

Notes to the Financial Statements

31 July 2003

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1. CORPORATE INFORMATION

The Company is incorporated in Bermuda as an exempted company with limited liability and its shares and warrants are listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). Its ultimate holding company is Everbest Holdings Group Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands. The registered office of the Company is located at Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM11, Bermuda.

The Company is an investment holding company. Its subsidiaries are principally engaged in the property development and the provision of medical and health services in the People's Republic of China ("PRC").

2. ADOPTION OF NEW AND REVISED STATEMENTS OF STANDARD ACCOUNTING PRACTICE ("SSAPs")

In the current year, the Group adopted the following new and revised SSAPs issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (the "HKICPA") which are effective for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2002:

SSAP 1 (revised)	:	Presentation of financial statements
SSAP 11 (revised)	:	Foreign currency translation
SSAP 15 (revised)	:	Cash flow statement
SSAP 34	:	Employee benefits

These SSAPs prescribe new accounting measurement and disclosure practices. The major effects on the Group's accounting policies and on the amounts disclosed in these financial statements of adopting these SSAPs are summarised as follows:

SSAP 1 (revised) prescribes the basis for presentation of financial statements and sets out guidelines for their structure and minimum requirements for the content thereof. The main revision to this SSAP is to change the requirements from presenting a statement of recognised gains and losses to a statement of changes in equity. The consolidated statement of changes in equity for the current financial year and the comparative figures has been presented in accordance with the revised SSAP.

SSAP 11 (revised) prescribes the basis for translation of foreign currency transaction and financial statements. The revisions to this SSAP have eliminated the choice of translating the income statements of overseas subsidiaries and associates at the closing rate of that period. They are now required to be translated at an average rate. This change in accounting policy has not had any material effect on the results for the current or prior accounting period.

2. ADOPTION OF NEW AND REVISED STATEMENTS OF STANDARD ACCOUNTING PRACTICE (“SSAPs”) *(Continued)*

SSAP 15 (revised) prescribes the revised format for the cash flow statement. The principal impact of the revision of this SSAP is that consolidated cash flow statement now presents cash flows under three headings, cash flows from operating, investing and financing activities, rather than the five headings previously required. In addition, the definition of cash equivalents for the purpose of the consolidated cash flow statement has been revised.

SSAP 34 prescribes the recognition and measurement criteria to apply to employee benefits, together with the required disclosures in respect thereof. The adoption of this SSAP has resulted in no material change to the previously adopted accounting treatments for employee benefits.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with all applicable SSAPs and Interpretations issued by the HKICPA, accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange. A summary of significant accounting policies followed by the Group in the preparation of the financial statements is set out below:

(a) Basis of preparation

The measurement basis used in the preparation of the financial statements is historical cost modified by the revaluation of investment properties.

(b) Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries made up to 31 July each year. A subsidiary is an enterprise controlled by the Company. Control exists when the Company has the power, directly or indirectly, to govern the financial and operating policies of an enterprise so as to obtain benefits from its activities.

All significant intercompany transactions and balances within the Group are eliminated on consolidation.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(b) Basis of consolidation *(Continued)*

The results of subsidiaries acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated income statement from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate.

Minority interests represent the interests of outside shareholders in the operating results and net assets of subsidiaries.

In the Company's balance sheet, the investments in subsidiaries are stated at cost less provision for impairment losses. The results of subsidiaries are accounted for by the Company on the basis of dividends received and receivable.

(c) Goodwill

Goodwill arising on consideration represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of a subsidiary at the date of acquisition.

Goodwill arising on acquisitions prior to 1 August 2001 is held in reserves and will be charged to the income statement at the time of disposal of the relevant subsidiary, or at such time as the goodwill is determined to be impaired. Goodwill arising on acquisitions after 1 August 2001 is capitalised and amortised on a straight line basis over its estimated useful life.

On disposal of an investment in a subsidiary, the attributable amount of unamortised goodwill or goodwill previously eliminated against reserves is included in the determination of the profit or loss on disposal.

(d) Interests in associates

The consolidated income statement includes the Group's share of the post-acquisition results of its associates for the year. In the consolidated balance sheet, interests in associates are stated at the Group's share of the net assets of the associates, less any identified impairment loss.

The results of associates are accounted for by the Company on the basis of dividends received and receivable during the year. In the Company's balance sheet, investments in associates are stated at cost, as reduced by any identified impairment loss.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(e) Investment properties

Investment properties are completed properties which are held for their investment potential, any rental income being negotiated at arm's length.

Investment properties are stated at their open market value. Any revaluation increase or decrease arising on the revaluation of investment properties is credited or charged to the investment property revaluation reserves unless the balance on this reserve is insufficient to cover a revaluation decrease, in which case the excess of the revaluation decrease over the balance on the investment property revaluation reserve is charged to the income statement. Where a decrease has previously been charged to the income statement and a revaluation increase subsequently arises, this increase is credited to the income statement to the extent of the decrease previously charged.

On disposal of an investment property, the balance on the investment property revaluation reserve attributable to that property is transferred to the income statement.

No depreciation is provided on investment properties except where the unexpired term of the relevant lease is 20 years or less.

(f) Fixed assets and depreciation

Fixed assets other than properties under construction are stated at cost less depreciation and amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Properties in the course of construction are carried at cost less any identified impairment loss. Cost includes professional and borrowing costs capitalised in accordance with the Group's accounting policy. Depreciation of these assets, on the same basis as other fixed assets, commences when the assets are ready for their intended use.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(f) Fixed assets and depreciation *(Continued)*

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of fixed assets over their estimated useful lives, using the straight line method, at the following rates per annum:

Leasehold land and buildings	Over the shorter of the term of the lease, or 20 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	10 – 20%
Motor vehicles	20 – 33 ¹ / ₃ %
Plant and machinery	10%

Assets held under finance leases are depreciated over their estimated useful lives on the same basis as assets owned by the Group.

The gain or loss arising from disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in the income statement.

(g) Leased assets

Assets held under finance leases and hire purchase contracts have been capitalised. The interest element of the rental payments is charged to the income statement over the period of the lease and represents a constant proportion of the balance of capital repayments outstanding. Depreciation is provided in accordance with the Group's depreciation policy (*Note 3(f)*).

All other leases and hire purchase contracts are accounted for as operating leases and the lease payments are charged to the income statement on a straight-line basis over the periods of the leases.

(h) Golf resort

The golf resort is stated at cost less identified impairment loss. Depreciation on the golf resort is provided over the lease term to write off its costs over its estimated useful live on a straight line basis.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(i) Properties under development

Properties under development are stated at lower of cost or estimated net realisable value.

Revenue from pre-sales of properties under development is recognised based on the construction costs of a development project incurred up to the end of a financial period as a proportion of the estimated total construction costs. Income recognised is limited to the amount of pre-sale deposits received. In any case, income is only recognised when it is reasonable certain.

Where purchasers fail to pay the balance of the purchase price on completion and the Group exercises its entitlement to resell the property, sale deposits received in advance of completion are forfeited. The excess of the sale deposits forfeited over the profits recognised up to the date of forfeiture is credited to the income statement.

