operates.

In order to achieve sustainable development, the Group has adopted the following strategies:

- 1 achieving environmental sustainability;
- 2 respecting human rights and community culture;
- 3 maintaining communications with stakeholders;
- 4 supporting employees and providing a friendly working environment;
- 5 conducting strict quality monitoring;
- 6 sustaining local community development; and
- 7 strengthening our commitment to customers.

The ESG Report was approved by the Board on 18 March 2024.

### Feedback and Opinions

For details on the financial performance and corporate governance of the Group, please refer to our website (<http://www.verticaltech.com.cn>) and our annual report. The Group also values your feedback and opinion on our performance of sustainable development. Please email your feedback and other sustainable development information to [info@verticaltech.com.cn](mailto:info@verticaltech.com.cn).



## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Preparation Basis of the ESG Report**

This ESG Report is prepared in accordance with the ESG Reporting Guide as set out in Appendix C2 to the GEM Listing Rules and has complied with the “Mandatory Disclosure Requirements” and “Comply or Explain Provisions”, as well as the principles of materiality, quantitative, balance and consistency as below:

- Materiality** : This Report provides an overview of the materiality assessment, allowing us to identify the significant ESG issues during the Reporting Year. We have provided comprehensive descriptions of our essential stakeholders and transparently disclosed the specific processes through which they have been engaged and participated.
- Quantitative** : This Report employs quantitative information to disclose the key performance indicators (the “**KPIs**”) relevant to our operations' environmental and social aspects. Each KPI is accompanied by a detailed explanation of the measurement standards, methods, hypotheses, and/or calculation tools utilized. In addition, we provide transparent insights into the source of conversion coefficients used for the KPIs, ensuring clarity and accuracy in our reporting.
- Balance** : This Report presents a comprehensive and objective view of the Group's performance during the Reporting Year by providing a balanced disclosure of both positive and negative information. This approach ensures that the Report's contents offer an unbiased and transparent depiction of our ESG performance.
- Consistency** : This Report adheres to a consistent disclosure approach using standardised scales for comparable indicators. By employing this approach, we aim to provide additional reference points for performance disclosure. Consistency in applying scales ensures that the data presented in the ESG Report can be effectively compared and analysed, enabling stakeholders to better understand our performance over time.

In preparing the ESG Report, the Group has adopted the international standards and emission factors specified in the guidance materials on Environmental, Social and Governance (“**ESG**”) issued by the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**Stock Exchange**”) for computing the KPIs<sup>1</sup>, and there is no change from previous year in the way the Report has been prepared. The application of materiality is detailed in the subsection headed “ESG Management – Materiality Assessment”.

<sup>1</sup> How to prepare an ESG Report — Appendix 2: Reporting Guidance on Environmental KPIs, [https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/Listing/Rules-and-Guidance/Environmental-Social-and-Governance/Exchanges-guidance-materials-on-ESG/app2\\_envirokpis.pdf](https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/Listing/Rules-and-Guidance/Environmental-Social-and-Governance/Exchanges-guidance-materials-on-ESG/app2_envirokpis.pdf);  
Appendix 3: Reporting Guidance on Social KPIs, [https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/Listing/Rules-and-Guidance/Environmental-Social-and-Governance/Exchanges-guidance-materials-on-ESG/app3\\_socialkpis.pdf?la=en](https://www.hkex.com.hk/-/media/HKEX-Market/Listing/Rules-and-Guidance/Environmental-Social-and-Governance/Exchanges-guidance-materials-on-ESG/app3_socialkpis.pdf?la=en)

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

### Management Approach

The Group aims to enhance communication with stakeholders and pay close attention to the Group's impact on the operating environment and society. The Group maintains close contact with internal employees, suppliers, and customers to understand their concerns and seek solutions together. Apart from focusing on the business development goals, the Group also values environmental protection and social engagement. In the global environment in which environmental protection awareness is raised, the Group has also continuously improved its strategies on the environment, society, and governance to create an efficient and diversified business environment for development.

In order to formulate the Group's business strategies for environment, society and governance, the Group will identify events that may cause a negative impact on the Group's image or pose risks to the Group in the short, medium and long term. In addition, the Group will pay close attention to any incidents that bring harm to stakeholders such as the employees, customers, governments, suppliers, and their communities, and analyzes the impact to the Group and the responsibilities involved. Through the formulation of policies and management procedures, the management leads the Group to jointly find solutions to reduce risks.

### ABOUT THE GROUP

Our Group's core business is manufacturing chip-type and radial lead-type aluminum electrolytic capacitors. This core business is complemented by trading a wider range of electronic components, including integrated circuits and semiconductors such as diodes and transistors, and LED and LED lighting products. The Group mainly manufactures aluminum electrolytic capacitors at its Dongguan plant, boasting a comprehensive quality control system which aligns with ISO 9001:2015 Quality Standard (covering all stages of its aluminum electrolytic capacitors production), QC080000:2017 concerning the management of hazardous substances in the production process, IATF 16949:2016 regarding the quality management system for automotive industry supply chain and assembly process, and RoHS and REACH standards, which concern the restriction and control of certain hazardous substances and chemicals related to aluminum electrolytic capacitors.

Regarding the production of aluminum electrolytic capacitors, the Group's internal research and development team has registered in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"). It holds 33 utility model patents and 2 invention patents. The team has also submitted 7 applications for the registration of new utility model patents and 1 invention patent. The Group's products are mainly sold to the PRC, Hong Kong and other Asian regions. The Group's production method of aluminum electrolytic capacitors has obtained certain achievements in scientific research. In December 2019, the Group was awarded the certificate of "high and new technology enterprises", one of the State's focuses in the high and new technology field.



## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**ESG Management*****Statement of the board***

As a responsible corporate citizen, the Group acknowledges that prudent environmental and societal management is of great importance to sustainable economic growth. The Report summarizes the strategy, practice and vision of the Group with respect to issues related to ESG and conveys the Group's devotion to sustainability. To address the global concern about climate change that affects the environmental systems and our daily lives, the Group has considered climate-related issues and incorporated them into our risk management system to enhance our resilience and adaptive capacity to potential climate change impacts. All potential risks that may have an impact on the Group's businesses will be covered and evaluated in the annual enterprise risk assessment.

The Group has established a governance structure to enhance its management of ESG issues. The Board has overall responsibility for overseeing the Group's ESG-related risks and opportunities, establishing, and adopting the ESG-related strategies and targets of the Group, reviewing the Group's performance annually against the targets, and revising the strategies as appropriate if significant variance from the target is identified. To exert governance over the ESG issues, the Group has set up an ESG Working Group that comprises members from middle to senior management, and it serves as a supportive role to the Board in implementing the ESG-related strategies and targets, conducting materiality assessments of ESG issues and prioritizing them, and promoting the implementation of respective measures. Under the authority of the Board, the ESG Working Group assists in collecting ESG data from respective functional departments, monitoring the implementation of the measures, investigating deviation from the targets and liaising with the respective functional departments to take prompt rectification actions.

The Board will continue to review the progress based on the set goals and targets to help building sustainable markets, with broader benefits for the society as a whole.

***Governance Structure***

<b>Board</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Board is responsible for the overall decision-making, oversees the formulation, administration, and assessment of the ESG system.</li> </ul>
<b>ESG Working Group</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ESG Working Group is responsible for assisting the Board in managing and monitoring the ESG matters on a daily basis.</li> </ul>
<b>Functional Department</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Functional department is responsible for the execution of implemented measures to achieve the set strategies and targets.</li> </ul>

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Stakeholders Engagement**

The Group seeks every opportunity and endeavor to understand and engage our stakeholders so that we can continue to improve the product offerings and services of the Group. The Group strongly believes that our stakeholders play a crucial role in the continual success of our business operations.

Stakeholders	Possible incidental issues	Communication and response
<b>Stock Exchange</b>	Compliance with the GEM Listing Rules, publishing of announcements in a timely and accurate manner	Meetings, training, seminars, programmes, updating of website and announcements
<b>Governments</b>	Compliance with laws and regulations, social welfare, and prevention of tax evasion	Interactions and visits, government inspections, tax returns and other information
<b>Suppliers</b>	Payment schedule, supply stability	On-site research
<b>Investors</b>	Corporate governance system, business strategies and performance, investment return	Organization and participation of seminars, visits and interviews, general meetings, provision of financial reports or business updates for investors, press and analysts
<b>Media</b>	Corporate governance, environmental protection and human rights	Posting of communications on the company website
<b>Customers</b>	Product/service quality, fair and reasonable pricing, the value of service, protection for the labor force and work safety	Site visits and after-sale services
<b>Employees</b>	Rights, employee salaries, training, and development, working hours, working environment	Conducting team activities, training, interviews with employees, issue of Employee Handbook, internal memorandum and suggestion box
<b>Community</b>	Environmental, employment and community development, social welfare	Organizing community activities, employees volunteering activities and community welfare, sponsorship and donations

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## Materiality Assessment

The Group has identified ESG issue that have potential or actual impact on its sustainable development from various sources, such as issues identified in previous ESG report, internal policies industry trends and the Sustainability Accounting Standards Board's Materiality Map<sup>2</sup>. To better understand the concerns and interests of its stakeholders, the Group reviewed its the materiality assessment in the last reporting year. After analyzing the results, the Group concluded that there have been no significant changes in the main concerns of stakeholders and that the priority of ESG matters remains consistent with the previous year. The assessment results are presented below:

- 1 Emission and Greenhouse Gas Emission
- 2 Hazardous Waste and Non-Hazardous Waste
- 3 Energy and Water Consumption
- 4 Product Responsibility
- 5 Health and Safety
- 6 Supply Chain Management

## Environmental Overview

The Group is always committed to promoting environmental protection. The Group has implemented an environmental management system to guide the research and development, production, and sales process of the aluminum electrolytic capacitor products. The Group has obtained the standard certification of ISO 14001:2015 to ensure that the negative impact on the environment is minimized during the main production process. As part of the environmental management system of ISO 14001:2015, the Group has formulated the "Environment, Occupational Health and Safety Management Manual" to effectively avoid, reduce and monitor the generation and emission of pollutants during the production process. In addition, the Group also actively reinforces the staff's importance of environmental protection and raises their awareness of environmental protection at work. Therefore, the supervisory staff will conduct regular training sessions and internal written tests of ISO 14001:2015, so that the employees can meet the environmental management system standards in their routine work. The intensities in this section are calculated based on the total area of the production plant and office, ensuring a comprehensive assessment of the environmental impact.

Despite having limited waste generation, the Group keeps abreast of environmental protection and the relevant laws, including but not limited to "Environmental Protection Law of the PRC" (《中華人民共和國環境保護法》), "the Law of the PRC on the Prevention and Control of Atmospheric Pollution" (《中華人民共和國大氣污染防治法》), "the Law of the PRC on the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution" (《中華人民共和國水污染防治法》), "the Law of the PRC on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution of Solid Waste" (《中華人民共和國固體廢物污染環境防治法》), and "the Law of the PRC on Conserving Energy" (《中華人民共和國節約能源法》).

The Group complied with relevant provisions of the laws and regulations in environmental protection during the Reporting Year.

<sup>2</sup> Sustainability Accounting Standards Board's Materiality Map, <https://materiality.sasb.org/>

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## Air Emission

During the Reporting Year the Group owns 4 motor vehicles and 1 electric car for transporting of our management and employees which contributed to Nitrogen Oxides (NOx), Sulphur Oxides (SOx), and Particulate Matter (PM). To enhance fuel consumption efficiency and reduce emissions, the Group optimizes route plans for transportation and has acquired an electric vehicle. Moreover, maintenance checks are arranged for the motor vehicles to ensure road safety with a view to keeping carbon emissions from the vehicles to a minimum. The Group will make continuous efforts in route optimization in order to make an impact in the reduction of relevant emissions generated by vehicles.

The Group was involved in exhaust gas emission during some production processes, such as the rubber coating process and printing. The Group hired licensed inspection and testing technology companies qualified by the PRC government to evaluate the exhaust gas and noise generated in the production process. Non-methane hydrocarbons were generated in the rubber coating process while total Volatile Organic Compounds (“VOCs”) were mainly generated in the printing process. During the printing process, ink material is consumed, and exhaust gases are generated as waste products. During the Reporting Year, 34.18kg (2022: 75.09kg<sup>3</sup>) of non-methane hydrocarbons were generated and 16.10kg (2022: 164.21kg<sup>3</sup>) of total VOCs were generated in the production processes, in which the exhaust gas emission fall within the various standard of the PRC. The decrease in total exhaust gas emissions is attributed to exhaust gas treatment facilities used this Reporting Year. The testing results showed that the total volume of VOCs generated in printing process complied with the limit of the “Emission Standard of Volatile Organic Compounds for Printing Industry” (DB44/815–2010) of Guangdong Province; the total volume of non-methane hydrocarbons generated in rubber coating process complied with the “Emission Standard of Pollutants for Synthetic Resin Industry” (GB31572–2015) Form 5 and Form 9 requirement; and the noise level at plant area also met the standard of Type 3 “Emission Standard for Industrial Enterprises Noise at Boundary” (GB12348–2008).

The Group will make continuous efforts to maintain the intensity of air emissions within 80% to 120% of the intensity recorded this year in the next reporting year. For instance, we conduct regular maintenance checks on all vehicles to optimize fuel consumption efficiency, prioritize road safety, and minimize emissions.

The air emission of the Group are as follows:

	<b>For the year ended 31 December 2023</b>	For the year ended 31 December 2022
Air Emissions <sup>4</sup>		
Nitrogen Oxides Emissions (kg)	<b>3.82</b>	3.66
Sulphur Oxides Emissions (kg)	<b>0.07</b>	0.08
Particulate Matter Emissions (kg)	<b>0.28</b>	0.27
Non-methane Hydrocarbons (kg)	<b>34.18</b>	75.09 <sup>3</sup>
Total VOCs (kg)	<b>16.10</b>	164.21 <sup>3</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Restated as per revised calculation methodology.

<sup>4</sup> The air emissions and air emissions intensity for the Reporting Year are disclosed in accordance with “Appendix 2: Reporting guidance on Environment KPIs” issued by the Stock Exchange to provide a more comprehensive performance of the Group.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Greenhouse Gas Emissions<sup>5</sup>**

The Group's indirect greenhouse gas emission results mainly from purchased electricity. The Group's direct greenhouse gas emission results from combustion of fuels in vehicles.

During the Reporting Year, greenhouse gas emissions totaled 4,328.7 tonnes (2022: 1,899.18 tonnes), with an intensity of 0.48 tonnes per sqm (2022: 0.21 tonnes per sqm). As a result of resumed production plants following the pandemic recovery and business expansion, the purchased electricity has been increased which the Group's total GHG emissions intensity increased during the Reporting Year and did not meet the emission target set in the previous reporting year. Detailed breakdown of greenhouse gas emissions by the Group:

	Unit	For the year ended 31 December 2023	For the year ended 31 December 2022
<b>GHG Direct Emissions (Scope 1)</b>			
Combustion of fuels in vehicles	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	<b>11.29</b>	14.68
<b>GHG Indirect Emissions (Scope 2)<sup>6</sup></b>			
Purchased electricity	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	<b>4,312.82</b>	1,884.5
<b>Other Indirect Emissions (Scope 3)</b>			
Waste paper	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	<b>4.37</b>	–
Business trips	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	<b>0.22</b>	–
<b>Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions</b>			
Total emissions	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e	<b>4,328.70</b>	1,899.18
Total GHG Emissions Intensity <sup>7</sup>	tonnes CO <sub>2</sub> -e/sq m	<b>0.48</b>	0.21

Considering the potential business resume, expand and uphold the principles of sustainable development, the Group aims to maintain a stable level of exhaust gas and greenhouse gas emission in the upcoming reporting year. This target is defined as keeping the GHG emissions intensity within 80% to 120% of the intensity recorded during the Reporting Year, serving as a short-term goal through adopting the mitigating measures which are detailed in the below subsection headed "Energy Efficiency".

<sup>5</sup> GHG emission data are presented in terms of carbon dioxide equivalent and are based on, including but not limited to, the "Notice on the Management of Enterprise Greenhouse Gas Emissions Reporting by Power Generation Industry for 2023-2025" issued by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the PRC, the global warming potential values from the "Sixth Assessment Report" issued by Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, "How to prepare an ESG Report – Appendix 2: Reporting Guidance on Environmental KPIs" issued by the Stock Exchange

<sup>6</sup> According to The Ministry of Ecology and Environment of the People's Republic of China (2023), the National Emission Factor for Mainland China is 0.5703 t-CO<sub>2</sub>/MWh.

<sup>7</sup> Total area of production plant and office in the Reporting Year was 9,087.53 sq m (2022: 9,087.53 sq m).

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Hazardous Waste**

The Group obtained QC080000:2017 certification in 2022, which is valid for three years for the formulation and implementation of management procedures and related processes for hazardous substances and met the requirements of IECQ HSPM. The Group does not dump hazardous waste directly into the surroundings; hazardous wastes are collected, stored, transferred, and disposed separately from other wastes; and hazardous wastes are stored in special containers which are clearly labelled. The industrial hazardous solid wastes produced in the production process mainly comprise of used packaging drums, packaging cans, and wasted electrolytes, which are the hazardous solid wastes listed on the national hazardous waste list. The Group has engaged the qualified recyclers to recycle the hazardous wastes.

The Group had no material non-compliance with the provisions of the Law of the PRC on the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution of Solid Waste 《中華人民共和國固體廢物污染環境防治法》) to deal with hazardous waste during the Reporting Year.

During the Reporting Year, total hazardous waste intensity is 0.009 tonnes per square meter (2022: 0.006 tonnes per square meter). To align with “The Reuse of Urban Recycling Water – Water Quality Standard for Industrial Uses (城市污水再生利用工業用水水質)” in the PRC with regard to the Group’s business operation, a larger proportion of wasted electrolytes are required to be disposed. A certain amount of wasted electrolytes discharged during the trial stage of the new operational procedures also contributed to a higher amount of total waste electrolytes generated, hence a higher hazardous waste intensity compared to the previous year. Besides, the volume of used packaging drums and cans was significantly increased due to the increased number of productions. To fulfil social responsibility and minimize waste generation in the operational process, in the next reporting year, we will make continuous efforts to maintain the intensity of total hazardous waste produced within 80% to 120% of the intensity recorded during the Reporting Year.

