



XIWANG SPECIAL STEEL COMPANY LIMITED 西王特鋼有限公司

(incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)
(於香港註冊成立之有限公司)

Stock Code 股份代號: 1266



2017
ANNUAL REPORT
年報

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Company Profile

Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited (the “**Company**”) and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “**Group**”) is a leading high-end special steel manufacturer located in Shandong Province of the People’s Republic of China (the “**PRC**” or “**China**”).

Founded in 2003, the Group was listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**Stock Exchange**”) on 23 February 2012. Our production base is located in Xiwang Industrial Area, Zouping County, Shandong Province of China. We operate an integrated production process from iron smelting and steel smelting to secondary metallurgy, continuous casting and steel rolling. Our products consist of ordinary steel that is primarily used in buildings and infrastructures, as well as special steel that is used in automobile, shipbuilding, chemical and petrochemical, machinery and equipment sectors.

Currently, the Group has an aggregate designed annual smelting capacity of electric arc furnaces (“**EAFs**”) and converters of approximately 3.3 million tonnes, and an aggregate designed annual steel rolling capacity of 3.0 million tonnes. The total designed annual capacity of our blast furnaces and sintering furnaces are 2.1 million tonnes and 3.7 million tonnes, respectively.

The Group possesses two production flows, which are (1) steel scraps as raw materials for steel production through EAFs; (2) sintering furnace turning iron ores into sinter for blast furnaces to produce molten iron which was then converted into steel by converters. This provides us with more flexibility in production flow, as we could control our cost and product mix through the utilization of different raw materials.

Our steel production facilities, as of 31 December 2017, consisted of:

- a sintering furnace, with a designed annual capacity of 3.7 million tonnes, which supplies sinter for the two blast furnaces;
- two blast furnaces, with a designed annual capacity of 1.05 million tonnes each, which use iron ore to convert sinter into molten iron and pig iron for production purposes of the EAFs and converters;
- two converters, i.e. Converter I and Converter II, with a designed annual capacity of 1.15 million tonnes each, which convert raw materials including steel scraps, molten iron and pig iron into molten steel and then cast into ordinary steel billets and special steel billets;
- an EAF, with a designed annual capacity of 500,000 tonnes. The EAF convert raw materials, including steel scraps, molten iron and pig iron into molten steel and then cast into ordinary steel billets and special steel billets. The ordinary steel billets are rolled into ordinary steel products of rebars and wire rods. The special steel billets are rolled into special steel products, which include quality carbon structural steel, alloy structural steel and bearing steel;
- two bar rolling lines, Bar I and Bar II, with a designed annual capacity of 1,700,000 tonnes in total. Bar I and Bar II manufacture small to medium-sized steel bars, including rebars, quality carbon structural steel and alloy structural steel;
- a large bar rolling line, Bar III, with a designed annual capacity of 650,000 tonnes. Bar III manufactures large bar of special steel products including quality carbon structural steel, alloy structural steel and bearing steel;
- a wire rolling line with a designed annual capacity of 650,000 tonnes upon the addition of equipment and improvement of technology during the Period. This wire rolling line manufactures steel products in the form of wire rod, which include wire rod, quality carbon structural steel and bearing steel; and
- clean intelligent preparation for special steel model line of high-end equipment, with a designed annual capacity of 300,000 tonnes of quality ingots and 100,000 tonnes of forgings materials/forgings.

The Group produced and sold ordinary steel and special steel and mainly traded raw materials, such as iron ore dust and pellet, during the reporting period. Ordinary steel mainly includes rebar and wire rod. Special steel includes quality carbon structural steel, alloy structural steel and bearing steel. Details are as follows:

1. ORDINARY STEEL

Rebar

Rebar is mainly used in building construction and infrastructure projects. Our rebar has cross sectional diameters ranging from 12 millimetres to 32 millimetres.

Wire rod

We produce ribbed and plain wire rods, both of which have cross sectional diameters ranging from 6 millimetres to 12 millimetres. Our wire rod is used in the construction and infrastructure sectors.

2. SPECIAL STEEL

Quality carbon structural steel

Our quality carbon structural steel includes steel bars and steel wires with cross sectional diameters ranging from 5.5 millimetres to 350 millimetres. Quality carbon structural steel contains less than 0.8% carbon and has less sulfur, phosphorus and non-metallic contents than that of ordinary carbon structural steel. Because of its higher purity, quality carbon structural steel has better mechanical properties, such as yield strength and tensile strength, than that of ordinary carbon structural steel. This product is mainly used for buildings and infrastructures.

Alloy structural steel

Alloy structural steel is mostly used in machineries. In order to get the desired steel properties, manganese, silicon, nickel, chromium and molybdenum were added to adjust the chemical composition. Our alloy structural steel includes steel bars with cross sectional diameters ranging from 5.5 millimetres to 350 millimetres.

Bearing steel

We produce bearing steel bars and wires with cross sectional diameters ranging from 5.5 millimetres to 150 millimetres. They are used in manufacturing rollers or ball bearings for automobile industry. Our bearing steel products are of relatively high level of purity and thus are harder in structure than ordinary steel.

Ingots

Ingots manufactured by the Company can be applied to the transportation, power and energy, petrochemical, oceanic engineering, space and aeronautics as well as weaponry industries. Our products include wide and thick slabs, round ingots, square ingots, rhombus ingots and hollow ingots weighting from 3 tonnes to 80 tonnes.

Corporate Information

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Directors

Mr. ZHANG Jian (*Chief Executive Officer*)
Mr. SUN Xinhua
Ms. LI Hai Xia

Non-executive Directors

Mr. WANG Yong
Mr. WANG Di (*Chairman*)

Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny
Mr. YU Kou
Mr. LI Bangguang

COMMITTEES

Audit Committee

Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny (*Chairman*)
Mr. YU Kou
Mr. LI Bangguang

Remuneration Committee

Mr. LI Bangguang (*Chairman*)
Mr. WANG Di
Mr. YU Kou

Nomination Committee

Mr. LI Bangguang (*Chairman*)
Mr. WANG Di
Mr. YU Kou

COMPANY SECRETARY

Mr. WONG Kai Hing

AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. WANG Di
Mr. WONG Kai Hing

REGISTERED OFFICE

Unit 2110, 21/F
Harbour Centre
25 Harbour Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong

HEADQUARTERS

Xiwang Industrial Area
Zouping County
Shandong Province
People's Republic of China

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS IN HONG KONG

Unit 2110, 21/F
Harbour Centre
25 Harbour Road
Wanchai, Hong Kong

PRINCIPAL BANKERS

Bank of China
Agricultural Bank of China
Bank of Communications
China Zheshang Bank
Bank of Rizhao

AUDITORS

Ernst & Young
Certified Public Accountants
22nd Floor, CITIC Tower
1 Tim Mei Avenue, Central
Hong Kong

LEGAL ADVISER

Eversheds Sutherland
21/F, Gloucester Tower, The Landmark
15 Queen's Road Central
Hong Kong

