## **R**EPORT OF THE AUDITORS

# **三 ERNST & YOUNG**

To the members C.P. Pokphand Co. Ltd. (Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

We have audited the financial statements on pages 30 to 115 which have been prepared in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.

### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS**

The Company's directors are responsible for the preparation of financial statements which give a true and fair view. In preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view it is fundamental that appropriate accounting policies are selected and applied consistently. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those financial statements and to report our opinion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with Section 90 of the Bermuda Companies Act 1981, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

#### **BASIS OF OPINION**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Statements of Auditing Standards issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. An audit includes an examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the directors in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Company's and the Group's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

## **Report of the auditors** (Continued)

#### FUNDAMENTAL UNCERTAINTY RELATING TO THE GOING CONCERN BASIS

As further explained in note 1 to the financial statements, the Group has obtained further agreement from its lending banks and the holders of its floating rate notes (collectively referred to as the "Lenders") to a revised repayment schedule for its bank and floating rate note indebtedness and the second repayment schedule for such was further extended to 30th April, 2005 to cover a revised period of the restructuring. Note 1 to the financial statements summarises the key highlights of the Group's measures to generate additional working capital for the purpose of reducing its indebtedness. In forming our opinion, we have considered the adequacy of the disclosures made in note 1 to the financial statements, which explain the circumstances giving rise to concerns regarding the fundamental uncertainties relating to the adoption of the going concern basis of presentation. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis, the validity of which depends upon the Group's ability to generate sufficient cash inflows from its operating activities and the successful outcomes of the proposed capital reorganisation and the proposed issue of the subscription shares. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that would result from the failure of the Group either to generate sufficient cash inflows from its operating activities, or successfully achieve the proposed capital reorganisation and the proposed issue of the subscription shares as planned. We consider that appropriate disclosures and estimates have been made in the financial statements and our opinion is not qualified in this respect.

#### **OPINION**

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group as at 31st December, 2004 and of the loss and cash flows of the Group for the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

**Ernst & Young** Certified Public Accountants

Hong Kong 30th March, 2005