

INTERIM REPORT 2006 二零零六年中期報告

(Stock Code: 0513) (股份代號: 0513)

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The board (the "Board") of directors (the "Directors") of Continental Holdings Limited (the "Company") announces the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the six months ended 31st December 2005 together with the comparative figures for the corresponding period in 2004.

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

		Unaudited Six months ended 31st December			
	Notes	2005 HK\$'000	2004 HK\$`000 (Restated)		
Turnover Cost of sales	3	833,810 (758,064)	706,926 (645,562)		
Gross profit Selling and distribution costs Administrative expenses Other income		75,746 (15,809) (30,772) 201	61,364 (14,702) (25,721) 1,097		
Operating profit Finance costs Share of profits less losses of associates Share of profits of a jointly controlled entity Other non-operating expenses	4	29,366 (8,606) (302) 559	22,038 (796) 714 (706)		
Profit before taxation Taxation	5 6	21,017 (2,963)	21,250 (3,721)		
Profit for the period		18,054	17,529		
Attributable to:					
Equity holders of the Company Minority interests		15,854 2,200	17,078 451		
		18,054	17,529		
Interim dividends	7	2,798	2,798		
Earnings per share – Basic	8	HK5.7 cents	HK6.1 cents		
- Diluted		N/A	N/A		

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	At Notes	Unaudited 31st December 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>	Audited At 30th June 2005 <i>HK\$`000</i>
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES	110105		
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment		69,962	67,967
Investment properties		605,500	605,500
Investments in associates		7,930	8,304
Interests in jointly controlled entities		96,671	89,612
Investment securities		-	13,988
Long-term investments Long-term receivables		18,878 17,464	18,517
Deferred tax assets		16,408	16,408
Deferred tax assets			10,400
		832,813	820,296
Current assets			
Inventories		319,542	335,888
Trade receivables	9	191,702	126,259
Prepayments, deposits and other receivables		46,223	34,606
Investment securities		-	2,100
Current portion of long term receivables		3,643	3,643
Other investments		-	29,587
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		20.002	
Due from an associate		20,092 4,318	5,244
Due from a jointly controlled entity		4,510	18
Cash and bank balances		60,326	32,339
		645,846	569,684
Current liabilities	10		(004 550)
Trade payables	10	(229,543)	(234,753)
Accruals and other payables Tax payable		(50,149) (20,737)	(47,139) (26,666)
Due to a jointly controlled entity		(115)	(20,000)
Due to an associate		(376)	(764)
Bank loans and overdrafts, secured	11	(166,156)	(22,704)
		(467,076)	(332,026)
Net current assets		178,770	237,658
Total assets less current liabilities		1,011,583	1,057,954
Non-current liabilities			
Loans from minority shareholders		(48,625)	(51,872)
Deferred tax liabilities		(24,696)	(24,696)
Bank loans, secured	11	(224,250)	(283,215)
		(297,571)	(359,783)
Net assets		714,012	698,171

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET (Continued)

	A Notes	Unaudited At 31st December 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>	Audited At 30th June 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>
EQUITY Equity attributable to equity holders of the Company			
Issued capital Reserves Proposed interim/final dividend	12	27,980 642,724 2,798	27,980 626,285 5,596
Minority interests		673,502 40,510	659,861 38,310
Total equity		714,012	698,171

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	Six mont	Unaudited Six months ended 31st December		
	2005 HK\$'000	2004 HK\$`000		
Net cash (used in)/inflow from operating activities	(51,508)	6,451		
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(2,208)	(79,558)		
Net cash inflow from financing activities	81,869	66,298		
Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents Cash and cash equivalents at 1st July Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net	28,153 29,861 463	(6,809) 48,762 (519)		
Cash and cash equivalents at 31st December	58,477	41,434		
Analysis of balances of cash and cash equivalents: Cash and bank balances Bank loans and overdrafts	60,326 (1,849) 58,477	52,265 (10,831) 41,434		