HONG KONG SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

Boardroom Share Registrars (HK) Limited
31/F, 148 Electric Road,
North Point,
Hong Kong

INVESTOR RELATIONS CONTACT

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WEBSITE

www.xiwangsteel.com

Financial Highlights

| | Year ended 31 December | |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2017 | 2016 |
| Sales volume of Steel (tonnes) | 3,087,000 | 2,797,000 |
| Revenue (RMB) | | |
| Ordinary Steel – Rebar | 5,061.8 million | 2,946.8 million |
| Ordinary Steel – Wire Rod | 2,412.1 million | 1,209.5 million |
| Special Steel – Quality carbon structural steel | 1,611.3 million | 1,258.9 million |
| Special Steel – Others (Alloy structural steel, bearing steel, ingot and forgings materials) | 935.8 million | 551.1 million |
| Trading of commodities and sales of by-products | 2,341.5 million | 1,600.5 million |
| Total | 12,362.5 million | 7,566.8 million |
| Gross profit (RMB) | 2,025.2 million | 1,068.4 million |
| Gross profit per tonne (RMB) | | |
| – Productions and sales of steel | 647 yuan | 372 yuan |
| EBITDA ⁽¹⁾ (RMB) | 1,815.8 million | 1,112.1 million |
| Profit attributable to owners (RMB) | 898.1 million | 332.6 million |
| Basic earnings per share (RMB) | 44.15 cents | 16.57 cents |

Note:

⁽¹⁾ EBITDA refers to profit before tax plus finance cost, depreciation, amortization of prepaid land lease payments and other intangible assets.

Chairman's Statement

According to data published by the National Bureau of Statistics of the PRC, China's GDP in 2017 is RMB82.7 trillion, up 6.9% over last year in terms of comparable prices. The stable growth of China's economy continues. The focus of the PRC's economy is moving from investment and expansion to high quality, better cost-effectiveness, optimized structure and industrial upgrade. The PRC is now confronted with L-shaped growth, and the government is determined to solve the problems and issues brought by structural economic development. It is expected that the PRC's economic will continue to grow steadily and healthily with the help of the government's reform of the supply side and boost of development momentum.

At the 19th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, the PRC Central Government points out that the PRC will take the reform of supply-side to the next level. The government will focus on the following tasks: cutting excessive industrial capacity, destocking, de-leveraging, lowering corporate costs, improving weak links, optimizing resource allocation, expanding effective supply and achieving a dynamic equilibrium between supply and demand and bring the Internet, Big data, Artificial Intelligence and real economy together. General Secretary of the PRC government, Mr. Xi Jinping, also points out that the industrial upgrade is the key to the improvement of the overall competitiveness of the PRC's economy. We should speed up the modification of conventional industries and the combination of information and the industry. "Made in China 2025" shows how dedicated the PRC is to work on innovation, intelligent transformation, foundation consolidation and green development, aiming at speeding up transforming the PRC from a manufacturer of quantity to one of quality.

In term of steel industry, 2017 is pivotal to the government's reform of the supply side. The production capacity of steel industry was reduced by 50 million tonnes. China's crude steel production capacity has been cut down by 115 million tonnes, and a substandard steel production capacity of nearly 140 million tonnes was completely banned in June 2017. The PRC's inventory of steel reached record low in the past year. According to statistics, on 29 December 2017, the inventory of 29 major cities of the PRC is no more than 6.798 million tonnes, represent a year-on-year decrease of 14.0%. Green development stands out, and the government places paramount attention to environmental protection. "2+26" cities are required to stagger their production when instructed to. Pollution prevention and control to ensure blue skies is top priority of our industry. The equilibrium between supply and demand is back in balance, leading to a sharp rebound in steel price.

In 2017, the Group's growth kept in pace with the overall steel market. We made use of flexible production procedures and focused on the production of ordinary steel products. Our quick response to the market demand maximized our profitability, leading to an excellent results. Meanwhile, the Group strictly complies with the PRC's policies and guiding principles. We are dedicated to energy conservation, emission reduction, intelligent upgrading and increasing the percentage of special steel products to our total output. We cooperate with Chinese Academy of Science and utilize the research and development and production technologies at the national level to satisfy the demand of special steel in the PRC with the objective to become a high-end special steel enterprise.

Chairman's Statement

Xiwang Metal Science & Technology Company Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group, is selected to be included in the list of corporations that satisfy certain regulatory criteria of the iron and steel industry as announced by the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the PRC, which represents the recognition to the Group's operation, equipment and technological competence. On such basis, the Group conducts recovery of low-quality waste heat recycling and integrated heating and cooling project and develops recycling economy model. In terms of our technologies and research and development, the Group will strengthen the cooperation with Institute of Metal Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences and their researchers to develop high-tech special products that can enhance our Company's competitiveness, e.g. steels used for rail transit and marine products. We have invented over 100 products so far. The rail steel developed by us is viewed to have the toughness level in line with the international standard, increasing the wear out resistance of our rail steel without reducing the plasticity of the material. The life-cycle of the Company's rail steel products is expected to last by over 40% longer than ordinary rail steel. For the industrialization of our incoming products, the Group invested RMB2.55 billion in a new production line. The annual production capacity of the production line is expected as follows: Steel rail (700,000 tonnes), railway billet (150,000 tonnes) and figured steel (150,000 tonnes). The construction of the new production line has two phases. Phase I is expected to be completed in 2018, while Phase II is expected to be completed in 2020. Moreover, the continuous casting process LZ50 steel axle billet manufactured by the Group was awarded the product accreditation certificate, making us one of the steel enterprises being awarded with such certificate in Shandong Province. The Group sped up its intelligent upgrading in the past year. The cooperation with Shanghai Baoxin enables the operation of a comprehensive information system featured "production goes along with sales, management goes along with control and business goes along with finance" by building a one-stop information system characterized by "basic automation, process automation (PCS), manufacturing execution system (MES) and operation management control (ERP)".

In addition to the improvement of our operation, the Group is well-received in the capital market. We successfully raised equity capital for the Group through placing and issuing convertible bonds, leading to a better financial framework, a more diverse shareholder group and a more solid foundation for our future business. Besides, the Group pays attention to the risk of the fluctuation of raw material prices. We will continue to utilize the combination of futures and cash commodity to protect against the price fluctuation of various raw materials (e.g. iron ores).

Looking forward, the Group will place particular emphasis on the following aspects:

- Developing high-end special steel products, increasing the percentage of special steel to our total output to showcase the Group's competitiveness, and increasing the Group's long-term profitability;
- Maintaining a harmonious cooperation with Chinese Academy of Sciences, keeping to improve our research and development and innovation of steel products;
- Strengthen the establishment of talent teams, and strengthening our independent ability in innovation;
- Further conserving energy and reduce emission, developing recycling economy, speeding up intelligent reform and promoting enterprise transformation and upgrade;
- Continuing to diversify our sales channels and enhancing our value-added services to customers to improve our profitability; and
- Strengthening our market position in Shandong Province and eastern China, continuously exploring new markets in the PRC and overseas and increasing product export.



