

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
Stock Code: 0618



2006 Interim Report

# Corporate Information

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Executive directors**

Mr Zhang Zhao Dong (Chairman)

Mr Xia Yang Jun

Mr Xie Ke Hai

Mr Chen Geng (President)

Mr Zheng Fu Shuang

#### Independent non-executive directors

Mr Li Fat Chung

Ms Wong Lam Kit Yee

Ms Cao Qian

#### **COMMITTEES**

#### **Audit Committee**

Mr Li Fat Chung (Chairman)

Ms Wong Lam Kit Yee

Ms Cao Qian

#### **Remuneration Committee**

Mr Chen Geng (Chairman)

Mr Li Fat Chung

Ms Wong Lam Kit Yee

#### **COMPANY SECRETARY**

Ms Tang Yuk Bo, Yvonne

#### **QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT**

Mr Lau Fai Lawrence

#### **AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr Zhang Zhao Dong

Mr Chen Geng

#### **AUDITORS**

**Ernst & Young** 

**Certified Public Accountants** 

#### **LEGAL ADVISERS**

Norton Rose

Morrison & Foerster

#### **PRINCIPAL BANKERS**

Agricultural Bank of China

**BNP Paribas Hong Kong Branch** 

China Merchants Bank

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (Asia) Limited

#### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Canon's Court

22 Victoria Street

Hamilton HM12

Bermuda

# HEAD OFFICE AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

Unit 1408, 14th Floor

Cable TV Tower

9 Hoi Shing Road

Tsuen Wan

**New Territories** 

Hong Kong

#### SHARE REGISTRARS AND TRANSFER OFFICE

#### **Principal registrars**

Butterfield Fund Services (Bermuda) Limited

Rosebank Centre

11 Bermudiana Road

Pembroke

Bermuda

# Hong Kong branch share registrars and transfer office

Tengis Limited

26th Floor, Tesbury Centre

28 Oueen's Road East

Hong Kong

### LISTING INFORMATION

Main board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

Stock code: 0618

Board Lot: 2,000 shares

#### **COMPANY WEBSITE**

www.ecfounder.com.hk

The board of directors (the "Board") of EC-Founder (Holdings) Company Limited (the "Company") is pleased to present the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Group") for the six months ended 30 June 2006, together with the comparative figures for the corresponding period in 2005. The condensed consolidated interim financial statements have not been audited, but have been reviewed by the Company's audit committee.

#### **OVERALL PERFORMANCE**

The Group achieved satisfactory results for the six months ended 30 June 2006. Turnover has increased by 41.6% to approximately HK\$1,157.2 million (Six months ended 30 June 2005 ("1H2005"): HK\$817.2 million) and gross profit has increased by 52.1% to HK\$56.2 million (1H2005: HK\$36.9 million). Gross profit ratio has rebounded to 4.9% compared with 4.5% for 1H2005.

Despite having recorded a 41.6% growth in turnover, total administrative expenses and selling and distribution costs have recorded a 35.9% increase compared with 1H2005.

The Group's unaudited consolidated profit attributable to equity holders for the period was HK\$11.0 million (1H2005: HK\$10.0 million).

The Group's consolidated profit attributable to equity holders for the period was mainly the net result of:

- a. an increase in segment results of the distribution of information products business by 83.7% to HK\$8.8 million (1H2005: HK\$4.8 million);
- b. an increase in expenses of corporate and others by 12.7% to HK\$2.5 million; and
- c. a decrease in the share of profits and losses of associates by 23.3% to HK\$5.7 million (1H2005: HK\$7.5 million).

Basic earnings per share attributable to equity holders for the period was HK1.00 cents (1H2005: HK0.90 cents).

#### **OPERATING REVIEW AND PROSPECTS**

The Group's principal operating activity during the period is the distribution of information products business ("Distribution Business"). The Distribution Business recorded a turnover of HK\$1,157.2 million for the period which was 41.6% higher than that for the six months ended 30 June 2005 and segment results also increased by 83.7% to HK\$8.8 million for the current period (1H2005: HK\$4.8 million). Gross profit for the Distribution Business has recorded an increase of 52.1% to HK\$56.2 million (1H2005: HK\$36.9 million) while gross profit ratio has turn-around to 4.9% comparing to 4.5% for 1H2005.

