# JOYCE BOUTIQUE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability) (於百慕達註冊成立的有限公司)

# JOYCE

STOCK CODE 股份代號: 647

INTERIM REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS for the half-year period ended 30 September 2011

> **致股東中期報告書** 截至二○一一年九月三十日止半年度

## **GROUP RESULTS**

The unaudited Group profit attributable to Shareholders for the six months ended 30 September 2011 amounted to HK\$72.8 million, an increase of 80.5% as compared with the profit of HK\$40.4 million for the corresponding period last year. Earnings per share were 4.5 cents (2010: 2.5 cents).

## INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has resolved not to declare any interim dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2011 (six-month period ended 30 September 2010: Nil).

### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

For the first six months of the financial year, the Group continued its growth momentum of last financial year and recorded a net profit of HK\$72.8 million as compared to HK\$40.4 million for the same period last year. The satisfactory increase in profitability is mainly attributable to the 17.3% growth in turnover and the 3.8 percentage-point increase in margin despite a decrease in the operating profit of the China division due to the pre-opening expenses incurred for new shop openings in China.

During the period, the Group opened two new shops in Hong Kong, namely, Etro and Neil Barrett, both of which carry only the men's collection targeting at the male customer traffic on the basement level of Landmark. In China, as part of the Group's strategic expansion plan for both JOYCE multi-label and key mono-brand business models, the Group opened three shops in Beijing during the period, comprising a 3,300 square-foot JOYCE Warehouse Outlet, a 4,100 square-foot duplex Dsquared<sup>2</sup> shop in Sanlitun and a 20,000 square-foot duplex flagship JOYCE multi-label store at China World Mall. The JOYCE flagship store has inherited the business model of the Hong Kong JOYCE flagship store at New World Tower, featuring both a JOYCE Beauty corner and an On Pedder footwear and accessories concession corner. In August, the Group also opened a support office in Beijing to cope with the rapid business expansion in Beijing. The office provides staff training and logistics support to the local operations.

As for the Marni joint venture business, a specially-edited Marni pop-up shop was opened in Harbour City in April 2011.

#### **Business Development**

In October, the Group opened a 3,800 square-foot JOYCE multi-label store in The Lee Gardens in Causeway Bay. The contemporary shop design together with a high proportion of edgy merchandise and brand mix is strategically positioned for fashion forward customers. The shop basically follows the same concept of the JOYCE store at Pacific Place in terms of brand selection and visual merchandising. Riding on the attractive growth momentum of the JOYCE Beauty business, the Group also opened two additional point-of-sales in Hong Kong in November, one of which is a 1,200 square-foot men's grooming concept shop in Landmark, and the other is a 1,200 square-foot beauty concession corner in Lane Crawford Canton Road.

In China, the Group has rolled out one of its key brands, Alexander McQueen, by opening a duplex Alexander McQueen shop in Beijing's Sanlitun district in October. Besides, a 3,800 square-foot duplex Etro flagship store was also opened in Beijing's China World Mall next to the JOYCE flagship store in the same month.

#### Outlook

Looking forward, the sovereign debt crises in Europe and the stagnant US economy will continue to cast uncertainties to the reviving economy, while high cost inflation in Hong Kong and China, in particular the rising staff costs, the escalating rental upon lease renewal and the risk of non-renewal of retail leases, will continue to exert pressure on the profitability of the Group's operations. Nevertheless, the Group will continue to build on its effective internal measures to improve productivity and tighten cost control, and to take a cautious approach to expanding its retail portfolio in Hong Kong and China.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

#### (I) Results Review

Group profit attributable to Shareholders for the six months ended 30 September 2011 amounted to HK\$72.8 million, compared to a profit of HK\$40.4 million for the same period last year. Earnings per share were 4.5 cents (2010: 2.5 cents).

The Group's turnover for the six months ended 30 September 2011 was HK\$614.5 million, representing an increase of 17.3% over the same period last year. The Hong Kong division remained to be the core business of the Group, accounting for 87.4% (2010: 87.2%) of the Group's turnover. The turnover for the Hong Kong division increased by 17.5% against the same period last year, which was mainly due to the general improvement in the local consumer sentiment and partly due to the contributions from the new shops at Landmark. As for the China division, with the sales contribution from the new shops in Beijing during the period, the Group was able to achieve a turnover growth of 16.1%.