Chairman's Statement

We will closely monitor the market and stay competitive by satisfying the market demand for the sake of maximizing our profit.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our shareholders, business partners, customers, the Board and our staff for their contribution in 2017. We promise to strive for improvement to the best of our ability in the years to come and to continue delivering fruitful results.

WANG Di

Chairman

23 March 2018



Management Discussion and Analysis

I. BUSINESS REVIEW

During the year ended 31 December 2017 (the “Year”), the Group’s main source of revenue was the production and sales of steel. Geographically, the Group’s primary production base was in Shandong Province, which remained as the main sales region of the Group. The revenue attributable to the region constitutes 68.0% of the Company’s total revenue during the Year (2016: 70.9%). During the Year, Zhejiang Province had a relatively large demand for steel, and was the second largest contributor to the Group’s revenue, which attributed to 6.9% of the total revenue (2016: 6.8%).

Production and Sales of Steel

The ordinary steel products manufactured and sold by the Group included rebars and wire rods, mainly used for construction and infrastructure projects, constituting 74.6% of the total sales amount of steel during the Year (2016: 69.7%). The special steel products of the Group mainly included quality carbon structural steel used for mechanical processing and equipment production, alloy structural steel used for machineries, bearing steel used for automobile manufacturing, ingots used in transportation, marine engineering and weaponries and forgings materials used in high-end equipment manufacturing, constituting 25.4% of the total sales amount of steel during the Year (2016: 30.3%).

Project Review

Against the backdrop of national-wide adjustment and upgrade initiatives and of structural reform of the iron and steel industry, the Group continued to adhere to the national policy and procured transformation and upgrade according to its own status.

Our products and research and development results are as follows:

- We cooperate with Chinese Academy of Sciences to develop rail steel and the rail steel developed is viewed to have the toughness level in line with the international standard, increasing the wear out resistance of our rail steel without reducing the plasticity of the material. The life-cycle of the Company’s rail steel products is expected to last by 40% to 50% longer than ordinary rail steel which can effectively prevent brittle fracture, and hence train accidents;
- For the industrialization of our products, the Group invested RMB2.55 billion in establishing a new production line. The annual production capacity of the production line is expected as follows: Steel rail (700,000 tonnes), railway billet (150,000 tonnes) and figured steel (150,000 tonnes). The construction of the new production line has two phases. Phase I is expected to be completed by the end of 2018, while Phase II is expected to be completed in 2020;
- The continuous casting process LZ50 steel axle billet manufactured by the Group was awarded the product accreditation certificate in May 2017, making us one of the steel enterprises being awarded such certificate in Shandong province;
- Through the cooperation between the Group and Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2017, we have invented over 100 new products including steels used for rail transport, marine steels and so forth.

Cost-effectiveness:

- A series of cost measures have been implemented to control cost and improve cost-efficiency. Leveraging on the application of intelligent information system, production efficiency and cost control have been improved significantly and our development in recycling economy by which the waste produced during our production are recycled and re-used has achieved practical results.

II. FINANCIAL REVIEW

1. Revenue

Revenue of the Group was RMB12,362,478,000 during the Year (2016: RMB7,566,781,000), representing a substantial increase of 63.4% as compared to last year.

The increase in revenue was mainly attributable to the increase in average selling price and sales volume of steel for the Year. The average selling price of ordinary steel and special steel for the Year was RMB3,211 and RMB3,353 per tonne respectively, representing an increase of 55.4% and 45.5% as compared to RMB2,066 and RMB2,305 per tonne respectively last year. The sales volume increased from 2,796,621 tonnes last year to 3,087,479 tonnes for the Year, representing an increase of 10.4%.

During the Year, the distribution of the sales of special steel of the Group by regions was similar to that of last year. Shandong continued to be the top sales region. During the Year, the export sales was RMB194,930,000 (2016: RMB101,951,000), accounted for 1.9% (2016: 1.7%) of the total sales of steel.

Breakdown of revenue:

| | 2017 | | 2016 | |
|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|
| | Revenue RMB'000 | Average selling price (RMB/tonne) | Revenue RMB'000 | Average selling price (RMB/tonne) |
| Ordinary Steel | | | | |
| Rebar | 5,061,769 | 3,185 | 2,946,818 | 2,034 |
| Wire rod | 2,412,097 | 3,265 | 1,209,535 | 2,150 |
| Subtotal/Average | 7,473,866 | 3,211 | 4,156,353 | 2,066 |
| Special Steel | | | | |
| Quality carbon structural steel | 1,611,315 | 3,237 | 1,258,892 | 2,247 |
| Alloy structural steel | 623,812 | 3,417 | 355,932 | 2,312 |
| Bearing steel | 41,590 | 3,505 | 60,343 | 2,326 |
| Ingot | 171,242 | 3,906 | 134,800 | 3,007 |
| Forgings materials | 99,114 | 4,212 | – | – |
| Subtotal/Average | 2,547,073 | 3,353 | 1,809,967 | 2,305 |
| Production and sales of steel | 10,020,939 | | 5,966,320 | |
| Trading of commodities[#] | 1,992,394 | | 1,323,979 | |
| Sales of by-products^{##} | 349,145 | | 276,482 | |
| Total | 12,362,478 | | 7,566,781 | |

[#] Trading of commodities mainly includes the trading of iron ore dust, pellet and coke.

^{##} By-products refer to steel slag, steam and electricity derived from the production of steel.

Breakdown of sales volume of steel:

| | Sales volume | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| | 2017 | | 2016 | |
| | Tonnes | Percentage | Tonnes | Percentage |
| Ordinary steel | | | | |
| Rebar | 1,589,044 | 51.5% | 1,448,864 | 51.8% |
| Wire rod | 738,887 | 23.9% | 562,688 | 20.1% |
| Subtotal | 2,327,931 | 75.4% | 2,011,552 | 71.9% |
| Special steel | | | | |
| Quality carbon structural steel | 497,732 | 16.1% | 560,322 | 20.1% |
| Alloy structural steel | 182,581 | 5.9% | 153,980 | 5.5% |
| Bearing steel | 11,865 | 0.4% | 25,941 | 0.9% |
| Ingot | 43,841 | 1.4% | 44,826 | 1.6% |
| Forgings materials | 23,529 | 0.8% | – | – |
| Subtotal | 759,548 | 24.6% | 785,069 | 28.1% |
| Total | 3,087,479 | 100.0% | 2,796,621 | 100.0% |

2. Cost of sales

During the Year, our cost of sales was RMB10,337,237,000 (2016: RMB6,498,392,000), representing an increase of 59.1%. It was mainly attributable to the increase in average production costs of steel per tonne and sales volume. The average production costs of steel per tonne increased from RMB1,761 last year to RMB2,598 for the Year, representing an increase of RMB837 per tonne or 47.5%.