The following shows the KPIs related to hazardous waste during the Reporting Year:

	Used Packaging Drums and Packaging Cans		Wasted Electrolytes	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Total volume (calculated in tonnes)	<b>4.77</b>	0.92	<b>75.32</b>	56.44
Hazardous waste intensity (tonnes/sq m) <sup>7</sup>	<b>0.00053</b>	0.00010	<b>0.00829</b>	0.00621

**Non-hazardous Waste**

The guide pins, aluminum shells and leads that are scrapped during the production process are the main non-hazardous waste. The Group aims to reduce waste from the source and reminds its staff to handle raw materials as carefully as possible to reduce the chance of scrapping. Besides, office-use paper and cardboard boxes used by suppliers to supply raw materials are also the main source of non-hazardous waste discarded by the Group. The Group has formulated the “Management Procedures of Solid Waste” and classified the general solid wastes into two categories: recyclable and non-recyclable; some examples of recyclable solid wastes are paper, plastic, glass and metal, including scrap and lead etc.

	Scrap		Leads		Cardboard boxes		Paper	
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022
Total volume (tonnes)	<b>6.0690</b>	6.7890	<b>19.2770</b>	21.4097	<b>12.4691</b>	3.1680	<b>9.1000</b>	1.2573
Non-hazardous waste intensity (tonnes/sq m) <sup>7</sup>	<b>0.00067</b>	0.00075	<b>0.00212</b>	0.00237	<b>0.00137</b>	0.00035	<b>0.00100</b>	0.00014

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

During the Reporting Year, the production of cardboard boxes and paper waste increased significantly from the previous reporting year due to increased production, resulting in an increase in the total amount of non-hazardous waste generated. The total non-hazardous waste intensity in the Reporting Year is 0.005 tonnes per square meter (2022: 0.004 tonnes per square meter), which did not meet the target of maintaining the intensity of total non-hazardous waste below 0.004 tonnes per square meter. The Group will make continuous efforts to maintain the intensity of total non-hazardous waste produced within 80% to 120% of the intensity recorded this year in the next reporting year. For instance, the Group promotes the four 'R' actions in environmental protection (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Replace) in daily operation. In order to minimize the usage of paper, we cultivate a paperless working environment among our employees. To avoid unnecessary wastage and promote effective use of paper, our employees are encouraged to use electronic copies instead of hard copies. If printing is necessary, we encourage the use of double-sided printing. Any papers that have been used for single-sided printing should be reused when there is no confidential information on the printed side of the paper. Other default settings such as the adoption of economic mode, black and white color output, selection of bypass for using recycled paper are also encouraged.

**Measures to Reduce Waste**

The Group had no material non-compliance with the provisions of the "Environmental Protection Law of the PRC" (《中華人民共和國環境保護法》) and the "National Hazardous Waste Inventory" (《國家危險廢棄物名錄》) amended by the Ministry of Environmental Protection of the PRC and other related provisions of the laws and regulations concerning environmental protection during the Reporting Year. The industrial solid wastes produced in the production process are not discharged, disposed of, or transferred arbitrarily.

All hazardous solid wastes produced during the production process will be treated in a more environmentally friendly manner by engaging professional organizations with permits to handle industrial hazardous wastes. The organizations will recycle hazardous solid wastes of the Group. To ease recycling, the Group separately seals each type of hazardous waste. Moreover, qualified third-party waste recycling companies are engaged in the disposal of scraps and lead. All scraps and lead produced during the Reporting Year were recycled.

**Resource Usage**

The Group primarily consumes electricity and water as its main resources. The Group understands that natural resources are precious, which it clearly formulated the "Management Regulations on Water Conservation", "Management Regulations on Conservation of Electricity Consumption" and "Management Regulations on Paper Conservation" to enhance the energy efficiency of the plant and the office and achieve sustainable resource conservation and reduction of pollutant emission.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Water Resources Management**

The Group had no material non-compliance with the Prevention and Control of Water Pollution and no issue in souring water during the Reporting Year. The “Procedures for Prevention and Control of Pollutants” has been implemented to effectively control the wastewater and exhaust gas resulting from the production and service process. The wastewater discharged by the Group mainly comes from domestic wastewater. The following shows the water consumption volume during the Reporting Year:

	<b>For the year ended 31 December 2023</b>	For the year ended 31 December 2022
Water consumption volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	<b>6,415.94</b>	2,140.48
Water consumption intensity (m <sup>3</sup> /sq m) <sup>7</sup>	<b>0.7060</b>	0.2355

During the Reporting Year, the Group did not meet the target of maintaining the intensity of total water consumption due to increased production results and for cooling purposes. The Group will make continuous efforts to work towards the target of maintaining the intensity of water consumption within 80% to 120% of the intensity recorded during the Reporting Year in the next reporting year.

For the sake of water saving and reduction of wastewater to the surroundings, the Group has the following management measures to educate employees on acquiring the habit of water conservation:

- Purchasing detergents which are non-phosphorus, low-toxic, and less polluting;
- The wastewater from the domestic sewage pipeline will be discharged into the municipal wastewater pipeline after passing the benchmark of treatment in the septic tank;
- Performing regular inspections, repairs, and maintenance of water equipment to avoid unnecessary leakage and water seepage problems in water equipment;
- The principle of “On when in use, off when not in use” is required for water usage in toilets and bathrooms;
- Posting promotional posters and cards in prominent areas of the workplace to remind employees of water saving;
- Automatic sensor faucets are installed to avoid wastage caused by the lapse of not stopping the faucet; and
- The fire hydrants and pools used for fire safety are supplied with water all year round according to the fire services regulations. Meanwhile, the water level is regularly kept not too high, and the water pressure is not excessive, to avoid water wastage arising from water overflow, which is caused by the damage of fire hoses due to excessive water pressure.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Use of Resources**

The Group pursues the practices of efficient use of resources, including energy, water and other natural resources and further reduces the negative impacts on the natural environment.

During the Reporting Year, the total amount of fuel consumed by vehicles, which includes the consumption of gasoline, totaled 41,364.50 kWh (2022: 53,499.62 kWh), with the intensity of 4.55 kWh per square meter (2022: 5.89 kWh per square meter). The units of electricity purchased from electricity providers totaled 7,063,647.60 kWh (2022: 3,307,550.94 kWh), with an intensity of 777.29 kWh per square meter (2022: 363.97 kWh per square meter). The total intensity of energy consumption totaled 781.84 kWh per square meter (2022: 369.86 kWh per square meter). The increased energy consumption intensity is contributed from the increased production. The Group will make continuous efforts in maintaining the intensity of energy consumption within 80% to 120% of the intensity recorded during the Reporting Year in the next reporting year.

	<b>For the year ended 31 December 2023</b>	For the year ended 31 December 2022
<b>Non-renewable fuel (direct)</b>		
Fuel consumption (kWh)	<b>41,364.50</b>	53,499.62
Fuel consumption intensity (kWh/sq m) <sup>7</sup>	<b>4.55</b>	5.89
<b>Purchase of energy (indirect)</b>		
Electricity consumption (kWh)	<b>7,063,647.60</b>	3,307,550.94
Electricity consumption intensity (kWh/sq m) <sup>7</sup>	<b>777.29</b>	363.97
Total intensity (kWh/sq m) <sup>7</sup>	<b>781.84</b>	369.86

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Energy Efficiency**

The use of electricity is mainly derived from the daily operations of the Group's office, plant, and staff quarters. In order to effectively deploy resources, the Group implemented the following efficiency measures for energy conservation in accordance with the "Management Regulations on Conservation of Electricity Consumption":

- Considering power consumption as one of the evaluation criteria for purchasing electronic devices, and selecting electronic devices that consume as little power as possible;
- The electronic devices currently in use will be sent for maintenance according to the actual needs to ensure that the device is operating properly and to prevent wastage of electricity due to faulty operation;
- In terms of the control of lighting facilities, it is not allowed to turn on the light at the staircase during daylight hours with full sunlight, and the last employee who leaves the office or the plant must ensure that all lights are turned off;
- Cleaning the air filter of the air conditioner regularly to prevent dust from accumulating and reducing the cooling performance of the air conditioners;
- All doors and windows are closed to prevent loss of cool air when the air conditioners are in use; and
- The average room temperature should be kept within the specified range to reduce the power consumption of air-conditioning devices.

**Use of Packaging Materials**

Paper, paper boxes, partition cardboard, plastic bags, and foam sponge are used for packaging. During the Reporting Year, approximately 254.53 tonnes (2022: 220.22 tonnes) of packaging materials were used owing to the Group's continuous effort in waste reduction and a lower productivity of finished products. The intensity of total packaging material used was 0.0003 tonnes per unit of products produced (2022: 0.0003 tonnes per unit of products produced).

The following shows the total volume of packaging materials used for final products:

Category of packaging	Paper		Plastic	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
Total volume (tonnes)	<b>107.58</b>	99.01	<b>146.95</b>	121.21
Packaging materials intensity (tonnes/unit of products produced) <sup>8</sup>	<b>0.0001</b>	0.0001	<b>0.0002</b>	0.0002

<sup>8</sup> The number of products produced in the Reporting Year was 936,053.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Climate Change**

As part of the Group's ESG strategy formulation, the Board is responsible for supervising the Group's climate-related risks and opportunities. The Board and the ESG Working Group conduct regular reviews and identify climate-related concerns that may represent risks to the Group in the short, medium, and long term. In the Group's annual enterprise risk assessment, all potential risks arisen from climate change are covered and evaluated comprehensively. The Group has considered the potential climate-related risks in respect of the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures.

The potential physical risks and transition risks from climate change, which may pose adverse financial impacts on the Group's businesses, and its corresponding mitigation strategies are shown below:

Risk Type	Potential Financial Impact			Short-term (The Reporting Year)	Medium-term (1-3 years)	Long-term (4-10 years)	Mitigation Strategy
	Low	Medium	High				
Transition Risks	<b>Policy and Legal</b>						Regularly monitor the regulatory environment and strictly adhere to the Group's emission-reduction measures to maintain a low emission level.
	Increased compliance costs and potential disruption related to new climate-related regulations						
	<b>Market</b>						Continue to monitor the product market to ensure that our products exceed customer demands and expectations.
	Reduced demand for goods due to shift in consumer preferences to green products.						
Physical Risks	<b>Acute</b>						Maintain a large supplier base and set up safety measures and contingency plans in regards to extreme climate events.
	Extreme weather conditions such as flooding and storms that lead to supply chain disruption and loss of property.						
	<b>Chronic</b>						Adopt the Group's energy conservation measures detailed in the above subsection headed "Energy Efficiency".
	Increased operating costs related to increased need for cooling and heating due to changing temperatures.						

It is expected that both the physical and transition risks do not have a material impact on the Group's operation. Nevertheless, the Group continues to monitor the climate-related risks and implemented relevant measures to minimize the climate-related risks.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**CARING THE SOCIETY****Overview of Employees**

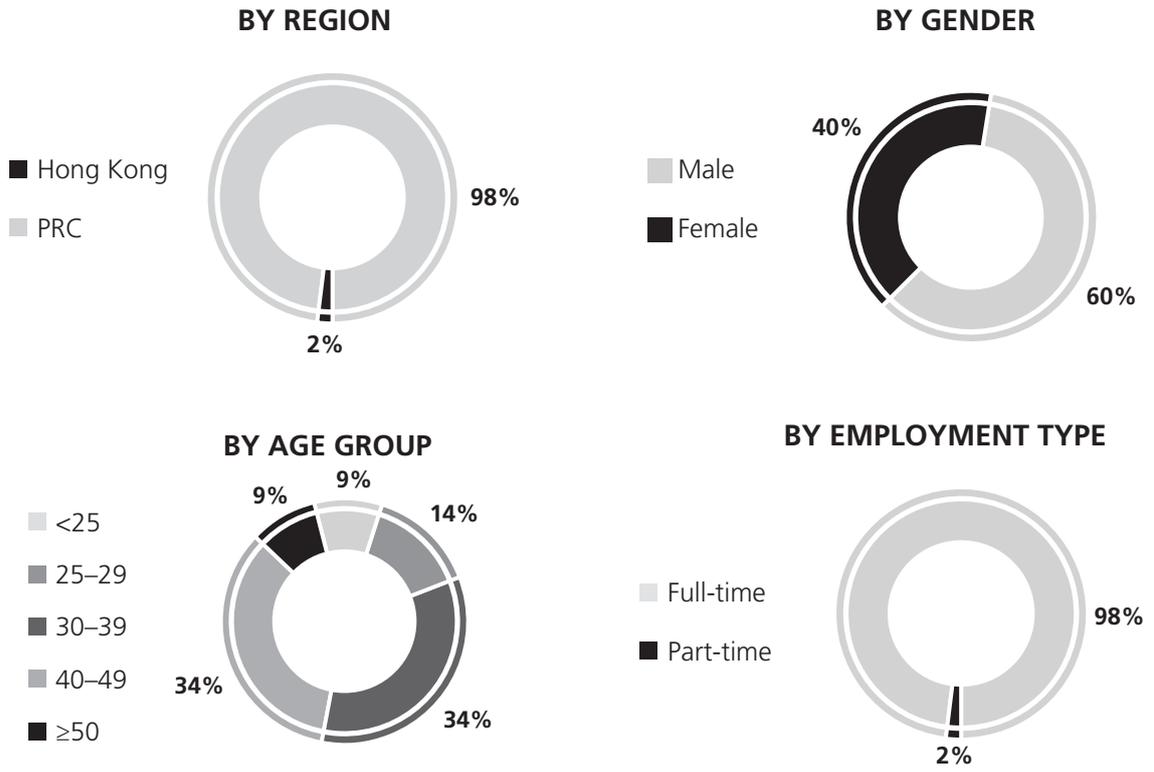
The Group values the personal growth of each employee. It also establishes a variety of communication channels to enhance employee's sense of belonging to the Group. Such practice has attracted specialists from different fields to join, which promotes mutual exchange and helps creating good values in society.

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had a total of 126 employees. Set out below is the statistics of our employees by region, gender, age group and employment type:

	<b>Number 2023</b>	<b>Percentage 2023</b>
<b>By Region</b>		
Hong Kong	3	2%
The PRC	123	98%
<b>By Gender</b>		
Male	75	60%
Female	51	40%
<b>By Age Group</b>		
<25	11	9%
25-29	18	14%
30-39	43	34%
40-49	43	34%
≥50	11	9%
<b>By Employment Type</b>		
Full-time	124	98%
Part-time	2	2%

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

The breakdown of our workforce by region, gender, age group and employment type are as follows:



## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

**Turnover rate**

During the Reporting Year, the employee turnover across the Group was 74 percent, the details are as follows:

	Number 2023	Percentage of Employee Turnover in the Relevant Category <sup>9</sup> 2023
<b>By Region</b>		
Hong Kong	2	67%
The PRC	91	74%
<b>By Gender</b>		
Male	62	83%
Female	31	61%
<b>By Age Group</b>		
<25	29	264%
25-29	15	83%
30-39	20	47%
40-49	26	60%
≥50	3	27%

**Recruitment Policy**

The Group has always strictly complied with laws and regulations related to employment and labor that have a significant impact on the Group, including the "Employment Ordinance" (《僱傭條例》), the "Labor Law of the PRC" (《中華人民共和國勞動法》) and the "Labor Contract Law of the PRC" (《中華人民共和國勞動合同法》). Based on this, the Group has compiled with its "Employee Handbook" and "Recruitment Management System" to recruit people of different nationalities, genders, ages, and religions in a fair and impartial manner. The Group will not tolerate any form of discrimination, including gender, sexual orientation, disability, age, ethnic group or race, family status or other personal characteristics as protected by law. The Group is committed to creating a non-discriminatory environment, and workers are evaluated based on their competencies, abilities, qualifications, and performance. Furthermore, throughout the recruiting process, candidates will not be labeled based on their gender, religion, race, color, locality, or age, and the procedure will be carried out in accordance with the principles of transparency, fairness, and legality.

<sup>9</sup> In accordance with "Appendix 3: Reporting Guidance on Social KPIs" issued by HKEX, turnover rates by region, gender, and age group are calculated based on the number of employees in the relevant category during the Reporting Year. In the previous Reporting Year, the turnover rates in each category were shown as their percentage of total turnover.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

### Employee Benefits

The Group has formulated a set of benefits to reward employees for the value and contribution they have made to support the development of the Group. In addition to providing employees with general social insurance and paid vacation days in accordance with the relevant provisions of the “Employment Ordinance” (《僱傭條例》) and the “Labor Law of the People’s Republic of China” (《中華人民共和國勞動法》), the Group has also implemented the “Management System on Seniority Award” to reward employees based on their length of service with the Group. An annual review for work performance assessment of the employees was performed, employees with satisfactory results will be promoted. The “Employee Handbook” stipulates that the Group operates standard working hour system, under which our employees work 8 hours per day and 5 days per week and have at least one day’s rest. Overtime due to production and operation is subject to the employees’ approval and in accordance with the approval procedures. Such employees will be entitled to overtime pay under the Labor Law. In addition, the Group offers its workers free accommodation to save them money on travel expenses and time, and the canteen offers wholesome meals at a discounted price to lessen the strain on their living expenses. The Group aims at building a sense of belonging among employees.

### Health and Safety

The Group had no material non-compliance with the laws and regulations concerning occupational hygiene standards and safety in production in the PRC during the Reporting Year, including but not limited to the “Prevention and Control of Occupational Diseases” (《中華人民共和國職業病防治法》) and the “Production Safety Law of the PRC” (《中華人民共和國安全生產法》). The Group continually monitors the workplace, detects dangers, and provides appropriate training to its personnel. The Group has been awarded the “Work Safety Standardization Certificate” by the State Administration of Work Safety to ensure that production safety level meets the standard and prevent production safety accidents and protect the employees’ lives. In the Reporting Year, there were no reported cases of injuries and no lost days due to work injury. The Group has taken all necessary measures to offer proper medical care is offered to respective employees. Over the past three years including the Reporting Year, no work-related fatality and lost days due to work injury were recorded by the Group.

In addition, the Group has reached the standard of ISO 45001: 2018 “Occupational Health and Safety Management Systems – Requirements with guidance for use” and has prepared the “Environment, Occupational Health and Safety Manual” for employees’ understanding of their duty on following the work safety rules. The management established goals for each department with the aim of creating a secure working environment and safeguarding employees against occupational hazards. The Group also formulated the “Accident Prevention and Emergency Rescue Management System” for all employees’ understanding of the importance of safety at work. The Group’s management system adheres to the principles of “people-oriented, harm reduction, constant vigilance and prevention first, unified leadership with hierarchic responsibility, defined responsibilities and timely response”. Apart from that, the Group has formulated the “Human Resources and Training Management Procedures” to specify the applicable training sessions that employees should receive to acquire the knowledge and skills required for the job to enhance production quality.