Gross margin improved by 3.8 percentage points as compared to the same period last year as a result of reduced sales discount and higher sell-through for Spring/Summer 2011.

With a satisfactory growth in turnover and an improvement of gross margin, the Hong Kong division recorded an operating profit of HK\$90.4 million, more than doubled the last period of HK\$40.8 million.

During the period, the profit performance of the China division was affected by the pre-opening expenses incurred for the new shops in Beijing, chiefly including HK\$8.6 million rental costs. As a result, the operating profit of the China division decreased significantly to HK\$0.3 million (2010: HK\$9.7 million).

For the period under review, the profit contribution from the Marni joint venture business increased from HK\$2.7 million of last period to HK\$3.7 million due to the improvement in both turnover and gross margin.

#### (II) Liquidity and Financial Resources

At 30 September 2011, the Group's financial position remained strong with total cash deposits and cash on hand amounted to HK\$452.1 million (31/3/2011: HK\$479.8 million).

At 30 September 2011, the Group had banking facilities in a total amount of HK\$279.8 million (31/3/2011: HK\$279.8 million).

With its strong financial position and available banking facilities, the Group believes that it will have sufficient fund to pursue new potential investment opportunities.

#### (III) Foreign Exchange Risk Management

Most of the Group's imported purchases are denominated in foreign currencies, primarily being Euro. To minimise exposure on foreign exchange fluctuations, the Group will from time to time review its foreign exchange position and, when it considers appropriate and necessary, will hedge its foreign exchange exposure by way of forward foreign exchange contracts.

#### (IV) Human Resources

The Group had 572 staff as at 30 September 2011 (31/3/2011: 494). Staff are remunerated according to nature of the job and market trend, with a built-in merit component incorporated in the annual increment to reward and motivate individual performance. The Group provides various job-related training programmes to staff when necessary. Total staff costs for the period ended 30 September 2011 amounted to HK\$75.7 million.

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM INCOME STATEMENT for the six months ended 30 September 2011

	Note	Unaudited 30/09/2011 HK\$'000	Unaudited 30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Turnover	2	614,549	523,843
Other income		7,658	6,920
		622,207	530,763
Direct costs and operating expenses	4	(455,691)	(413,132)
Selling and marketing expenses	4	(29,452)	(27,128)
Administrative expenses	4	(47,799)	(40,900)
Operating profit		89,265	49,603
Finance costs	3	(27)	(12)
Share of profit of an associate		3,716	2,665
Profit before income tax		92,954	52,256
Income tax expense	5	(20,127)	(11,900)
Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company		72,827	40,356
Earnings per share	6		
— Basic		4.5 cents	2.5 cents
— Diluted		N/A	N/A
Dividends	7		

# JOYCE

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION at 30 September 2011

	Note	Unaudited 30/09/2011 HK\$'000	Audited 31/03/2011 HK\$'000
ASSETS Non-Current Assets Property, plant and equipment Deposits, prepayments and other assets Interest in an associate Deferred income tax assets		51,518 43,975 15,976 <u>4,865</u> 116,334	44,469 39,654 17,369 4,281 105,773
Current Assets Inventories Trade and other receivables Deposits, prepayments and other assets Financial derivative assets Cash and cash equivalents	8	242,105 47,276 42,655 452,083 784,119	194,104 39,754 19,843 892 479,753 734,346
Total Assets		900,453	840,119
EQUITY Capital and reserves attributable to the Company's equity holders Share capital Reserves Total Equity	10	162,400 471,309 633,709	162,400 464,855 627,255
<b>LIABILITIES</b> <b>Non-Current Liability</b> Financial liability at fair value through profit or loss		8,160	8,160
<b>Current Liabilities</b> Trade and bills payables Other payables and accruals Amount due to an associate Current income tax liabilities Financial derivative liabilities	9	$55,100 \\ 151,687 \\ 4,130 \\ 45,021 \\ 2,646$	52,363 122,406 3,113 26,822
		258,584	204,704
Total Liabilities		266,744	212,864
Total Equity And Liabilities		900,453	840,119
Net Current Assets		525,535	529,642
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		641,869	635,415