Cost structure of steel remained relatively unchanged during the Year since the major raw materials used were iron ore dust and coke which represented 53.2% (2016: 55.6%) of steel production costs. The composition of the total production cost between raw materials and production overhead remained relatively stable during the Year. The raw materials and production overhead represented 85.7% and 14.3% (2016: 81.7% and 18.3%) to the total production costs respectively.



Management Discussion and Analysis

Breakdown of cost of sales:

| | 2017 | | 2016 | |
|--|-------------------|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| | RMB'000 | Percentage | RMB'000 | Percentage |
| Raw materials | | | | |
| Iron ore dust | 2,377,378 | 23.0% | 1,619,713 | 24.9% |
| Coke | 1,891,715 | 18.3% | 1,118,390 | 17.2% |
| Steel scraps | 814,993 | 7.9% | 192,585 | 3.0% |
| Coal | 481,733 | 4.7% | 234,273 | 3.6% |
| Coke powder | 63,298 | 0.6% | 65,115 | 1.0% |
| Pig iron | 45,842 | 0.3% | 84,870 | 1.3% |
| Others | 1,198,160 | 11.6% | 708,662 | 10.9% |
| Subtotal of raw materials | 6,873,119 | 66.4% | 4,023,608 | 61.9% |
| Production overhead | | | | |
| Depreciation | 306,162 | 3.0% | 296,403 | 4.6% |
| Electricity | 512,139 | 5.0% | 368,706 | 5.7% |
| Labour | 213,053 | 2.1% | 169,791 | 2.6% |
| Others | 117,814 | 1.1% | 67,442 | 1.0% |
| Subtotal of production overhead | 1,149,168 | 11.2% | 902,342 | 13.9% |
| Total cost of production and sales of steel | 8,022,287 | 77.6% | 4,925,950 | 75.8% |
| Cost of trading of commodities | 1,975,561 | 19.1% | 1,303,982 | 20.1% |
| Cost of sales of by-products | 339,389 | 3.3% | 268,460 | 4.1% |
| | 10,337,237 | 100.0% | 6,498,392 | 100.0% |



3. Gross profit

During the Year, gross profit of the Group was RMB2,025,241,000 (2016: RMB1,068,389,000), representing an increase of 89.6% as compared to last year. During the Year, steel has contributed RMB1,998,652,000 to our overall gross profit, which accounted for 98.7% of our overall gross profit, of which RMB1,584,196,000 and RMB414,456,000 was from ordinary steel and special steel, respectively, accounting for 78.2% and 20.5% of our overall gross profit, respectively. Overall gross profit margin of the Group was 16.4% (2016: 14.1%), representing an increase of 2.3 percentage as compared to last year. The increase was mainly attributable to the rise in average selling price of steel per tonne which outweighed the increase in the average production costs of steel per tonne.

Breakdown of the contribution of gross profit and gross profit margin by products and business:

| | 2017 | | 2016 | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| | RMB'000 | Gross profit margin | RMB'000 | Gross profit margin |
| Ordinary steel | | | | |
| Rebar | 1,106,354 | 21.9% | 550,643 | 18.7% |
| Wire rod | 477,842 | 19.8% | 227,660 | 18.8% |
| Subtotal/weighted average | 1,584,196 | 21.2% | 778,303 | 18.7% |
| Special steel | | | | |
| Quality carbon structural steel | 303,402 | 18.8% | 222,546 | 17.7% |
| Alloy structural steel | 99,689 | 16.0% | 44,531 | 12.5% |
| Bearing steel | 5,244 | 12.6% | (2,318) | (3.8%) |
| Ingot | 8,581 | 5.0% | (2,692) | (2.0%) |
| Forgings materials | (2,460) | (2.5%) | - | - |
| Subtotal/weighted average | 414,456 | 16.3% | 262,067 | 14.5% |
| Production and sales of steel | 1,998,652 | 19.9% | 1,040,370 | 17.4% |
| Trading of commodities | 16,833 | 0.8% | 19,997 | 1.5% |
| Sales of by-products | 9,756 | 2.8% | 8,022 | 2.9% |
| Total/Overall | 2,025,241 | 16.4% | 1,068,389 | 14.1% |

4. Other income and gains

Other income mainly includes bank interest income and government subsidies. Other income and gains for the Year amounted to RMB29,763,000 (2016: RMB22,173,000), representing an increase of 34.2% as compared to last year. The increase was mainly due to the increase in subsidies from the PRC government under the new policy during the Year.

Management Discussion and Analysis



5. Selling and distribution expenses

The Group's selling and distribution expenses for the Year amounted to RMB102,651,000 (2016: RMB20,535,000), representing an increase of 4.0 times as compared to the corresponding period of last year. The increase was mainly attributable to the increase in transportation costs due to the change in terms of delivering with customers during the Year.

6. Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses mainly include general office expenses, salaries of administrative staff, professional and legal fees and bank service charges. Administrative expenses for the Year amounted to RMB98,044,000 (2016: RMB52,356,000), representing an increase of 87.3% as compared to the corresponding period of last year. Such increase was mainly attributable to the rise in professional fee and bank charges for financing during the Year as compared to last year.

7. Income tax expenses

Income tax expenses of the Group for the Year amounted to RMB205,263,000 (2016: RMB93,935,000), representing an increase of 1.2 times as compared to last year, which was primarily due to the increase in profit before tax. Xiwang Metal Science & Technology has obtained the High and New Technology Enterprise Certificate (高新技術企業證書) and is entitled to enjoy a preferential tax rate at the enterprise income tax rate of 15%. With this preferential tax concession, the Group saved approximately RMB81,434,000 in income tax expenses for the Year.

Financial position

Liquidity and financial resources

As at 31 December 2017, the Group had approximately RMB125.6 million in cash and cash equivalents (2016: RMB102.5 million), and approximately RMB513.8 million in pledged bank deposits (2016: RMB334.6 million). The Group had trade and bills payables of approximately RMB1,772.4 million (2016: RMB1,661.1 million), bank and other borrowings due within one year in the amount of approximately RMB2,380.1 million (2016: RMB2,380.2 million), and bank and other borrowings due after one year in the amount of approximately RMB1,769.4 million (2016: Nil). As at 31 December 2017, the bank and other borrowings are denominated in Renminbi, Hong Kong dollar and United States dollar. All of the bank and other borrowings (excluding borrowings from Xiwang Finance Company Limited) were secured by non-current assets, restricted bank deposits and/or guaranteed by Mr. WANG Yong, and/or Mr. WANG Yong and Ms. ZHANG Shufang (spouse of Mr. WANG Yong), and/or Mr. WANG Di and Ms. SU Xin (spouse of Mr. WANG Di), and/or Xiwang Group. The Group mainly used its operating cash inflow to fund its working capital needs, while the capital requirement for addition of production equipment was mainly satisfied by cash inflows from operating and financing activities.

Capital structure

As at 31 December 2017, the Group's total assets was approximately RMB12,667.8 million (2016: RMB11,930.0 million), which was funded by the following: (1) share capital of approximately RMB1,091.6 million (2016: RMB962.9 million), (2) reserves of approximately RMB4,054.1 million (2016: RMB3,059.4 million) and (3) total liabilities of approximately RMB7,522.2 million (2016: RMB7,907.7 million).