The Group holds frequent safety training sessions for the relevant personnel to improve their operational skills and safety awareness. It also periodically inspects fire safety facilities and identifies occupational dangers in the workplace in order to create a safe working environment. In addition, the security guard will regularly check the fire safety facilities to ensure their effectiveness in case of fire. In the plant, the security commissioner carries out a daily inspection, including checking if the on-site employees hold valid identification documents and wear personal protective equipment to ensure that the qualified operating personnel work under safe conditions.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

In addition to enhancing workplace safety protocols, the Group offers its workers a range of safety training sessions and drills to improve their awareness and response in handling emergency situations. For instance, fire drills and chemical spillage drills are carried out on a regular basis. The Group invited the instructors from the Guangdong Fire Fighting Association to deliver to the chief officer of each department the fire safety knowledge and demonstrate the operating procedure of the fire equipment. Besides, several employees of the Group have obtained the Production Safety Management Personnel Training Certificate issued by the Administration of Work Safety of Dongguan City, which demonstrates our staff's professional knowledge in production safety regulations.

Additionally, the Group arranged occupational health checks for employees exposed to higher occupational risks and hazards.

### Development and Training

Recognizing the criticality of talent cultivation for the Group's future development, considerable effort is dedicated to talent development and training. In order to enhance the work ability and efficiency of employees, the Group provides targeted training to individuals based on their position and department, tailored to meet the specific requirements of their respective roles. The training encompasses various aspects, including on-the-job training specific to each department, technical operations, adherence to the code of conduct, and safety knowledge. These training programs aim to facilitate a rapid adaptation of employees to the Group's operations, enabling them to become more proficient in their roles.

During the Reporting Year, the Group has provided 408 hours of training to 28 employees. 22%<sup>10</sup> of employees are being trained and the average training hours per employees is 3.24<sup>11</sup> hours.

The percentages of trained employees of the Group are as follows:

	<b>Percentage 2023</b>
<b>Percentage Of Employees Trained<sup>12</sup></b>	22%
<b>By Employee Category</b>	
Manager	0%
Mid-level employees	100%
Entry-level employees	0%
<b>By Gender</b>	
Male	64%
Female	36%

<sup>10</sup> Total percentage of employees trained = Total number of employees trained during the financial year / Total number of employees at the end of the financial year\*100%.

<sup>11</sup> Average training hours completed per employee = Total number of training hours completed during the financial year / Total number of employees at the end of the financial year.

<sup>12</sup> Percentage of employees trained = Number of employees trained by category during the financial year / Number of employees trained during the financial year\* 100%.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

The average training hours completed per employee in relevant categories of the Group are as follows:

	<b>hours/person 2023</b>
<b>Averaged Training Hours Per Employee<sup>13</sup></b>	3.24
<b>By Employee Category</b>	
Manager	0
Mid-level employees	14.57
Entry-level employees	0
<b>By Gender</b>	
Male	3.84
Female	2.35

### Labor Standards

The Group's human resources and administration department upholds stringent standards in the recruitment process. Thorough verification of the accuracy of personal data provided on résumés and application forms is conducted. During applicant interviews, the Group meticulously verifies identification documents to prevent the employment of individuals involved in child labor or forced labor. In the event of any rule violations, the management takes immediate action by terminating relevant contracts, conducting investigations into responsible employees, and imposing suitable penalties.

During the Reporting Year, the Group did not record any incident of child labor or forced labor.

<sup>13</sup> Average training hours = Number of training hours completed by category during the financial year / Number of employees by category at the end of the financial year.

**ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT****Supply Chain Management**

The main scope of procurement of the Group includes principal raw materials, processed materials, office supplies, equipment and accessories, etc., the suppliers are mainly located in the PRC. The Group works closely with suppliers to reduce the environmental impact and risk arising from supply chain to ensure the quality of goods and services offered to the customers. To facilitate the effective supply chain management, the Group has established supplier management scorecard for rating the supplier performance.

Currently, the Group has a total of 31 suppliers and all are located in the PRC. The Group has a comprehensive set of supplier management procedures in place. The selection criteria of suppliers include product or service quality, timeliness of delivery and reliability, and an approved list of suppliers will be compiled. The Group selects suitable suppliers from the list when carrying out procurement. Besides, the suppliers are requested to provide the quality assurance reports before the delivery of the raw/processed materials and the Group conducts sample checks on raw/processed materials to ensure quality and compliance with specifications. In accordance with the requirements of ISO 14001:2015, the Group also conducts environmental investigations with suppliers and complete the "Survey on Environment from Suppliers" to understand the pollutants discharged by various suppliers during the production process, and then investigates whether suppliers have complied with the relevant regulations.

To reduce risks posed by the supply chain, the Group assesses its suppliers on a quarterly basis. The areas of assessment include delivery schedule, the quality of raw/processed materials, price and services. All unqualified suppliers will be removed from the approved list of suppliers to ensure the quality good supply.

**Product Responsibility**

The Group had no material non-compliance with the laws and regulations governing product responsibilities in the PRC and Hong Kong during the Reporting Year, including but not limited to the "PRC Law on Protection of the Rights and Interests of Consumers" (《中華人民共和國消費者權益保護法》), "The Tort Law of the PRC" (《中華人民共和國侵權責任法》), "Trade Descriptions Ordinance" (《商品說明條例》) and "Sales of Goods Ordinance" (《貨品售賣條例》), which assume civil responsibility for product descriptions and copyrights. During the Reporting Year, the Group did not recall sold or delivered products for safety or health reasons.

Having been engaged in the aluminum electrolytic capacitors business for more than ten years, the Group has established a renowned customer base for its aluminum electrolytic capacitors comprising over 100 customers, including customers with established brand names. The Group emphasizes the quality control of its products, and its product design, development and production system to align with ISO 9001:2015 Quality Standard (covering all stages of its aluminum electrolytic capacitors production), as well as QC080000:2017 concerning the management of hazardous substances in the production process. Also, the Group's quality control department comprised of 11 staff members with 2 senior quality control personnel to oversee our Group's quality control system, which deals with incoming quality control (IQC), processing quality control (PQC), finished goods quality control (FQC) and outgoing quality control (OQC). The Group's senior quality control personnel have, on average, approximately 15 years of industry experience. The stringent quality control system implemented during the production process helps safeguard the quality of the raw materials, semi-finished and finished products used or produced by the Group. In addition, at the request of some of its customers, the Group has engaged an independent third party that is specialized in harmful chemical detection and testing to test its aluminum electrolytic capacitors to ensure its products meet the EU's safety standards. Certain end users have also performed mutual quality audit on the Group's production facility and management systems; manual and computerized inspections and reporting are conducted to ensure a stable and controlled production environment throughout the aluminum electrolytic capacitors production processes. X-ray, computerized and manual inspections are conducted at each production interval to ensure that the Group's quality standards are met.

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

Final testing is conducted on every aluminum electrolytic capacitor by the quality control department before packing and shipment. This ensures that our products meet the necessary performance specifications. Packed goods are also inspected according to the Group's finished goods packaging and delivery policy to guarantee product quality and safety, as well as to offer consumers the most secure and suitable products.

### Complaints and Responses

The Group takes all customer feedback and complaints seriously and ensures that immediate follow-up actions are taken upon receipt of complaints. The Group has established a customer complaint handling procedure. In cases where complaints are received, the quality engineer from the Quality Assurance Department will investigate the incidents and issue a report that outlines the responsible department, the problem analyzed, and the corrective actions identified and implemented.

During the Reporting Year, the Group received 10 complaints, and all cases have been resolved. No products were subjected to recalls due to safety and health reasons.

### Intellectual Property

The Group recognizes the importance of protecting and enforcing its intellectual property rights and strictly complies with all relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on it, including but not limited to the "Trade Marks Ordinance and Copyright Ordinance" in Hong Kong, and "Trademark Law" and "Patent Law" in the PRC. The Group has adopted practices to avoid infringement of intellectual property rights, such as entering into a Confidentiality Agreement ("CA") or Non-Disclosure Agreement ("NDA") with its subcontracted manufacturer and employees and registering intellectual property rights that are material to its business operation.

The Group currently owns 10 trademarks, 33 patents, 2 invention patents and a domain name that are material to its business.

### Privacy Protection

In the course of the Group's business operations, basic information of its customers, suppliers and employees are collected and maintained. Any dispatch or use of such data for other purposes is strictly prohibited. The Group has set up rules and formulated "Personal Data Policy" to handle confidential information and prohibit any leakage of information relating to the Group, its suppliers and its customers to any external parties. The Group's practices in collecting, using, and maintaining its information are in line with the "Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance" (《個人資料(私隱)條例》) in Hong Kong and "Cybersecurity Law" (《中華人民共和國網路安全法》) in the PRC.

### Anti-corruption

The Group strictly abides by the relevant laws and regulations such as the "Prevention of Bribery Ordinance" (《防止賄賂條例》) and the Anti-Corruption and Anti-Bribery of the PRC. The Group implemented "Social Responsibility Policy", which continuous monitoring to ensure strict adherence to laws and regulations at all levels, from management to staff. This includes prohibiting employees from seeking or accepting any personal benefits in relation to their work, thereby fostering a culture of integrity and preventing corruption within the organization. In addition, the Group also compiles the "Reward and Penalty Management System", subject to non-disclosure of any personal information, to encourage employees to actively report and disclose corruption, fraud, events that pose threats to the public order or security and related illegal acts. A policy is also in place to provide guidance against corruption for all employee to comply with, at the same time, it also enforces harsh punishment on corruptive behaviours such as fraudulent personal gains, private interests, and abuse of power, etc. Since the Group's business is not highly exposed to the risk of corruption, no training of such area was held during the Reporting Year. Yet, the Group is capable of providing and subsidizing training of anti-corruption when necessary.

**ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT****Whistle-blowing Policy**

The Group has implemented a “Whistle-blowing Policy” to actively encourage employees to report any suspicious fraudulent activities they may come across. The intention is to protect whistle-blowers from concerns such as breach of confidentiality and potential retaliation. Under this procedure, employees who report in good faith are safeguarded against unfair termination or victimization, even if the reports are later found to be unsubstantiated. To ensure the effectiveness of the “Whistle-blowing Policy”, the Group’s monitoring center is responsible for investigating suspected cases reported by each business unit and whistle-blowers. Upon confirmation of an occurrence, disciplinary action will be taken against the employee involved, and depending on the nature and specific circumstances of each case, further legal action may be pursued. This comprehensive approach demonstrates the Group’s commitment to maintaining a transparent and accountable work environment, where employees are encouraged to report any potentially fraudulent activities without fear of reprisal.

During the Reporting Year, the Group and its employees were not involved in any corruption litigation cases.

**Community Investment**

The Group recognizes that corporate development is reliant on the support of various sectors of society. In addition to focusing on business growth, the Group actively demonstrates its commitment to giving back to society. Through our community investment initiatives, we engage in a wide range of activities that contribute to social welfare, healthcare, recreation, environmental protection, and social enterprise services. Furthermore, the Group encourages and supports employee participation in community activities to foster a culture of support and care for society as a whole.



## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

## HKEX Environmental, Social and Governance Guide Content Index

Aspect	Description	Chapter/Section	Remarks
<b>A. Environmental</b>			
<b>A1 Emissions</b>			
General Disclosure	Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to air and greenhouse gas emissions, discharges into water and land, and generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste.	Environmental	
KPI A1.1	The types of emissions and respective emissions data.	Air Emission	
KPI A1.2	Direct (Scope 1) and energy indirect (Scope 2) greenhouse gas emissions (in tonnes) and, where appropriate, intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	Greenhouse Gas Emissions	
KPI A1.3	Total hazardous waste produced (in tonnes) and, where appropriate, intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	Hazardous Waste	
KPI A1.4	Total non-hazardous waste produced (in tonnes) and, where appropriate, intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	Non-hazardous Waste	
KPI A1.5	Description of emissions target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Energy Efficiency	
KPI A1.6	Description of how hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are handled, and a description of reduction target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	Hazardous Waste, Non-hazardous Waste	

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

Aspect	Description	Chapter/Section	Remarks
<b>A2 Use of Resources</b>			
General Disclosure	Policies on the efficient use of resources, including energy, water and other raw materials.	Resource Usage, Energy Efficiency	
KPI A2.1	Direct and/or indirect energy consumption by type (e.g. electricity, gas or oil) in total (kWh in '000s) and intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	Use of Resources	
KPI A2.2	Water consumption in total and intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	Water Resources Management	
KPI A2.3	Description of energy use efficiency target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	Greenhouse Gas Emission, Water Resources Management, Energy Efficiency	
KPI A2.4	Description of whether there is any issue in sourcing water that is fit for purpose, water efficiency initiatives and results achieved.	Water Resources Management	
KPI A2.5	Total packaging material used for finished products (in tonnes) and, if applicable, with reference to per unit produced.	Use of Packaging Materials	
<b>A3 The Environment and Natural Resources</b>			
General Disclosure	Policies on minimizing the issuer's significant impact on the environment and natural resources.	Environmental Protection	
KPI A3.1	Description of the significant impacts of activities on the environment and natural resources and the actions taken to manage them.	Environmental Protection	
<b>A4 Climate Change</b>			
General Disclosure	Policies on identification and mitigation of significant climate-related issues which have impacted, and those which may impact, the issuer.	Climate Change	
KPI A4.1	Description of the significant climate-related issues which have impacted, and those which may impact, the issuer, and the actions taken to manage them.	Climate Change	

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

Aspect	Description	Chapter/Section	Remarks
<b>B. Social</b>			
<b>B1 Employment</b>			
General Disclosure	Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to compensation and dismissal, recruitment and promotion, working hours, rest periods, equal opportunity, diversity, anti-discrimination, and other benefits and welfare.	Employment and Labor Standards	
KPI B1.1	Total workforce by gender, employment type (for example, full- or part-time), age group and geographical region.	Employment and Labor Standards	
KPI B1.2	Employee turnover rate by gender, age group and geographical region.	Employment and Labor Standards	
<b>B2 Health and Safety</b>			
General Disclosure	Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to providing a safe working environment and protecting employees from occupational hazards.	Health and Safety	
KPI B2.1	Number and rate of work-related fatalities occurred in each of the past three years including the Reporting Year.	Health and Safety	
KPI B2.2	Lost days due to work injury.	Health and Safety	
KPI B2.3	Description of occupational health and safety measures adopted, how they are implemented and monitored.	Health and Safety	
<b>B3 Development and Training</b>			
General Disclosure	Policies on improving employees' knowledge and skills for discharging duties at work.	Development and Training	
KPI B3.1	The percentage of employees trained by gender and employee category (e.g. senior management, middle management).	Development and Training	
KPI B3.2	The average training hours completed per employee by gender and employee category.	Development and Training	

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

Aspect	Description	Chapter/Section	Remarks
<b>B4 Labor Standards</b>			
General Disclosure	Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to preventing child and forced labor.	Employment and Labor Standards	
KPI B4.1	Description of measures to review employment practices to avoid child and forced labor.	Employment and Labor Standards	
KPI B4.2	Description of steps taken to eliminate such practices when discovered.	Employment and Labor Standards	
<b>B5 Supply Chain Management</b>			
General Disclosure	Policies on managing environmental and social risks of the supply chain.	Supply Chain Management	
KPI B5.1	Number of suppliers by geographical region.	Supply Chain Management	
KPI B5.2	Description of practices relating to engaging suppliers, number of suppliers where the practices are being implemented, how they are implemented and monitored.	Supply Chain Management	
KPI B5.3	Description of practices used to identify environmental and social risks along the supply chain, and how they are implemented and monitored.	Supply Chain Management	
KPI B5.4	Description of practices used to promote environmentally preferable products and services when selecting suppliers, and how they are implemented and monitored.	Supply Chain Management	
<b>B6 Product and Service Responsibility</b>			
General Disclosure	Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to health and safety, advertising, labelling and privacy matters relating to products and services provided and methods of redress.	Product Responsibility	
KPI B6.1	Percentage of total products sold or shipped subject to recalls for safety and health reasons.	Product Responsibility	
KPI B6.2	Number of products and service related complaints received and how they are dealt with.	Complaints and Responses	
KPI B6.3	Description of practices relating to observing and protecting intellectual property rights.	Intellectual Property	
KPI B6.4	Description of quality assurance process and recall procedures.	Product Responsibility	
KPI B6.5	Description of consumer data protection and privacy policies, how they are implemented and monitored.	Intellectual Property	

## ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

Aspect	Description	Chapter/Section	Remarks
<b>B7 Anti-corruption</b>			
General Disclosure	Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to bribery, extortion, fraud and money laundering.	Anti-corruption	
KPI B7.1	Number of concluded legal cases regarding corrupt practices brought against the issuer or its employees during the Reporting Year and the outcomes of the cases.	Anti-corruption	
KPI B7.2	Description of preventive measures, how they are implemented and monitored.	Anti-Corruption	
KPI B7.3	Description of anti-corruption training provided to directors and staff.	Anti-Corruption	
<b>B8 Community Investment</b>			
General Disclosure	Policies on community engagement to understand the needs of the communities where the issuer operates and to ensure its activities take into consideration the communities' interests.	Community Investment	
PI B8.1	Focus areas of contribution (e.g. education, environmental concerns, labor needs, health, culture, sport).	Community Investment	
PI B8.2	Resources contributed (e.g. money or time) to the focus area.	Community Investment	

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



## **Independent auditor's report to the shareholders of Vertical International Holdings Limited** *(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)*

### **OPINION**

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Vertical International Holdings Limited and its subsidiaries (together the "Group") set out on pages 77 to 142, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including material accounting policy information and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023 and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA") and have been properly prepared in compliance with the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

### **BASIS FOR OPINION**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing ("HKSAs") issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements" section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the "Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **KEY AUDIT MATTERS**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

## KEY AUDIT MATTERS (Continued)

### The Key Audit Matter

### How the matter was addressed in our audit

#### ***Impairment testing on property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets***

*Refer to notes 4(a), 14 and 15 of the consolidated financial statements*

In view of the financial performance of the Group during the year, the management of the Group performed impairment assessment on the cash-generating units ("CGUs") which contain certain property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets by preparing value in use calculations.