The Distribution Business is mainly focused on the distribution of information products such as switches, networking products, servers, storage devices, workstations, notebook computers and screen projectors of a number of internationally famed and branded information products manufacturers such as HP, Huawei-3Com, Apple, IBM, Netgear, CommScope, SGI, Sony and Microsoft.

The significant improvement in turnover and segment results was due to:

- a. increase in the range of products from suppliers such as HP and Huawei-3Com;
- b. continued effort to enrich the number of suppliers, new suppliers such as SGI and CommScope have been added to the Distribution Business' vendor list during the second half of 2005; and
- c. deeper and closer working relationship with the vendors for greater understanding of the market situation so as to develop more business opportunities with the vendors and downstream customers of second tier distributors and systems integrators.

The Distribution Business has been awarded by various upstream vendors such as HP, Huawei-3Com and SGI during the year for its excellent partnership in terms of distribution channel, coverage, growth and overall performance in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC").

In June 2006, the Distribution Business was ranked the 4th place (31 December 2005: 5th) by Computer Partner World (電腦商報) among the top 200 information products distributors in the PRC's information products distribution business and was also ranked the 5th place (31 December 2005: 7th) by China Information World (中國計算機報) in June 2006 as one of the PRC's top 100 dominant information products distributors. In addition, the Distribution Business was ranked the 6th place in June 2006 by Smart Partner (計算機產品與流通) among the top 10 most excellent information products distributors in the PRC.

During the period under review, 4 major cities, namely Chong Qing, Zheng Zhou, Kunming and Chang Sha have been added to the distribution channel and network of the Distribution Business. At present, the Distribution Business operates its nation-wide distribution channel and network in 19 major cities in the PRC.

Faced with fierce competition in the PRC's information products distribution business and the need to further expand the distribution channel and network, selling and distribution costs for the Distribution Business as a percentage to turnover has increased from 1H2005's 1.9% to the current period's 2.3%. With the opening up of additional branch offices/representative offices, administrative expenses for the Distribution Business for the first half of 2006 also increased by 1.6% and 7.4% compared to the first half and second half of 2005 respectively. In light of the strong growth in business size, the Group is also dedicated for stricter and stronger financial and internal management. The Group's trade and bills receivable and inventory turnover periods have improved from the six months ended 30 June 2005's 52.7 days and 26.5 days to the current interim period's 47.3 days and 22.9 days respectively. The working capital ratio for the Group stood at 1.31 as at 30 June 2006 (31 December 2005: 1.30) while the total liabilities to equity ratio also stabled at 2.61 as at 30 June 2006 (31 December 2005: 2.69).

Despite the austerity measures taken by the PRC government in regulating the economy, the Distribution Business has been able to maintain its growth and outperformed the general business investment activities and economic situations in the PRC during the period under review through better and deeper understanding of its product structure, imposing stricter risk and cost controls, provisioning of company-wide staff development and training and continuous development and assessment of the distribution channel and network. To fuel for future growth, the Distribution Business is dedicated to widen its products range and has recently become one of the PRC distributors for Sony's storage devices and Microsoft's major products.

With the Group's endeavours to further strengthening its position in the PRC's information products distribution business, the Group will continue to look for alliance with other international information products suppliers and investment opportunities. The Board and the management team are dedicated towards the aims to reward shareholders with strong financial results and promising outlook.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### Liquidity, financial resources and capital commitments

At 30 June 2006, the Group recorded total assets of approximately HK\$822.0 million (31 December 2005: HK\$792.1 million) which were financed by liabilities of approximately HK\$594.2 million (31 December 2005: HK\$577.3 million) and equity of approximately HK\$227.8 million (31 December 2005: HK\$214.8 million). The Group's net asset value as at 30 June 2006 was approximately HK\$227.8 million (31 December 2005: HK\$214.8 million).