Gearing ratio

As at 31 December 2017, the gearing ratio, being the ratio of total interest-bearing debts including interest-bearing bank and other borrowings, borrowings from the ultimate holding company and convertible bonds divided by total equity was 0.87 (2016: 1.35). The decrease in this ratio was mainly due to the decrease in the borrowings from the Xiwang Group in 2017. The annual interest rate of the banks and other borrowings for the year ended 31 December 2017 varied from 2.40% to 9.00% (2016: 3.03% to 9.00%).

Material investment, material acquisition and disposal of subsidiaries and future material investment or capital and assets acquisition plan

Save as disclosed in this annual report, the Group did not have any material investment and material acquisition or disposal of subsidiaries during the Year.

Pledge of assets

As at 31 December 2017, none of leasehold land (2016: RMB55,397,000) and pledged deposits of RMB336,500,000 (2016: RMB264,265,000) were pledged as security for bank borrowings and bills payable.

Management Discussion and Analysis

Capital commitments and contingent liabilities

As at 31 December 2017, the capital commitment of the Group was RMB848,580,000 (2016: RMB360,516,000), for property, plant and equipment. The Group also entered into a technical cooperation agreement with Luoyang Bearing Research Centre Company Limited to enhance its product quality. As at 31 December 2017, commitment in respect of this technical consultation service amounted to RMB300,000 (2016: RMB900,000).

On 4 January 2016, the Company entered into a guarantee agreement with Xiwang Group with a term of three years commencing from 4 January 2016, pursuant to which the Company will provide Xiwang Group and its subsidiaries other than the Group (the **“Relevant Subsidiaries”**) with guarantee services (the **“Guarantee Agreement”**).

As the Guarantee Agreement will be expired on 31 December 2018, the Group and Xiwang Group Company agreed to renew the transaction terms, and entered into the new guarantee agreement (the **“New Guarantee Agreement”**) on 10 November 2017, which is valid for a term of three years commencing from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020. Pursuant to the New Guarantee Agreement, the Group shall undertake to guarantee and bear any obligations and liabilities of Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries provided under the loan agreement to be entered between the lenders and Xiwang Group and/or the Relevant Subsidiaries subject to the terms of the specific guarantee agreements to be entered between the lenders and the Group. The guarantee amount to be provided by the Company to Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries under the New Guarantee Agreement shall not exceed the aggregate amount due from the Group to Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries (including but not limited to the borrowings provided by Xiwang Group to the Group) and the aggregate amount of the Group’s borrowings which is guaranteed and/or secured by Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries, less the aggregate amount due from Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries to the Group (including but not limited to the deposits placed by the Group with Xiwang Group Finance Company Limited) and shall be subject to the maximum cap of RMB5 billion. Any loans to be repaid by the Group for and on behalf of Xiwang Group (and the Relevant Subsidiaries) pursuant to the New Guarantee Agreement shall be offset by the loans payable by the Group to Xiwang Group, or as other amounts payable by the Group to Xiwang Group or the Relevant Subsidiaries.

For details, please refer to Company’s announcements dated 10 November 2017, 1 December 2017, 15 December 2017 and 9 January 2018 and circular dated 19 December 2017, respectively.

The upper limit of the bank facilities guaranteed by the Group to the ultimate holding company and fellow subsidiaries were RMB500,000,000 and RMB2,890,000,000 respectively. As at 31 December 2017, the bank facilities guaranteed by the Group to Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries were utilised to the extent of approximately RMB340,000,000 and RMB2,130,000,000.

Equity fund raising activities

On 14 September 2017, the Company and Guotai Junan Securities (Hong Kong) Limited entered into a placing and subscription agreement pursuant to which (i) Xiwang Investment Company Limited has agreed to place, through Guotai Junan Securities (Hong Kong) Limited, 100,000,000 placing shares (ordinary shares) at the top up placing price of HKD1.51 per top-up placing share; and (ii) Xiwang Investment Company Limited has agreed to subscribe for 100,000,000 top-up subscription shares (ordinary shares) at the top-up subscription price of HKD1.51 per top-up subscription share. The top-up placing shares were placed to not fewer than six placees who and whose ultimate beneficial owners will not be the connected person(s) of the Company. The top-up subscription transactions represents an opportunity for the Company to raise capital while broadening its shareholder base as well as its capital base. The top-up placing price of HK\$1.51 (exclusive of the Hong Kong stamp duty, brokerage, trading fee and transaction levy as maybe payable by the placees) represents a discount of approximately 18.38% to the closing price of HK\$1.85 per share as quoted on the Stock Exchange on the date of the placing and subscription agreement. The net proceeds raised upon completion of the top-up subscription was approximately HK\$1.47 per top-up subscription share. The Company utilised the total net proceeds of approximately HKD147 million from the top-up subscription for purchasing raw materials of the Group. For details, please refer to the announcements dated 14 September 2017 and 25 September 2017.

On 22 September 2017, the Company entered into (i) a placing agreement with SBI China Capital Financial Services Limited, pursuant to which SBI China Capital Financial Services Limited agreed to place the convertible bonds in an aggregate principal amount of US\$30,000,000 to certain subscribers; and (ii) a convertible bond subscription agreement with Mr. Wang Yong and Haitong Global Investment SPC III acting on behalf of and for the account of Haitong Dynamic Multi-Tranche Investment Fund II S.P. and Blooming Global Fund, pursuant to which Haitong Global Investment SPC III acting on behalf of and for the account of Haitong Dynamic Multi-Tranche Investment Fund II S.P. and Blooming Global Fund agreed to subscribe, and the Company agreed to issue the convertible bond in an aggregate principal amount of US\$30,000,000. Mr. Wang Yong agrees to provide a guarantee on the due and punctual payment payable and the performance and observance by the Company of all of its obligations under or pursuant to the convertible bond subscription agreement, the convertible bond and the bond instrument. The convertible bonds shall bear interest from and including the date of issue of the convertible bonds to the maturity date (on the date falling on the second anniversary of the date of issuance) at the rate of 7.5% per annum payable every six months in arrears. The conversion price is initially HK\$1.91 per conversion share, subject to adjustments. The number of conversion shares (ordinary shares) to be issued on exercise of a conversion right shall be determined by dividing the US\$ principal amount of the convertible bond by the conversion price in effect. Based on the initial conversion price and on full conversion of the convertible bond, a maximum number of 122,513,089 conversion shares will be allotted and issued by the Company. The Company would ensure that there is sufficient mandate to issue the conversion shares upon conversion. Unless previously redeemed, converted, purchased or cancelled, the Company will redeem the convertible bond at the redemption amount together with any accrued but unpaid interest and default interest (if applicable) on the maturity date. Upon occurrence of certain events (ie. default by the Company), the subscribers has the right to request for a mandatory redemption by the Company. Prior approval from the Stock Exchange would be obtained before altering the terms of the convertible bonds. Raising funds by issuing the convertible bond is justifiable considering the then market conditions which represent an opportunity for the Group to enhance its working capital and strengthen its financial position for financing the expansion of the steel production business. The Company used the total net proceeds of approximately US\$29,140,000 for purchasing raw materials of the Group. For details, please refer to the announcements dated 22 September 2017 and 11 October 2017. There was no conversion or redemption of the said convertible bonds during the year ended 31 December 2017.