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY for the six months ended 30 September 2011

		Attributable to equity holders of the Company						
	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000	Capital surplus HK\$'000	Contributed surplus HK\$'000	Exchange fluctuation reserve HK\$'000	Hedging reserve HK\$'000	Retained profits HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Balance at 1 April 2011	162,400	3,728	76	139,196	1,523	(147)	320,479	627,255
Comprehensive income Profit attributable to equity holders Other comprehensive income/(expense) Net translation differences	-	_	-	-	-	-	72,827	72,827
on foreign operations: - Subsidiaries - Associate	_				32 (13)			32 (13)
Cash flow hedges: - Fair value losses for the period - Deferred income tax recognised						(2,016) 584		(2,016) 584
Total other comprehensive income/(expense)	_	_	_	_	19	(1,432)	_	(1,413)
Total comprehensive income/(expense)					19	(1,432)	72,827	71,414
Transactions with owners Interim dividend paid for the year ended 31 March 2011							(64,960)	(64,960)
Balance at 30 September 2011	162,400	3,728	76	139,196	1,542	(1,579)	328,346	633,709

The comparative figures for the six months ended 30 September 2010 are set out as follows:

	Attributable to equity holders of the Company							
					Exchange			
	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000	Capital surplus HK\$'000	Contributed surplus HK\$'000	fluctuation reserve HK\$'000	Hedging reserve HK\$'000	Retained profits HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Balance at 1 April 2010	162,400	3,728	76	139,196	(1,862)	(2,515)	204,067	505,090
Comprehensive income								
Profit attributable to equity holders	_	_	_	_	_	_	40,356	40,356
Other comprehensive income/(expense)								
Net translation differences on foreign operations:								
- Subsidiaries	_	_	_	_	12	_	_	12
- Associate	_	_	_	_	(2)	_	_	(2)
Cash flow hedges:								
- Fair value gains for the period	_	_	-	—	—	2,914	—	2,914
- Deferred income tax recognised						(751)		(751)
Total other comprehensive income					10	2,163		2,173
Total comprehensive income					10	2,163	40,356	42,529
Translations with owners Final dividend paid for the year ended 31 March 2010							(16,240)	(16,240)
Balance at 30 September 2010	162,400	3,728	76	139,196	(1,852)	(352)	228,183	531,379

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME for the six months ended 30 September 2011

	Unaudited 30/09/2011 HK\$'000	Unaudited 30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Profit for the period	72,827	40,356
Other comprehensive income/(expense)		
Net translation differences on foreign operations	19	10
Fair value (losses)/gains on cash flow hedge, net of tax	(1,432)	2,163
Total other comprehensive (expense)/income	(1,413)	2,173
Total comprehensive income for the period	71,414	42,529

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the six months ended 30 September 2011

	Unaudited 30/09/2011 HK\$'000	Unaudited 30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	49,865	101,414
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(12,605)	(23,304)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	(64,960)	(16,240)
(Decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(27,700)	61,870
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net	30	11
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	479,753	315,307
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	452,083	377,188
Analysis of balances of cash and cash equivalents		
Cash at bank and in hand	142,241	167,848
Short-term bank deposits	309,842	209,340
	452,083	377,188

## Notes to Interim Financial Statements

#### (1) Basis of preparation and accounting policies

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

These unaudited consolidated interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011, which have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs").

Except as described below, the accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2011, as described in those annual financial statements.