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

			Equity attrib	utable to equi	ty holders of	the Company			Minority interests	
	Share capital (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Share premium account (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Non- distributable reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Investment properties revaluation reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Exchange fluctuation reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Fair value reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Retained profits (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Proposed Dividends (Unaudited) HK\$'000	(Unaudited) HK\$'000	Total (Unaudited) HK\$'000
At 1st July 2005, as previously reported as equity At 1st July 2005, as previously reported	27,980	158,373	273,606	-	745	-	193,561	5,596	-	659,861
as minority interest									38,310	38,310
Operations a disconstructure	27,980	158,373	273,606	-	745	-	193,561	5,596	38,310	698,171
Opening adjustment upon adoption of HKAS 39						3,155				3,155
At 1st July 2005, as restated	27,980	158,373	273,606	-	745	3,155	193,561	5,596	38,310	701,326
Exchange differences on translation of the accounts foreign subsidiaries and associates	of —	_	-	_	507	_	-	_	_	507
Change in fair value of long term investments	-	-	-	-	-	(279)	-	-	-	(279)
Net income/(expense) recogniz directly in equity Profit for the period Payment of final 2005 divider Interim dividend, proposed	-				507 - -	(279) - -	15,854	(5,596) 2,798	2,200	228 18,054 (5,596)
At 31st December 2005	27,980	158,373	273,606		1,252	2,876	206,617	2,798	40,510	714,012
At 1st July 2004, as previous reported as equity At 1st July 2004, as previous reported as minority interes	27,980 y	158,373	273,606	53,708	698	-	106,991	2,798	4,191	624,154 4,191
	27,980	158,373	273,606	53,708	698	-	106,991	2,798	4,191	628,345
Effect of changes in accountir policy upon early adoption of HKAS 40 and HKAS Int-21	ng 			(53,708)			45,145			(8,563)
As restated	27,980	158,373	273,606	-	698	-	152,136	2,798	4,191	619,782
Exchange differences on translation of the accounts of foreign subsidiaries and associates					(610)					(610)
Net expense recognised directly in equity Net profit for the period Final 2004 dividend Interim dividend, proposed		- - -			(610)		17,078 (2,798)	(2,798) 2,798	451	(610) 17,529 (2,798)
At 31st December 2004	27,980	158,373	273,606		88		166,416	2,798	4,642	633,903

NOTES TO CONDENSED INTERIM ACCOUNTS

1. Accounting policies

These unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements ("interim financial statements") have been prepared in accordance with the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and the Hong Kong Accounting Standard 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA").

The condensed interim financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost basis except for the revaluation of the investment properties and certain financial assets and liabilities. The measurement bases are fully described in the accounting policies below.

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of these interim financial statements are consistent with those used in the annual accounts for the year ended 30th June 2005 except as described below:

From 1st July 2005, the Group has adopted the new/revised standards and interpretations of Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standard ("HKFRS"), which are relevant to its operations. This includes the following new, revised and renamed standards:

HKAS 1	Presentation of Financial Statements
HKAS 2	Inventories
HKAS 7	Cash Flow Statements
HKAS 8	Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors
HKAS 10	Events after the Balance Sheet Date
HKAS 14	Segment Reporting
HKAS 16	Property, Plant and Equipment
HKAS 17	Leases
HKAS 21	The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates
HKAS 23	Borrowing Costs
HKAS 24	Related Party Disclosures
HKAS 27	Consolidated and Separated Financial Statements
HKAS 28	Investments in Associates
HKAS 31	Investments in Joint Ventures
HKAS 32	Financial Instruments: Disclosure and Presentation
HKAS 33	Earnings per Share
HKAS 36	Impairment of Assets
HKAS 37	Provisions, Contingent Liabilities and Contingent Assets
HKAS 38	Intangible Assets
HKAS 39	Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement
HKFRS 2	Share-based Payments
HKFRS 3	Business Combinations
HKAS Int-12	Consolidation-Special Purpose Entities
HKAS Int-15	Operating Leases-Incentives

All the standards have been applied retrospectively except where specific transitional provisions require a different treatment and accordingly the 2004 financial statements and their presentation have been amended in accordance with HKAS 8. Due to the change in accounting policies, the 2004 comparatives contained in these financial statements differ from those published in the interim report for the six months ended 31st December 2004.

