

Milestones

2003

November

NWS Holdings Limited signed a facility agreement for a HK\$6 billion five-year syndicated loan with 15 international and local banks.

Sky Connection Limited, which retails tobacco and liquor at Free Duty shops in the Hong Kong International Airport and the ferry terminals in China Hong Kong City and Shun Tak Centre, became a wholly owned subsidiary company of NWS Holdings Limited.



Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre was named Asia Pacific's Leading Conference Centre in the 10th World Travel Awards.



Urban Property Management Limited won – for the fourth time – the Best Property Management Agent Award organized by the Hong Kong Housing Authority. It also won the 2003 Best Practices in Innovation Award organized by *Best Practice Management* magazine.

December

NWS Holdings Limited was named as one of the top 10 private corporations in Hong Kong in terms of the number of hours it contributed to public service. This award by the Social Welfare Department recognized the Group's contribution of more than 3,000 hours of community service during the year.



Guangzhou City Northern Ring Road was named One of the Most Creditable Enterprises and One of the 100 Most Competitive Enterprises in Guangzhou by the Corporate Review Association of Guangzhou City.

2004

January

NWS Holdings Limited expanded into the water treatment market in Sanya, Hainan Province.



Kunming New World First Bus Services Limited, a joint venture between New World First Bus Services (China) Limited and Kunming Bus General Company, commenced bus services in Kunming, Yunnan Province.



February

NWS Holdings Limited's Annual Report 2003 won a gold award for Cover Design, a silver award for Overall Presentation, and a bronze award for Interior Design at the Mercury Awards 2003, a premier global competition organized by MerComm, Inc.

Guangzhou City Northern Ring Road's laboratory of the Operations Department was certified as The Most Advanced Organization 2003 by the Guangzhou Municipal Government.

March

NWS Holdings Limited and Chow Tai Fook Enterprises Limited formed Merryhill Group Limited, a 50/50 joint venture providing comprehensive transport services.



NWSH Capital Finance Limited issued convertible bonds worth HK\$1.35 billion which are convertible into shares of NWS Holdings Limited at HK\$13.63 per share.

NWS Holdings Limited launched a brand-building campaign to demonstrate the Group's commitment to providing quality service.

Xiamen Municipal Port Authority selected Xiamen Xiang Yu Quay for its 2003 Xiamen Excellent Container Terminal for Domestic Transshipment and Comprehensive Services award.

April

NWS Holdings Limited expanded its water treatment operations to Tianjin's Tanggu District.

Hip Hing Construction (China) Company Limited and NWS Engineering Limited set up foreign invested construction enterprises in Beijing and were granted qualification certificates of construction enterprises by the Ministry of Construction that allow them to undertake projects throughout Mainland China.

Urban Property Management Limited was appointed by Hong Kong's Government Property Agency to manage 55 government properties in the New Territories for three years.

May

NWS Holdings Limited was presented with the Gold Award for Volunteer Service for the third consecutive year by the Social Welfare Department in appreciation of the Group's contribution of over 1,000 hours' community service in 2003.

Sky Connection Limited won prestigious awards at the Raven Fox Awards. These awards included Best Travel Retailer Operating in a Single Country in Asia/Pacific and Best Tobacco Travel Retailer in Asia/Pacific. It also ranked as Highly Commended: Best Liquor Travel Retailer in Asia/Pacific, and Highly Commended: Asia/Pacific Travel Retailer of the Year.



June

Merryhill Group Limited signed an agreement for a HK\$3.3 billion transferable secured loan with 11 international and local banks.

NWS Holdings Limited won the Silver Award in the Community Relations category of the Sixth China Golden Awards for Excellence in Public Relations. The Awards, organized by the China International Public Relations Association, recognized the success of an essay competition cum fundraising campaign to help people affected by SARS in 2003.