Management Discussion and Analysis

The funds were applied consistently with the intended uses disclosed in the respective announcements.

Save as disclosed in this annual report, the Group did not have any other material equity fund raising activities during the Year.

Events after the reporting period

On 25 January 2018, 151,111,000 shares were placed to not fewer than six placees whose ultimate beneficial owners are not the connected persons of the Company and its connected persons at the price of HKD1.59 per share. Please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 25 January 2018 and 6 February 2018 for further details.

Foreign exchange risk

The majority of the operating income, costs and expenditures of the Group were denominated in RMB. As such, the Group has not been exposed to material foreign exchange risk during its operation. As at 31 December 2017, the Group mainly exposed to risks related to its net liabilities denominated in US dollar amounted to RMB241,809,000 (2016: RMB429,438,000).

Employees and remuneration

As at 31 December 2017, the Group had a total of 4,289 employees (2016: 3,865). Staff-related costs incurred during the Year was RMB255,230,000 (2016: RMB213,031,000). The remuneration was determined based on the performance and professional experience of employees as well as the prevailing market conditions. The management will regularly review the remuneration policy and arrangement of the Group. In addition to pensions, the Group will also distribute discretionary bonuses to certain employees as incentives according to their performance.

III. BUSINESS OUTLOOK

The year of 2017 is pivotal to the structural reform of steel industry. The PRC government managed to reduce less advanced production capacity by 50 million tonnes last year, and approximately 140 million tonnes of substandard steel was recycled. Strict environmental inspection was being maintained. Internal demand in the steel industry regained its momentum, leading to an increase of steel price, a more positive and cost-effective industry and business operation. For 2018, the PRC government will strengthen structural reform with a more specific and powerful policy. “Green” development will become a new norm, de-leveraging, merger and acquisition and corporate reorganization will be further developed, resulting in a better operating environment for steel industry. Besides, the growth in steel demand remains steady, as infrastructure sector maintains a high construction rate. The supply and demand will become more balanced, creating a larger and healthier environment for the Group and other enterprises that comply with laws and regulations to grow and expand.

Considering the above mentioned policies and demand, the Group believes that the steel price will increase steadily in the year to come. We will continue to seize opportunities in the market and adjust the production plan for its equipment that is capable of manufacturing both ordinary and special steels in line with the market direction. We will focus on the production of products with high demand and profit margins, with a view to maximising our profit.

Going forward, the Group will consolidate its strategic development goals. Back in 2015, the Company, the Institute of Metal Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences and its key personnel entered into the technology licence and cooperation agreement, under which the Institute of Metal Research, Chinese Academy of Sciences agreed to, inter alia, license certain technology to the Group on an exclusive basis for a period of 10 years and to provide technological services and support to the Group in relation to the application of such licensed technology. Since then, our Group has benefited from this cooperation arrangement with improved product quality, refined production process and enriched product mix. With the advancement of the technologies from Chinese Academy of Sciences and production advantages, we plan to develop products characterised with more sophisticated technologies and can be supplied to the market steadily. By increasing the proportion of special steels to our total output, we aim to strengthen our long-term competitiveness and profitability. Accordingly, the Group invested RMB2.55 billion in constructing a new production line to boost the development of its rail steel production and launching its tough, ductile, malleable and durable rail steel into the market. Phase I of the project is expected to be completed in 2018, while Phase II is expected to be completed in 2020. The establishment of new production line is in good progress. Phase I is expected to be completed as scheduled, and supply will commence in 2019.

The Group will work closely with Chinese Academy of Sciences in order to expand our product coverage. In the future, we are going to enhance our research and development, expand sales network, lower financial costs and business risks, with an objective to maintain a sustainable and favourable profitability.

Corporate Governance Report

The Company is committed to maintaining good corporate governance practices and procedures. The Company has adopted the code provisions in the Corporate Governance Code and Corporate Governance Report (the “**CG Code**”) as set out in Appendix 14 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange (“**Listing Rules**”) as its own code of corporate governance. Save as disclosed herein, the Board considers that the Company was in compliance with all applicable code provisions set out in the CG Code throughout the Year.

The Board is committed to upholding the corporate governance of the Company to ensure that formal and transparent procedures are in place to protect and maximize the interests of the shareholders. The Board is responsible for performing the duties on corporate governance function as set out below:

- to develop and review the Company’s policies and practices on corporate governance;
- to review and monitor the training and continuous professional development of Directors and senior management;
- to review and monitor the Company’s policies and practices on compliance and legal and regulatory requirements;
- to develop, review and monitor the code of conduct and compliance manual (if any) applicable to employees and Directors; and
- to review the Company’s compliance with the CG Code and disclosure in the corporate governance report.

During the Year, the Board has reviewed the Company’s corporate governance practices and the duties performed by the committees of the Board, including the review of terms of reference for the Audit Committee of the Company (the “**Audit Committee**”).

Set out below is a detailed discussion of the major corporate governance practices adopted and observed by the Company during the Year or where applicable, up to the date of this report.

A. Directors’ securities transactions

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (“**Model Code**”) as set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules as its model code for securities transactions by Directors. Having made specific enquiries, all the Directors confirmed that they have complied with the Model Code during the Year and up to the date of this report.

B. Board of Directors

(i) Board composition

The Board currently comprises a combination of three executive Directors, two non-executive Directors and three independent non-executive Directors. During the Year and up to the date of this annual report, the Board consisted of the following Directors:

Executive Directors

Mr. ZHANG Jian (*Chief Executive Officer*)

Mr. SUN Xinhu

Ms. LI Hai Xia

Non-executive Directors

Mr. WANG Di (*Chairman*)

Mr. WANG Yong

Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny

Mr. YU Kou

Mr. LI Bangguang

During the Year, the Board at all times met the requirements under Rule 3.10(1) and (2) and 3.10(A) of the Listing Rules that, at least one-third of members of the Board being independent non-executive Directors, with at least one independent non-executive Director possessing appropriate professional qualifications, or accounting or related financial management expertise.

(ii) Appointment and re-elections of Directors

In accordance with the Articles of Association of the Company (the “**Articles**”), the Board is authorized to appoint any person as a Director either to fill a casual vacancy on the Board or, subject to authorization by the members in general meeting, as an additional member of the Board.

The Company has adopted the Board Diversity Policy, being the guidelines to achieve diversity on the Board, and ensure the Board has a balance of skills, experience and knowledge in the industry and diversity of perspectives appropriate to the Company’s business. The Nomination Committee ensures the selection of candidates will be based on a range of diversity perspectives, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, ethnicity, professional experience, skills knowledge and length of service. The Nomination Committee is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Diversity Policy and review the same as appropriate.