1. Accounting policies (Continued)

Significant effects on current, prior or future periods arising from the first-time application of the standards listed above in respect to presentation, recognition and measurement of accounts are described in the following notes:

1.1 Adoption of HKAS 1

The application of HKAS 1 led to an update of the presentation of financial statements. Minority interests are now included as a separate line item within equity. Profit and loss attributable to minority interests and that attributable to owners of the parent company is now presented as an allocation of the net result of the year. Share of profits less losses of associates now included the Group's share of taxes of associates.

1.2 Adoption of HKAS 36, HKAS 38 and HKFRS 3

These standards stipulate a prospective change to the accounting policies.

In respect of goodwill previously eliminated against or credited to reserves, HKFRS 3 does not require entities to recognise that goodwill in profit or loss when it disposes of all or part of the business to which that goodwill relates or when a cash-generating unit to which the goodwill relates becomes impaired. Moreover, the Group is not required nor permitted to restate goodwill previously eliminated against reserves.

1.3 Adoption of HKAS 32 and HKAS 39

Prior to the adoption of HKAS 39, the Group has recorded its non-trading securities as investment securities at cost less any provision for impairment losses and other investments in equity securities or unit funds held for trading purposes at fair values with changes in value being recognised in the income statement as they arise.

On the adoption of HKAS 39, the Group recorded its non-trading securities as long-term investments and securities or unit funds held for trading purposes as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss. The long-term investments are subsequently measured at fair value, unless otherwise disclosed, with changes in value recognised in equity, net of any effects arising from income taxes. Gains and losses arising from long-term investments are recognised in the income statement when they are sold or when the investments are impaired. The financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in income statement.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of HKAS 39, it does not permit the recognition, derecognition and measurement of financial assets and liabilities in accordance with the standard on a retrospective basis. Accordingly, any adjustment to the previous carrying amount is recognised in the opening balance of retained earnings on 1 July 2005 and the comparative figures have not been restated.

1.4 Other standards adopted

The adoption of other standards did not result in significant alterations to the Group's accounting policies. The specific transitional provisions contained in some of these standards were considered. The adoption of these other standards did not result in any significant changes to the amounts or disclosures in these financial statements.

As disclosed in the annual report for the year ended 30th June 2005, the Group has early adopted HKAS 40 and HKAS Int 21. The results for the six months ended 31st December 2004 have been restated accordingly.

1. Accounting policies (Continued)

	HKAS 32# & HKAS 39* HK\$`000	Total <i>HK\$`000</i>
At 1st July 2005		
Increase in assets Long-term investments	3,155	3,155
Increase in equity Retained earnings	3,155	3,155
At 31st December 2005		
Increase in assets Long-term investments	2,876	2,876
Increase in equity Retained earnings	2,876	2,876

1.5 The effect of changes in the accounting policies on condensed consolidated balance sheet:

* adjustments which take effect prospectively from 1 July 2005

adjustments which take effect retrospectively

2. Segment Information

According to HKAS 14, segment information is presented by way of two segment formats: (i) on a primary segment reporting basis, by business segment; and (ii) on a secondary segment reporting basis, by geographical segment.

The Group's operating businesses are structured and managed separately, according to the nature of their operations and the products and services they provide. Each of the Group's business segments represents a strategic business unit that offers products and services which are subject to risks and returns that are different from those of other business segments. Summary details of the business segments are as follows:

- (a) designing, manufacturing, marketing and trading of fine jewellery and diamonds;
- (b) property investment and development; and
- (c) investment and others.

In determining the Group's geographical segments, revenues are attributed to the segments based on the location of the customers.