The Group had total cash and bank balance of approximately HK\$215.0 million as at 30 June 2006 (31 December 2005: HK\$292.7 million). The Group had bank and other borrowings as at 30 June 2006 of HK\$39.4 million (31 December 2005: HK\$38.4 million), of which approximately HK\$39.0 million (31 December 2005: HK\$38.4 million) was repayable within one year and approximately HK\$0.4 million (31 December 2005: Nil) was repayable within two to five years. Hence the Group recorded a net cash balance of approximately HK\$175.6 million as at 30 June 2006 (31 December 2005: HK\$254.3 million). As at 30 June 2006, the Group's current ratio was 1.31 (31 December 2005: 1.30).

At 30 June 2006, the Group did not have any material capital expenditure commitments (31 December 2005: Nil).

#### **Treasury policies**

The Group adopts conservative treasury policies and controls tightly over its cash and risk management. The Group's cash and cash equivalents are held mainly in Hong Kong dollars, Renminbi and United States dollars. Surplus cash is generally placed in short-term deposits denominated in Hong Kong dollars, Renminbi and United States dollars.

#### Exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates and related hedges

Most of the Group's payables are denominated in Hong Kong dollars, Renminbi and United States dollars and the turnover of the Group are mainly denominated in Renminbi and United States dollars. As the exchange rates of Renminbi and United States dollars against Hong Kong dollars were relatively stable during the period under review, the Group's exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates is considered minimal and no financial instruments have been used for hedging purposes.

#### Charges on assets

As at 30 June 2006, bank deposits of approximately HK\$65.4 million were pledged to banks to secure general banking facilities granted.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

The Group did not have any significant contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2006.

#### **EMPLOYEE AND REMUNERATION POLICIES**

The Group has developed its human resources policies and procedures based on performance and merit. The Group ensures that the pay levels of its employees are competitive and employees are rewarded on a performance-related basis within the general framework of the Group's salary and bonus systems. The Group provides on-the-job training to its employees in addition to retirement benefit schemes and medical insurance.

The Group operates share option schemes for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to eligible directors and employees of the Group who contribute to the success of the Group's operations. The Company had not granted any share options during the current period.

As at 30 June 2006, the Group had 484 employees (31 December 2005: 415). These employees almost all work in the Mainland China.

# **CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT**For the six months ended 30 June 2006

### For the six months ended 30 June

		30 June		
		2006	2005	
		(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
	Notes	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
REVENUE	2	1,157,194	817,205	
Cost of sales		(1,100,979)	(780,256)	
Gross profit		56,215	36,949	
Other income	3	1,284	554	
Selling and distribution costs		(26,694)	(15,377)	
Administrative expenses		(18,302)	(17,724)	
Other expenses, net		(5,218)	(1,284)	
Finance costs	4	(1,075)	(61)	
Share of profits and losses of associates		5,739	7,483	
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	5	11,949	10,540	
Tax	6	(978)	(590)	
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD ATTRIBUTABLE				
TO EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT		10,971	9,950	
EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE				
TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS				
OF THE PARENT — Basic	7	1.00 cents	0.90 cents	

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	30 June 2006 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	31 December 2005 (Audited) HK\$'000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment		6,822	5,918
Goodwill		2,892	2,892
Interests in associates		34,824	30,921
Total non-current assets		44,538	39,731
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories		147,357	129,199
Trade and bills receivables	9	345,217	255,159
Prepayments, deposits and other receivables		69,825	75,308
Pledged deposits		65,369	38,903
Cash and cash equivalents		149,667	253,839
Total current assets		777,435	752,408
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and bills payables	10	448,457	406,907
Other payables and accruals		105,422	130,976
Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings		38,956	38,400
Tax payable		851	1,008
Total current liabilities		593,686	577,291
NET CURRENT ASSETS		183,749	175,117
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		228,287	214,848
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Finance lease payables		450	
Net assets		227,837	214,848
EQUITY			
Issued capital		110,056	110,056
Reserves		117,781	104,792
			<u> </u>
Total equity		227,837	214,848
iotal equity		227,037	217,040

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY For the six months ended 30 June 2006