Corporate Governance Report

According to the Articles, additional Directors appointed by the Board are subject to re-election by shareholders at the next following annual general meeting. Directors, including non-executive Directors, shall be elected or replaced by the Company in general meeting and shall serve a term of office of 3 years. A Director may serve consecutive terms if re-elected by the Company in general meeting upon the expiration of his term.

In compliance with Rule 3.10(1) of the Listing Rules, the Company has appointed three independent non-executive Directors. The Board considers that all independent non-executive Directors have appropriate and sufficient industry or finance experience and qualifications to carry out their duties so as to protect the interests of shareholders of the Company as a whole. One of the independent non-executive Directors, Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny, has over 20 years of experience, in among other things, accounting, treasury management, budgeting and corporate finance. He is a fellow member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, an associate member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a member of Certified General Accountants' Association of Canada.

The Company has received the annual written confirmations from each of Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny, Mr. LI Bangguang and Mr. YU Kou in respect of their independence respectively pursuant to Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. Based on such confirmations, the Board considers all independent non-executive Directors to be independent.

(iii) **Responsibilities and contributions of the Board**

The Board, with the assistance from the senior management, forms the core management team of the Company. The Board takes the overall responsibility for management of the Company, formulating the business strategies development plan of the Company, decision making on important issues, including but not limited to substantial mergers and acquisitions and disposals, Directors' appointments and significant operational and financial matters, and review and approval of annual and interim results of the Company. The senior management are responsible for supervising and executing the Board policies and strategies, including the provision of monthly updates of the Group's performance, position and prospects to the Board to enable the Board and each of the Directors to deliver and discharge their duties under the Listing Rules. Daily management, administration and operation of the Company are delegated to the management team of the Company.

The Board has timely and full access to all relevant information of the Company. The Company Secretary provides advice and services to the Board to ensure the Board complies with all the Board procedures and all applicable rules and regulations. Company Secretary notifies the Board of rule amendments and updates in respect of corporate governance practices, to assist the Directors to fulfill their responsibilities.

(iv) Financial reporting

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for preparing the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2017, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Group, and ensure that they are prepared in accordance with statutory requirements and applicable accounting standards. The financial statements of the Company and the Group for the year ended 31 December 2017 were prepared on a going concern basis. The Audit Committee has reviewed and recommended the Board to adopt the audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017.

The statements of the external auditors of the Company with regard to their reporting responsibilities on the financial statements of the Company are set out in the Independent Auditors' Report on pages 65 to 69 of this annual report.

(v) Relationship among members of the Board

Mr. WANG Di, the chairman and a non-executive Director of the Company is the son of Mr. WANG Yong, a non-executive Director of the Company. Saved as disclosed, there is no relationship (including financial, business, family or other material/relevant relationship(s)) between any of the Directors or chief executive officer during the Year.

Each of Mr. WANG Yong, Mr. WANG Di and Mr. SUN Xinhui, among others, have entered into a voting agreement in respect of their shares held in Xiwang Holdings Limited ("**Xiwang Holdings**") dated 27 September 2011 and as supplemented by a supplemental voting agreement dated 7 February 2012. Under these agreements, each of the shareholders of Xiwang Holdings shall only vote, when in the capacity of a shareholder of Xiwang Holdings, in accordance with the instruction of Mr. WANG Yong at any shareholders meeting of Xiwang Holdings.

(vi) Continuous professional development of Directors

Induction materials of comprehensive guidance on directors' duties and liabilities are provided to Directors once they joined the Board. Senior management of the Company provides briefings to all Directors for updates of their knowledge and skills of the industry of the Company. Company Secretary provides updates or amendments of the Listing Rules and other statutory regulations for Directors' fulfillment of their responsibilities and duties in the Company.

During the Year, the Company provided the Directors with written materials for the updates of corporate governance practices, especially relating to the disclosure of inside information and disclosure responsibilities. All Directors have confirmed they have studied the materials provided by the Company.

C. Chairman and chief executive officer

Mr. WANG Di is the chairman of the Company who is principally responsible for formulation of plans and policies of the Group. The chairman also chairs the Board meetings and briefs the Board members on the issues discussed at the Board meetings. The chief executive officer of the Company is responsible for the supervision for the execution of the plans and policies determined by the Board.

Corporate Governance Report

D. Board committees

We have established the following board committees in compliance with the CG Code. Independent non-executive Directors are majority of members of these committees appointed by the Board. Written terms of reference of these committees based on the CG Code have been approved and adopted by the Board.

Sufficient resources are provided to the Board committees for their discharge of their duties. They are able to seek independent professional advice, at the Company's expenses, upon reasonable request and under appropriate circumstances.

(i) Audit Committee

In accordance with the written terms of reference of the Audit Committee all members of the Audit Committee should be non-executive Directors with majority of the members being independent non-executive Directors. At least one of them shall be an independent non-executive Director with appropriate professional qualifications or accounting or related financial management expertise as required under the Listing Rules. Former partner of the Company's existing external auditors from time to time may not act as a member of the Audit Committee for a period of at least one year from the date of his ceasing (a) to be a partner of the firm or (b) to have any financial interest in the firm, whichever is later.

The members of the Audit Committee comprised Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny (Chairman), Mr. LI Bangguang and Mr. YU Kou. Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny, Mr. LI Bangguang and Mr. YU Kou are independent non-executive Directors. The chairman of the Audit Committee has the appropriate professional qualifications as required under the Listing Rules and none of the members of the Audit Committee was a former partner of the Company's existing external auditors.

The primary responsibilities of the Audit Committee are to monitor the integrity of the Group's financial statements and reports and review significant financial reporting judgements contained in them, to exercise independent judgment in reviewing and supervising the Company's financial reporting process and internal control procedures; to provide recommendations to the Board for the improvements of the Group's financial reporting system and internal control procedures and system, overseeing the independence and performance of the external auditors of the Company and to provide recommendations to the Board for the appointment and renewal of external auditors. The terms of reference of the Audit Committee are available on the Company's website and the website of the Stock Exchange.

Two meetings were held by the Audit Committee during the Year. During the Year, the Audit Committee reviewed the Company's financial reporting system and internal control procedures. The Audit Committee reviewed and recommended the Board to adopt the audited accounts and final results announcement for the year ended 31 December 2016 and the unaudited accounts and interim results announcement for the six months ended 30 June 2017. It has also reviewed and recommended the Board for the re-appointment of external auditor.

The Audit Committee has reviewed the Company's annual results for the year ended 31 December 2017 at the meeting held on 23 March 2018.

(ii) Remuneration Committee

In accordance with the written terms of reference of the remuneration committee of the Company (the “**Remuneration Committee**”), majority of members of the Remuneration Committee should be independent non-executive Directors, with the chairman must be an independent non-executive Director. The terms of reference of the Remuneration Committee are available on the Company’s website and the website of the Stock Exchange.

