(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

(the "Company")

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Annual General Meeting of the Company will be held on Thursday, 29th May, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. (registration will begin at 2:30 p.m.) at Hall 7A, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong (please use Harbour Road entrance) for the purpose of transacting the following business:

### **ORDINARY BUSINESS**

- 1. To receive and consider the audited Statement of Accounts and the Reports of the Directors and the Auditors of the Company for the year ended 31st December, 2002.
- 2. To declare a final dividend for the year ended 31st December, 2002.
- 3. (a) To re-elect Directors.
  - (b) To fix the remuneration of the Directors and authorise the Board of Directors to vary the same.
- 4. To re-appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as Auditors of the Company and authorise the Board of Directors to determine their remuneration.

#### **SPECIAL BUSINESS**

To consider and, if thought fit, to pass with or without modification the following ordinary resolutions:

## 5. **"THAT:**

- (A) subject to paragraph (B) of this Resolution, the exercise by the Board of Directors during the Relevant Period of all the powers of the Company to allot, issue, grant, distribute and otherwise deal with additional Shares and to make, issue or grant offers, agreements, options, warrants and other securities which will or might require Shares to be allotted, issued, granted, distributed or otherwise dealt with during or after the end of the Relevant Period, be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (B) the aggregate nominal amount of share capital allotted, issued, granted, distributed or otherwise dealt with or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be allotted, issued, granted, distributed or otherwise dealt with (whether pursuant to an option, conversion or otherwise) by the Board of Directors pursuant to the approval in paragraph (A) of this Resolution, otherwise than pursuant to:
  - (i) a Rights Issue; or

- (ii) the exercise of rights of subscription or conversion under the terms of any warrant issued by the Company or any securities which are convertible into Shares; or
- (iii) any scrip dividend or similar arrangement providing for the allotment of Shares in lieu of the whole or part of a dividend on Shares pursuant to the Articles of Association of the Company from time to time; or
- (iv) any share option scheme or savings-based share option plans or similar arrangement for the time being adopted by the Company for the grant or issue to eligible participants of such scheme, plan or arrangement of Shares or rights to acquire Shares, including without limitation pursuant to the rules of the Company's 2002 Share Option Scheme and 2002 Sharesave Plan, both of which were adopted by shareholders of the Company on 10th July, 2002,

shall not exceed the aggregate of:

- (a) twenty per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of passing this Resolution; and
- (b) (if the Board of Directors is so authorised by a separate resolution of the shareholders of the Company) the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company purchased by the Company subsequent to the passing of this Resolution (up to a maximum equivalent to ten per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of passing this Resolution),

and the said approval shall be limited accordingly; and

- (C) for the purpose of this Resolution:
  - (i) "Relevant Period" means the period from (and including) the date of passing this Resolution until whichever is the earliest of:
    - (a) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;
    - (b) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the Articles of Association of the Company or by any applicable law to be held; and
    - (c) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this Resolution by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting;
  - (ii) "Rights Issue" means an offer of Shares open for a period fixed by the Board of Directors to the holders of Shares whose names appear on the Register of Members of the Company (and, if appropriate, to the holders of warrants and other securities which carry a right to subscribe or purchase Shares on the

relevant register) on a fixed record date in proportion to their holdings of such Shares (and, if appropriate, such warrants and other securities) as at that date (subject to such exclusions or other arrangements as the Board of Directors may deem necessary or expedient in relation to fractional entitlements or having regard to any legal or practical restrictions or obligations under the laws of, or the requirements of any recognised regulatory body or any stock exchange in, any jurisdiction or territory applicable to the Company); and

(iii) "Shares" means ordinary shares of HK\$5.00 each in the capital of the Company."