	Issued share	Share premium	Contributed	Exchange fluctuation	General	Retained profits/ (accumulated	Total
	capital	account	surplus	reserve	reserve	losses)	equity
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
At 1 January 2006	110,056	154,699	520,156	2,870	2,867	(575,800)	214,848
Exchange realignment				2,018			2,018
Total income for the							
period recognised							
directly in equity	_	_	_	2,018	_	_	2,018
Profit for the period						10,971	10,971
Total income for the period				2,018		10,971	12,989
At 30 June 2006	110,056	154,699	520,156	4,888	2,867	(564,829)	227,837
At 1 January 2005	110,056	154,699	520,156	(107)	_	(599,489)	185,315
Exchange realignment				(114)			(114)
Total expense for the							
period recognised							
directly in equity	_	_	_	(114)	_	_	(114)
Profit for the period						9,950	9,950
Total income and expense							
for the period				(114)		9,950	9,836
At 30 June 2005	110,056	154,699	520,156	(221)	_	(589,539)	195,151

# **CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT**

For the six months ended 30 June 2006

# For the six months ended 30 June

	2006 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	2005 (Unaudited) HK\$'000
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(81,423)	(40,921)
NET CASH OUTFLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	(25,964)	(6,319)
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(107,387)	(47,240)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	253,839	156,907
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net	3,215	
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD	149,667	109,667
ANALYSIS OF BALANCES OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS  Cash and bank balances  Non-pledged time deposits with original maturity of less than	143,453	107,185
three months when acquired	6,214	2,482
	149,667	109,667

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The condensed consolidated interim financial statements are prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard ("HKAS") 34 "Interim Financial Reporting". The accounting policies and basis of preparation adopted in the preparation of the interim financial statements are the same as those used in the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2005, except in relation to the following new and revised Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs", which also include HKASs and Interpretations) that affect the Group and are adopted for the first time for the current period's financial statements:

HKAS 21 Amendment The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates - Net Investment in a Foreign

Operation

**HKAS 39 Amendment** The Fair Value Option

HKAS 39 & HKFRS 4 Amendments Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement and Insurance Contracts -

**Financial Guarantee Contracts** 

HK(IFRIC)-Int 4 Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease

The adoption of the new and revised HKFRSs has had no material impact on the accounting policies of the Group and the method of computation in the Group's condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

#### 2. SEGMENT INFORMATION

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 the other business segments.

The following table presents revenue and results for the Group's primary segments for the six months ended 30 June 2006 and 2005.

	Distrib	ution of				
	informatio	n products	Corporate a	nd others	Consolid	lated
	2006	2005	2006	2005	2006	2005
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Segment revenue: Sales to customers	1,157,194	817,205	_	_	1,157,194	817,205
Segment results	8,788	4,783	(2,501)	(2,219)	6,287	2,564
Interest income Finance costs Share of profits and losses					998 (1,075)	554 (61)
of associates					5,739	7,483
Profit before tax					11,949	10,540
Tax					(978)	(590)
Profit for the period					10,971	9,950

## NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

#### **OTHER INCOME** 3.

## For the six months ended

30	J	u	n	e
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	2006 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	2005 (Unaudited) HK\$'000
Bank interest income Others	998 286	554 
	1,284	554

#### 4. **FINANCE COSTS**

### For the six months ended

#### 30 June

	2006 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	2005 (Unaudited) HK\$'000
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts Interest on finance lease	1,039	61 
	1,075	61

#### 5. **PROFIT BEFORE TAX**

The Group's profit before tax is arrived at after charging/(crediting):

#### For the six months ended 30 June

	2006	2005
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Depreciation	1,022	845
Provision and write-off of doubtful debts	5,218	1,240
Provision and write-off/(reversal and write-back)		
of obsolete inventories	(38)	1,867
Loss on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment		44

# NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 6. TAX

# For the six months ended 30 June

	Sosuic		
	2006	2005	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Current — Hong Kong	8	_	
Current — Elsewhere	970	590	
Total tax charge for the period	978	590	

Hong Kong profits tax had been provided at a rate of 17.5% on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during the period. No provision for Hong Kong profits tax has been made as the relevant Hong Kong subsidiaries did not generate any assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during prior period.

The corporate income tax provision in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC") in respect of operations in the PRC is calculated at the applicable tax rates on the estimated assessable profits for the period based on existing legislation, interpretations and practices in respect thereof.

