

Interim Report 2000 / 2001

Other Information

CLOSING OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from Thursday, 12th April, 2001 to Wednesday, 18th April, 2001, both days inclusive, during which period no requests for the transfer of shares will be accepted. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfers of shares accompanied by the relevant share certificates and transfer forms must be lodged with the Company's Registrars, Central Registration Hong Kong Limited, 19th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong not later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 11th April, 2001. Warrants for the interim dividend will be sent to shareholders on or before Thursday, 26th April, 2001.

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

During the period under review, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

EMPLOYEES

As at 31st December, 2000, the number of employees of the Group was about 5,200. The remuneration packages to employees were commensurable to the market trend and level of pay in the industry. Discretionary year-end bonus was paid to employees based on individual performance. Other benefits to employees include medical insurance, retirement schemes, training programmes and educational subsidies.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee met in March 2001 and reviewed the systems of internal control and compliance and the interim report for the period ended 31st December, 2000.

CODE OF BEST PRACTICE

None of the Directors is aware of information that would reasonably indicate that the Company is not, or was not at any time during the six months ended 31st December, 2000, in compliance with the Code of Best Practice as set out in Appendix 14 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited except that Non-executive Directors of the Company are not appointed for a specific term but are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at the Company's annual general meetings in accordance with Article 116 of the Company's Articles of Association.

By Order of the Board

John Yip

Secretary

Hong Kong, 22nd March, 2001