2. Segment Information (Continued)

(a) Business segment

The following table presents revenue and results for the Group's business segments.

	For the six months ended 31 December Manufacturing and							
	and dev 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>	Investment elopment 2004 HK\$'000 (Unaudited)	jewellery a 2005 HK\$'000 (Unaudited)	ing of nd diamond 2004 HK\$'000 (Unaudited and restated)	Investment 2005 HK\$'000 (Unaudited)	and others 2004 HK\$'000 (Unaudited)	2005 HK\$'000 (Unaudited)	ated Total 2004 HK\$'000 (Unaudited and restated)
Segment revenue: Sales to external customers Others	16,643	3,202	814,604	701,365	855 1,708	1,409 950	832,102 1,708	705,976 950
	16,643	3,202	814,604	701,365	2,563	2,359	833,810	706,926
Segment results	13,670	493	15,695	17,268	938	5,238	30,303	22,999
Unallocated expenses							(937)	(961)
Profit from operating activities							29,366	22,038
Finance costs	(6,934)	(430)	(1,672)	(366)	-	-	(8,606)	(796)
Share of profits less losses of associates	-	-	(302)	714	-	-	(302)	714
Share of profits of a jointly controlled entity	559	-	-	-	-	-	559	-
Other non-operating expenses	-	-	-	(706)	-	-		(706)
Profit before taxation							21,017	21,250

(b) Geographical segment

The following table represents revenue for the Group's geographical segments.

	North A	America	Eur	rope	Hong	Kong	Other	areas	Consolid	ated Total
	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004
	HK\$'000									
	(Unaudited)									
Segment revenue:										
Sales to external customers	372,201	312,585	343,260	281,970	107,817	105,583	8,824	5,838	832,102	705,976
Others	-	-	-	-	1,708	950	-	-	1,708	950
									833,810	706,926

3. Turnover

Turnover represents the net invoiced value of goods sold, after allowances for returns and trade discounts, gross rental income, interest income and dividend income from investments.

An analysis of turnover is as follows:

	Six mont	idited ths ended ecember
	2005	2004
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Sale of goods	815,459	702,774
Gross rental income	16,643	3,202
Interest income	1,413	752
Dividend income from investments	295	198
	833,810	706,926

4. Finance costs

	Six mont	dited hs ended cember
	2005 HK\$'000	2004 HK\$`000
Interest expenses on bank loans and overdrafts		
wholly repayable within five years	3,078	366
Interest expenses on bank loans repayable over five years	5,528	430
	8,606	796

5. Profit before taxation

Profit before taxation is stated after charging/(crediting):

	Unaudited Six months ended 31st December	
	2005	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Cost of inventories sold	758,064	645,562
Realised and unrealised gains on other investments	-	(4,362)
Fair value gains on financial assets at fair value		
through profit or loss	(201)	-
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	4,387	4,950
Amortisation of goodwill on acquisition of an associate	-	706
Operating leases – land and buildings	2,069	2,023
Provision for bad and doubtful debts	1,031	1,708

6. Taxation

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 17.5% (2004: 17.5%) on the estimated assessable profit for the period. Taxation on overseas profits has been calculated on the estimated assessable profit for the period at the rates of taxation prevailing in the jurisdictions in which the Group operates.

The amount of taxation charged to the condensed consolidated income statement represents:

	Unaudited Six months ended 31st December	
	2005 HK\$'000	2004 HK\$`000 (Restated)
Hong Kong profits tax – current Overseas taxation	2,963	3,369 352
	2,963	3,721

7. Dividends

	Unaudited Six months ended 31st December	
	2005 HK\$'000	2004 HK\$`000
2005 final paid – HK\$0.02 (2004 final paid: HK\$0.01) per ordinary share	5,596	2,798
2006 Interim, proposed on 17th March 2006, of HK\$0.01 (2005: HK\$0.01) per ordinary share	2,798	2,798

8. Earnings per share

The calculation of earnings per share is based on the Group's profit attributable to equity holders of the Company of HK\$15,854,000 (2004: HK\$17,078,000) and the weighted average number of 279,800,031 (2004: 279,800,031) ordinary shares in issue during the period.