Beijing Founder Century Information System Co., Ltd. ("PRC Century"), a wholly-owned PRC subsidiary of the Group, is exempted from PRC corporate income tax for the three fiscal years which commenced in 2002 and ended on 31 December 2004 and, thereafter, is taxed at 50% of its standard tax rate in the fourth to sixth years, inclusive. At present, the standard tax rate applicable to PRC Century is 15%.

The share of tax attributable to associates amounted to approximately HK\$683,000 (2005: HK\$1,073,000) is included in "Share of profits and losses of associates" on the face of the condensed consolidated income statement.

#### 7. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT

The calculation of basic earnings per share amounts is based on the unaudited profit for the period attributable to equity holders of the parent of approximately HK\$10,971,000 (2005: HK\$9,950,000), and the weighted average number of 1,100,562,040 (2005: 1,100,562,040) ordinary shares in issue during the period.

Diluted earnings per share for the six months ended 30 June 2006 and 2005 have not been disclosed as the impact of the outstanding share options was anti-dilutive.

#### 8. INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board does not recommend the payment of any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2006 (2005: Nil).

# NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 9. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES

The Group's trading terms with its customers are mainly on credit, except for new customers, where payment in advance is normally required. The credit period is generally for a period of one month, extending up to three months for major customers. Each customer has a maximum credit limit. The Group seeks to maintain strict control over its outstanding receivables. Overdue balances are reviewed regularly by senior management. In view of the aforementioned and the fact that the Group's trade receivables relate to a large number of diversified customers, there is no significant concentration of credit risk. Trade receivables are non-interest-bearing.

An aged analysis of the trade and bills receivables, net of provisions, as at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	30 June	31 December
	2006	2005
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within 6 months	325,445	241,600
7-12 months	14,296	6,425
13-24 months	5,476	7,134
	345,217	255,159

Included in the Group's trade and bills receivables are amounts due from fellow subsidiaries and related companies of approximately HK\$15,136,000 (2005: HK\$6,389,000) and HK\$124,000 (2005: HK\$243,000), respectively, which are repayable on similar credit terms to those offered to the major customers of the Group.

#### 10. TRADE AND BILLS PAYABLES

An aged analysis of trade and bills payables as at the balance sheet date is as follows:

	30 June	31 December
	2006	2005
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Within 6 months	441,038	405,802
Over 6 months	7,419	1,105
	448,457	406,907

# NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

#### (I) Transactions with related parties

- (a) On 10 January 2006, the Group entered into lease agreement with 北大方正集團有限公司 (Peking University Founder Group Company Limited\*) ("Peking Founder"), a substantial shareholder of the Company, to lease from Peking Founder office premise in Beijing, the PRC, effective from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2008. During the period, rental and management fee expenses of approximately HK\$865,000 (six months ended 30 June 2005: HK\$959,000) were paid by the Group to Peking Founder. The directors considered that the rental and management fee expenses were paid in accordance with the terms of the lease agreement.
- (b) On 5 January 2006, the Group entered into a master agreement with Peking Founder to govern the sale of information products to Peking Founder and its subsidiaries (collectively "Peking Founder Group") for a term of three years from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2008. During the period, products of approximately HK\$360,000 (six months ended 30 June 2005: Nil) were sold to Peking Founder Group. The sales of products were made according to published prices and conditions similar to those offered to other customers of the Group.
- (c) On 5 January 2006, the Group entered into a master agreement with Founder Holding Limited ("FHL"), the immediate holding company of the Company, to govern the sale of information products to FHL and its subsidiaries for a term of three years from 1 January 2006 to 31 December 2008. During the period, products of approximately HK\$39,106,000 (six months ended 30 June 2005: HK\$7,065,000) were sold to fellow subsidiaries. The sales of products were made according to published prices and conditions similar to those offered to other customers of the Group.
- (d) As at 30 June 2006, Peking Founder guaranteed banking facilities given by the PRC banks to the Group of approximately HK\$356,843,000 (30 June 2005: HK\$336,050,000) which were utilised to the extent of approximately HK\$312,489,000 (30 June 2005: HK\$264,964,000).
- (e) As at 30 June 2006, Peking Founder guaranteed bank loan given by a PRC bank to the Group of approximately HK\$38,840,000 (30 June 2005: Nil).