(j) Properties for sale

Properties for sale are stated at lower of cost and estimated net realisable value.

(k) Investments in securities

All securities other than held-to-maturity debt securities are initially recorded at cost and are measured at subsequent reporting dates at fair value. Where securities are held for trading purposes, unrealised gains and losses are included in net profit or loss for the year. For other securities, unrealised gains and losses are dealt with in equity, until the security is disposed of or is determined to be impaired, at which time the cumulative gain or loss is calculated in net profit or loss for the year.

(l) Impairment of assets

Internal and external sources of information are reviewed at each balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment of assets, (excluding inventories, investment properties and financial assets other than interests in subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures), or whether there is any indication that an impairment loss previously recognised no longer existed or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset is estimated. An impairment loss is recognised whenever the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is charged to the income statement in the year in which it arises, unless the asset is carried at a revalued amount, when the impairment loss is accounted for in accordance with the relevant policy for that revalued asset.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(l) Impairment of assets *(Continued)*

1. Calculation of recoverable amount

The recoverable amount of an asset is the greater of its net selling price and value in use. The net selling price is the amount obtainable from the sale of an asset in an arm's length transaction while value in use is the present value of estimated future cash flows expected to arise from the continuing use of an asset and from its disposal at the end of its useful life. 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 assessment of time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. Where an asset does not generate cash flows largely independent of those from other assets, the recoverable amount is determined for the smallest group of assets that generates cash flows independently (i.e. a cash-generating unit).

2. Reversal of impairment losses

An impairment loss is reversed if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount.

A reversal of impairment loss is limited to the asset's carrying amount that would have been determined and had no impairment loss been recognised in prior years. Reversals of impairment losses are credited to the income statement in the year in which the reversals are recognised.

(m) Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs that are directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of an asset that necessary takes a substantial period of time to get ready for its intended use or sales are capitalised as part of the cost of that asset.

All other borrowing costs are charged to the income statement in the year in which they are incurred.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(n) Revenue recognition

- 1) Revenue from the sale of completed properties is recognised upon the execution of a binding sale and purchase agreement.
- 2) Medical and examination fee income is recognised when services are provided.
- 3) Income from golf resort is recognised when golf course and catering services are provided to customers.
- 4) Property rental income under operating leases is recognised on a straight line basis over the term of the relevant lease.
- 5) Interest income from bank deposits is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the interest rate applicable.

(o) Translation of foreign currencies

Transactions in foreign currencies during the year are translated at exchange rates ruling at the transaction dates. Monetary assets and liabilities expressed in foreign currencies at the balance sheet date are translated at the rates exchange ruling at the balance sheet date. Exchange differences arising in these cases are dealt with in the income statement.

On consolidation, the balance sheets of subsidiaries expressed in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the balance sheet date whilst the income and expenses items are translated at an average rate. Exchange differences are dealt with as a movement in reserves.

(p) Current assets and current liabilities

Current assets are expected to be realised within twelve months of the balance sheet date or in the normal course of the Group's operating cycle. Current liabilities are expected to be settled within twelve months of the balance sheet date or in the normal course of the Group's operating cycle.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(q) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present legal or constructive obligation as a result of past events and it is probable that an outflow of economic resources will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are reviewed at each balance sheet date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the amount of a provision is the present value of the expenditures expected to be required to settle the obligation. Where the Group expects a provision to be reimbursed, for example under an insurance contract, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain.

(r) Contingent liabilities and assets

A contingent liability is a possible obligation that arises from past events and whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain future events not wholly within the control of the Group. It can also be a present obligation arising from past events that is not recognised because it is not probable that outflow of economic resources will be required or the amount of obligation cannot be measured reliably.

A contingent liability is not recognised but is disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. When a change in the probability of an outflow occurs so that outflow is probable, they will then be recognised as a provision.

A contingent asset is a possible asset that arises from past events and whose existence will be confirmed only by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more uncertain events not wholly within the control of the Group.

Contingent assets are not recognised but are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements when an inflow of economic benefits is probable. When inflow is virtually certain, an asset is recognised.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(s) Taxation

The charge for taxation is based on the results for the year as adjusted for items which are non-assessable or disallowed. Timing differences arise from the recognition for tax purposes of certain items of income and expense in a different accounting period from that in which they are recognised in the financial statements. The tax effect of the timing differences, computed under the liability method, is recognised as deferred taxation in the financial statements to the extent that it is probable that a liability or an asset will crystallise in the foreseeable future.

(t) Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash at bank and on hand, demand deposits with banks and other financial institutions, and short-term, highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, which were within three months of maturity at acquisition. Bank overdrafts that are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management are also included as a component of cash and cash equivalents of the purpose of the cash flow statement.

(u) Related party transactions

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operating decisions. Parties are also considered to be related if they are subject to common control or common significant influence. A transaction is considered to be a related party transaction when there is a transfer of resources or obligations between related parties.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(v) Employee benefits

- 1) The Group operates a defined contribution Mandatory Provident Fund retirement benefits scheme (the "MPF Scheme") under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance for those employees who are eligible to participate in the MPF Scheme. The MPF Scheme has operated since 1 December 2000. Contributions are made based on a percentage of the employees' basic salaries and are charged to the income statement as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the MPF Scheme. The Group's employer contributions vest fully with the employees when contributed into the MPF Scheme. The assets of the MPF Scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund.
- 2) The relevant PRC subsidiaries are required to make contributions to the state retirement schemes in the PRC based on 18% to 22% of the monthly salaries of their current employees to fund the benefits. The employees are entitled to retirement pension calculated with reference to their basic salaries on retirement and their length of service in accordance with the relevant government regulations. The PRC government is responsible for the pension liability to these retired staff.
- 3) The Company operates a share option scheme for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to eligible participants who contribute to the success of the Group's operations. The financial impact of share options granted under the share option scheme is not recorded in the Company's or the Group's balance sheet until such time as the options are exercised, and no charge is recorded in the income statement or balance sheet for their cost. Upon the exercise of share options, the resulting shares issued are recorded by the Company as additional share capital at the nominal value of the shares, and the excess of the exercise price over the nominal value of the shares is recorded by the Company in the share premium account. Options which are cancelled prior to their exercise date, or which lapse, are deleted from the register of outstanding options.

3. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(Continued)

(w) Segment reporting

A segment is a distinguishable component of the Group that is engaged either in providing products or services (business segment), or in providing products and services within a particular economic environment (geographical segment), which is subject to risks and rewards that are different from those of other segments.

In accordance with the Group's internal financial reporting, the Group has determined that business segments be presented as the primary reporting format and geographical as the secondary reporting format.

Segment revenue, expenses, results, assets and liabilities include items directly attributable to a segment and those that can be allocated on a reasonable basis to that segment. Segment revenue, expenses, assets and liabilities are determined before intra-group balances and intra-group transactions are eliminated as part of the consolidation process, except to the extent that such intra-group balances and transactions are between Group enterprises within a single segment. The allocation of revenue reflects the benefits of capital and other funding resources allocated to the business or geographical segments by way of internal capital allocation and fund transfer mechanisms. Intra-group pricing is based on similar terms as those available to other external parties.