We identified the impairment of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets as a key audit matter as significant judgement is required to assess the amount of impairment of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets.

As disclosed in note 4(a) to the consolidated financial statements, property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets amounted to HK\$39,082,000 and HK\$1,338,000, net of accumulated impairment of HK\$8,260,000 and HK\$170,000 respectively.

Determining whether property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets are impaired requires an estimation of the value in use of the cash-generating units of the Group. The value in use calculation requires the Group to estimate the future cash inflows/outflows expected to arise from the cash-generating units by considering the budgeted revenue and gross margins which are based on past performance and management's expectations for future changes in the market and taking into account a suitable discount rate to calculate the present value.

Our procedures in relation to impairment testing on property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets included:

- Obtaining an understanding of the management's process and basis adopted in preparing the value in use calculations of the CGUs, including key inputs;
- Comparing the budgeted revenue and gross profit margin against historical performance; recent sales transactions and the management's budget;
- Evaluating the appropriateness of assumption of pre-tax discount rate used in determining the recoverable amounts;
- Evaluating the reasonableness of the growth rate applied by the management of the Group by comparing to historical performance and relevant operation plans; and
- Assessing the sensitivity analysis prepared by the management on the significant assumptions to evaluate the extent of impact of these assumptions on the cash flow forecasts.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**KEY AUDIT MATTERS (Continued)****The Key Audit Matter****How the matter was addressed in our audit*****Valuation of inventories***

*Refer to notes 4(b) and 17 of the consolidated financial statements*

We identified the valuation of inventories as a key audit matter due to the management's use of estimation, with reference to their industry knowledge and experience at the end of the reporting period, in assessing whether the carrying amount of inventories is recoverable.

Allowance for inventories was based on the management's assessment in estimating the net realisable values of the inventories with reference to the market demand and subsequent usage or sales.

At 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of inventories is HK\$7,642,000 without any allowance for inventories recognised as disclosed in note 4(b) to the consolidated financial statements.

Our procedures in relation to valuation of inventories included:

- Obtaining an understanding on the management's assessment in estimating the net realisable values of the inventories;
- Discussing with the management and evaluating the basis of net realisable values of inventories determined by the management, based on the management's consideration for the market demand and subsequent usage or sales;
- Assessing the accuracy of management's historical estimate of allowance for inventories to evaluate the appropriateness of the basis made by the management in the current year;
- Testing, on a sample basis, the net realisable values of raw materials and consumables, work in progress and finished goods by tracing to the materials issue notes and latest sales invoices;
- Testing, on a sample basis, the accuracy of the inventories ageing categories by tracing the inventories movement to the sales and purchase invoices, material issue notes and goods delivery and receipt notes; and
- Tracing, on a sample basis, the subsequent usage of raw materials and consumables to the materials issue notes.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**KEY AUDIT MATTERS (Continued)****The Key Audit Matter****How the matter was addressed in our audit*****Valuation of trade receivables***

*Refer to notes 4(c), 18 and 30(c) of the consolidated financial statements*

We identified the valuation of trade receivables as a key audit matter as the carrying amount of trade receivables is significant and the impairment assessment of trade receivables requires significant management judgements.

As disclosed in notes 4(c) and 30(c) to the consolidated financial statements, the impairment under expected credit losses model on trade receivables are assessed individually and/or collectively using a internal credit rating with appropriate groupings based on the Group's historical observed default rates taking into consideration forward-looking information that is reasonable and supportably available to the directors of the Company without undue costs or effort, and are updated if considered to be required.

At 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of trade receivables is HK\$26,102,000 (net of allowance for credit losses of HK\$287,000).

Our procedures in relation to the valuation of trade receivables included:

- Obtaining an understanding and evaluating the key controls over credit risk assessment and management's process on reviewing the recoverability of trade receivables;
- Assessing the reasonableness of management's loss allowance estimates by examining the information used by management to form such judgements, including testing the accuracy of the historical default data, evaluating whether the historical loss rates are appropriately adjusted based on current economic conditions and forward-looking information and examining the actual losses recorded during the current financial year; and
- Testing, on a sample basis, the accuracy of ageing categories of trade receivables to the delivery notes and sales invoices.



## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

### OTHER INFORMATION

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises all the information included in the annual report, but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

### AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. This report is made solely to you, as a body, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSAAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSAAs, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence and, where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT****AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)**

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement director on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is Tong Wai Hang.

**Baker Tilly Hong Kong Limited**

*Certified Public Accountants*

Hong Kong, 18 March 2024

Tong Wai Hang

Practising certificate number P06231

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Revenue</b>	5	<b>84,262</b>	86,371
Cost of sales		<b>(78,139)</b>	(81,313)
<b>Gross profit</b>		<b>6,123</b>	5,058
Other income	6	<b>502</b>	1,220
Other gains and losses	7	<b>(2,005)</b>	(5,632)
Selling and distribution costs		<b>(2,753)</b>	(2,862)
Administrative expenses		<b>(13,073)</b>	(16,177)
Finance costs	8	<b>(644)</b>	(635)
<b>Loss before taxation</b>	9	<b>(11,850)</b>	(19,028)
Income tax (expense)/credit	10	<b>(338)</b>	482
<b>Loss for the year</b>		<b>(12,188)</b>	(18,546)
<b>Other comprehensive expense for the year</b>			
Item that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:			
– Exchange differences arising on translation of foreign operations, net of nil tax		<b>(2,236)</b>	(7,203)
<b>Total comprehensive expense for the year</b>		<b>(14,424)</b>	(25,749)
<b>Loss per share</b>		<b>HK cents</b>	HK cents
<b>Basic and diluted</b>	13	<b>(4.23)</b>	(6.71)

The notes on pages 82 to 142 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	14	39,082	44,959
Right-of-use assets	15	1,338	1,298
Intangible assets	16	–	–
		<b>40,420</b>	46,257
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories	17	7,642	11,800
Trade and bills receivables	18	27,385	25,121
Bills receivables at fair value through other comprehensive income	19	1,975	3,585
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	20	4,883	1,935
Deposits, prepayments and other receivables	21	1,705	2,803
Bank balances and cash	22	23,591	42,162
		<b>67,181</b>	87,406
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade payables	23	18,127	12,494
Other payables and accruals	24	4,189	5,336
Tax payable		36	83
Lease liabilities	25	1,485	1,271
Borrowings	26	7,146	13,315
		<b>30,983</b>	32,499
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>36,198</b>	54,907
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>76,618</b>	101,164
<b>Non-current liability</b>			
Lease liabilities	25	–	42
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>76,618</b>	101,122
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Share capital	28	14,400	14,400
Reserves		62,218	86,722
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>76,618</b>	101,122

The consolidated financial statements on pages 77 to 141 were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 18 March 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:

**Boon Ho Yin Henry**  
Director

**Chow Cheung Chu**  
Director

The notes on pages 82 to 141 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000 <i>(note 28(b)(i))</i>	Statutory reserve HK\$'000 <i>(note 28(b)(ii))</i>	Exchange reserve HK\$'000 <i>(note 28(b)(iii))</i>	Retained profits/ (accumulated losses) HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>At 1 January 2022</b>	9,600	72,273	10,000	3,543	15,734	111,150
<b>Changes in equity for 2022:</b>						
Loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(18,546)	(18,546)
Other comprehensive expense for the year	-	-	-	(7,203)	-	(7,203)
Total comprehensive expense for the year	-	-	-	(7,203)	(18,546)	(25,749)
Issue of new shares by rights issue <i>(note 28(a)(ii))</i>	4,800	15,360	-	-	-	20,160
Cost of issuance of new shares by rights issue <i>(note 28(a)(ii))</i>	-	(1,559)	-	-	-	(1,559)
Dividends declared and approved <i>(note 11)</i>	-	(2,880)	-	-	-	(2,880)
<b>At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023</b>	14,400	83,194	10,000	(3,660)	(2,812)	101,122
<b>Changes in equity for 2023:</b>						
Loss for the year	-	-	-	-	(12,188)	(12,188)
Other comprehensive expense for the year	-	-	-	(2,236)	-	(2,236)
Total comprehensive expense for the year	-	-	-	(2,236)	(12,188)	(14,424)
Dividends declared and approved <i>(note 11)</i>	-	(10,080)	-	-	-	(10,080)
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>	14,400	73,114	10,000	(5,896)	(15,000)	76,618

The notes on pages 82 to 141 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	Note	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Operating activities</b>			
Loss before taxation		(11,850)	(19,028)
Adjustments for:			
– Amortisation of intangible assets	5(c)	–	133
– Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	5(c)	2,167	1,742
– Depreciation of right-of-use assets	5(c)	129	135
– Dividend income	6	(1)	(1)
– Impairment loss of property, plant and equipment	7	4,044	4,216
– Impairment loss of right-of-use assets	7	150	20
– Fair value changes of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	7	(2,948)	1,587
– Loss on write off/disposal of property, plant and equipment	7	741	–
– Impairment loss/(reversal of impairment loss) recognised on trade receivables, net	7	56	(78)
– Interest expense	8	644	635
– Interest income	6	(165)	(237)
– Write-off of intangible assets	9	–	1,678
<b>Operating loss before working capital changes</b>		<b>(7,033)</b>	<b>(9,198)</b>
Decrease in inventories		11,409	12,206
(Increase)/decrease in trade and bills receivables		(2,949)	6,952
Decrease/(increase) in bills receivables at fair value through other comprehensive income		1,518	(2,469)
Decrease in deposits, prepayments and other receivables		1,060	3,063
Increase/(decrease) in trade payables		5,925	(8,561)
Decrease in other payables and accruals		(1,050)	(1,246)
<b>Net cash generated from operations</b>		<b>8,880</b>	<b>747</b>
PRC Enterprise Income Tax (paid)/refunded, net		(383)	69
<b>Net cash generated from operating activities</b>		<b>8,497</b>	<b>816</b>
<b>Investing activities</b>			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(6,911)	(9,214)
Dividend income		1	1
Purchases of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		–	(2,700)
Withdrawal of restricted bank deposits		3,026	1,698
Interest received		165	237
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(3,719)</b>	<b>(9,978)</b>

## CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

	<i>Note</i>	<b>2023</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Financing activities</b>			
New borrowings raised	31	–	26,461
Repayments of borrowings	31	<b>(6,169)</b>	(27,951)
Repayments of lease liabilities	31	<b>(2,698)</b>	(2,737)
Proceeds from issue of shares by rights issue	28(a)	–	20,160
Transaction costs attributable to issue of shares by rights issue	28(a)	–	(1,559)
Interest paid	31	<b>(644)</b>	(635)
Dividends paid	11	<b>(10,080)</b>	(2,880)
<b>Net cash (used in)/generated from financing activities</b>		<b>(19,591)</b>	10,859
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>(14,813)</b>	1,697
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year</b>		<b>39,136</b>	39,257
<b>Effect of foreign exchange rate changes</b>		<b>(732)</b>	(1,818)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year, represented by bank balances and cash</b>	22	<b>23,591</b>	39,136

The notes on pages 82 to 141 form part of the consolidated financial statements.

# NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

## 1 Company information

Vertical International Holdings Limited (the “Company”) is a public limited company incorporated in the Cayman Islands and its shares are listed on GEM of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Stock Exchange”). The Company has its registered office and principal place of business at Cricket Square, Hutchins Drive, P.O. Box 2681, Grand Cayman, KY1-1111, Cayman Islands and Unit 2212, 22/F, Global Gateway Tower, 63 Wing Hong Street, Cheung Sha Wan, Hong Kong respectively.

The Company acts as an investment holding company. The Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the “Group”) are principally engaged in the manufacturing and trading of aluminum electrolytic capacitors and trading of electronic components.

At 31 December 2023, the immediate and ultimate holding company of the Company is Vertical Technology Investment Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (“BVI”). Its ultimate controlling party is Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry, who is also the chairman and chief executive officer of the Company.

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars (“HK\$”), which is also the functional currency of the Company and all values are rounded to nearest thousands of Hong Kong dollars (“HK\$’000”) except when otherwise indicated.

## 2 Application of new and amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) and changes in other accounting policies

### (a) New and amendments to HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year

In the current year, the Group has applied the following new and amendments to HKFRSs issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“HKICPA”) for the first time, which are mandatorily effective for the Group’s annual period beginning on 1 January 2023 for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements:

HKFRS 17 and Amendments to HKFRS 17	Insurance Contracts and the Related Amendments
Amendments to HKAS 8	Definition of Accounting Estimates
Amendments to HKAS 12	Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction
Amendments to HKAS 12	International Tax Reform-Pillar Two model Rules
Amendments to HKAS 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2	Disclosure of Accounting Policies

Except as described below, the application of the new and amendments to HKFRSs in the current year has had no material impact on the Group’s financial positions and performance for the current or prior years and/or on the disclosures set out in these consolidated financial statements.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

## 2 Application of new and amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) and changes in other accounting policies (continued)

### (a) New and amendments to HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year (continued)

#### ***Impacts on application of Amendments to HKAS 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2 Disclosure of Accounting Policies***

The Group has applied the amendments for the first time in the current year. HKAS 1 *Presentation of Financial Statements* is amended to replace all instances of the term “significant accounting policies” with “material accounting policy information”. Accounting policy information is material if, when considered together with other information included in an entity’s financial statements, it can reasonably be expected to influence decisions that the primary users of general purpose financial statements make on the basis of those financial statements.

The amendments also clarify that accounting policy information may be material because of the nature of the related transactions, other events or conditions, even if the amounts are immaterial. However, not all accounting policy information relating to material transactions, other events or conditions is itself material. If an entity chooses to disclose immaterial accounting policy information, such information must not obscure material accounting policy information.

HKFRS Practice Statement 2 *Making Materiality Judgements* (the “Practice Statement”) is also amended to illustrate how an entity applies the “four-step materiality process” to accounting policy disclosures and to judge whether information about an accounting policy is material to its financial statements. Guidance and examples are added to the Practice Statement.

The application of the amendments has had no material impact on the Group’s financial positions and performance but has affected the disclosure of the Group’s accounting policies set out in note 3 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### ***Change in accounting policy as a result of application of the HKICPA guidance on the accounting implications of the abolition of the Mandatory Provident Fund (“MPF”) – Long Service Payment (“LSP”) offsetting mechanism in Hong Kong***

The Group has several subsidiaries operating in Hong Kong which are obliged to pay LSP to employees under certain circumstances. Meanwhile, the Group makes mandatory MPF contributions to the trustee who administers the assets held in a trust solely for the retirement benefits of each individual employee. Offsetting of LSP against an employee’s accrued retirement benefits derived from employers’ MPF contributions was allowed under the Employment Ordinance (Cap.57). In June 2022, the Government of the HKSAR gazetted the Employment and Retirement Schemes Legislation (Offsetting Arrangement) (Amendment) Ordinance 2022 (the “Amendment Ordinance”) which abolishes the use of the accrued benefits derived from employers’ mandatory MPF contributions to offset severance payment and LSP (the “Abolition”). The Abolition will officially take effect on 1 May 2025 (the “Transition Date”). In addition, under the Amendment Ordinance, the last month’s salary immediately preceding the Transition Date (instead of the date of termination of employment) is used to calculate the portion of LSP in respect of the employment period before the Transition Date.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

## 2 Application of new and amendments to Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) and changes in other accounting policies (continued)

### (a) New and amendments to HKFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year (continued)

#### *Change in accounting policy as a result of application of the HKICPA guidance on the accounting implications of the abolition of the Mandatory Provident Fund (“MPF”) – Long Service Payment (“LSP”) offsetting mechanism in Hong Kong (continued)*

In July 2023, the HKICPA published “Accounting implications of the abolition of the MPF-LSP offsetting mechanism in Hong Kong” which provides guidance for the accounting for the offsetting mechanism and the impact arising from abolition of the MPF-LSP offsetting mechanism in Hong Kong.

The abolition of the offsetting mechanism did not have a material impact on the Group’s result and financial position.

### (b) Amendments to HKFRSs in issue but not yet effective

The Group has not early applied the following new and amendments to HKFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective:

Amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28	Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture <sup>1</sup>
Amendments to HKFRS 16	Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback <sup>2</sup>
Amendments to HKAS 1	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current and related amendments to Hong Kong Interpretation 5 (2020) <sup>2</sup>
Amendments to HKAS 1	Non-current Liabilities with Covenants <sup>2</sup>
Amendments to HKAS 7 and HKFRS 7	Supplier Finance Arrangements <sup>2</sup>
Amendments to HKAS 21	Lack of Exchangeability <sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date to be determined.

<sup>2</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024.

<sup>3</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025.

The directors of the Company anticipate that the application of all these new and amendments to HKFRSs will have no material impact on the consolidated financial statements in the foreseeable future.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

### 3 Material accounting policy information

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures required by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on GEM of the Stock Exchange (the "GEM Listing Rules") and by the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for bills receivables at fair value through other comprehensive income and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss that are measured at fair values at the end of each reporting period, as explained in the accounting policies set out below.

Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for goods and services.

The material accounting policies are set out below.

#### (a) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Company and its subsidiaries. Control is achieved when the Company:

- (i) has power over the investee;
- (ii) is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and
- (iii) has the ability to use its power to affect its returns.

The Group reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control listed above.

Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Group obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Group loses control of the subsidiary. Specifically, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income from the date the Group gains control until the date when the Group ceases to control the subsidiary.

When necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies in line with the Group's accounting policies.

All intragroup assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

#### (b) Revenue from contracts with customers

Information about the Group's accounting policies relating to contracts with customers is provided in note 5.

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(c) Leases*****Definition of a lease***

A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration.

For contracts entered into or modified on or after the date of initial application of HKFRS 16 or arising from business combinations, the Group assesses whether a contract is or contains a lease based on the definition under HKFRS 16 at inception, modification date or acquisition date, as appropriate. Such contract will not be reassessed unless the terms and conditions of the contract are subsequently changed.

***The Group as a lessee******Allocation of consideration to components of a contract***

For a contract that contains a lease component and one or more additional lease or non-lease components, the Group allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of the relative stand-alone price of the lease component and the aggregate stand-alone price of the non-lease components.

Non-lease components are separated from lease component and are accounted for by applying other applicable standards.