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purpose only

# NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 11. **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS** (continued)

#### (I) Transactions with related parties (continued)

- (f) For the six months ended 30 June 2005, products of approximately HK\$51,941,000 were purchased from a company in which one director of a subsidiary was a shareholder. The purchase prices were determined based on actual costs incurred.
- (g) For the six months ended 30 June 2005, software of approximately HK\$1,410,000 was purchased from a then fellow subsidiary. The directors considered that the transaction was conducted at rates agreed between the Group and the then fellow subsidiary.

#### (II) Outstanding balances with related parties

- (a) The balance due to Peking Founder included in other payables and accruals as at 30 June 2006 was approximately HK\$872,000 (31 December 2005: HK\$820,000). The balance is unsecured, interest-free and has no fixed terms of repayment.
- (b) The balance due from a subsidiary of Peking Founder included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables as at 30 June 2006 was approximately HK\$169,000 (31 December 2005: Nil). The balance is unsecured, interest-free and has no fixed terms of repayment.
- (c) Details of the Group's trade receivables balances with its fellow subsidiaries and related companies as at the balance sheet date are included in note 9 to the condensed consolidated interim financial statements.

#### (III) Compensation of key management personnel of the Group

# For the six months ended 30 June

	-	50 34110		
	2006	2005		
	HK\$'000	HK\$′000		
Short term employee benefits	430	180		
Post-employment benefits	3	_		
Total compensation paid to key management				
personnel	433	180		

#### 12. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Group did not have any significant contingent liabilities as at 30 June 2006 (31 December 2005: Nil).

#### DIRECTORS' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES AND UNDERLYING SHARES

At 30 June 2006, the interests and short positions of the directors in the share capital and underlying shares of the Company or 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 pursuant to 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 Issuers (the "Model Code"), were as follows:

Long positions in ordinary shares of the Company:

		Number of ordinary shares held, capacity and nature of interest			
Name of director	Directly	Through		Company's	
	beneficially	controlled		issued	
	owned	corporation Total		share capital	
Mr Zhang Zhao Dong	3,956,000	—	3,956,000	0.36	
Mr Yung Chih Shin, Richard <i>(Note)</i>	—	87,680,000	87,680,000	7.97	

Note: Mr Yung Chih Shin, Richard is interested in these shares through Ricwinco Investment Limited ("Ricwinco"), a company which is beneficially owned by Mr Yung Chih Shin, Richard. Subsequent to the balance sheet date, on 15 September 2006, Mr Yung Chih Shin, Richard resigned as a non-executive director of the Company.

The interests of the directors in the share options of the Company and its associated corporations are separately disclosed under the section "Share option schemes" below.

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 June 2006, none of the directors had registered an interest or short position in the shares or underlying shares of the Company or any of its associated corporations that was required to be recorded pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

### **DIRECTORS' RIGHTS TO ACQUIRE SHARES**

Save as disclosed under the section "Directors' interests and short positions in shares and underlying shares" above and the section "Share option schemes" below, at no time during the period were rights to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in the Company granted to any director or their respective spouse or minor children, or were any such rights exercised by them; or was the Company, its holding company or any of its subsidiaries and fellow subsidiaries a party to any arrangement to enable the directors to acquire such rights in any other body corporate.

#### **SHARE OPTION SCHEMES**

On 24 May 2002, the Company adopted a share option scheme (the "2002 Scheme") in compliance with Chapter 17 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules").

The share option schemes adopted by the Company on 11 September 1991 (the "1991 Scheme") and 7 May 2001 (the "2001 Scheme") were terminated on 24 May 2002, however, the options granted under the 1991 Scheme and the 2001 Scheme remain in full force and effect.