Segment capital expenditure is the total cost incurred during the year to acquire segment assets (both tangible and intangible) that are expected to be used for more than one year.

4. TURNOVER

Turnover represents the aggregate of sales revenue from the sales of properties in the PRC, the service income from the provision of medical and health services in the PRC, and the service income from the operation of golf resort.

An analysis of the Group's turnover is as follows:

	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Turnover:		
Continuing operations:		
Sales of properties in the PRC	3,996	7,635
Provision of medical and health services in the PRC	13,689	15,552
Operation of a golf resort	4,054	-
	<u>21,739</u>	<u>23,187</u>
Discontinued operations:		
Repairs and maintenance of civil engineering establishments and buildings under construction contracts in Hong Kong	-	182,295
	<u>21,739</u>	<u>205,482</u>

5. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group is engaged in property development and the provision of medical and health services in the PRC. In prior years, the Group was also involved in the repairs and maintenance of civil engineering establishments and buildings under construction contracts in Hong Kong, the operation of which were discontinued from 22 April 2002 (note 33).

Segment information about these business is presented below:

Business segments

2003

Results

	Property development HK\$'000	Medical and health services HK\$'000	Golf resort HK\$'000	Consolidated HK\$'000
Segment revenue	<u>3,996</u>	<u>13,689</u>	<u>4,054</u>	<u>21,739</u>
Segment results	<u>(88,167)</u>	<u>659</u>	<u>(7,266)</u>	<u>(94,774)</u>
Unallocated corporate expenses				(22,568)
Gain realised on expiry of warrants				<u>38,845</u>
Loss from operations				(78,497)
Loss on deemed disposal of an associate				(1,742)
Loss on disposal of an associate				(3,706)
Share of results of associates				(42,132)
Finance costs				<u>(5,936)</u>
Loss before taxation				(132,013)
Taxation credit				<u>45,024</u>
Loss before minority interests				(86,989)
Minority interests				<u>46</u>
Net loss for the year				<u><u>(86,943)</u></u>

5. SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Business segments *(Continued)*

2003

Other information

	Property development HK\$'000	Medical and health services HK\$'000	Golf resort HK\$'000	Unallocated HK\$'000	Consolidated HK\$'000
Additions to fixed assets	-	31	962	-	993
Depreciation and amortisation	41	27	2,043	4,086	6,197

Balance sheet

ASSETS

Segment assets	<u>284,566</u>	<u>3,828</u>	<u>207,694</u>		496,088
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Interests in associates					41,927
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Unallocated corporate assets					<u>164,833</u>
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					<u>702,848</u>
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LIABILITIES

Segment liabilities	<u>69,436</u>	<u>5,343</u>	<u>2,189</u>		76,968
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Amount due to an associate					1,018
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Unallocated corporate liabilities					<u>195,716</u>
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					<u>273,702</u>
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5. SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Business segments *(Continued)*

2002

Results

	Civil engineering HK\$'000 <i>(Note)</i>	Property development HK\$'000	Medical and health services HK\$'000	Golf resort under construction HK\$'000	Consolidated HK\$'000
Segment revenue	<u>182,295</u>	<u>7,635</u>	<u>15,552</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>205,482</u>
Segment results	<u>47,307</u>	<u>(22,932)</u>	<u>3,997</u>	<u>(27,672)</u>	700
Unallocated corporate expenses					<u>(77,850)</u>
Loss from operations					(77,150)
Loss on disposal of discontinued operations					(45,493)
Share of results of associates					(1,709)
Finance costs					<u>(13,675)</u>
Loss before taxation					(138,027)
Taxation charge					<u>(455)</u>
Loss before minority interests					(138,482)
Minority interests					<u>(81)</u>
Net loss for the year					<u><u>(138,563)</u></u>

5. SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Business segments *(Continued)*

2002

Other information

	Civil engineering	Property development	Medical and health services	Golf resort under construction	Unallocated	Consolidated
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	<i>(Note)</i>					
Additions to fixed assets	86	-	12	1,507	529	2,134
Depreciation and amortisation	1,744	99	31	829	2,742	5,445

Balance sheet

ASSETS

Segment assets	-	400,168	5,157	179,098		584,423
Interests in associates						94,979
Unallocated corporate assets						207,474
						<u>886,876</u>

LIABILITIES

Segment liabilities	-	118,011	5,054	8,811		131,876
Amount due to an associate						688
Unallocated corporate liabilities						198,323
						<u>330,887</u>

Note: The business segment of civil engineering was ceased following the disposal of Wing Fai Construction Company Limited ("Wing Fai"), Zhukuan Wingfai Construction Company Limited and Wai Shun Construction Company Limited (the "Wing Fai Subsidiaries") on 22 April 2002.

5. SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Geographical segments

The following tables provide an analysis of the Group's turnover by geographic market, irrespective of the origin of the goods/services.

	Revenue		Loss from operations	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
By geographical market:				
Hong Kong	-	182,295	(15,983)	(28,822)
PRC	21,739	23,187	(101,359)	(48,328)
	<u>21,739</u>	<u>205,482</u>	<u>(117,342)</u>	<u>(77,150)</u>
Gain realised on expiry of warrants			38,845	-
Loss from operations			<u>(78,497)</u>	<u>(77,150)</u>

Revenue from the Group's discontinued operations for the year ended 31 July 2002 was principally derived from Hong Kong.

The following is an analysis of the carrying amount of segment assets and additions to fixed assets, analysed by the geographical area in which the assets are located:

	Carrying amount of segment assets		Additions to fixed assets	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong	206,760	302,453	-	86
PRC	496,088	584,423	993	2,048
	<u>702,848</u>	<u>886,876</u>	<u>993</u>	<u>2,134</u>

6. NET ALLOWANCES FOR BAD AND DOUBTFUL DEBTS

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Allowances for bad and doubtful debts	(4,084)	(46,193)
Bad debts written back	-	32,000
	<u>(4,084)</u>	<u>(14,193)</u>

7. LOSS FROM OPERATIONS

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Loss from operations has been arrived at after charging:		
Auditors' remuneration	1,064	700
Depreciation and amortisation on:		
Owned assets	6,197	5,355
Assets held under finance leases	-	90
Loss on disposal of investments in securities	-	3,903
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	18
Operating lease rentals in respect of land and buildings	320	96
Staff costs, including directors' remuneration:		
Retirement benefits scheme contributions	315	244
Salaries and other benefits	15,522	19,379
Net exchange loss	-	107
and after crediting:		
Net exchange gain	(37)	-
Interest income	<u>(2,716)</u>	<u>(10,833)</u>

8. LOSS ON DISPOSAL OF DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS

During the year ended 31 July 2002, on 22 April 2002, the Group disposed of its Wing Fai Subsidiaries which carried on the repairs and maintenance of civil engineering establishments and buildings under construction contracts in Hong Kong.