The following amended standard is mandatory for the first time for the financial year beginning on 1 April 2011:

HKAS 34 (Amendment)

Interim Financial Reporting

The following revised standards and interpretations are mandatory for the first time for the financial year beginning on 1 April 2011 but are not currently relevant to the Group:

HKAS 24 (Revised)	Related Party Disclosures
HK(IFRIC) – Int 14	Prepayments of a Minimum Funding Requirement
HK(IFRIC) – Int 19	Extinguishing Financial Liabilities with
	Equity Instruments
Annual Improvements Project	Improvements to HKFRSs 2010

The following new standards and amendments have been issued but are not effective for the financial year beginning on 1 April 2011, and have not been early adopted by the Group:

HKFRS 11 HKFRS 12	Presentation of Financial Statements Deferred Tax: Recovery of Underlying Assets Employee Benefits Separate Financial Statements Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures Financial Instruments Consolidated Financial Statements Joint Arrangements Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities
HKFRS 12 HKFRS 13	Fair Value Measurement
пкгкз 13	Fair value Measurement

#### (2) Segment information

The Group is principally engaged in sales of designer fashion garments, cosmetics and accessories.

The Group determines its operating segments based on the reports reviewed by the management who makes strategic decisions.

The management assesses the business by geographic location. The reportable operating segments identified are Hong Kong, Mainland China and other markets.

Segment profit represents the profit earned by each segment before finance cost, tax and share of profit of an associate. This is the measurement basis reported to the management for the purpose of resource allocation and assessment of segment performance.

An analysis of the Group's reportable segment turnover and operating profit/(loss) by geographical location is as follows:

		Segmen	t turnover	Segmen	t results
		30/09/2011	30/09/2010	30/09/2011	30/09/2010
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	Geographical segments:				
	Hong Kong	536,878	456,922	90,391	40,810
	China	77,485	66,747	255	9,708
	Others	186	174	(1,381)	(915)
	Total	614,549	523,843		
	Operating profit			89,265	49,603
	Finance costs			(27)	(12)
	Share of profit of an associat	te		3,716	2,665
	-				
	Profit before income tax			92,954	52,256
	Income tax expense			(20,127)	(11,900)
	Profit attributable to equity h	nolders		72,827	40,356
(3)	Finance costs				

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Interest on bank loans and overdrafts	27	12

#### (4) Expenses by nature

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Cost of inventories (including provision		
for inventories)	273,846	253,591
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	10,714	8,959
Operating lease rentals in respect		
of land and buildings	115,086	98,988
Staff costs	75,679	68,727
Other expenses	57,617	50,895
	532,942	481,160

#### (5) Income tax expense

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 16.5% on the estimated assessable profit for the period ended 30 September 2011.

No provision for overseas profits tax has been made as the Group has unutilised tax losses brought forward to offset its estimated assessable profit (2010: Nil).

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

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Current income tax - Hong Kong profits tax Deferred income tax	20,127	10,749 1,151
	20,127	11,900

#### (6) Earnings per share

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the consolidated profit attributable to equity holders for the period of HK\$72,827,000 (2010: HK\$40,356,000) and the weighted average number of ordinary shares of 1,624,000,000 (2010: 1,624,000,000) shares in issue during the period.

Diluted earnings per share was not presented as there was no dilutive potential ordinary share in issue for the period ended 30 September 2011 and 2010.

#### (7) Dividends

#### (a) Dividends attributable to the period

The Board has resolved not to declare any interim dividend for the period ended 30 September 2011 (2010: Nil).

(b) Dividends attributable to the previous financial year, approved and paid during the period.

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Interim dividend in respect of the previous financial year, approved and paid during the period, of 4.0 cents (2010: Nil) per share No final dividend in respect of the previous financial year was approved and paid during the period	64,960	_
(2010: 1.0 cent per share)		16,240
	64,960	16,240

#### (8) Trade and other receivables

Included in trade and other receivables are trade receivables with an ageing analysis at 30 September 2011 as follows:

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	31/03/2011 HK\$'000
Within 30 days	24,789	27,313
Between 31 to 60 days	4,659	4,478
Between 61 to 90 days	2,282	3,087
Over 90 days	29	
	31,759	34,878

The Group has established credit policies for each of its core businesses. The general credit terms allowed range from 0 to 60 days.