***Short-term leases and leases of low-value assets***

The Group applies the short-term lease recognition exemption to leases that have a lease term of 12 months or less from the commencement date and do not contain a purchase option. It also applies the recognition exemption for lease of low-value assets. Lease payments on short-term leases and leases of low-value assets are recognised as expense on a straight-line basis or another systematic basis over the lease term.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (c) Leases (continued)

##### *The Group as a lessee (continued)*

##### *Right-of-use assets*

The cost of right-of-use asset includes:

- (i) the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability;
- (ii) any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received;
- (iii) any initial direct costs incurred by the Group; and
- (iv) an estimate of costs to be incurred by the Group in dismantling and removing the underlying assets, restoring the site on which it is located or restoring the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease.

Right-of-use assets are measured at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liabilities.

Right-of-use assets in which the Group is reasonably certain to obtain ownership of the underlying leased assets at the end of the lease term are depreciated from commencement date to the end of the useful life. Otherwise, right-of-use assets are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the shorter of its estimated useful life and the lease term.

The Group presents right-of-use assets as a separate line item on the consolidated statement of financial position.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (c) Leases (continued)

##### *The Group as a lessee (continued)*

###### *Refundable rental deposits*

Refundable rental deposits paid are accounted under HKFRS 9 “Financial Instruments” and initially measured at fair value. Adjustments to fair value at initial recognition are considered as additional lease payments and included in the cost of right-of-use assets.

###### *Lease liabilities*

At the commencement date of a lease, the Group recognises and measures the lease liability at the present value of lease payments that are unpaid at that date. In calculating the present value of lease payments, the Group uses the incremental borrowing rate at the lease commencement date if the interest rate implicit in the lease is not readily determinable.

The lease payments include:

- (i) fixed payments (including in-substance fixed payments) less any lease incentives receivable;
- (ii) variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date;
- (iii) amounts expected to be payable by the Group under residual value guarantees;
- (iv) the exercise price of a purchase option if the Group is reasonably certain to exercise the option; and
- (v) payments of penalties for terminating a lease, if the lease term reflects the Group exercising an option to terminate the lease.

After the commencement date, lease liabilities are adjusted by interest accretion and lease payments.

The Group remeasures lease liabilities (and makes a corresponding adjustment to the related right-of-use assets) whenever:

- (i) the lease term has changed or there is a change in the assessment of exercise of a purchase option, in which case the related lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using a revised discount rate at the date of reassessment.
- (ii) the lease payments change due to changes in market rental rates following a market rent review/ expected payment under a guaranteed residual value, in which cases the related lease liability is remeasured by discounting the revised lease payments using the initial discount rate.

The Group presents lease liabilities as a separate line item on the consolidated statement of financial position.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (d) Foreign currencies

In preparing the financial statements of each individual group entity, transactions in currencies other than the functional currency of that entity (foreign currencies) are recognised at the rates of exchanges prevailing on the dates of the transactions. At the end of the reporting period, monetary items denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing at that date. Non-monetary items carried at fair value that are denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rates prevailing on the date when the fair value was determined. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are not retranslated.

Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items, and on the retranslation of monetary items, are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

For the purposes of presenting the consolidated financial statements, the assets and liabilities of the Group's operations are translated into the presentation currency of the Group (i.e. HK\$) using exchange rates prevailing at the end of each reporting period. Income and expenses items are translated at the average exchange rates for the period, unless exchange rates fluctuate significantly during that period, in which case the exchange rates at the date of transactions are used. Exchange differences arising, if any, are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of exchange reserve.

#### (e) Employee benefits

##### *Pension schemes*

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit plans, government-managed retirement benefit schemes and the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme ("MPF Scheme") are recognised as an expense when employees have rendered services entitling them to the contributions.

##### *Short-term employee benefits*

Short-term employee benefits are recognised at the undiscounted amount of the benefits expected to be paid as and when employees rendered the services. All short-term employee benefits are recognised as an expense unless another HKFRS requires or permits the inclusion of the benefit in the cost of an asset.

A liability is recognised for benefits accruing to employees (such as wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave) after deducting any amount already paid.

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(f) Taxation**

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax current and deferred income tax expense.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from profit/loss before tax because of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

Deferred tax is recognised on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the consolidated financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Deferred tax assets are generally recognised for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such deferred tax assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit and at the time of the transaction does not give rise to equal taxable and deductible temporary differences.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences associated with such investments are only recognised to the extent that it is probable that there will be sufficient taxable profits against which to utilise the benefits of the temporary differences and they are expected to reverse in the foreseeable future.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period in which the liability is settled or the asset is realised, based on tax rate (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

The measurement of deferred tax liabilities and assets reflects the tax consequences that would follow from the manner in which the Group expects, at the end of the reporting period, to recover or settle the carrying amount of its assets and liabilities.

For the purposes of measuring deferred tax for leasing transactions in which the Group recognises the right-of-use assets and the related lease liabilities, the Group first determines whether the tax deductions are attributable to the right-of-use assets or the lease liabilities.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (f) Taxation (continued)

For leasing transactions in which the tax deductions are attributable to the lease liabilities, the Group applies HKAS 12 "Income Taxes" requirements to right-of-use assets and lease liabilities separately. The Group recognises a deferred tax asset related to lease liabilities to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary difference can be utilised and a deferred tax liability for all taxable temporary differences.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are offset when there is a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets against current tax liabilities and when they relate to income taxes levied to the same taxable entity by the same tax authority.

Current and deferred tax are recognised in profit or loss.

#### (g) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets that are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes. Property, plant and equipment are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less subsequent accumulated depreciation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses, if any.

Properties in the course of construction for production, supply or administrative purposes are carried at cost, less any recognised impairment loss. Costs include any costs directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management and, for qualifying assets, borrowing costs capitalised in accordance with the Group's accounting policy. Depreciation of these assets, on the same basis as other property assets, commences when the assets are ready for their intended use.

When the Group makes payments for ownership interests of properties which includes both leasehold land and building elements, the entire consideration is allocated between the leasehold land and the building elements in proportion to the relative fair values at initial recognition. When the consideration cannot be allocated reliably between non-lease building element and undivided interest in the underlying leasehold land, the entire properties are classified as property, plant and equipment.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from the continued use of the asset. Any gain or loss arising on the disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in profit or loss.

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**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(h) Impairment on property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets**

At the end of the reporting period, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have suffered an impairment loss. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the relevant asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss, if any.

The recoverable amounts of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets are estimated individually. When it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount individually, the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

In testing a cash-generating unit for impairment, corporate assets are allocated to the relevant cash-generating unit when a reasonable and consistent basis of allocation can be established, or otherwise they are allocated to the smallest group of cash-generating units for which a reasonable and consistent allocation basis can be established. The recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit or group of cash-generating units to which the corporate asset belongs, and is compared with the carrying amount of the relevant cash-generating unit or group of cash-generating units.

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less cost of disposal and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset (or a cash-generating unit) for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset (or a cash-generating unit) is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset (or a cash-generating unit) is reduced to its recoverable amount. In allocating the impairment loss, the impairment loss is allocated first to reduce the carrying amount of any goodwill (if applicable) and then to the other assets on a pro-rata basis based on the carrying amount of each asset in the unit or the group of cash-generating units. The carrying amount of an asset is not reduced below the highest of its fair value less costs of disposal (if measurable), its value in use (if determinable) and zero. The amount of the impairment loss that would otherwise have been allocated to the asset is allocated pro-rata to the other assets of the unit or the group of cash-generating units. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset (or cash-generating unit) is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, but so that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset (or a cash-generating unit) in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (i) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents presented on the consolidated statement of financial position include:

- (a) cash, which comprises of cash on hand and demand deposits, excluding bank balances that are subject to regulatory restrictions that result in such balances no longer meeting the definition of cash; and
- (b) cash equivalents, which comprises of short-term (generally with original maturity of three months or less), highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Cash equivalents are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes.

For the purposes of the consolidated statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash and cash equivalents as defined above, net of outstanding bank overdrafts which are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management. Such overdrafts are presented as short-term borrowings in the consolidated statement of financial position.

#### (j) Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs of inventories are calculated using the weighted average cost method. Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price for inventories less all estimated costs of completion and costs necessary to make the sale. Costs necessary to make the sale include incremental costs directly attributable to the sale and non-incremental costs which the Group must incur to make the sale.

#### (k) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Group will be required to settle that obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. When a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows (where the effect of the time value of money is material).

**NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(I) Financial instruments**

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All regular way purchases or sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised on a trade date basis. Regular way purchases or sales are purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within the time frame established by regulation or convention in the market place.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value except for trade receivables arising from contracts with customers which are initially measured in accordance with HKFRS 15 "Revenue from Contracts with Customers". Transaction costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition or issue of financial assets and financial liabilities (other than financial assets or financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL")) are added to or deducted from the fair value of the financial assets or financial liabilities, as appropriate, on initial recognition. Transaction costs directly attributable to the acquisition of financial assets or financial liabilities at FVTPL are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or financial liability and of allocating interest income and interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts and payments (including all fees and points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life of the financial asset or financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition.

***Financial assets****Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets*

Financial assets that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost:

- (i) the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to collect contractual cash flows; and
- (ii) the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI"):

- (i) the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both selling and collecting contractual cash flows; and
- (ii) the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (I) Financial instruments (continued)

##### *Financial assets (continued)*

###### *Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (continued)*

All other financial assets are subsequently measured at FVTPL, except that at initial recognition of a financial asset the Group may irrevocably elect to present subsequent changes in fair value of an equity investment in other comprehensive income ("OCI") if that equity investment is neither held for trading nor contingent consideration recognised by an acquirer in a business combination to which HKFRS 3 "Business Combinations" applies.

A financial asset is held for trading if:

- (i) it has been acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the near term; or
- (ii) on initial recognition it is a part of a portfolio of identified financial instruments that the Group manages together and has a recent actual pattern of short-term profit-taking; or
- (iii) it is a derivative that is not designated and effective as a hedging instrument.

In addition, the Group may irrevocably designate a financial asset that is required to be measured at the amortised cost or FVTOCI as measured at FVTPL if doing so eliminates or significantly reduces an accounting mismatch.

###### *Amortised cost and interest income*

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method for financial assets measured subsequently at amortised cost. Interest income is calculated by applying the effective interest rate to the gross carrying amount of a financial asset, except for financial assets that have subsequently become credit-impaired.

###### *Bills receivables classified as FVTOCI*

Subsequent changes in the carrying amounts for bills receivables classified as at FVTOCI as a result of interest income calculated using the effective interest method are recognised in profit or loss. All other changes in the carrying amount of these receivables are recognised in OCI and accumulated under the heading of FVTOCI reserve. Impairment allowances are recognised in profit or loss with corresponding adjustment to OCI without reducing the carrying amounts of these receivables. When these receivables are derecognised, the cumulative gains or losses previously recognised in OCI are reclassified to profit or loss.

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**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(I) Financial instruments (continued)*****Financial assets (continued)****Financial assets at FVTPL*

Financial assets that do not meet the criteria for being measured at amortised cost or FVTOCI or designated as FVTOCI are measured at FVTPL.

Financial assets at FVTPL are measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period, with any fair value gains or losses recognised in profit or loss. The net gain or loss recognised in profit or loss excludes any dividend or interest earned on the financial asset and is included in the "other gains and losses" line item.

*Impairment of financial assets subject to impairment assessment under HKFRS 9*

The Group performs impairment assessment under expected credit loss ("ECL") model on financial assets (including trade and bills receivables, deposits, other receivables, bank balances and bills receivables at FVTOCI) which are subject to impairment under HKFRS 9. The amount of ECL is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition.

Lifetime ECL represents the ECL that will result from all possible default events over the expected life of the relevant instrument. In contrast, 12-month ECL ("12m ECL") represents the portion of lifetime ECL that is expected to result from default events that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date. Assessments are done based on the Group's historical credit loss experience, adjusted for factors that are specific to the debtors, general economic conditions and an assessment of both the current conditions at the reporting date as well as the forecast of future conditions.

The Group always recognises lifetime ECL for trade receivables.

For all other instruments, the Group measures the loss allowance equal to 12m ECL, unless there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, in which case the Group recognises lifetime ECL. The assessment of whether lifetime ECL should be recognised is based on significant increases in the likelihood or risk of a default occurring since initial recognition.

**(i) Significant increase in credit risk**

In assessing whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the reporting date with the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the date of initial recognition. In making this assessment, the Group considers both quantitative and qualitative information that is reasonable and supportable, including historical experience and forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (I) Financial instruments (continued)

##### *Financial assets (continued)*

##### *Impairment of financial assets subject to impairment assessment under HKFRS 9 (continued)*

(i) Significant increase in credit risk (continued)

In particular, the following information is taken into account when assessing whether credit risk has increased significantly:

- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the financial instrument's external (if available) or internal credit rating;
- significant deterioration in external market indicators of credit risk, e.g., a significant increase in the credit spread, the credit default swap prices for the debtor;
- existing or forecast adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations;
- an actual or expected significant deterioration in the operating results of the debtor;
- an actual or expected significant adverse change in the regulatory, economic, or technological environment of the debtor that results in a significant decrease in the debtor's ability to meet its debt obligations.

Irrespective of the outcome of the above assessment, the Group presumes that the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition when contractual payments are more than 30 days past due, unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information that demonstrates otherwise.

Despite the foregoing, the Group assumes that the credit risk on a debt instrument has not increased significantly since initial recognition if the debt instrument is determined to have low credit risk at the reporting date. A debt instrument is determined to have low credit risk if (i) it has a low risk of default, (ii) the borrower has a strong capacity to meet its contractual cash flow obligations in the near term and (iii) adverse changes in economic and business conditions in the longer term may, but will not necessarily, reduce the ability of the borrower to fulfill its contractual cash flow obligations. The Group considers a debt instrument to have low credit risk when it has an internal or external credit rating of "investment grade" as per globally understood definitions.

The Group regularly monitors the effectiveness of the criteria used to identify whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk and revises them as appropriate to ensure that the criteria are capable of identifying significant increase in credit risk before the amount becomes past due.

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**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(I) Financial instruments (continued)*****Financial assets (continued)****Impairment of financial assets subject to impairment assessment under HKFRS 9 (continued)*

## (ii) Definition of default

For internal credit risk management, the Group considers an event of default occurs when information developed internally or obtained from external sources indicates that the debtor is unlikely to pay its creditors, including the Group, in full without taking into account any collaterals held by the Group.

Irrespective of the above, the Group considers that default has occurred when a financial asset is more than 90 days past due unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information to demonstrate that a more lagging default criterion is more appropriate.

## (iii) Credit-impaired financial assets

A financial asset is credit-impaired when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of that financial asset have occurred. Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes observable data about the following events:

- significant financial difficulty of the issuer or the borrower;
- a breach of contract, such as a default or past due event;
- the lender(s) of the borrower, for economic or contractual reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, having granted to the borrower a concession(s) that the lender(s) would not otherwise consider;
- it is becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; or
- the disappearance of an active market for that financial asset because of financial difficulties.

## (iv) Write-off policy

The Group writes off a financial asset when there is information indicating that the counterparty is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, for example, when the counterparty has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or in the case of trade receivables, when the amounts are over two years past due, whichever occurs sooner. Financial assets written off may still be subject to enforcement activities under the Group's recovery procedures, taking into account legal advice where appropriate. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event. Any subsequent recoveries are recognised in profit or loss.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 3 Material accounting policy information (continued)

#### (I) Financial instruments (continued)

##### *Financial assets (continued)*

###### *Impairment of financial assets subject to impairment assessment under HKFRS 9 (continued)*

(v) Measurement and recognition of ECL

The measurement of ECL is a function of the probability of default, loss given default (i.e. the magnitude of the loss if there is a default) and the exposure at default. The assessment of the probability of default and loss given default is based on historical data and forward-looking information. Estimation of ECL reflects an unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined with the respective risks of default occurring as the weights.

Generally, the ECL is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Group in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at the effective interest rate determined at initial recognition.

Lifetime ECL for certain trade and bills receivables, deposits, other receivables, bank balances and bills receivables at FVTOCI are considered on a collective basis taking into consideration past due information and relevant credit information such as forward-looking macroeconomic information.

For collective assessment, the Group takes into consideration the following characteristics when formulating the grouping:

- past-due status;
- nature, size and industry of debtors; and
- external credit ratings where available.

The grouping is regularly reviewed by management to ensure the constituents of each group continue to share similar credit risk characteristics.

Interest income is calculated based on the gross carrying amount of the financial asset unless the financial asset is credit-impaired, in which case interest income is calculated based on amortised cost of the financial asset.

Except for bills receivables that are measured at FVTOCI, the Group recognises an impairment gain or loss in profit or loss for all financial instruments by adjusting their carrying amount, with the exception of trade and bills receivables where the corresponding adjustment is recognised through a loss allowance account. For bills receivables that are measured at FVTOCI, the loss allowance is recognised in OCI and accumulated in the FVTOCI reserve without reducing the carrying amount of these receivables. Such amount represents the changes in the FVTOCI reserve in relation to accumulated loss allowance.

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**3 Material accounting policy information (continued)****(I) Financial instruments (continued)*****Financial assets (continued)****Derecognition of financial assets*

The Group derecognises a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity.

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss.

***Financial liabilities and equity****Classification as debt or equity*

Debt and equity instruments are classified as either financial liabilities or as equity in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangements and the definitions of a financial liability and an equity instrument.

*Equity instruments*

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of an entity after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments issued by the Group are recognised at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs.

*Financial liabilities at amortised cost*

Financial liabilities including trade payables, other payables and accruals, lease liabilities and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method.

*Derecognition of financial liabilities*

The Group derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable is recognised in profit or loss.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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#### 4 Key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 3, the management of the Group are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an on-going basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The following are the key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period that may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

##### (a) Estimated impairment of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets

Property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets are stated at costs less accumulated depreciation and impairment, if any. In determining whether an asset is impaired, the Group has to exercise judgement and make estimation, particularly in assessing: (1) whether an event has occurred or any indicators that may affect the asset value; (2) whether the carrying value of an asset can be supported by the recoverable amount, in case of value in use, the net present value of future cash flows which are estimated based upon the continued use of the asset; and (3) the appropriate key assumptions to be applied in estimating the recoverable amounts including cash flow projections and an appropriate discount rate. When it is not possible to estimate the recoverable amount of an individual asset (including the right-of-use assets), the Group estimates the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs, including allocation of corporate assets when a reasonable consistent basis of allocation can be established, otherwise recoverable amount is determined at the smallest group of cash-generating units, for which the relevant corporate assets have been allocated. Changing the assumptions and estimates, including the discount rates or the growth rate in the cash flow projections, could materially affect the recoverable amounts.