### 6. **"THAT:**

- (A) subject to paragraph (B) of this Resolution, the exercise by the Board of Directors during the Relevant Period of all the powers of the Company to purchase Shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") or any other stock exchange on which the Shares may be listed and which is recognised by the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong and the Stock Exchange for this purpose, subject to and in accordance with all applicable laws, including the Hong Kong Code on Share Repurchases and the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange (as amended from time to time), be and is hereby generally and unconditionally approved;
- (B) the aggregate nominal amount of Shares which may be purchased or agreed conditionally or unconditionally to be purchased by the Company pursuant to the approval in paragraph (A) of this Resolution shall not exceed ten per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of passing this Resolution, and the said approval shall be limited accordingly; and
- (C) for the purpose of this Resolution:
  - (i) "Relevant Period" means the period from (and including) the date of passing this Resolution until whichever is the earliest of:
    - (a) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company;
    - (b) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the Articles of Association of the Company or by any applicable law to be held; and
    - (c) the revocation or variation of the authority given under this Resolution by an ordinary resolution of the shareholders of the Company in general meeting;
  - (ii) "Shares" means ordinary shares of HK\$5.00 each in the capital of the Company."

7. "THAT conditional on the passing of Resolutions 5 and 6, the general mandate granted to the Board of Directors to exercise the powers of the Company to allot, issue, grant, distribute or otherwise deal with additional shares in the Company pursuant to Resolution 5 be and is hereby extended by the addition thereto of an amount representing the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company purchased by the Company under the general mandate granted pursuant to Resolution 6, provided that such amount shall not exceed ten per cent. of the aggregate nominal amount of the issued share capital of the Company as at the date of passing Resolutions 5 and 6."

By Order of the Board

Jason C.W. Yeung

Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 20th March, 2003

Registered Office: 52nd Floor Bank of China Tower 1 Garden Road Hong Kong

#### Notes:

- 1. The resolutions will be decided on a show of hands unless a poll is demanded before or on the declaration of the result of the show of hands. A poll may be demanded by, among others, the chairman of the meeting or at least three members present in person (or in the case of a corporate member, by its duly authorised representative) or by proxy and entitled to vote at the meeting.
- 2. Any member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting convened by the above notice is entitled to appoint one or two proxies to attend and vote instead of him. A proxy need not be a member of the Company.
- 3. In order to be valid, the instrument appointing a proxy together with the power of attorney or other authority, if any, under which it is signed, or a notarially certified copy of such power of attorney or authority, should be deposited at the registered office of the Company at least 48 hours before the time fixed for holding the meeting or any adjournment thereof. Completion and return of a form of proxy will not preclude a member from attending in person and voting at the meeting or any adjournment thereof should he so wish.
- 4. The Register of Members of the Company will be closed, for the purpose of determining shareholders' entitlement to the proposed final dividend, from Friday, 2nd May, 2003 to Friday, 16th May, 2003 (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered. In order to qualify for the proposed final dividend, all share transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, must be lodged for registration with the Company's share registrar, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited at Rooms 1901-5, 19th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong, not later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 30th April, 2003.
- 5. The record date for determining shareholders' entitlement to attend the Annual General Meeting is Friday, 23rd May, 2003. In order to qualify for attending the Annual General Meeting, all share transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, must be lodged for registration with the Company's share registrar (details as set out in note 4 above) not later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, 23rd May, 2003.

- 6. In relation to Resolution 6, an explanatory statement (as required by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited, the "Listing Rules") is set out in the Appendix of a circular to be despatched by the Company to the members.
- 7. By Resolutions 5 and 7, approval is being sought from members, as a general mandate in compliance with section 57B of the Companies Ordinance (Cap. 32 of the Laws of Hong Kong) and the Listing Rules, so that in the event it becomes desirable for the Company to issue any new shares, the Board of Directors is given the flexibility and discretion to allot and issue new shares up to twenty per cent. of the issued share capital of the Company, together with such number of shares as may be purchased by the Company pursuant to the general mandate under Resolution 6, as more particularly described in Resolutions 5, 6 and 7.
- 8. In case of joint shareholdings, the vote of the senior joint shareholder who tenders a vote, whether in person or by proxy, will be accepted to the exclusion of the votes of the other joint shareholder(s) and for this purpose seniority will be determined by the order in which the names stand in the Register of Members of the Company in respect of the joint shareholding.

# Please note that refreshments will not be served at the Annual General Meeting.

Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in South China Morning Post.