No fully diluted earnings per share is shown as the Company has no potential dilutive ordinary shares at 31st December 2005 and 2004.

9. Trade receivables

The Group normally applies credit terms to its customers according to industry practice together with consideration of its credibility, repayment history and years of establishment. Each customer has a maximum credit limit. The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables. Overdue balances are regularly reviewed by senior management.

The ageing analysis of trade receivables, net of provision, as at the balance sheet date, based on the date of recognition of the sale, is as follows:

	Current <i>HK\$'000</i>	31-60 days <i>HK\$</i> '000	61-90 days HK\$'000	Over 90 days <i>HK\$`000</i>	Total HK\$'000
Unaudited balance at 31st December 2005	75,189	49,660	42,860	23,993	191,702
Audited balance at 30th June 2005	35,849	26,602	20,856	42,952	126,259

10. Trade payables

The ageing analysis of the trade payables at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	Current <i>HK\$'000</i>	31-60 days HK\$ '000	61-90 days <i>HK\$</i> '000	Over 90 days <i>HK\$</i> '000	Total HK\$'000
Unaudited balance at 31st December 2005	121,353	33,802	23,340	51,048	229,543
Audited balance at 30th June 2005	76,508	71,629	53,623	32,993	234,753

11. Bank loans and overdrafts, secured

At 31st December 2005, the Group's bank loans and overdrafts are as follows:

	Unaudited 31st December 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>	Audited 30th June 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Bank overdrafts, secured	1,849	2,478
Secured bank loan:		
Repayable within one year	164,307	20,226
Repayable in the second year	17,250	22,636
Repayable in the third to fifth years, inclusive	51,750	67,905
Repayable beyond five years	155,250	192,674
	388,557	303,441
	390,406	305,919
Less: Current portion due within one year included under current liabilities (Note)	(166,156)	(22,704)
Non-current portion included under non-current liabilities	224,250	283,215

Note: Please refer to the section "Liquidity and financial resources" on page 16 for further details.

11. Bank loans and overdrafts, secured (Continued)

At 31st December 2005, the Group's banking facilities were supported by the following:

- (a) assignment of rental income of certain investment properties;
- (b) legal charges over the Group's investment properties and certain leasehold land and buildings;
- (c) corporate guarantees executed by the Company; and
- (d) personal guarantee executed by Mr. Chan Sing Chuk, Charles ("Mr. Chan"), an executive director of the Company, to the extent of HK\$108,675,000.

12. Share capital

	Unaudited 31st December 2005 <i>HK\$`000</i>	Audited 30th June 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Authorised: 3,500,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each	350,000	350,000
Issued and fully paid: 279,800,031 ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each	27,980	27,980

13. Operating lease arrangements

(a) As lessor

The Group leases certain of its properties under operating lease arrangements, with leases negotiated for terms ranging from two to six years.

At 31st December 2005, the Group had total future minimum lease receivables under noncancellable operating leases with its tenants falling due as follows:

	Unaudited 31st December	Audited 30th June
	2005	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within one year	26,907	30,433
In the second to fifth years, inclusive	28,066	40,051
	54,973	70,484

13. Operating lease arrangements (Continued)

(b) As lessee

At 31st December 2005, the Group leases certain of its office properties and staff quarters under operating lease arrangements. Leases for properties are negotiated for terms ranging from one to three years. The Group had total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases falling due as follows:

	Unaudited	Audited
	31st December	30th June
	2005	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within one year	2,167	4,173
In the second to fifth years, inclusive	631	1,714
	2,798	5,887

14. Capital commitments

	Unaudited 31st December 2005 <i>HK\$`000</i>	Audited 30th June 2005 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Contracted but not provided for Purchase of property, plant and equipment Shareholders' loan to a jointly controlled entity Authorised but not contracted for Purchase of property, plant and equipment	22,300	693 26,300 17
	22,300	27,010