The following share options were outstanding under the 1991 Scheme, the 2001 Scheme and the 2002 Scheme at 1 January 2006 and at the end of the period:

	Nu	mber of share opt	ions			
	At	Lapsed	At	Date of	Exercise	Exercise price
Name or category of participant	1 January 2006	during the period	30 June 2006	grant of share options*	period of share options	of share options**
or participant		penou				HK\$
1991 Scheme						
Other employees						
In aggregate	2,700,000	_	2,700,000	18.5.2001	15.12.2001	0.450
					to 14.12.2006	
2001 Scheme						
Directors						
Mr Cheung Shuen Lung#	2,000,000	_	2,000,000	18.5.2001	18.5.2001	0.450
					to 17.5.2011	
Professor Wei Xin#	2,000,000	_	2,000,000	18.5.2001	18.5.2001 to 17.5.2011	0.450
					10 17.5.2011	
Subtotal	4,000,000		4,000,000			
Other employees						
In aggregate	300,000	_	300,000	18.5.2001	18.5.2001	0.450
					to 17.5.2011	
Total under the	4 200 000		4 200 000			
2001 Scheme	4,300,000	_	4,300,000			

#### **SHARE OPTION SCHEMES** (continued)

#### **Number of share options**

		miser or smare op				
Name or category of participant	At 1 January 2006	Lapsed during the period	At 30 June 2006	Date of grant of share options*	Exercise period of share options	Exercise price of share options**
2002 Scheme						
Directors						
Mr Zhang Zhao Dong	8,000,000	_	8,000,000	6.2.2004	7.2.2004 to 5.2.2014	0.381
Mr Cheung Shuen Lung#	8,000,000	_	8,000,000	6.2.2004	7.2.2004 to 5.2.2014	0.381
Professor Wei Xin#	8,000,000		8,000,000	6.2.2004	7.2.2004 to 5.2.2014	0.381
Subtotal	24,000,000		24,000,000			
Other employees of Found	er Holdings Limi	ted ("FHL"), the im	mediate holding	company of the Co	ompany	
In aggregate	16,500,000	(5,500,000)	11,000,000	2.1.2004	3.1.2004 to 31.12.2013	0.340
Other employees of the Gr	oup					
In aggregate	10,500,000	_	10,500,000	2.1.2004	3.1.2004 to 31.12.2013	0.340
Total under the 2002 Scheme	51,000,000	(5,500,000)	45,500,000			

Notes to the reconciliation of share options outstanding during the period:

<sup>\*</sup> The vesting period of the share options is from the date of the grant until the commencement of the exercise period.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The exercise price of the share options is subject to adjustment in the case of rights or bonus issues, or other similar changes in the Company's share capital.

<sup>#</sup> Mr Cheung Shuen Lung and Professor Wei Xin retired as the directors of the Company at the annual general meeting on 22 May 2006.

#### SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS' AND OTHER PERSONS' INTERESTS IN SHARES

At 30 June 2006, the following interests of 5% or more of the issued share capital of the Company were recorded in the register of interests required to be kept by the Company pursuant to Section 336 of the SFO:

Long positions:

Name	Notes	Capacity and nature of interest	Number of ordinary shares held	Percentage of the Company's issued share capital
北京北大資產經營有限公司	1	Through a controlled corporation	603,690,000	54.85
(Peking University Asset Management Company Limited*)				
北大方正集團有限公司	2	Through a controlled corporation	603,690,000	54.85
(Peking University Founder Group				
Company Limited*) ("Peking Founder")				
FHL	3	Directly beneficially owned	603,690,000	54.85
Mr Zheng Fu Shuang	4	Through a controlled corporation	240,425,000	21.85
Shining Wisdom Group Limited ("Shining Wisdom")	4	Directly beneficially owned	240,425,000	21.85
Peking University Education Foundation		Directly beneficially owned	93,240,000	8.47
Peking University Education Foundation		Beneficiary of a trust	2,330,000	0.21
Ricwinco	5	Directly beneficially owned	87,680,000	7.97
Ms Li Yong Hui	6	As trustee	60,671,600	5.51
Ms Ying Yu Ling	6	As trustee	60,671,600	5.51
F2 Consultant Limited	6	Owned as nominee	60,671,600	5.51
HSBC International Trustee Limited	7	Through a controlled corporation	60,500,000	5.50
Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited	7	Through a controlled corporation	60,500,000	5.50
Sunco Resources Limited	7	Through a controlled corporation	60,500,000	5.50
SUNeVision Holdings Ltd.	7	Through a controlled corporation	60,500,000	5.50
Hugh Profit Investments Ltd.	7	Through a controlled corporation	60,500,000	5.50
Well Drive Holdings Limited		Directly beneficially owned	60,500,000	5.50