As at 31 December 2023, the carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets subject to impairment assessment were HK\$39,082,000 (2022: HK\$44,959,000) and HK\$1,338,000 (2022: HK\$1,298,000) respectively, after taking into account the impairment losses of HK\$4,044,000 (2022: HK\$4,216,000) and HK\$150,000 (2022: HK\$20,000) in respect of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets that have been recognised respectively. Details of the impairment of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets are disclosed in notes 14 and 15.

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**4 Key sources of estimation uncertainty (continued)****(b) Valuation of inventories**

Management of the Group assesses whether the carrying amounts of the inventories are recoverable and estimates the allowance for inventories based on their industry knowledge and experience at the end of the reporting period. Management estimates the amount of allowance for inventories based on the lower of cost and their estimated net realisable value. In determining the net realisable values of the Group's inventories, the management considers the market demand and subsequent usage or sales. When the actual net realisable values are lower than expectation, such difference will impact the carrying amounts of inventories.

As at 31 December 2023, the carrying amounts of inventories were approximately HK\$7,642,000 (2022: HK\$11,800,000). No allowance for inventories was recognised for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022.

**(c) Provision of ECL for trade receivables**

The Group assesses ECL on trade receivables on a collective basis. The provision rates are based on internal credit rating of debtors are groupings of various debtors taking into consideration the Group's historical default rates and forward-looking information that is reasonable and supportable available without undue costs or effort. At every reporting date, the historical observed default rates are reassessed and changes in the forward-looking information are considered. In addition, trade receivables with certain balances which are credit-impaired are assessed for ECL individually.

The provision of ECL is sensitive to changes in estimates while the changes of the expected loss rates in the current year will impact the carrying amounts of trade receivables. The information about the ECL and the Group's trade receivables are disclosed in note 30(c)(iv).

As at 31 December 2023, the carrying amounts of trade receivables were approximately HK\$26,102,000 (2022: HK\$22,667,000), net of allowance for credit losses of approximately HK\$287,000 (2022: HK\$239,000).

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 5 Revenue and segment information

### Performance obligation for contracts with customers and revenue recognition policies

Revenue is derived from the sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors and trading of electronic components. The Group satisfied its performance obligation when the control of the manufactured goods or trading goods has been transferred, being when they are delivered to the customers' specific location. The customers have neither rights to return nor rights to defer or avoid payment for goods once they are accepted by the customers. Revenue from contracts with customers is recognised at a point in time and is consistent with the segment revenue information that is disclosed for each reportable segment under HKFRS 8 "Operating Segments".

Information reported to the executive directors of the Group, being the chief operating decision maker ("CODM"), for the purposes of resource allocation and assessment of segment performance focuses on the types of goods delivered. Specifically, the Group's reportable segments under HKFRS 8 are as follows:

#### (i) Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors

Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors represents the manufacturing and selling of chip type and radial lead type aluminum electrolytic capacitors in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC").

#### (ii) Trading of electronic components

Trading of electronic components represents trading of a wider range of lighting products and electronic components including integrated circuits and semi-conductors such as diodes and transistors in Hong Kong and the PRC.

During the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022, all performance obligations for contracts of sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors and trading of electronic components are expected to fulfil in a period of one year or less. As permitted under HKFRS 15, the transaction price allocated to unsatisfied performance obligations as at 31 December 2023 and 2022 is not disclosed.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 5 Revenue and segment information (continued)

### (a) Segment results

The accounting policies of the operating segments are the same as the Group's accounting policies described in note 3. Segment results represents the profit earned by each segment without allocation of unallocated expenses (including administrative expenses and selling and distribution costs), other income, other gains and losses, finance costs and income tax expense/(credit). This is the measure reported to the CODM for the purposes of resource allocation and performance assessment.

	2023		
	Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors HK\$'000	Trading of electronic components HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Segment revenue under HKFRS 15</b>			
External sales	73,615	10,647	84,262
<b>Results</b>			
Segment profit	5,738	385	6,123
Unallocated expenses			(15,826)
Other income			502
Other gains and losses			(2,005)
Finance costs			(644)
Loss before taxation			(11,850)

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 5 Revenue and segment information (continued)

### (a) Segment results (continued)

	2022		
	Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors HK\$'000	Trading of electronic components HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Segment revenue under HKFRS 15</b>			
External sales	69,610	16,761	86,371
<b>Results</b>			
Segment profit	3,457	1,601	5,058
Unallocated expenses			(19,039)
Other income			1,220
Other gains and losses			(5,632)
Finance costs			(635)
Loss before taxation			(19,028)

There were no inter-segment sales in both years.

### (b) Segment assets and liabilities

No analysis of segment assets or segment liabilities is presented as they are not regularly provided to the CODM.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 5 Revenue and segment information (continued)

## (c) Other segment information

	2023		
	Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors HK\$'000	Trading of electronic components HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Amounts included in the measure of segment results:</b>			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	5,008	–	5,008
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	2,551	–	2,551
<b>Amounts regularly provided to the CODM but not included in the measurement of segment results:</b>			
Additions to property, plant and equipment	6,911	–	6,911
Bank interest income	(127)	(38)	(165)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,206	961	2,167
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	–	129	129
Impairment loss on trade receivables	33	23	56
Impairment loss on property, plant and equipment	3,866	178	4,044
Impairment loss on right-of-use assets	150	–	150
Interest on borrowings	–	509	509
Interest on lease liabilities	131	4	135

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 5 Revenue and segment information (continued)

## (c) Other segment information (continued)

	2022		
	Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors HK\$'000	Trading of electronic components HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Amounts included in the measure of segment results:</b>			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	5,373	–	5,373
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	2,662	–	2,662
<b>Amounts regularly provided to the CODM but not included in the measurement of segment results:</b>			
Additions to property, plant and equipment	11,105	19	11,124
Amortisation of intangible assets	–	133	133
Bank interest income	(222)	(15)	(237)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	774	968	1,742
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	–	135	135
Reversal of impairment loss on trade receivables	(54)	(24)	(78)
Impairment loss on property, plant and equipment	3,955	261	4,216
Impairment loss on right-of-use assets	17	3	20
Write-off of intangible assets	–	1,678	1,678
Interest on borrowings	–	509	509
Interest on lease liabilities	115	11	126

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 5 Revenue and segment information (continued)

### (d) Geographical information

The following table provides an analysis of the Group's revenue from external customers by the location of customers:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Hong Kong	2,807	1,038
PRC	71,717	69,975
Japan	9,653	15,294
Other Asian regions ( <i>note</i> )	85	64
	<b>84,262</b>	<b>86,371</b>

*Note:* Revenue generated from Asian regions, other than Hong Kong, the PRC and Japan, are mainly derived from sales to Vietnam and Macau based customers.

The following is an analysis of the carrying amounts of the Group's non-current assets (i.e. property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets), analysed by the geographical area in which the assets are located:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Hong Kong	5,639	7,051
PRC	34,781	39,206
	<b>40,420</b>	<b>46,257</b>

### (e) Information about major customers

Revenue from major customers of the corresponding years contributing over 10% of the total revenue of the Group are as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Customer A ( <i>note 1</i> )	9,653	15,294
Customer B ( <i>note 2</i> )	11,985	10,285
Customer C ( <i>note 2</i> )	11,861	8,337

*Note 1:* Revenue from trading of electronic components.

*Note 2:* Revenue from sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 5 Revenue and segment information (continued)

### (f) Disaggregation of revenue by the timing of revenue recognition is as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>At a point in time:</b>		
Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors	57,391	69,610
Trading of electronic components	26,871	16,761
	<b>84,262</b>	<b>86,371</b>

## 6 Other income

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Bank interest income	165	237
Dividend income	1	1
Government grants ( <i>note</i> )	–	288
Handling charges income	–	516
Scrap sales	–	147
Sundry income	336	31
	<b>502</b>	<b>1,220</b>

*Note:* Government grants during the year ended 31 December 2022 mainly represented subsidy related to Employment Support Scheme provided by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region in respect of COVID-19 related subsidies. The purpose of the funding was to provide financial support to enterprises to retain their employees who would otherwise be made redundant. Under the terms of the grant, the Group was required not to make redundancies during the subsidy period and to spend all the funding on paying wages to the employees.

## 7 Other gains and losses

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Impairment of property, plant and equipment	(4,044)	(4,216)
Impairment of right-of-use assets	(150)	(20)
Net foreign exchange gains	38	113
(Impairment loss)/reversal of impairment loss recognised on trade receivables, net	(56)	78
Fair value changes of financial assets at FVTPL	2,948	(1,587)
Loss on write off/disposal of property, plant and equipment	(741)	–
	<b>(2,005)</b>	<b>(5,632)</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**8 Finance costs**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Interest on borrowings	509	509
Interest on lease liabilities	135	126
	<b>644</b>	635

**9 Loss before taxation**

Loss before taxation has been arrived at after charging:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Cost of inventories recognised as expenses	74,205	76,703
Amortisation of intangible assets	–	133
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	7,175	7,115
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	2,680	2,797
	<b>9,855</b>	10,045
Depreciation capitalised in inventories	<b>(7,559)</b>	(8,035)
	<b>2,296</b>	2,010
Employee benefit expense (including directors' remuneration (note 12))		
Wages and salaries	16,156	17,693
Contributions to retirement benefits schemes	1,889	2,268
	<b>18,045</b>	19,961
Expenses relating to short-term leases	50	39
Auditor's remuneration	580	580
Research expenses (included in cost of sales)	3,934	4,610
Write-off of intangible assets	–	1,678

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**10 Income tax**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
PRC Enterprise Income Tax		
– Current tax	67	–
– Over provision in respect of prior years, net	(163)	(844)
– PRC withholding tax	434	362
	<b>338</b>	<b>(482)</b>

No provision for taxation in Hong Kong has been made for the year (2022: HK\$Nil) as the Company and its subsidiaries incorporated in Hong Kong have no assessable profits for the year.

Under the Law of the PRC on Enterprise Income Tax (the “EIT Law”) and Implementation Regulation of the EIT Law, the tax rate of the PRC subsidiaries is 25% for both years.

Pursuant to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, a subsidiary in the PRC, 東莞首科電子科技有限公 司, has been granted tax incentives as a High and New Technology Enterprise and is entitled to a preferential tax rate of 15% since 2016.

The Group is subjected to PRC withholding tax of 5% on dividend income from PRC subsidiaries.

The income tax expense/(credit) for the year can be reconciled to the loss before tax per consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Loss before taxation	<b>(11,850)</b>	(19,028)
Tax at the applicable tax rate of 15% (2022: 15%)	<b>(1,777)</b>	(2,854)
Tax effect of expenses not deductible for tax purpose	<b>574</b>	1,150
Tax effect of income not taxable for tax purpose	<b>(622)</b>	(172)
Tax effect of temporary differences not recognised	<b>(315)</b>	(979)
Tax effect of tax losses not recognised	<b>2,301</b>	2,908
Tax effect of utilisation of tax losses previously not recognised	<b>(21)</b>	–
Effect of different tax rates of subsidiaries operating in other jurisdiction	<b>167</b>	(53)
Tax concession	<b>(240)</b>	–
Over provision in respect of prior years, net	<b>(163)</b>	(844)
PRC withholding tax	<b>434</b>	362
Actual tax expense/(credit)	<b>338</b>	<b>(482)</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**11 Dividends**

During the year ended 31 December 2023, no dividend has been proposed (2022: a final dividend of 1 HK cents in respect of the year ended 31 December 2021) and paid to the shareholders of the Company. The aggregate amount of final dividend paid from share premium of the Company during the year amounted to approximately HK\$Nil (2022: HK\$2,880,000).

In addition, a special dividend for the nine months ended 30 September 2022 of 3.50 HK cents per ordinary shares was approved by the shareholders in the extraordinary general meeting on 5 January 2023 and paid out at 9 February 2023 amounted to approximately HK\$10,080,000 (2022: HK\$Nil).

**12 Emoluments of directors and chief executive and employees****(a) Directors and chief executive**

Directors' and chief executive's remuneration paid or payable (including emoluments for the services as employees of the Group entities prior to becoming directors of the Company) by the entities comprising the Group during the year, disclosed pursuant to the applicable GEM Listing Rules and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, is as follows:

	2023				Total HK\$'000
	Fees HK\$'000	Salaries and other benefits HK\$'000	Performance related bonus (note) HK\$'000	Contributions to retirement benefits schemes HK\$'000	
<b>Executive directors</b>					
Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (Chief executive)	1,241	1,115	–	18	2,374
Ms. Chow Cheung Chu	712	–	–	18	730
	<b>1,953</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3,104</b>
<b>Independent non-executive directors</b>					
Mr. Liu Kwan	76	–	–	–	76
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul	76	–	–	–	76
Mr. Wong Wai Leung	151	–	–	–	151
	<b>303</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>303</b>
	<b>2,256</b>	<b>1,115</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>3,407</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 12 Emoluments of directors and chief executive and employees (Continued)

### (a) Directors and chief executive (Continued)

	2022				
	Fees HK\$'000	Salaries and other benefits HK\$'000	Performance related bonus (note) HK\$'000	Contributions to retirement benefits schemes HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Executive directors</b>					
Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry (Chief executive)	1,220	715	226	18	2,179
Ms. Chow Cheung Chu	712	–	86	18	816
	1,932	715	312	36	2,995
<b>Independent non-executive directors</b>					
Mr. Liu Kwan	76	–	–	–	76
Mr. Chik Kin Man Paul	76	–	–	–	76
Mr. Wong Wai Leung	151	–	–	–	151
	303	–	–	–	303
	2,235	715	312	36	3,298

Note: The performance related bonus is determined with reference to the operating results and individual performance during both years.

The executive directors' emoluments shown above were mainly for their services in connection with the management of the affairs of the Company and the Group.

The independent non-executive directors' emoluments shown above were mainly for their services as directors of the Company.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 12 Emoluments of directors and chief executive and employees (Continued)

### (b) Employees

The five highest paid employees of the Group during the year included two (2022: two) directors, details of whose remunerations are set out in note 12(a). Details of the remuneration for the year of the remaining three (2022: three) highest paid employees who are neither a director nor chief executive of the Company are as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Salaries and allowance	1,080	1,425
Performance related bonus ( <i>note</i> )	31	37
Contributions to retirement benefits schemes	61	74
	<b>1,172</b>	<b>1,536</b>

Note: The performance related bonus is determined with reference to the operating results and individual performance during both years.

The number of the highest paid employees who are not directors nor chief executive of the Company whose remuneration fell within the following bands is as follows:

	2023 Number of employees	2022 Number of employees
Nil to HK\$1,000,000	3	3

No emoluments were paid by the Group to the directors of the Company or the five highest paid employees (including directors and employees) as an inducement to join or upon joining the Group or as compensation for loss of office for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022. There was no arrangement under which a director or the chief executive waived or agreed to waive any remuneration for both years.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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### 13 Loss per share

The calculation of the basic loss per share is based on the following data:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Loss:</b>		
Loss for the purpose of calculating basic loss per share (loss for the year)	<b>(12,188)</b>	(18,546)
	2023 Number of shares '000	2022 Number of shares '000
<b>Number of shares:</b>		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic loss per share	<b>288,000</b>	276,580

The weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic loss per share for the prior year had taken into account the share consolidation and bonus element of the rights issue which were completed during the year ended 31 December 2022. Details of share consolidation and rights issue of shares are set out in note 28(a) to the consolidated financial statements.

The diluted loss per share is the same as the basic loss per share for both 2023 and 2022 as there were no potential ordinary shares in issue for both 2023 and 2022.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 14 Property, plant and equipment

	Leasehold land and building HK\$'000	Leasehold improvements HK\$'000	Furniture and office equipment HK\$'000	Plant and machinery HK\$'000	Motor vehicles and yacht HK\$'000	Construction in progress ("CIP") HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Cost</b>							
At 1 January 2022	5,573	220	2,343	63,881	5,432	-	77,449
Currency realignment	-	(60)	(156)	(4,531)	(39)	-	(4,786)
Additions	-	2,127	244	8,740	-	13	11,124
Transfer	-	-	-	13	-	(13)	-
Written off/disposal	-	-	-	(8)	-	-	(8)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>5,573</b>	<b>2,287</b>	<b>2,431</b>	<b>68,095</b>	<b>5,393</b>	-	<b>83,779</b>
Currency realignment	-	(67)	(56)	(1,491)	(13)	-	(1,627)
Additions	-	1,235	160	5,471	-	45	6,911
Transfer	-	-	-	45	-	(45)	-
Written off/disposal	-	-	(175)	(2,375)	-	-	(2,550)
At 31 December 2023	<b>5,573</b>	<b>3,455</b>	<b>2,360</b>	<b>69,745</b>	<b>5,380</b>	-	<b>86,513</b>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>							
At 1 January 2022	1,028	216	1,345	24,834	1,797	-	29,220
Currency realignment	-	(10)	(82)	(1,603)	(28)	-	(1,723)
Provided for the year	168	365	266	5,514	802	-	7,115
Impairment loss recognised	-	161	85	3,704	266	-	4,216
Elimination on written off/ disposal	-	-	-	(8)	-	-	(8)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>1,196</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>1,614</b>	<b>32,441</b>	<b>2,837</b>	-	<b>38,820</b>
Currency realignment	-	(22)	(34)	(733)	(10)	-	(799)
Provided for the year	168	914	245	5,053	795	-	7,175
Impairment loss recognised	-	191	72	3,599	182	-	4,044
Elimination on written off/ disposal	-	-	(155)	(1,654)	-	-	(1,809)
At 31 December 2023	<b>1,364</b>	<b>1,815</b>	<b>1,742</b>	<b>38,706</b>	<b>3,804</b>	-	<b>47,431</b>
<b>Carrying values</b>							
At 31 December 2023	<b>4,209</b>	<b>1,640</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>31,039</b>	<b>1,576</b>	-	<b>39,082</b>
At 31 December 2022	4,377	1,555	817	35,654	2,556	-	44,959

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 14 Property, plant and equipment (Continued)

The above items of property, plant and equipment, except for CIP, after taking into account the residual values, are depreciated on a straight-line basis at the following rates per annum:

Leasehold land and building	Over the estimated useful lives of 33 years or the term of lease whichever is shorter
Leasehold improvements	Over the estimated useful lives of 5 years or the term of lease whichever is shorter
Furniture and office equipment	19%–20%
Plant and machinery	9%–10%
Motor vehicles and yacht	20%

The leasehold interests in land in Hong Kong are accounted for as property, plant and equipment, as the allocation between the land and building elements cannot be made reliably.