The results of the Wing Fai Subsidiaries for the period from 1 August 2001 to 22 April 2002, which have been included in the consolidated financial statements, were as follows:

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Turnover	-	182,295
Cost of sales	-	(155,179)
	-	27,116
Other operating income	-	2,962
Bad debts written back	-	32,000
Administrative expenses	-	(4,019)
Other operating expenses	-	(10,752)
Profit from operations	-	47,307
Finance costs	-	(5,188)
Profit before taxation	-	42,119
Taxation	-	-
Net profit for the period/year	-	42,119

9. FINANCE COSTS

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Finance charges in respect of finance leases	17	25
Interest on bank borrowings wholly repayable within five years	5,919	12,880
Interest on bank borrowings with instalments repayable after five years	-	770
	<u>5,936</u>	<u>13,675</u>

10. DIRECTORS' AND EMPLOYEES' EMOLUMENTS

(a) Directors' emoluments

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Fees:		
Executive directors	-	-
Independent non-executive directors	96	144
	<u>96</u>	<u>144</u>
Other emoluments to executive directors:		
Salaries and other benefits	5,238	7,733
Retirement benefits scheme contributions	24	42
	<u>5,262</u>	<u>7,775</u>
Total emoluments	<u>5,358</u>	<u>7,919</u>

10. DIRECTORS' AND EMPLOYEES' EMOLUMENTS *(Continued)*

(a) Directors' emoluments *(Continued)*

The emoluments of the above directors fell within the following bands:

	Number of director(s)	
	2003	2002
Nil – HK\$1,000,000	3	3
HK\$1,000,001 – HK\$1,500,000	–	2
HK\$2,000,001 – HK\$2,500,000	2	1
HK\$2,500,001 – HK\$3,000,000	–	1
	–	1

No remuneration were paid by the Group to the directors as a discretionary bonus or an inducement to join or upon joining the Group.

There was no arrangement under which a director had waived or agreed to waive any remuneration in both years.

(b) Employees' emoluments

Of the five individuals with the highest emoluments in the Group, four (2002: four) were directors of the Company whose emoluments are set out above. The emolument of the remaining one (2002: one) individual was as follows:

	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Salaries and other benefits	960	960
Retirement benefits scheme contributions	12	12
Total emoluments	972	972

The emoluments of the above employee fell within the following bands:

	Number of employee	
	2003	2002
Nil – HK\$1,000,000	1	1

11. TAXATION

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Current taxation:		
Profits tax for the year arising in the PRC	(376)	(108)
Overprovision/(underprovision) of profits tax in prior years – Hong Kong	<u>35,000</u>	<u>(347)</u>
	<u>34,624</u>	<u>(455)</u>
Deferred taxation:		
Reversal for the year (<i>note 32</i>)	<u>10,400</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>45,024</u></u>	<u><u>(455)</u></u>

No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been provided as the Group incurred taxation loss for the year (2002 – Nil).

Taxation arising in the PRC is calculated at the rates prevailing in the respective regions.

12. NET LOSS FOR THE YEAR

Of the Group's loss of HK\$86,943,000, a loss of HK\$258,333,000 (2002: loss of HK\$147,350,000) is dealt with in the financial statements of the Company.

13. LOSS PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic loss per share is based on the net loss for the year of HK\$86,943,000 (2002: HK\$138,563,000) and the weighted average number of 2,256,666,196 (2002: 2,256,596,333) shares in issue during the year.

The computation of diluted loss per share does not assume the exercise of the potential shares since their exercise would result in a reduction in loss per share.

14. INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

	The Group	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
At beginning of the year	181,623	181,199
Additions	-	5,424
Deficit arising from revaluation	<u>(26,206)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>
At end of the year	<u><u>155,417</u></u>	<u><u>181,623</u></u>

Investment properties were revalued at their open market values at 31 July 2003 by Chesterton Petty Limited, an independent valuer, on an open market value basis. This valuation gave rise to a revaluation decrease of HK\$26,206,000 (2002: HK\$5,000,000) which has been charged to the income statement.

The Group's investment properties with an aggregate carrying value of approximately HK\$19,548,000 (2002: HK\$31,832,000) have been pledged to secure credit facilities granted to the Group.

The investment properties are situated in the PRC under long leases.

Property rental income earned during the year was HK\$1,111,000 (2002: HK\$1,575,000). The property held had committed tenants for the next two years. At the balance sheet date, the Group had contracted with tenants for the following future minimum lease receivables:

	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within one year	410	818
In the second to fifth year inclusive	<u>2,395</u>	<u>496</u>
	<u><u>2,805</u></u>	<u><u>1,314</u></u>

15. FIXED ASSETS

	Leasehold land and buildings HK\$'000	Furniture, fixtures and equipment HK\$'000	Motor vehicles HK\$'000	Plant and machinery HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
The Group					
Cost					
At 1 August 2002	66,773	6,381	2,441	1,161	76,756
Additions	-	278	482	233	993
Exchange realignment	297	73	27	5	402
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 July 2003	67,070	6,732	2,950	1,399	78,151
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation and impairment loss					
At 1 August 2002	25,193	4,947	1,578	265	31,983
Provided for the year	2,867	697	518	72	4,154
Reversal of impairment loss	(1,232)	-	-	-	(1,232)
Impairment loss recognised in the income statement	3,515	-	-	-	3,515
Exchange realignment	89	56	10	4	159
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 July 2003	30,432	5,700	2,106	341	38,579
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value					
At 31 July 2003	<u>36,638</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>844</u>	<u>1,058</u>	<u>39,572</u>
At 31 July 2002	<u>41,580</u>	<u>1,434</u>	<u>863</u>	<u>896</u>	<u>44,773</u>

Impairment loss of HK\$3,515,000 (2002: HK\$13,200,000) in respect of leasehold land and buildings was recognised during the year by reference to the valuation report issued by Chesterton Petty Limited dated 20 October 2004, which valued the properties on an open market value basis as at 31 July 2003.

15. FIXED ASSETS *(Continued)*

The Group's leasehold land and buildings included above are held under the following terms

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Long leases in Hong Kong	23,900	26,946
Medium-term leases in the PRC	12,738	14,634
	<u>36,638</u>	<u>41,580</u>

At 31 July 2003, there was no asset held under finance leases (2002: net book value of HK\$34,000 of motor vehicle).

16. GOLF RESORT

	HK\$'000
Cost	
Transfer from golf resort under construction (<i>note 17</i>)	159,540
Exchange alignment	<u>3,249</u>
At end of the year	<u>162,789</u>
Depreciation and impairment	
Depreciation provided for the year	2,043
Impairment loss	<u>5,000</u>
	<u>7,043</u>
Net book value	
At 31 July 2003	<u><u>155,746</u></u>

The golf resort is situated in the PRC under a long term land use rights.

Impairment loss of HK\$5,000,000 at 31 July 2003 was recognised by reference to the valuation report issued by Chesterton Petty Limited dated 20 October 2004, which valued the golf resort on an open market value basis.