15. Related party transactions

Save as disclosed elsewhere in this report, other significant related party transactions, which were carried out in the normal course of the Group's business are as follows:

- (a) Subcontracting fees of HK\$6,301,000 (2004: HK\$8,261,000) paid and payable to certain associates. The sub-contracting fees are mutually negotiated between the Group and the associates.
- (b) During the period, Mr. Chan Sing Chuk, Charles, an executive director of the Company provided a personal guarantee to Crystal Gain Developments Limited, a non-wholly owned subsidiary of the Company up to the total amount of HK\$108,675,000, being 45% of a bank loan of HK\$241,500,000 drawn by the said company.

16. Post Balance Sheet Event

Subsequent to the balance sheet date, on 8th February 2006, the Company completed the sale of the entire issued share capital of a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, City Treasure Limited and the assignment of shareholder's loan for a cash consideration of approximately HK\$158,000,000. The proceed was partially used to early repay a bank loan due by City Treasure Limited. The Disposal constitutes a major transaction for the Company under the Listing Rules and details were included in the Company's circular dated 29th November 2005.

BUSINESS REVIEWS AND PROSPECTS

During the six months ended 31st December 2005 the Group achieved a turnover of HK\$833,810,000 (2004: HK\$706,926,000) and a profit attributable to equity holders of HK\$15,854,000 (2004: HK\$17,078,000). As compared to the results of the same period last year, this represents an increase of approximately 17.9% in turnover.

Overall the luxury goods market has improved internationally and benefiting from increasing consumer confidence, spending in jewellery has risen this past Christmas season. The Group continues to focus much resource to develop our jewellery manufacturing, diamond polishing and cutting businesses.

Increasing diamond and gold prices continues to be a factor in affecting the profit margins. Despite a tough and competitive environment, the Company is actively creating original designs and collection brands to provide value added propositions to our customers. The Company will also continue to explore opportunities in the growing jewellery segment and open up new market prospects. The company will maintain a cautious and steady strategy in increasing our competitive advantage in an ever-changing and challenging market.

In property development, the group portfolio of investments continues to provide a steady income source with close to full occupation rate in Continental Diamond Plaza, Causeway Bay.

BUSINESS OUTLOOK

With the economy growing at a steady pace, and despite the growing competition worldwide, our Group is confident that our business will maintain a steady growth.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has resolved to declare an interim dividend of HK\$0.01 per share for the six months ended 31st December 2005 (2004: HK\$0.01), totalling HK\$2,798,000 (2004: HK\$2,798,000), payable in cash on 18th April 2006.

The register of members of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 4th April 2006 to Friday, 7th April 2006, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares of the Company will be registered.

In order to qualify for the above dividend, all completed transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's share registrars, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, 46th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, 3rd April 2006.

LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

As at 31st December 2005, the Group had a moderate gearing ratio of 0.58 (30th June 2005: 0.46), calculated on the basis of the Group's bank borrowings over equity attributable to equity holders of the Company. Total cash and bank balances were HK\$60,326,000 (30th June 2005: HK\$32,339,000) while bank loans and overdrafts were HK\$390,406,000 (30th June 2005: HK\$305,919,000). As at 31st December 2005, short-term bank loans and overdrafts repayable within one year were HK\$166,156,000 (30th June 2005: HK\$22,704,000). The temporary increase in short-term borrowings is due to two major factors. Firstly, a bank loan of approximately HK\$58,782,000 due by a subsidiary, City Treasure Limited, was reclassified as current liability as at 31st December 2005 as the Group has requested for its early repayment in February 2006 following an agreement to dispose of its entire issued share capital as disclosed in more detail in note 16. Secondly, the Group utilised more banking facilities to finance the increase in trade receivables of HK\$65,443,000, most of the sales occurred in the last quarter of 2005.

LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES (Continued)

Taking into account of the proceeds from the said disposal and the banking facilities available to the Group, the Directors considered that the Group has sufficient working capital to meet its operational requirements.

PLEDGE OF ASSETS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 31st December 2005, certain investment properties and leasehold land and buildings of the Group with an aggregate net book value of HK\$614,685,000 (30th June 2005: HK\$616,162,000) were pledged to a bank to secure general banking credit facilities granted to the Group.

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

There was no change to the Group's capital structure during the six month ended 31st December 2005.

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION POLICIES AND SHARE OPTION SCHEMES

As at 31st December 2005, the Group employed a total of approximately 2,400 employees (30th June 2005: 2,300), the majority of whom are employed in the PRC. The Group remunerates its employees largely based on industry practice. No share option scheme was adopted during the six months ended 31st December 2005.

EXPOSURE TO FLUCTUATIONS IN EXCHANGE RATES AND RELATED HEDGES

With the exception of the UK subsidiary, the sales and purchase transactions and the borrowings of the Group are primarily denominated in United States Dollars and/or Hong Kong Dollars, the risk of foreign exchange fluctuations is minimal under the existing linked exchange rate system for Hong Kong Dollars against United States Dollars. During the six months ended 31st December 2005, the Group did not use any financial instrument for hedging purposes. As at 31st December 2005, there was no hedging instrument outstanding.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF SHARES

The Company has not redeemed any of its shares during the period. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased or sold any of the Company's shares during the period.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES

As 31st December 2005, the interests and short positions of the directors and their associates in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO") as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies (the "Model Code") were as set out below:

Number of ordinary shares				
	Of HK\$0.10	Percentage of the		
	Personal	Family and	Company's issued	
Name of directors	interest	Other interest	share capital	
Chan Sing Chuk, Charles	_	123,786,000 (Note)	44.24%	
Cheng Siu Yin, Shirley	-	123,786,000 (Note)	44.24%	
Chu Wai Kok	8,000	_	_	

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES (Continued)

Note: Mr. Chan Sing Chuk, Charles and Madam Cheng Siu Yin, Shirley are beneficiaries of several discretionary trusts, which through Tamar Investments Limited and Fortune Gold Limited, beneficially owned 76,882,000 shares and 46,904,000 shares, respectively, all of HK\$0.10 each, in the share capital of the Company at 31st December 2005.

Except as disclosed above, at the balance sheet date, none of the directors or their respective associates had any personal, family, corporate or other interest or short positions in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the company or any of its associated corporations as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS

As at 31st December 2005, no person, other than Mr. Chan Sing Chuk, Charles and Madam Cheng Siu Yin, Shirley, whose interests are set out in the section "Directors" interests and short positions in shares, underlying shares and debentures' above, had registered an interest in 5% or more of the issued share capital of the Company that was required to be recorded pursuant to Section 336 of the SFO.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Group has adopted all the Code Provisions in Appendix 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities ("Listing Rules") except the following deviations:

- 1. Code Provision A.2.1 stipulates that the roles of chairman and chief executive officer should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. The Company does not have a separate Chairman and Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Chan Sing Chuk, Charles currently holds both positions. The Board believes that vesting the roles of Chairman and Chief Executive Officer in the same person provides the Group with strong and consistent leadership in the development and execution of long-term business strategies.
- 2. The independent non-executive Directors of the Company are not appointed for specific terms but are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at the Company's AGM.

MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS

The Company has adopted the model code for securities transactions by directors set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules as its own code of conduct regarding Directors' securities transactions in relation to the accounting period covered by this interim report. The Company confirms that, having made specific enquiry of all Directors, the Directors have complied with the required standards of dealing as set out therein.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee has reviewed with management the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed internal controls and financial reporting matters including a review of the unaudited interim accounts for the six months ended 31st December 2005. The unaudited interim financial statements have been approved by the Audit Committee.

On behalf of the Board Chan Sing Chuk, Charles Chairman

Hong Kong, 17th March 2006