

## LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Group continues to maintain a strong financial position. As at 30th September, 2006, the Group's bank balances and cash amounted to approximately HK\$55 million (31st March, 2006: HK\$66 million) while the bank borrowings was HK\$27 million (31st March, 2006: HK\$28 million). The long-term bank borrowing was denominated in Hong Kong dollars. The gearing ratio was 10% (31st March, 2006: 11%) which was expressed as a percentage of total borrowings to shareholders' funds.

As substantial portions of the Group's transactions are dominated in Hong Kong dollar, the Group's exposure to exchange fluctuation is low.

## **EMPLOYEES**

As at 30th September, 2006, the total number of employees of the Group was approximately 360 (31st March, 2006: 380) and the aggregate remuneration of employees (excluding directors' emoluments) amounted to HK\$25 million (2005: HK\$20 million). The remuneration and bonus packages of the employees are based on the individual merits and performance and are reviewed at least annually. There is a share option scheme in place designed to award employees for their performance at the discretion of the directors. The Group maintains a good relationship with its employees.

## **PLEDGE OF ASSETS**

As at 30th September, 2006, the Group's banking facilities were secured by a bank deposit of HK\$7,798,000 (31st March, 2006: HK\$7,798,000) and first legal charge on certain leasehold land and buildings and investment properties with aggregate carrying values of HK\$76,309,000 (31st March, 2006: HK\$76,760,000).

## **CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

As at 30th September, 2006, the Company has provided corporate guarantees of HK\$74,000,000 (31st March, 2006: HK\$74,000,000) to secure the banking facilities granted to subsidiary companies.