17. GOLF RESORT UNDER CONSTRUCTION

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Cost		
At beginning of the year	159,540	170,973
Additions	-	15,567
Transfer to golf resort	<u>(159,540)</u>	<u>-</u>
At end of the year	-	186,540
Impairment loss recognised in the income statement	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,000)</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>159,540</u>

The golf resort under construction is situated in the PRC under a long term land use rights and has been completed and put into use during the year.

Pursuant to the agreement dated 10 December 1999 entered into between the Group and Ms. Yeung Pak Wa and Mr. Yip Siu Sang, the former owners of Tammerworth Development Limited ("Tammerworth"), Ms. Yeung Pak Wa and Mr. Yip Siu Sang (the "Former Shareholders") are responsible for all costs and expenses to be incurred in the construction of the golf resort. At the balance sheet date, the costs and expenses for the construction borne by the Former Shareholders amounted to approximately HK\$37,000,000 (2002: HK\$37,000,000). In the opinion of the directors, the Former Shareholders have fulfilled their obligations towards completing the construction of the golf resort pursuant to the supplemental agreement dated 18 January 2000 (the "Supplemental Agreement") entered into between the Group and the Former Shareholders.

18. PROPERTIES UNDER DEVELOPMENT/PROPERTIES FOR SALE

The Group

Properties under development/properties for sale are situated in the PRC and are held under long term land use rights.

Impairment loss of HK\$38,537,000 (2002: HK\$19,000,000) in respect of properties for sales was recognised during the year.

Impairment loss of HK\$12,000,000 (2002: Nil) in respect of properties under development was recognised during the year by reference to the valuation report issued by Chesterton Petty Limited dated 20 October 2004, which valued the properties on an open market value basis as at 31 July 2003.

Up to 31 July 2003, properties under development included net interest capitalised of approximately HK\$3,968,000 (2002: HK\$3,968,000).

19. INVESTMENTS IN SUBSIDIARIES

	The Company	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Unlisted shares, at carrying value	2	2
Unlisted shares, at cost	<u>140,000</u>	<u>140,000</u>
	140,002	140,002
Less: Allowances	<u>(32,000)</u>	<u>(27,000)</u>
	<u>108,002</u>	<u>113,002</u>

The carrying value of the Company's subsidiaries is based on the book values of the underlying net assets of the subsidiaries attributable to the Group as at the date on which the Company became the holding company of the Group under the group reorganisation in 1994, less allowances made as considered to be necessary by the directors.

Details of the Company's principal subsidiaries as at 31 July 2003 are set out in note 38.

None of the subsidiaries had any debt securities outstanding at the balance sheet date at any time during the year.

20. AMOUNTS DUE FROM/TO SUBSIDIARIES

	The Company	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Amounts due from subsidiaries	917,597	924,933
Amounts due to subsidiaries	(171,458)	(293,853)
Allowances for bad and doubtful debts	(615,154)	(209,696)
	<u>130,985</u>	<u>421,384</u>
Carrying amount analysed for reporting purposes as:		
Amounts due from subsidiaries	302,443	715,237
Amounts due to subsidiaries	(171,458)	(293,853)
	<u>130,985</u>	<u>421,384</u>

The amounts are unsecured, non-interest bearing and the amounts will not be repaid within the next twelve months.

21. INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES

	The Group		The Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Listed shares, at cost	-	-	8,840	8,840
Share of net assets	41,927	91,880	-	-
	<u>41,927</u>	<u>91,880</u>	<u>8,840</u>	<u>8,840</u>
Market value of listed securities	<u>36,183</u>	<u>55,826</u>	<u>33,036</u>	<u>51,287</u>

21. INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES *(Continued)*

Details of the Group's associate at 31 July 2003 are as follows:

Name of associate	Place of Incorporation/ registration	Place of operation	Proportion of ownership interest		Proportion of voting power held	Principal activities
			Directly	Indirectly		
			GreaterChina Technology Group Limited ("GreaterChina")	Cayman Islands		

Financial information of GreaterChina as extracted from its audited financial statements are as follows:

	2003 HK\$'000	2002 HK\$'000
Non-current assets	<u>126,356</u>	<u>106,514</u>
Current assets	<u>87,805</u>	<u>367,667</u>
Current liabilities	<u>73,240</u>	<u>232,928</u>
Net loss for the year	<u>129,226</u>	<u>4,766</u>

21. INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES *(Continued)*

The auditors of GreaterChina issued a disclaimer opinion on the financial statements of GreaterChina for the year ended 31 July 2003. In their report, the auditors states that

- (i) they were unable to determine the recoverable amount of the intellectual properties and whether or not it is appropriate for GreaterChina to fully provide for their carrying value;
- (ii) they were unable to assess the recoverability of the prepayments balance of HK\$4,599,000 for advertising campaigns because there is no information to indicate when GreaterChina would be able to obtain approval of its trademarks and products from the authority in the PRC and on the agencies' capabilities to perform marking and promotion;
- (iii) they were unable to ascertain the recoverable amount of a deposit of HK\$15,630,000 paid to a contractor for the construction of a pharmaceutical production facilities in the PRC as the completion of the construction work is depending on the granting of the relevant Good Manufacturing Practice certificates by the PRC government and there is no information available to indicate the stage of completion of the work performed;
- (iv) they were unable to quantify the effect on GreaterChina's financial statements arising from the consolidation of a subsidiary of GreaterChina based on its unaudited management accounts for the year ended 31 July 2001 due to the lack of up to date audited financial information of this subsidiary;
- (v) they were unable to perform procedures on the value of opening inventories which included expenditure totally HK\$3,800,000 for which inadequate documentary evidence was available, as a result, they were unable to ascertain whether such expenditure should be included as part of the cost of finished products and therefore cost of sales for the year ended 31 July 2003; moreover, they were unable to carry out audit procedures necessary to obtain adequate assurance regarding the quantities and condition of inventories or to obtain sufficient evidence regarding the existence and conditions of inventories as at 31 July 2003 as they were appointed as auditors on 9 September 2004 which was subsequent to the year end date; and

21. INTERESTS IN ASSOCIATES *(Continued)*

- (vi) they were unable to obtain sufficient information to assess the recoverability of the amounts of HK\$274,000,000 due by the subsidiaries of GreaterChina and whether or not the provision of HK\$155,000,000 made by GreaterChina as at 31 July 2003 is adequate because of the limitation of audit scope as mentioned in point (i) above.

22. TRADE DEBTORS - DUE AFTER ONE YEAR

The Group

The amounts represent non-current portion of trade receivables from sales of completed properties. The amounts bear interest at commercial rates.

