

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

## STRENGTHENING REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

### 14 January

Submitted views on the Government's consultation on proposals to enhance the regulation of listing in Hong Kong.



### ▶ 30 January

Announced amendments to the Listing Rules relating to corporate governance issues.

Published consultation conclusions on proposed amendments to the Main Board Listing Rules relating to initial listing criteria and continuing listing obligations.

### 4 May

Invited comments on draft rule amendments on sponsors and IFAs.

### 19 October

The Stock Exchange and the SFC jointly published consultation conclusions on the regulation of sponsors and IFAs. The Stock Exchange also published amendments to the Listing Rules consistent with the policy conclusions set out in the consultation conclusions.



### 19 November

The Stock Exchange announced amendments to the Listing Rules for the introduction of the CG Code.

## PROMOTING HKEEx's MARKETS AND BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH THE MAINLAND



### ▶ 5 January

Held a listing promotion conference in Changchun, the capital of Jilin province.

### 25 February ~ 9 March

Conducted several seminars in Hong Kong and Beijing for listed companies and market practitioners to promote a better understanding of the amendments to the Listing Rules aimed at raising corporate governance standards and market quality.



**8 April**

Obtained approval from the CSRC to station representatives from HKEx's Beijing Representative Office in Guangzhou and Shanghai.

**27 ~ 28 April**

Chief Executive Paul M Y Chow attended investment seminars in Tokyo to promote HKEx and Hong Kong's financial markets.



▶ **28 ~ 29 May**

Held a listing promotion conference in the municipality of Chongqing.



▶ **31 May**

Zhang Dejiang, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and the Secretary of the Guangdong Provincial Party Committee, visited HKEx and the Stock Exchange's Trading Hall.

**21 ~ 24 June**

Chief Executive Paul M Y Chow attended an investor forum in New York and met investors in New York and in London to promote HKEx, its markets and the listing of Mainland enterprises in Hong Kong.

**2 September**

HKEx and the Research Centre of the State-owned Assets Supervision and Administration Commission of the State Council co-organised a conference in Shanghai on the listing of state-owned enterprises in Hong Kong.

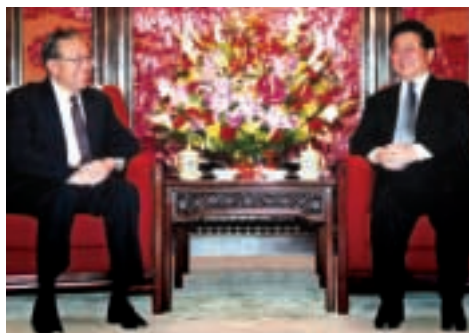


**17 September**

HKSCC signed a memorandum of understanding with the China Securities Depository and Clearing Corporation on the exchange of information and co-operation on staff training.

**20 ~ 22 September**

Participated in Hong Kong Financial Services Expo 2004 in Shanghai, an event organised by Hong Kong's Trade Development Council.



**13 October**

Participated in the 6th China Hi-Tech Fair in Shenzhen, a major international IT industry event on the Mainland.

**27 October**

▶ Chairman Charles Y K Lee met Vice Premier Huang Ju, who reiterated the listing of Mainland enterprises in Hong Kong had been a win-win situation for Hong Kong and the Mainland.

**29 ~ 30 October**

Held a listing promotion conference in the municipality of Tianjin.



▶ **18 January 05**

Xiang Huaicheng, the Chairman of the National Council for Social Security Fund, met Chairman Charles Y K Lee and Chief Operating Officer Patrick Conroy and discussed overseas investments by the Mainland fund.

## ENHANCING MARKET INFRASTRUCTURE

**25 March**

Major securities and derivatives market systems, including those for trading, market data and clearing and settlement, reached the milestone of 100 per cent uptime for all systems for 12 consecutive months.



**6 April**

Introduced DCASS and the derivatives component of CCMS, the Common Collateral Management System.

▶ **31 May**

Published consultation conclusions on a proposed operational model for a scripless securities market.

**6 August**

Issued a consultation paper on the reduction of minimum spreads to seek comment on proposals to reduce the minimum trading spreads in the cash market.

**23 August**

Introduced new features of the Investor Accounts in CCASS, as well as rewards programmes for new and existing account holders.

**27 August**

AMS/3 received the Gold Award in the Hong Kong Computer Society's 2004 IT Excellence Awards.



**11 October**

Introduced enhancements to pre-matching of Settlement Instructions.

▶ **5 November**

The Board of Directors approved in principle a plan to retain the Trading Hall of the Stock Exchange and make it a multi-purpose facility.

**8 November**

Implemented amendments to the CCASS Rules and Operational Procedures which enable Participants to appoint third parties as Settlement Agents and to access CCASS from overseas.

**10 December**

AMS/3 was awarded a Certificate of Merit in the Finance Application Category of the 2004 Asia Pacific Information and Communications Technology Awards, an event that covers 14 economies in the region.

**20 December**

Announced EPs monthly user fees for the trading devices of AMS/3 ◀ would be reduced by 20 per cent starting from 1 January 2005.



## IMPROVING MARKET TRANSPARENCY

**8 March**

Commenced dissemination of real-time odd lot information from the cash market to information vendors.

▶ **29 March**

Introduced a revamped version of the HKEx website featuring enriched content and a new design for easy navigation.

**28 July**

The Listing Committees published their first annual report, which provided an account of their work from 6 May 2003 to 30 April 2004, to bolster the transparency of the regulatory functions discharged by the Committees and the Stock Exchange.

**30 December**

Published the first instalment of the new Interpretive Letters – Rejection Letters Series on the HKEx website as part of ongoing efforts to increase the transparency of decisions and interpretations under the Listing Rules.

## INTRODUCING NEW PRODUCTS

▶ **14 June**

Introduced H-shares Index Options, four additional stock options and four additional stock futures.