#### Notes:

- 1. Peking University Asset Management Company Limited is deemed to be interested in the 603,690,000 shares of the Company under the SFO by virtue of its interest in Peking Founder.
- 2. Peking Founder is deemed to be interested in 603,690,000 shares of the Company under the SFO by virtue of its interest in FHL.
- 3. FHL's interests in the 603,690,000 shares of the Company comprise (i) 363,265,000 shares held by FHL as beneficial owner of the shares; and (ii) 240,425,000 shares which will be disposed of to Shining Wisdom pursuant to conditional sale and purchase agreement entered into between FHL and Shining Wisdom on 26 May 2006.
- 4. Mr Zheng Fu Shuang is interested in these shares through Shining Wisdom which is interested in the 240,425,000 shares of the Company to be acquired from FHL pursuant to a conditional sale and purchase agreement entered into between FHL and Shining Wisdom on 26 May 2006. These shares were transferred from FHL to Shining Wisdom on 31 July 2006 upon the completion of the conditional sale and purchase agreement.
- 5. Mr Yung Chih Shin, Richard is interested in these shares through Ricwinco.
- 6. F2 Consultant Limited holds the shares of the Company as nominee on behalf of the directors of Founder Data Corporation International Limited ("FDC") who are acting in their capacity as the trustees of a discretionary trust for the employees of FDC and its subsidiaries. Ms Li Yong Hui and Ms Ying Yu Ling are the directors of FDC.
- 7. Each of HSBC International Trustee Limited, Sun Hung Kai Properties Limited, Sunco Resources Limited, SUNeVision Holdings Ltd. and Hugh Profit Investments Ltd. is deemed to be interested in 60,500,000 shares of the Company under the SFO by virtue of its, direct or indirect, interest in Well Drive Holdings Limited.
- \* For identification purpose only

#### SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS' AND OTHER PERSONS' INTERESTS IN SHARES (continued)

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 June 2006, no person, other than the directors of the Company, whose interests are set out in the section "Directors' interests and short positions in shares and underlying shares" above, had registered an interest or short position in the shares or underlying shares of the Company that was required to be recorded pursuant to Section 336 of the SFO.

#### PURCHASE, REDEMPTION AND SALE OF LISTED SECURITIES OF THE COMPANY

Neither the Company, nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, redeemed or sold any of the Company's listed securities during the period.

#### COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Company has complied with the code provisions as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules (the "Code") throughout the accounting period covered by the interim report, except for deviation in respect of the rotation of directors under code provision A.4.2 of the Code.

Under code provision A.4.2 of the Code, all directors appointed to fill a casual vacancy should be subject to election by shareholders at the first general meeting after their appointment, and every director, including those appointed for a specific term, should be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years. However, according to the then Bye-laws of the Company, one third of the directors are subject to retirement by rotation at each annual general meeting and the Chairman or Managing Director of the Company is not subject to retirement by rotation, which constitutes a deviation from code provision A.4.2 of the Code. To comply with code provision A.4.2 of the Code, relevant amendments to the Bye-laws of the Company were approved by the shareholders in the special general meeting held on 4 January 2006. Since then the Company has complied with all code provisions of the Code.

#### **MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS**

The Company has adopted the Model Code as the Company's code of conduct for dealings in securities of the Company by the directors. Having made specific enquiry of the Company's directors, all the directors confirmed that they have complied with the required standard as set out in the Model Code throughout the accounting period covered by the interim report.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Company has an audit committee which was established in compliance with Rule 3.21 of the Listing Rules for the purpose of reviewing and providing supervision over the Group's financial reporting process and internal controls. The audit committee comprises the three independent non-executive directors of the Company. These unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2006 of the Group now reported have been reviewed by the audit committee.

By Order of the Board

EC-FOUNDER (HOLDINGS) COMPANY LIMITED

Zhang Zhao Dong

Chairman

Hong Kong 22 September 2006