23. TRADE AND OTHER DEBTORS

The credit terms of the Group range from 30 to 90 days. The aged analysis of trade and other debtors is as follows:

	The Group	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Aged:		
0 to 30 days	3,010	390
61 to 90 days	724	-
91 to 180 days	520	-
181 to 365 days	175	-
Over 365 days	9,955	17,612
	14,384	18,002
	14,384	18,002

24. OTHER DEPOSIT

The Group and The Company

A sum of HK\$12,500,000 was deposited into an interest bearing client's account kept by a legal firm as security in favour of the joint and several provisional liquidators ("Provisional Liquidators") of Wing Fai or any subsequently appointed liquidators of Wing Fai, for any judgement that may be obtained by the Provisional Liquidators and subsequent liquidators of Wing Fai of any action commenced within twelve months from 14 July 2002 and thereafter until the determination of the proceedings against the Company and/or any of the wholly owned subsidiaries of the Company in existence as at 14 July 2002.

25. TRADE AND OTHER CREDITORS

The aged analysis of trade and other creditors is as follows:

	The Group	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Aged:		
0 to 30 days	2,914	500
31 to 60 days	70	20
61 to 90 days	279	500
91 to 180 days	601	60
181 to 365 days	261	60
Over 365 days	11,425	3,669
	<u>15,550</u>	<u>4,809</u>

26. OBLIGATIONS UNDER FINANCE LEASES

	The Group			
	Minimum lease payments		Present value of minimum lease payments	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Amounts payable under finance				
Leases:				
Within one year	32	79	25	70
More than one year but not exceeding two years	-	27	-	10
	<u>32</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>80</u>
Less: Future finance charges	(7)	(26)	-	-
	<u>25</u>	<u>80</u>	25	80
Less: Amount due within one year				
Shown under current liabilities			(25)	(70)
Amount due after one year			<u>-</u>	<u>10</u>

27. BANK BORROWINGS, SECURED

	The Group	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Bank loans	<u>37,126</u>	<u>40,720</u>
The maturity of the above bank borrowings is as follows:		
On demand or within one year	1,727	12,892
More than one year but not exceeding two years	22,306	12,932
More than two years but not exceeding five years	5,922	5,549
More than five years	<u>7,171</u>	<u>9,347</u>
	37,126	40,720
Less: Amount due within one year shown under current liabilities	<u>(1,727)</u>	<u>(12,892)</u>
Amount due after one year	<u>35,399</u>	<u>27,828</u>

28. BANK OVERDRAFTS

	The Group		The Company	
	2003	2002	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Bank overdrafts, secured	171,648	185,730	-	-
Bank overdrafts	<u>273</u>	-	<u>273</u>	-
	<u>171,921</u>	<u>185,730</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>-</u>

29. SHARE CAPITAL

	Number of shares	Amount HK\$'000
Share of HK\$0.10 each		
Authorised:		
At 1 August 2002 and 31 July 2003	<u>8,000,000,000</u>	<u>800,000</u>
Issued and fully paid:		
At 1 August 2001	2,256,166,196	225,617
Exercise of share options	<u>500,000</u>	<u>50</u>
At 31 July 2002 and 31 July 2003	<u>2,256,666,196</u>	<u>225,667</u>

For the year ended 31 July 2002, 500,000 share options were exercised at a subscription price of HK\$0.30 per share, resulting in issue of 500,000 shares of HK\$0.10 each for a total cash consideration of HK\$150,000.

Warrants

Pursuant to an agreement dated 12 November 2001 and a supplemental agreement dated 26 November 2001, the Company entered into a conditional placing and underwriting agreement with the placing agents for the private placing of 400,000,000 units of warrants of the Company at a price of HK\$0.10 per unit to independent investors. Each unit of warrants will give the holder the right to subscribe in cash for one share of the Company at an initial subscription price of HK\$0.35 per share of HK\$0.10 of the Company (subject to adjustment) at any time from the date of issue thereof up to and including 11 June 2003.

During the year, no registered warrant holders exercised their rights to subscribe for shares in the Company and the warrants expired on 11 June 2003.

29. SHARE CAPITAL *(Continued)***Options**

At 31 July 2003, the following options to subscribe for shares were outstanding under the Company's share option schemes.

Number of share options	Date of grant	Exercise price per share HK\$	Exercise period
10,000,000	5 March 1997	0.43	From date of grant to 30 September 2004
20,800,000	26 January 2000	0.30	From date of grant to 30 September 2004
20,000,000	22 March 2000	0.33	From date of grant to 30 September 2004
<hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> 50,800,000 <hr style="width: 100%; border: 0.5px solid black; margin-top: 5px;"/>			

30. RESERVES

(a) The Group

The amounts of the Group reserves and the movements therein for the current and prior year are presented in the consolidated statements of changes in equity on page 27 of the financial statements.

(b) The Company

	Share Premium HK\$'000	Distributable reserve HK\$'000	Other reserve HK\$'000	Retained deficit HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 31 July 2001	399,399	77,033	-	(38,560)	437,872
Issue of warrants	-	-	40,000	-	40,000
Expenses incurred in connection with issue of warrants	-	-	(1,155)	-	(1,155)
Premium arising from issue of shares on exercise of options	100	-	-	-	100
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	(147,350)	(147,350)
At 31 July 2002	399,499	77,033	38,845	(185,910)	329,467
Realised upon expiry of warrants	-	-	(38,845)	-	(38,845)
Net loss for the year	-	-	-	(258,333)	(258,333)
At 31 July 2003	399,499	77,033	-	(444,243)	32,289

The capital reserve of the Group represents the difference between the nominal value of shares of the acquired subsidiaries and the nominal value of the Company's shares issued for the acquisition at the time of the group reorganisation in 1994.

31. DEEMED DISPOSAL OF AN ASSOCIATE

On 8 January 2003, GreaterChina issued 135,616,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each as partial consideration at fair value of HK\$0.28 each in the acquisition of a 100% interest in a subsidiary whose principal assets comprised investment in a 80% equity interest in an equity joint venture registered in the PRC which is engaged in the manufacturing and distribution of western medicines and healthcare products.

Consequently, the ownership interest held in GreaterChina was diluted from 38% to 32%.

The effect of the deemed disposal to the financial statements were as follows:

Net assets disposed of:

	2003 HK\$'000
Fixed assets	290
Intangible assets	3,851
Long term investments	2,432
Inventories	571
Trade receivables	368
Prepayments, deposits and other receivables	3,350
Short term investments	1,539
Amount due from the China Rich Group	49
Amounts due from fellow subsidiaries	1
Pledged deposits	2,150
Bank balances and cash	(8,547)
Bills payable	(67)
Other payables and accruals	(778)
Interest - bearing bank borrowings	(3,467)
	<hr/>
	1,742
Loss on deemed disposal of an associate	(1,742)
	<hr/>
Cash inflow from dilution of interest in an associate	<hr/> <hr/> -

32. DEFERRED TAXATION

	The Group	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Balance brought forward	20,600	20,600
Transfer to income statement	(10,400)	–
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance carried forward	<u>10,200</u>	<u>20,600</u>

At the balance sheet date, deferred taxation of HK\$10,200,000 (2002: HK\$20,600,000) recognised in the financial statements represents tax effect of timing differences because of the surplus on revaluation of properties in the PRC upon acquisition by the Group.

A deferred tax asset of approximately HK\$16,582,000 (2002: HK\$10,028,000) has not been recognised in the financial statements in respect of estimated tax losses available to offset future profits as it is not certain that the estimated tax losses will be utilised in the foreseeable future.

