

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The directors have declared an interim dividend for the six months ended December 31, 2000 of HK4.80 cents per share (1999/2000: HK3.80 cents), payable on or about Friday, May 18, 2001 to the shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Members of the Company at close of business on Tuesday, March 27, 2001 ("Shareholders") with a scrip alternative to offer Shareholders the right to elect to receive fully paid new shares in lieu of cash (the "Scrip Dividend Scheme").

A circular containing details of the Scrip Dividend Scheme together with the relevant election form will be despatched to Shareholders on or about Wednesday, March 28, 2001. The Scrip Dividend Scheme is conditional upon the granting by the Listing Committee of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited of the listing of and permission to deal in the new shares to be issued pursuant thereto. The relevant dividend warrants and certificates for the new shares to be issued pursuant to the Scrip Dividend Scheme will be despatched to Shareholders on or about Friday, May 18, 2001.