#### (9) Trade and bills payables

The ageing analysis of trade and bills payables at 30 September 2011 is as follows:

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	31/03/2011 HK\$'000
Due within 30 days	49,450	48,820
Due between 31 to 60 days	3,720	2,983
Due between 61 to 90 days	505	526
Due after 90 days	1,425	34
	55,100	52,363

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#### (10) Share capital

	_ (	)11		)10
	Number of shares '000	HK\$'000	Number of shares '000	HK\$'000
Authorised:				
Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each				
Beginning and end of the period	3,000,000	300,000	3,000,000	300,000
Issued and fully paid:				
Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each				
Beginning and end of the period	1,624,000	162,400	1,624,000	162,400

#### (11) Commitments

#### (a) Operating lease commitments – as lessee

At 30 September 2011, the Group had future aggregate minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	31/03/2011 HK\$'000
Land and buildings:		
Not later than one year	180,550	154,538
Later than one year and not later		
than five years	396,543	247,475
Later than five years		430
	577,093	402,443

Payment obligations in respect of operating leases with rentals varied with gross revenues are not included as future minimum lease payment.

#### (b) Operating lease commitments – as lessor

At 30 September 2011, the Group had future aggregate minimum lease receipts under a non-cancellable operating lease as follows:

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	31/03/2011 HK\$'000
Land and buildings: Not later than one year Later than one year and not later	3,429	6,494
than five years		
	3,429	6,494

#### (c) Capital commitments

Capital expenditure at the date of statement of financial position but not yet incurred is as follows:

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	31/03/2011 HK\$'000
Property, plant and equipment contracted but not provided for	3,988	9,055

#### (12) Related party transactions

Significant related party transactions, which were carried out in the normal course of the Group's business during the period, are as follows:

#### (a) Transactions with fellow subsidiaries

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Rental expenses paid to a fellow subsidiary	5,387	4,699
Rental income received from a fellow subsidiary	4,603	3,865

#### (b) Transactions with an associate

	30/09/2011 HK\$'000	30/09/2010 HK\$'000
Management fee received from an associate	1,013	974

#### (13) Review of unaudited interim financial statements

The unaudited interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 September 2011 have been reviewed with no disagreement by the Audit Committee of the Company.

# CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

During the financial period under review, the Company has complied with all the code provisions set out in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices contained in Appendix 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange").

## MODEL CODE FOR DIRECTORS' DEALING IN SECURITIES

The Company has adopted a code of conduct regarding directors' securities transactions on terms no less exacting than the required standard set out in the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules. The Company has made specific enquiry of all Directors and all the Directors have complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code and the code of conduct adopted by the Company regarding directors' securities transactions during the period under review.

## DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES

As recorded in the register kept by the Company under section 352 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (the "SFO") in respect of information required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange by the Directors and/or Chief Executive of the Company pursuant to the SFO or to the Model Code, there were no interests, both long and short positions, held as at 30 September 2011 by any of the Directors or Chief Executive of the Company in shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company and its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO), nor had there been any rights to subscribe for any shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company held by any of them at any time during the financial period.

## SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS' INTERESTS

Given below are the names of all parties, who/which were, directly or indirectly, interested in 5% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital of the Company as at 30 September 2011, the respective relevant numbers of shares in which they were, and/or were deemed to be, interested as at that date as recorded in the register kept by the Company under section 336 of the SFO (the "Register") and the percentages which the shares represented to the issued share capital of the Company:

	Names	<b>No. of Ordinary Shares</b> (percentage of issued capital)
(i)	Allied Wisdom International Limited	1,183,838,723 (72.90%)
(ii)	Wisdom Gateway Limited	1,183,838,723 (72.90%)
(iii)	HSBC Trustee (Guernsey) Limited	1,183,838,723 (72.90%)
(iv)	Mr. Peter K. C. Woo	1,183,838,723 (72.90%)

Note: Duplication occurs in respect of all of the shareholdings stated above in that they all represent the same block of shares.

All the interests stated above represented long positions and as at 30 September 2011, there were no short position interests recorded in the Register.

## PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF SHARES

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any listed securities of the Company during the financial period under review.

By Order of the Board Wilson W. S. Chan Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 24 November 2011

As at the date of this interim report, the Board of Directors of the Company comprises Mr. Stephen T. H. Ng, Ms. Doreen Y. F. Lee and Mr. Paul Y. C. Tsui, together with three Independent Non-executive Directors, namely, Mr. Antonio Chan, Mr. Eric F. C. Li and Mr. Eric K. K. Lo.