The leasehold land and building with the carrying value of HK\$4,209,000 (2022: HK\$4,377,000) is pledged to a bank to secure banking facilities of HK\$4,101,000 (2022: HK\$8,384,000) granted to the Group.

### Impairment assessment

With reference to the financial performance and unfavourable market condition noted, the management of the Group concluded that there was indication for impairment and conducted impairment assessment on certain property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets of HK\$43,126,000 and HK\$1,488,000 (2022: HK\$49,175,000 and HK\$1,318,000) respectively.

As at 31 December 2023, the recoverable amount of cash-generating unit from sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors has been determined based on a value in use calculation. That calculation uses cash flow projections based on financial budgets approved by the management of the Group covering the following five years with a pre-tax discount rate of 16% (2022: 15%). The cash flows beyond the five-year period are extrapolated using 3% (2022: 3%) growth rate. Another key assumption for the value in use calculated is the budget gross margin, which is determined based on the cash-generating unit's past performance and management expectations for the market development.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, management of the Group determined that the recoverable amount of the cash-generating unit is lower than the carrying amount based on the result of the assessment. The impairment amount has been allocated to each category of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets such that the carrying amount of each category of asset is not reduced below the highest of its fair value less cost of disposal, its value in use and zero.

Based on the value in use calculation and the allocation, certain property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets were impaired to their recoverable amount of HK\$39,082,000 (2022: HK\$44,959,000) and HK\$1,338,000 (2022: HK\$1,298,000), which were their carrying values at the end of the reporting period and the impairment loss of HK\$4,044,000 (2022: HK\$4,216,000) and HK\$150,000 (2022: HK\$20,000) has been recognised against the carrying amount of property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets respectively within the relevant functions to which these assets relate.

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## 15 Right-of-use assets

	Leased properties HK\$'000	Motor vehicles HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2022	3,249	676	3,925
Currency realignment	(318)	–	(318)
Additions	2,245	–	2,245
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>5,176</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>5,852</b>
Currency realignment	<b>(148)</b>	–	<b>(148)</b>
Additions	<b>2,906</b>	–	<b>2,906</b>
Written-off	<b>(2,927)</b>	–	<b>(2,927)</b>
At 31 December 2023	<b>5,007</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>5,683</b>
<b>Depreciation and impairment</b>			
At 1 January 2022	1,571	364	1,935
Currency realignment	(198)	–	(198)
Provided for the year	2,662	135	2,797
Impairment loss recognised ( <i>note 14</i> )	17	3	20
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>4,052</b>	<b>502</b>	<b>4,554</b>
Currency realignment	<b>(112)</b>	–	<b>(112)</b>
Provided for the year	<b>2,551</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>2,680</b>
Written-off	<b>(2,927)</b>	–	<b>(2,927)</b>
Impairment loss recognised ( <i>note 14</i> )	<b>150</b>	–	<b>150</b>
At 31 December 2023	<b>3,714</b>	<b>631</b>	<b>4,345</b>
<b>Carrying values</b>			
At 31 December 2023	<b>1,293</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>1,338</b>
At 31 December 2022	1,124	174	1,298

For both years, the Group leases various offices, factories and motor vehicles for its operations. Lease contracts are entered into for fixed term of 2-5 years (2022: 2-5 years). Lease terms are negotiated on an individual basis and contain different terms and conditions. In determining the lease term and assessing the length of the non-cancellable period, the Group applies the definition of a contract and determines the period for which the contract is enforceable.

The Company has issued a corporate guarantee in respect of the motor vehicles under leases at 3.5% per annum (2022: 3.5% per annum) with the carrying amount of approximately HK\$8,000 (2022: HK\$88,000) as at 31 December 2023.

Amounts included in the consolidated statement of cash flows comprise of cash outflow for leases of HK\$50,000 and HK\$2,833,000 (2022: HK\$39,000 and HK\$2,863,000) in operating and financing activities respectively.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 16 Intangible assets

	Dealership agreement HK\$'000
<b>Cost</b>	
At 1 January 2022	2,000
Write-off	(2,000)
At 31 December 2022, 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	–
<b>Amortisation</b>	
At 1 January 2022	189
Provided for the year	133
Eliminated on write-off	(322)
At 31 December 2022, 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	–
<b>Carrying values</b>	
At 31 December 2023	–
At 31 December 2022	–

The Group's dealership agreement was acquired from an independent third party and was amortised on a straight-line basis over 15 years.

During the year ended 31 December 2022, the Group considered the diminishing return regarding the dealership agreement and forecasted that no future contractual cash flows would be generated by the dealership agreement. Accordingly, the carrying amount of HK\$1,678,000 was written off and the write-off has been recognised in "Administrative expenses" in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

## 17 Inventories

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Raw materials and consumables	2,170	3,738
Work in progress	2,746	6,024
Finished goods	2,726	2,038
	<b>7,642</b>	<b>11,800</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**18 Trade and bills receivables**

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>HK\$'000</b>	HK\$'000
Trade receivables	<b>26,389</b>	22,906
Less: Allowance for credit losses	<b>(287)</b>	(239)
	<b>26,102</b>	22,667
Bills receivables	<b>1,283</b>	2,454
	<b>27,385</b>	25,121

The credit period allowed by the Group to its customers was up to 30–120 days (2022: 30–120 days) from the date of issuing invoices. The following is an aged analysis of trade and bills receivables based on the dates of delivery of goods which is also the revenue recognition point, net of allowance for credit losses at the end of each reporting period:

	<b>2023</b>	2022
	<b>HK\$'000</b>	HK\$'000
0 to 30 days	<b>9,315</b>	7,545
31 to 60 days	<b>9,484</b>	7,108
61 to 90 days	<b>3,148</b>	4,464
91 to 180 days	<b>2,362</b>	4,504
181 days to 1 year	<b>3,076</b>	1,500
	<b>27,385</b>	25,121

Before accepting any new customers, the Group assesses the potential customer's credit quality and defines credit limits by customer. Credit limits granted to customers are reviewed periodically.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**18 Trade and bills receivables (Continued)**

As at 31 December 2023, included in the Group's trade receivables balance are debtors with aggregate carrying amount of HK\$7,396,000 (2022: HK\$8,263,000) which are past due but not considered as in default based on good repayment records for those customers and continuous business with the Group. The following table provides information about the Group's exposure to credit risk of trade receivables as at 31 December 2023:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Current (not past due)	18,706	14,404
Less than 90 days past due	4,300	5,792
90 days to 1 year past due	3,096	2,471
	<b>26,102</b>	<b>22,667</b>

Bills receivables are those bills not yet due at the end of the reporting period and the management considers the default rate is low as the Group did not encounter any default on bills receivables based on the past experience. All bills received by the Group are with a maturity period of less than one year.

Refer to note 30(c)(iv) for credit risk assessment for trade receivables.

The Group's trade and bills receivables that are denominated in currencies other than the functional currencies of relevant group entities are set out below:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Denominated in Hong Kong Dollars ("HK\$")	1,404	105
Denominated in United States Dollars ("US\$")	2,300	3,750

**19 Bills receivables at fair value through other comprehensive income**

The following is an ageing analysis of bills receivables at FVTOCI presented based on the delivery dates at the end of the reporting period:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
0 to 30 days	–	147
31 to 60 days	1,256	912
61 to 90 days	–	1,217
91 to 180 days	719	1,309
	<b>1,975</b>	<b>3,585</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**20 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Listed securities held for trading – Equity securities listed in the United States of America	<b>4,883</b>	1,935

The Group's equity securities at FVTPL that are denominated in currencies other than the functional currencies of relevant group entities are set out below:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Denominated in United States Dollars ("US\$")	<b>4,883</b>	1,935

**21 Deposits, prepayments and other receivables**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Prepayments	<b>489</b>	899
Other receivables	<b>249</b>	791
Deposits	<b>967</b>	1,113
	<b>1,705</b>	2,803

In determining the ECL for other receivables, the directors have made individual assessment on the recoverability of other receivables based on historical settlement records, past experience, and also forward-looking information, as appropriate, for example, the Group has considered the consistently low historical default rate in connection with repayments, and concluded that credit risk inherent in the Group's outstanding other receivables is insignificant.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**22 Bank balances and cash**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Cash on hand and at bank	23,591	39,136
Restricted bank deposits	–	3,026
	<b>23,591</b>	<b>42,162</b>

Bank balances carry interests at variable rates ranging from 0.01% to 1.00% (2022: 0.01% to 0.75%) per annum.

The subsidiaries of the Group which were established in the PRC maintained RMB denominated bank balances, the remittance of these funds out of the PRC is subject to exchange restrictions imposed by the PRC government.

The Group's bank balance on cash that are denominated in currencies other than the functional currencies of relevant group entities are set out below:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Denominated in Hong Kong Dollars ("HK\$")	6	6
Denominated in United States Dollars ("US\$")	2,137	7,004
Denominated in Renminbi ("RMB")	46	49
Denominated in Japanese Yen ("JPY")	1,592	2,000

As at 31 December 2022, restricted bank deposits represented deposits pledged to banks to secure bank borrowings of HK\$3,333,000 and was therefore classified as current assets. The restricted bank deposits carried interests at variable rate of 0.5%.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group performed impairment assessment on bank balances and concluded that the probability of defaults of the counterparty banks are insignificant and accordingly, no allowance for credit losses is provided (2022: Nil).

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 23 Trade payables

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Trade payables	<b>18,127</b>	12,494

The credit period of trade payables granted by suppliers ranged from 0 to 90 days (2022: 0 to 90 days) upon the issuance of invoices.

The following is an aged analysis of trade payables based on the invoice dates.

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
0 to 30 days	<b>8,483</b>	3,040
31 to 60 days	<b>4,709</b>	3,441
61 to 90 days	<b>2,948</b>	3,769
91 to 180 days	<b>1,893</b>	1,743
181 days to 1 year	–	1
Over 1 year	<b>94</b>	500
	<b>18,127</b>	12,494

The Group's trade payables that are denominated in currency other than the functional currencies of relevant group entities are set out below:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Denominated in United States Dollars ("US\$")	<b>2,066</b>	3,287

## 24 Other payables and accruals

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Other payables	<b>1,027</b>	358
Value added tax payables	<b>1,087</b>	1,987
Accrued staff salaries and allowance	<b>1,128</b>	915
Accrued expenses	<b>947</b>	2,076
	<b>4,189</b>	5,336

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**25 Lease liabilities**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Lease liabilities payable:</b>		
Within one year	1,485	1,271
After one year but within two years	–	42
	<b>1,485</b>	<b>1,313</b>

**26 Borrowings**

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Bank borrowings, secured	7,146	13,315
Carrying amount repayable, based on scheduled repayments:		
– Within one year	4,386	6,934
– After one year but within two years	1,432	2,320
– After two years but within five years	1,328	3,705
– Over five years	–	356
	7,146	13,315
Less: Amounts included under current liabilities (including borrowings with a repayable on demand clause)	(7,146)	(13,315)
	–	–

The bank borrowings with recourse carry interest at best lending rate plus/minus certain basis points. The average of effective interest rates (which are also equal to contracted interest rates) is from 3.25% to 8.35% (2022: 2.59% to 5.63%) per annum.

As at 31 December 2023, bank borrowings with recourse amounting to HK\$7,146,000 were secured by corporate guarantee from the Company and a subsidiary and the personal guarantee from Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry, together with the Group's leasehold land and building as set out in note 14.

As at 31 December 2022, bank borrowings with recourse amounting to HK\$13,315,000 were secured by corporate guarantee from the Company and a subsidiary and the personal guarantee from Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry, together with the Group's leasehold land and building and restricted bank deposits as set out in notes 14 and 22 respectively.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 27 Deferred tax

Under the EIT Law of the PRC, withholding tax is imposed on dividends declared in respect of profits earned by the PRC companies from 1 January 2008 onwards. Deferred taxation has not been provided for in the consolidated financial statements in respect of temporary differences attributable to accumulated profits of the PRC subsidiaries amounting to approximately HK\$42,957,000 (2022: HK\$45,216,000), as the Group is able to control the timing of reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that the temporary differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

At the end of the reporting period, the Group has unused tax losses of approximately HK\$60,047,000 (2022: HK\$45,972,000) available for offset against future profits. No deferred tax asset has been recognised due to the unpredictability of future profit streams of those subsidiaries. Unrecognised tax losses of HK\$5,369,000 (2022: HK\$2,954,000) will expire up to 31 December 2026 and the remaining unrecognised tax losses can be carried forward indefinitely. Other temporary differences are not material.

## 28 Capital and reserves

### (a) Share capital

	Number of shares '000	Amount HK\$'000
<b>Authorised:</b>		
At 1 January 2022	5,000,000	50,000
Share consolidation ( <i>note (i)</i> )	(4,000,000)	–
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2022, 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	1,000,000	50,000
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Issued and fully paid:</b>		
At 1 January 2022	960,000	9,600
Share consolidation ( <i>note (i)</i> )	(768,000)	–
Issue of shares on rights issue ( <i>note (ii)</i> )	96,000	4,800
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 December 2022, 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	288,000	14,400
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Note:

- (i) On 10 January 2022, an ordinary resolution was passed by the shareholders at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company to consolidate every five issued and unissued shares of HK\$0.01 each into one consolidated share of HK\$0.05 each (the "Share Consolidation"). Following the Share Consolidation, which became effective on 12 January 2022, 960,000,000 shares in the issued share capital of the Company were consolidated into 192,000,000 consolidated shares.
- (ii) On 21 February 2022, the Company issued 96,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.05 each at a subscription price of HK\$0.21 per ordinary share, in connection with the rights issue on the basis of one rights share for every two consolidated shares held (the "Rights Issue"), resulting in net proceeds of HK\$18,601,000. Details of the Rights Issue are set out in the Company's prospectus dated 24 January 2022 and the Company's announcement dated 18 February 2022.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 28 Capital and reserves (Continued)

### (b) Nature and purpose of reserves

#### (i) *Share premium*

Under the Companies Law, Chapter 22 of the Cayman Islands, the funds in the share premium account of the Company are distributable to the shareholders of the Company provided that immediately following the date on which the distribution or dividend is proposed to be paid, the Company will be able to pay its debts as they fall in the ordinary course of business.

#### (ii) *Statutory reserve*

This represents statutory reserve of the subsidiaries in the PRC. According to the relevant laws in the PRC, the subsidiaries in the PRC are required to transfer at least 10% of their net profit after taxation, as determined under the PRC accounting regulations, to a non-distributable reserve fund until the reserve balance reaches 50% of their registered capital. The transfer to this reserve must be made before the distribution of a dividend to owners. Such reserve fund can be used to offset the previous years' losses, if any, and is non-distributable other than upon liquidation.

#### (iii) *Exchange reserve*

The exchange reserve comprises all foreign exchange differences arising from the translation of the financial statements of operations outside Hong Kong which are dealt with in accordance with the accounting policies as set out in note 3(d).

## 29 Capital risk management

The Group manages its capital to ensure that entities in the Group will be able to continue as a going concern while maximising the return to the shareholders through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance. The Group's overall strategy remains unchanged from prior year.

The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, which includes the lease liabilities and borrowings disclosed in notes 25 and 26 respectively, and equity attributable to owners of the Company, comprising issued share capital and reserves.

The directors of the Company review the capital structure on a regular basis. As part of this review, the directors of the Company consider the cost of capital and the risks associated with each class of capital. Based on recommendations of the directors of the Company, the Group will balance its overall capital structure through the payment of dividends and new share issues as well as the issue of new debt or the redemption of existing debt.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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### 30 Financial instruments

#### (a) Categories of financial instruments

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Financial assets at amortised cost	52,192	69,187
Financial assets at FVTPL	4,883	1,935
Bills receivables at FVTOCI	1,975	3,585
<b>Financial liabilities</b>		
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	29,860	30,471

#### (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Group's major financial instruments include trade and bills receivables, deposits, other receivables, bank balances and cash, bills receivables at FVTOCI, financial assets at FVTPL, trade payables, other payables and accruals, borrowings and lease liabilities. Details of the financial instruments are disclosed in respective notes. The risks associated with these financial instruments include market risk (currency risk, interest rate risk and other price risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The policies on how to mitigate these risks are set out below. The management of the Group manages and monitors these exposures to ensure appropriate measures are implemented on a timely and effective manner.

#### (c) Market risks

##### (i) Currency risk

The Group's exposure to currency risk mainly arises from the fluctuation of US\$ and RMB against the functional currencies of the relevant entities now comprising the Group. The carrying amounts of the foreign currency denominated monetary assets and monetary liabilities other than the functional currencies of the relevant entities comprising the Group are as follows. The management closely monitors foreign exchange exposure to mitigate the foreign currency risk.

	2023		2022	
	Assets HK\$'000	Liabilities HK\$'000	Assets HK\$'000	Liabilities HK\$'000
HK\$	1,410	–	111	–
US\$	9,320	(2,066)	12,689	(3,287)
RMB	46	–	49	–
JPY	1,592	–	2,000	–

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**30 Financial instruments (Continued)****(c) Market risks (Continued)****(i) Currency risk (Continued)***Sensitivity analysis*

It is assumed that the pegged rate between Hong Kong dollars and United States dollars would be materially unaffected by any changes in movement in value of United States dollars against other currencies and thus the sensitivity analysis is not presented.

No sensitivity analysis for other foreign currencies is presented as the management consider that the effect is insignificant.

The Group is mainly operated in its local jurisdiction with most of the transactions settled in its functional currencies of the operations and did not have significant exposure to risk resulting from changes in foreign currency exchange rates.

**(ii) Interest rate risk**

The Group's cash flow interest rate risk relates primarily to variable-rate bank balances and borrowings as disclosed in notes 22 and 26 due to the fluctuation of the prevailing market interest rate. The Group currently does not have a policy on hedging interest rate risk. However, the management monitors interest rate exposure and will consider hedging significant interest rate risk should the need arise.

*Sensitivity analysis*

The sensitivity analysis has been determined based on the net exposure to interest rates for variable-rate bank balances and bank borrowings. The analysis is prepared assuming the amount of liability outstanding at each reporting period end was outstanding for the whole year. A 100 basis point increase or decrease is used which represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in interest rates. The exposure to the interest rate risk for variable-rate bank balances and bank borrowings is insignificant in view of the low interest rate and therefore the sensitivity analysis is not presented.