The Company

The Company did not have any significant unprovided deferred taxation for the year or unprovided deferred tax asset or liability at the balance sheet date.

33. DISPOSAL OF SUBSIDIARIES

For the year ended 31 July 2002, the Group discontinued its civil engineering operations at the time of disposal of the Wing Fai Subsidiaries.

Net assets of the civil engineering operations at the date of disposal were as follows:

	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Property, plant and equipment	-	5,080
Trade and other debtors	-	60,271
Deposits and prepayments	-	44,737
Amount due from a subsidiary of the Company	-	2
Retention money receivable	-	11,015
Advances to subcontractors	-	8,256
Trade and other creditors	-	(17,002)
Accrued charges	-	(6,210)
Amount due to a subsidiary of the Company	-	(40,000)
Retention money payable	-	(15,184)
Obligations under finance leases	-	(323)
Taxation payable	-	(49)
	<u>-</u>	<u>50,593</u>
Loss on disposal	-	(45,493)
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,100</u>

The impact from the disposal of the above subsidiaries on the Group's results in the current and prior period is disclosed in note 8.

For the year ended 31 July 2002, the subsidiaries disposed of contributed approximately HK\$70,597,000 to the Group's net operating cash outflows, paid approximately HK\$3,577,000 in respect of the net returns on investment and servicing of finance, utilised approximately HK\$85,000 for investing activities and approximately HK\$35,804,000 in respect of financing activities.

34. COMMITMENTS

At the balance sheet date, the Group had the following future minimum lease payments under operating leases in respect of rented premises as follows:

	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Operating leases which expire:		
– within one year	301	286
– in the second to fifth year inclusive	563	837
– over five years	–	73
	<u>864</u>	<u>1,196</u>

Operating leases payments in respect of land and buildings represent rental payables by the Group for its office premises. Leases are negotiated for an average term of four years.

At the balance sheet date, the Group had the following other commitments:

	The Group	
	2003	2002
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Commitments contracted for but not provided in the financial statements in relation to:		
– acquisition of shares in a subsidiary from a minority shareholder	–	4,400
– construction of golf resort	–	1,390
	<u>–</u>	<u>5,790</u>

At the balance sheet date, the Company did not have any significant commitments.

35. PLEDGE OF ASSETS

The Group

At the balance sheet date leasehold land and buildings having a net book value of approximately HK\$21,840,000 (2002: HK\$26,443,000), bank deposits of approximately HK\$172,455,000 (2002: HK\$195,524,000), certain investment properties and certain properties for sale of the Group have been pledged to banks to secure credit facilities granted to the Group.

36. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS

The Group

- (a) The liquidators of Wing Fai Construction Company Limited ("Wing Fai") and Wai Shun Construction Company Limited ("Wai Shun") refused to recognise the effect of set off of inter-company accounts pursuant to a Set Off Agreement (the "Agreement") dated 23 November 2001 and the extinguishment of inter-group indebtedness and incidental transactions and arrangements upon the Group's sale of its interest in Wing Fai, Wai Shun and Zhukuan Wing Fai Construction Company Limited on 22 April 2002. As a result, the liquidators had taken up legal action against the Company and against several of its subsidiaries.

In the opinion of the Company's legal advisor, the Group has a good defence on all the claims which, on the balance of probabilities, are likely to be resolved in favour of the Group companies. It is therefore unlikely that there would be any material contingent liability except that part of the legal costs incurred by the Group may not be recoverable on taxation.

- (b) The liquidator of Wing Fai has taken legal action against the Group and against three directors of the Group for alleged financial assistance. As at the date of approval of these financial statements, Wing Fai has yet to identify the payments and actions attributable to the Group and to three of its directors under which the claim is made, following a recent decision by the High Court, Wing Fai has now decided to discontinue its claim against one of the directors. In the opinion of the Company's legal advisor, in any event, the Group's liability should not exceed HK\$2,000,000 plus interest and costs.
- (c) Wing Fai has recently issued proceedings against the Company on 25 October 2004, in respect of a comfort letter issued by the Company to the directors of Wing Fai on 23 November 2001. The liquidators of Wing Fai maintain that this letter constitutes a contract by which the Company became obliged to pay the debts of Wing Fai for 12 months thereafter.

36. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND ASSETS *(Continued)*

The Group *(Continued)*

The Company's legal advisors are still at the formative stage of investigating the claim and in the process of instructing legal counsel to advise on the matter. However, their preliminary view is that the Company has a good defence which is likely to be resolved in its favour.

It is therefore unlikely that there would be any material contingent liability except that the legal costs incurred by the Company may not be recoverable given the insolvent status of Wing Fai.

In the opinion of the directors, the Group has valid grounds to defend the action and as such, no provision has been made in the financial statements for the Group's exposure to the above actions.

- (d) In respect of the sum of HK\$40 million due from Wing Fai to Benefit Holdings International Limited ("Benefit"), a subsidiary of the Company, repayment was personally guaranteed by Mr. Eric Chim Kam Fai ("Mr. Chim"). In respect of the payment of the purchase price for the shares of the Wing Fai, Zhukuan Wing Fai Construction Company Limited and Wai Shun Construction Company Limited in the sum of HK\$5.1 million by Sino Glistar International Investments Limited ("Sino Glistar"), this was also personally guaranteed by Mr. Chim.

Wing Fai defaulted in repayment of HK\$40 million due to Benefit and is now in liquidation. Sino Glistar defaulted as to HK\$3.1 million of the HK\$5.1 million purchase price for the shares of the Wing Fai Subsidiaries.

Benefit commenced High Court proceedings against Mr. Chim and Sino Glistar on 30 May 2004 and has obtained a Judgment against Mr. Chim and Sino Glistar in the sum of HK\$43 million plus interest and costs. It is unknown to what extent if any the sums adjudicated in favour of Benefit will be recoverable from either Sino Glistar or Mr. Chim and the sum of HK\$43 million is therefore treated as a contingent receivable of Benefit.

The Company

The Company has given corporate guarantees to banks in respect of banking facilities granted to its subsidiaries of which approximately HK\$16,610,000 (2002: HK\$18,274,000) were utilised at the balance sheet date.

37. MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

During the year, the Group entered into the following material related party transactions:

- (i) The Group received rental of HK\$2,063,000 (2002: HK\$804,000) from GreaterChina and its subsidiaries (the "GreaterChina Group"). The charge is based on the areas occupied by the GreaterChina Group pursuant to the agreement entered into between the parties. The unit rate per square feet was determined by the directors based on estimated market rates.
- (ii) The Group received administrative service fee of approximately HK\$1,472,000 (2002: HK\$1,531,000) from the GreaterChina Group. The fee is charged at a fixed monthly fee pursuant to the agreement entered into between the parties. The fee was determined by directors based on estimated time spent by the staff of the Group on the affairs of the GreaterChina Group.
- (iii) During the year ended 31 July 2002, the Group provided qualified Chinese herbalist doctors to handle online enquiries for the users of the GreaterChina Group's website. During the year, no fee in respect of the services was received (2002: HK\$162,000) from the GreaterChina Group. The fee in prior year is charged at a fixed monthly fee of HK\$50,000 pursuant to the agreement entered into between parties dated 11 November 1999.
- (iv) The Group received website development fee of HK\$600,000 (2002: HK\$720,000) from the GreaterChina Group pursuant to the agreement entered into between the parties dated 3 January 2000. The fee was determined at prices agreed between the parties.
- (v) No advertising fee was paid by the group to the GreaterChina Group during the year (2002: HK\$810,000). In prior year, the fee was determined at prices agreed between the parties.
- (vi) The Group paid information technology advisory fee of HK\$269,000 (2002: HK\$345,000) to the GreaterChina Group. The fee was determined at prices agreed between the parties.
- (vii) At 31 July 2003, an amount of approximately HK\$1,018,000 (2002: HK\$688,000) was due to the GreaterChina Group and the amount due from GZTF was recovered during the year (2002: HK\$3,099,000). Amount due to GreaterChina Group is unsecured, non-interest bearing and repayable on demand.

37. MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(Continued)*

- (viii) At 31 July 2003 included in trade and other creditors were amounts of HK\$2,417,000 (2002: HK\$1,937,000) due to a related company in which Mr. Yip Kwong, Robert and Ms. Cheng Kit Yin, Kelly have beneficial interests and approximately HK\$159,000 (2002: HK\$600,000) due to a related company in which Mr. Yip Kwong, Robert has a beneficial interest and Mr. Kam Shing is a director. These amounts are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are repayable on demand.
- (ix) During the year, the Group disposed a motor vehicle at a consideration of HK\$200,000 to the GreaterChina Group (2002: Nil).

38. SUBSIDIARIES

Particulars of the principal subsidiaries at 31 July 2003 are as follows:

Name of subsidiary	Place of Incorporation or registration and operation	Proportion of ownership interest and voting power held	Issued and fully paid share capital	Principal activity
Benefit Holdings International Limited <i>(note a)</i>	British Virgin Islands	100%	US\$200	Investment holding
Bright Success Enterprises Limited	British Virgin Islands	100%	US\$1	Investment holding
Build Policy Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$100 Non-voting deferred <i>(note b)</i> HK\$2	Investment holding
Business Rootis Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$100 Non-voting deferred <i>(note b)</i> HK\$2	Property holding
China Rich Construction Company Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$2	Investment holding
China Rich Properties Limited ("China Rich")	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$10,000,000	Property development

38. SUBSIDIARIES (Continued)

Name of subsidiary	Place of Incorporation or registration and operation	Proportion of ownership interest and voting power held	Issued and fully paid share capital	Principal activity
Condor Holdings Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$10,000	Investment holding
Evergreen Club Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$2	Operation of a retirement club
Evergreen Travel Agency Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$500,000	Travel agent
Fitzroya Finance Company Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$1,000,000	Money lending
Marvelink Limited	British Virgin Islands	100%	US\$2	Investment holding
Mega Pacific Holdings Limited ("Mega")	Hong Kong	98%	Ordinary HK\$38,747,557	Investment holding
Shunde China Rich Properties Limited ("Shunde China Rich")	PRC	100%	(note c)	Property development
Tammerworth Development Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$1,500,000	Investment holding
Wing Fai (China) Development Limited	Hong Kong	100%	Ordinary HK\$10	Investment holding
廣州市紫霞山莊有限公司 ("紫霞山莊")	PRC	51% (note d)	Registered HK\$9,330,000	Operation of a recreational park
廣東協和醫療中心	PRC	(note e)	Registered RMB10,015,863	Operation of a medical centre in the PRC
高明銀海高爾夫球俱樂部有限公司 Gaoming Silver Ocean Golf Club Co., Ltd. ("Gaoming Silver Ocean") (note f)	PRC	100%	Registered US\$5,250,000	Operation of a golf resort in the PRC

38. SUBSIDIARIES *(Continued)*

The directors are of the opinion that a complete list of the particulars of all subsidiaries would be of excessive length and therefore the above list contains only the subsidiaries of the Company which principally affected the results of the Group or formed a substantial portion of the net assets of the Group.

Notes:

- (a) Except for Benefit Holdings International Limited which is directly held by the Company, all other companies are indirectly held by the Company.
- (b) The non-voting deferred shares are held by Benefit Holdings International Limited and carry minimal right to dividend or to receive notice of or to attend or vote at any general meeting of the Company. On a winding-up, the holders of the non-voting deferred shares shall be entitled out of the surplus assets of the Company to a return of the capital paid up to the non-voting deferred shares held by them respectively after a total sum of HK\$100,000,000,000,000 has been distributed in such winding-up in respect of each of the ordinary shares of the Company.
- (c) Shunde China Rich was established in the PRC in March 1996 in accordance with a cooperative joint venture agreement entered into between China Rich and a PRC party on 18 June 1994. The principal activities of Shunde China Rich are the development, sales and leasing of the property development project currently undertaken by China Rich. Pursuant to the joint venture agreement, China Rich is entitled to the entire profit or loss of Shunde China Rich and on liquidation of Shunde China Rich, China Rich is entitled to all the assets and liabilities of Shunde China Rich.
- (d) 紫霞山莊 is a foreign owned equity joint venture for a period of 20 years from 26 December 1993 and there are provisions for extension of its period under the terms of its memorandum and articles of association.
- (e) This is a joint venture for a period of 12 years up to December 2007 established under a joint venture agreement with another PRC party. Under the joint venture agreement, there are provisions to extend the period of the joint venture, the Group is required to contribute the entire registered capital of the joint venture, and is also required to guarantee that the profit payable to the PRC joint venture partner is not less than RMB700,000 per annum or 20% of the annual net profit of the joint venture, whichever is higher. This joint venture is 100% owned by Mega.

38. SUBSIDIARIES *(Continued)*

- (f) Gaoming Silver Ocean was established in the PRC in August 1993 in accordance with a Sino-foreign cooperative joint venture agreement ("JV agreement") entered into between Norton International Limited and a PRC party on 29 July 1993. Pursuant to the agreement entered into between the Group and the relevant PRC parties on 26 July 1997, the entire interest of Norton International Limited in Gaoming Silver Ocean was transferred to the Group. Pursuant to the JV agreement and the supplemental agreement, the joint venture is for a period of 30 years from August 1993 and can be extended to a period subject to the negotiation between the parties. The Group is entitled to a profit sharing ratio of 80%. However, if Gaoming Silver Ocean operates at a loss, all the loss will be borne by the Group. Gaoming Silver Ocean has a registered capital of US\$8,000,000. Up to 31 July 2003, the Group has contributed an aggregate investment of HK\$40,954,000.

39. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent to the balance sheet date, on 17 November 2003, Business Rootis Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, disposed of one of its properties with a carrying value of HK\$2,840,000 to an independent third party at a consideration of HK\$2,980,000.

40. AUTHORISATION FOR ISSUE OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 25 October 2004.