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**30 Financial instruments (Continued)****(c) Market risks (Continued)*****(iii) Other price risk***

The Group is exposed to equity price through its investments in equity securities measured at FVTPL. For equity securities measured at FVTPL quoted on The New York Stock Exchange, the management of the Group manages this exposure by maintaining a portfolio of investments with different risks.

*Sensitivity analysis*

The sensitivity analyses have been determined based on the exposure to equity price risk at the reporting date. For sensitivity analysis of equity securities with fair value measurement categorised within Level 1, the sensitivity rate is increased to 1% in current year as a result of the volatile financial market.

If the prices of the respective equity instruments had been 1% higher/lower, the post-tax loss for the year ended 31 December 2023 would decrease/increase by HK\$49,000 (2022: decrease/increase by HK\$19,000) as a result of the changes in fair value of financial assets at FVTPL.

***(iv) Credit risk and impairment assessment***

As at 31 December 2023, the carrying amount of the respective recognised financial assets as stated in the consolidated statement of financial position best represents the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk in the event of the counterparties failure to perform their obligations at the end of the reporting period.

In order to minimise the credit risk, the management has delegated a team responsible for determination of credit limits, credit approvals and other monitoring procedures to ensure that follow-up action is taken to recover overdue debts. In addition, the Group performs impairment assessment under ECL model on trade balances individually or collectively by grouping debtors based on the Group's internal credit rating. In this regard, the directors of the Company consider that the Group's credit risk is significantly reduced.

The Group has concentration of credit risk as 40% (2022: 40%) of the total gross trade receivables was due from the Group's trade debtors which are over 10% (2022: 10%) of the total gross trade receivables, and 57% (2022: 59%) of the total gross trade receivables was due from the five largest debtors, respectively.

The credit risk on liquid funds is limited because the counterparties are banks with good reputation.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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### 30 Financial instruments (Continued)

#### (c) Market risks (Continued)

##### (iv) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)

The Group's internal credit risk grading assessment comprises the following categories:

Internal credit rating	Description	Trade receivables	Other financial assets
Group A	The counterparty has low risk of default based on historical repayment records and has a good reputation.	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired	12-month ECL – not credit-impaired
Group B	The counterparty has higher credibility but sometimes repays after due dates.	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired	12-month ECL – not credit-impaired
Group C	The counterparty usually settles after due day with a higher risk of default.	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired
Group D	There is evidence indicating the asset is credit-impaired.	Lifetime ECL – credit-impaired	Lifetime ECL – credit-impaired
Group E	There is evidence indicating that the debtor is in severe financial difficulty and the Group has no realistic prospect of recovery.	Amount is written off	Amount is written off

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 30 Financial instruments (Continued)

## (c) Market risks (Continued)

## (iv) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)

The tables below detail the credit risk exposures of the Group's financial assets which are subject to ECL assessment:

Financial assets at amortised cost	Note	External credit rating	Internal credit rating	12-month or lifetime ECL
Trade receivables	18	N/A	(note 1)	Lifetime ECL – not credit-impaired
Bills receivables	18	A+	Group D N/A	Lifetime ECL – credit-impaired 12-month ECL
Deposits and other receivables	21	N/A	(note 2)	12-month ECL
Bank balances	22	A – A+	N/A	12-month ECL

Debt instruments at FVTOCI	Note	External credit rating	Internal credit rating	12-month or lifetime ECL
Bills receivables at FVTOCI	20	A+	N/A	12-month ECL

Note 1: For trade receivables, the Group has applied the simplified approach in HKFRS 9 to measure the loss allowance at lifetime ECL. Except for debtors which are credit-impaired, the Group determines the ECL on these items on a collective basis, grouped by internal credit rating based on historical repayment records and reputation.

Note 2: For the purposes of internal credit risk management, the Group uses past due information to assess whether credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition.

As part of the Group's credit risk management, the Group applies internal credit rating for its customers in relation to its operation. The following table provides information about the exposure to credit risk for trade receivables which are assessed within lifetime ECL.

	2023			
	Average loss rate	Gross carrying amount HK\$'000	Loss allowance HK\$'000	Net carrying amount HK\$'000
<b>Internal credit rating</b>				
Group A	0.5%	21,459	(97)	21,362
Group B	3.2%	4,896	(156)	4,740
Group D	100%	34	(34)	–
		<b>26,389</b>	<b>(287)</b>	<b>26,102</b>

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**30 Financial instruments (Continued)****(c) Market risks (Continued)****(iv) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)**

	2022			
	Average loss rate	Gross carrying amount HK\$'000	Loss allowance HK\$'000	Net carrying amount HK\$'000
<b>Internal credit rating</b>				
Group A	0.3%	15,212	(42)	15,170
Group B	2.0%	7,648	(151)	7,497
Group D	100%	46	(46)	–
		<u>22,906</u>	<u>(239)</u>	<u>22,667</u>

The estimated loss rates are estimated based on historical observed default rates over the expected life of the debtors and are adjusted for forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort. The grouping is regularly reviewed by management to ensure relevant information about specific debtors is updated.

In the opinion of the directors of the Company, the trade receivables at the end of the reporting period which have been past due over 90 days are not considered as in default based on good repayment records for those customers and continuous business with the Group.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**30 Financial instruments (Continued)****(c) Market risks (Continued)****(iv) Credit risk and impairment assessment (Continued)**

The following table shows the movement in lifetime ECL that has been recognised for trade receivables.

	Lifetime ECL (non credit- impaired) HK\$'000	Lifetime ECL (credit- impaired) HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 January 2022	290	50	340
Currency realignment	(19)	(4)	(23)
Reversal of impairment loss recognised	(78)	–	(78)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>193</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>239</b>
Currency realignment	<b>4</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>(8)</b>
Impairment loss recognised	<b>56</b>	–	<b>56</b>
At 31 December 2023	<b>253</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>287</b>

**(v) Liquidity risk**

Ultimate responsibility for liquidity risk management rests with the directors of the Company, which has built an appropriate liquidity risk management framework for the management of the Group's short, medium and long-term funding and liquidity management requirements. The Group manages liquidity risk by maintaining adequate reserves, banking facilities and reserve borrowing facilities, by continuously monitoring forecast and actual cash flows and matching the maturity profiles of financial assets and liabilities.

The following table details the Group's remaining contractual maturity for its financial liabilities. The table has been drawn up based on the undiscounted cash flows of financial liabilities based on the earliest date on which the Group can be required to pay. Specifically, borrowings with a repayment on demand clause are included in the earliest time band regardless of the probability of the banks choosing to exercise their rights. The maturity dates for the financial liabilities are based on the agreed repayment dates.

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**30 Financial instruments (Continued)****(c) Market risks (Continued)****(v) Liquidity risk (Continued)**

The table includes both interest and principal cash flows. To the extent that interest flows are floating rate, the undiscounted amount is derived from interest rate at the end of the reporting period.

	Weighted average interest rate	On demand or within one year HK\$'000	One to two years HK\$'000	Total undiscounted cash flows HK\$'000	Carrying amounts HK\$'000
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>					
Trade payables	–	18,127	–	18,127	18,127
Other payables and accruals	–	3,102	–	3,102	3,102
Lease liabilities	4.55%	1,490	–	1,490	1,485
Borrowings	7.31%	7,166	–	7,166	7,146
		<b>29,885</b>	–	<b>29,885</b>	<b>29,860</b>
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>					
Trade payables	–	12,494	–	12,494	12,494
Other payables and accruals	–	3,349	–	3,349	3,349
Lease liabilities	4.20%	1,307	43	1,350	1,313
Borrowings	5.15%	13,350	–	13,350	13,315
		<b>30,500</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>30,543</b>	<b>30,471</b>

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 30 Financial instruments (Continued)

## (c) Market risks (Continued)

## (v) Liquidity risk (Continued)

Borrowings with a repayment on demand clause are included in the “on demand or less than 1 year” time band in the above maturity analysis. As at 31 December 2023, the aggregate carrying amounts of these borrowings amounted to HK\$7,146,000 (2022: HK\$13,315,000). Taking into account the Group’s financial position, the directors of the Company do not believe that it is probable that the banks will exercise their discretionary rights to demand immediate repayment and believe that such borrowings will be repaid in accordance with the scheduled repayment dates set out in the loan agreements, details of which are set out in the table below:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Maturity Analysis – Borrowings with a repayment on demand clause based on scheduled repayments</b>		
Less than one year	4,583	7,406
After one year but within two years	1,537	2,610
After two years but within five years	1,625	3,905
Over five years	–	362
Total undiscounted cash outflows	<b>7,745</b>	14,283
Carrying amount	<b>7,146</b>	13,315

## (vi) Fair value measurements of financial instruments

The Group’s bills receivables at FVTOCI and financial assets at FVTPL are measured at fair value at the end of each reporting period on a recurring basis. The following table gives information about how the fair values of these financial assets are determined.

Financial assets	Fair value at 31 December 2023	Fair value at 31 December 2022	Fair value hierarchy	Valuation techniques and key inputs
Bills receivables at FVTOCI (note)	HK\$1,975,000	HK\$3,585,000	Level 2	Discounted cash flow method. The key input is market interest rate.
Equity securities at FVTPL	HK\$4,883,000	HK\$1,935,000	Level 1	Quoted bid prices in an active market.

Note: The discounted cash flow method uses only observable market input.

There is no transfer between different levels of the fair value hierarchy for the current period.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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**30 Financial instruments (Continued)****(c) Market risks (Continued)****(vi) Fair value measurements of financial instruments (Continued)**

	Fair value hierarchy			Total HK\$'000
	Level 1 HK\$'000	Level 2 HK\$'000	Level 3 HK\$'000	
<b>At 31 December 2023</b>				
Bills receivables at FVTOCI	–	1,975	–	1,975
Equity securities at FVTPL	4,883	–	–	4,883
	<b>4,883</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>6,858</b>
<b>At 31 December 2022</b>				
Bills receivables at FVTOCI	–	3,585	–	3,585
Equity securities at FVTPL	1,935	–	–	1,935
	<b>1,935</b>	<b>3,585</b>	<b>–</b>	<b>5,520</b>

The directors of the Company consider that the carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded at amortised cost in the consolidated financial position approximate their fair values.

**31 Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities**

The table below details changes in the Group's liabilities arising from financing activities, including both cash and non-cash changes. Liabilities arising from financing activities are those for which cash flows were, or future cash flows will be, classified in the Group's consolidated statement of cash flows as cash flows from financing activities.

	Lease liabilities (note 25) HK\$'000	Borrowings (note 26) HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 January 2022	1,929	14,805	16,734
Financing cash flows, net	(2,863)	(1,999)	(4,862)*
New leases entered	2,245	–	2,245
Finance costs	126	509	635
Exchange adjustments	(124)	–	(124)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>1,313</b>	<b>13,315</b>	<b>14,628</b>
Financing cash flows, net	(2,833)	(6,678)	(9,511)
New leases entered	2,906	–	2,906
Finance costs	135	509	644
Exchange adjustments	(36)	–	(36)
At 31 December 2023	<b>1,485</b>	<b>7,146</b>	<b>8,631</b>

\* The financing cash flows from borrowings make up the net amount of new borrowings raised, repayment of bank borrowings and lease liabilities and interest paid on bank borrowings and lease liabilities in the consolidated statement of cash flows.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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## 32 Related party disclosures

### (a) Compensation of key management personnel

Remuneration for key management personnel of the Group, including amounts paid to the directors of the Company and certain of the highest paid employee as disclosed in note 12, is as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Short-term benefits	4,065	4,007
Post-employment benefits	73	72
	<b>4,138</b>	<b>4,079</b>

### (b) Other related party transactions

Save as disclosed above and elsewhere in these consolidated financial statements, the Group did not have any material related party transactions during the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022.

## 33 Major non-cash transactions

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group entered into a new lease agreement for the use of a leased property. On the lease commencement, the Group recognised HK\$2,906,000 (2022: HK\$2,245,000) of right-of-use assets and HK\$2,906,000 (2022: HK\$2,245,000) of lease liabilities.

## 34 Retirement benefit plans

### (a) Deferred contribution plans

The Group operates a MPF Scheme for all qualifying employees in Hong Kong under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance. Under the MPF Scheme, the employer and its employees are each required to make contributions to the plan at 5% of the employees' relevant income, subject to a cap of monthly relevant income of HK\$30,000. The assets of the MPF Scheme are held separately from those of the Group in funds under the control of an independent trustee. The only obligation of the Group with respect of MPF Scheme is to make the required contributions under the scheme. Contribution to the plan vest immediately, there is no forfeited contribution that may be used by the Group to reduce the existing level of contribution.

The employees employed in the PRC are members of the state-managed retirement benefit schemes operated by the PRC government. The PRC subsidiaries are required to contribute a certain percentage of their basic payroll to the retirement benefit schemes to fund the benefits. The only obligation of the Group with respect to the retirement benefit schemes is to make the required contributions under the schemes. Contribution to the plan vest immediately, there is no forfeited contribution that may be used by the Group to reduce the existing level of contribution.

The total expenses recognised in profit or loss of HK\$1,889,000 (2022: HK\$2,268,000) represents contributions paid and payable to these plans by the Group at rates specified in the rules of the plans.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
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## 35 Particulars of subsidiaries of the Company

Name of subsidiary	Place of incorporation/ establishment	Place of operations	Issued and fully paid share capital/ registered capital	Equity interest attributable to the Company		Principal activities
				2023	2022	
<b>Directly held</b>						
Vertical Technology (B.V.I.) Limited	BVI	Hong Kong	US\$1	100%	100%	Investment holding
Vertical Technology (Asia Pacific) Limited	Hong Kong	Hong Kong	HK\$100	100%	–	Not yet commenced business
<b>Indirectly held</b>						
Vertical Technology Company Limited	Hong Kong	Hong Kong	HK\$26,486,155	100%	100%	Trading of electronic components
韶關弘峰電子有限公司*	PRC	PRC	HK\$4,000,000	100%	100%	Trading of electronic components
東莞首科電子科技有限 公司*	PRC	PRC	HK\$20,000,000	100%	100%	Sales of manufactured aluminum electrolytic capacitors
Vertical Engineering Company Limited	Hong Kong	Hong Kong	HK\$10,000	100%	100%	Not yet commenced business

\* The companies are registered in the form of wholly foreign owned enterprises.

No debt security has been issued by any of subsidiaries at any time during the year or is outstanding at the end of the year.

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

## 36 Statement of financial position and equity of the Company

## (a) Statement of financial position of the Company

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
<b>Non-current asset</b>		
Investment in a subsidiary	54,486	54,486
<b>Current assets</b>		
Prepayments and deposits	209	175
Amount due from a subsidiary	1,000	1,000
Bank balances and cash	1,095	15,753
	2,304	16,928
<b>Current liabilities</b>		
Other payables	488	718
Amounts due to subsidiaries	1,437	741
	1,925	1,459
<b>Net current assets</b>	379	15,469
<b>NET ASSETS</b>	<b>54,865</b>	69,955
<b>Capital and reserves</b>		
Share capital	14,400	14,400
Reserves	40,465	55,555
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>54,865</b>	69,955

## NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023  
(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

**36 Statement of financial position and equity of the Company (Continued)****(b) Equity of the Company**

	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000	Accumulated losses HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 January 2022	9,600	72,273	(25,254)	56,619
Loss for the year	–	–	(2,385)	(2,385)
Issue of new shares by rights issue (note 28(a)(iii))	4,800	15,360	–	20,160
Cost of issuance of new shares by rights issue (note 28(a)(iii))	–	(1,559)	–	(1,559)
Dividends paid (note 11)	–	(2,880)	–	(2,880)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	<b>14,400</b>	<b>83,194</b>	<b>(27,639)</b>	<b>69,955</b>
Loss for the year	–	–	(5,010)	(5,010)
Dividends paid (note 11)	–	(10,080)	–	(10,080)
At 31 December 2023	<b>14,400</b>	<b>73,114</b>	<b>(32,649)</b>	<b>54,865</b>

**37 Events after the reporting period**

On 21 December 2023, Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry and Vertical Technology Investment Limited (a controlling shareholder of the Company and is wholly-owned by Mr. Boon Ho Yin Henry) (together known as, the "Potential Vendors"), as vendors, and Henan Lixuan Network Technology Company Limited (the "Potential Purchaser"), which is ultimately owned as to 90% by Mr. Geng Nan, 10% by Ms. Zhao Baoqin, as purchaser, entered into a memorandum of understanding (the "MOU"), which does not constitute a formal agreement in respect of a possible sale of the Potential Vendors' interest in the Company by the Potential Vendors to the Potential Purchaser.

The MOU contemplates a possible sale of 187,840,000 shares of the Company (the "Shares") held by the Potential Vendors and representing approximately 65.22% of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of this report ("Possible Transaction"). The Potential Purchaser and its ultimate beneficial owners are independent third parties, which are not connected persons (as defined in the Listing Rules) of the Company and are independent of the Company and its connected persons (as defined in the Listing Rules). Pursuant to the terms of the MOU, the Potential Purchaser is entitled and is conducting due diligence review on the business, operations, financial and legal affairs of the Group as at the date of this report. Details of the Possible Transaction are set out in the announcement of the Company dated 27 December 2023, 26 January 2024 and 26 February 2024.

As at the date of this report, save for the MOU, no formal or legally binding agreement has been entered into between the Potential Vendors and the Potential Purchaser in respect of the Possible Transaction.

## FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(Expressed in Hong Kong dollars)

The results and the assets and liabilities of the Group for the last five financial years, as extracted from the Group's audited consolidated financial statements in this annual report, are set out below.

	For the year ended 31 December				
	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000	2020 HK\$'000	2019 HK\$'000
<b>RESULTS</b>					
Revenue	<b>84,262</b>	86,371	132,480	96,269	82,185
(Loss)/profit before taxation	<b>(11,850)</b>	(19,028)	6,984	1,966	2,012
Income tax (expense)/credit	<b>(338)</b>	482	(1,907)	(1,162)	(466)
(Loss)/profit for the year	<b>(12,188)</b>	(18,546)	5,077	804	1,546
	As at 31 December				
	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000	2020 HK\$'000	2019 HK\$'000
<b>ASSETS AND LIABILITIES</b>					
Total assets	<b>107,601</b>	133,663	157,309	132,777	122,507
Total liabilities	<b>(30,983)</b>	(32,541)	(46,159)	(35,420)	(29,257)
Total equity	<b>76,618</b>	101,122	111,150	97,357	93,250