Mr. LI Bangguang (Chairman), Mr. WANG Di and Mr. YU Kou are members of the Remuneration Committee, and Mr. LI Bangguang and Mr. YU Kou are independent non-executive Directors of the Company.

The primary responsibilities of the Remuneration Committee are to make recommendations to the Board on the policy and structure of the Company for all directors and senior management remuneration, assess the performance of executive directors, review and approve the terms of executive Directors’ service contracts and to review and recommend to the Board on the remuneration packages of individual executive director and senior management, by reference to the duties, responsibilities, experience and qualifications of each candidate.

One meeting was held by the Remuneration Committee during the Year, to review and recommend to the Board the remuneration packages of the Directors.

(iii) Nomination Committee

In accordance with the written terms of reference of the Nomination Committee, majority of members of the Nomination Committee should be independent non-executive Directors, with the chairman must be an independent non-executive Director. The terms of reference of the Nomination Committee are available in the Company’s website and website of the Stock Exchange.

Mr. LI Bangguang (Chairman), Mr. WANG Di and Mr. YU Kou are members of the Nomination Committee, and Mr. LI Bangguang and Mr. YU Kou are independent non-executive Directors of the Company.

The primary responsibilities of the Nomination Committee are to determine the policy for the nomination of directors, review the structure, size and composition (including the skills, knowledge and experience) of the Board at least annually, make recommendations on any proposed changes to the Board to complement the Company’s corporate strategy, and make recommendations to the Board on the nominees for appointment as directors and senior management of the Group, by reference to the experience and qualification of each candidate.

Nomination Committee is also responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Board Diversity Policy and review the same as appropriate.

One meeting was held by the Nomination Committee during the Year. The Nomination Committee performed annual review of the structure of the Board, and re-assess the independence of the independent non-executive Directors of the Company.

Corporate Governance Report

(iv) Attendance record of the Board and Board Committee meetings and General Meetings

The details of Directors' attendance of the Board and Board Committee meetings and general meetings held during the Year are set out in the following table:

| | No. of meetings attended/no. of meetings held | | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|
| | Board Meeting | Audit Committee Meeting | Remuneration Committee Meeting | Nomination Committee Meeting | General Meeting |
| Executive Directors: | | | | | |
| Mr. ZHANG Jian (<i>Chief Executive Officer</i>) | 9/11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1/1 |
| Mr. SUN Xinhui | 11/11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1/1 |
| Ms. LI Hai Xia | 10/11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1/1 |
| Non-executive Directors: | | | | | |
| WANG Di (<i>Chairman</i>) | 10/11 | N/A | 1/1 | 1/1 | 1/1 |
| WANG Yong | 9/11 | N/A | N/A | N/A | 1/1 |
| Independent Non-executive Directors: | | | | | |
| LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny | 10/11 | 2/2 | N/A | N/A | 1/1 |
| YU Kou | 10/11 | 2/2 | 1/1 | 1/1 | 1/1 |
| Mr. LI Bangguang | 9/11 | 2/2 | 1/1 | 1/1 | 1/1 |

E. Remuneration of senior management

The number of senior management whose remuneration fell within the following bands is as follows:

| | Number of senior management |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Nil to RMB1,000,000 | 4 |
| RMB1,000,001 to RMB1,500,000 | 1 |
| | 5 |

F. Auditors' remuneration

A breakdown of the remuneration of the Group's external auditor is as follows:

| | For the year ended 31 December 2017 (RMB'000) |
|-----------------------|--|
| Service rendered | |
| Ernst & Young | |
| Annual audit services | 1,750 |
| Non-audit services | – |

G. Internal control**Risk Management and Internal Control**

Maintaining sound risk management and internal control systems is pivotal to the fulfillment of the Group's business objectives and its long-term sustainable growth. The Board acknowledges its overall responsibility for evaluating and determining the nature and extent of the risks it is willing to take in achieving the Group's strategic objectives, and ensuring that the Company establishes and maintains appropriate and effective risk management and internal control systems to safeguard shareholders' investment and the Group's assets. To this end, the Board continuously reviews the effectiveness and makes improvements in its risk management and internal control framework. During the year, the Group set up an internal audit department and conducted a comprehensive review of the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's internal control and risk management, resulting in an enhanced enterprise risk management ("ERM") framework through a robust and inclusive system that manages risks at all levels of the organisation.

Risk Management Framework

The Group's risk management system is aligned with the internal control framework of international body consisting of the five elements, namely, the control environment, risk assessment, control activities, information and communication, and monitoring. The risk management and internal control systems of the Company are designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives of the Group and can provide reasonable, but no absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. The systems are made of by two essential features, the risk governance structure and process.

Risk Governance Structure

The Group's risk governance structure is based on the "3 lines of defence" model comprised of day-to-day operational management and control, risk and compliance oversight, and independent assurance. The ERM policy formalised by the Group clearly defines roles and responsibilities of each of the multiple layers of the structure, including the Board, the Audit Committee, management board, department heads, operational level and internal audit.

Risk Management Process and Scope – The Group’s ERM approach is a structured mechanism and a continuous process of identifying, evaluating, prioritising, managing and monitoring of the risks that the Group faces. The key process of the Group’s ERM is illustrated below:



The ERM adopted by the Group is embedded in our strategy development, business planning and day-to-day operations. The Group adopts a control and risk self-assessment methodology and continuously assesses and manages its risk profile on a regular basis. Risks that are relevant to the Group’s business are identified, assessed and ranked according to their likelihood, financial consequence and reputational impact on the Group. The ERM system uses risk indicators and red flags to monitor the priority risks identified. As a process used to review the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control system, risk owners are required to submit risk alerts with risk mitigation plan promptly and regular risk reports are presented to the management board and Audit Committee for ongoing review and monitoring. The quality of managements on-going monitoring of risks and of internal control system is considered satisfactory. The key risks identified, managed and monitored during the year included procurement process and quality control. Action plans were formulated and implemented during the year to address the areas of concern effectively.

The Internal Audit Department have risk management and internal control reviews covering operational, financial and compliance controls of the Group. The Group’s internal audit function reports directly to the Audit Committee. It carries out independent reviews of key business processes and controls in accordance with its annual audit plan approved by the Audit Committee. The head of internal audit meet with the Audit Committee at least once a year to report the key findings and recommendations for improvement of audit issues and enable it to assess control of the Company and the effectiveness of risk management.

Annual Review of System Effectiveness

The Board, through the Audit Committee, had conducted annual review of the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems for the year ended 31 December 2017. Heads of key business units and functional departments are required to confirm the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control system of their responsible areas during the year. The Board has received a confirmation from the management board on the effectiveness of the systems and no significant areas of concern have been identified and considered the systems and the Company's processes for financial reporting and Listing Rule compliance effective and adequate.

During the annual review, the Audit Committee has also considered the adequacy of resources, staff qualifications and experience, training programmes and budget of the Company's internal audit, accounting and financial reporting function is in place.

H. Inside Information

The Company takes seriously of its obligations under the Part XIVA of the Securities and Futures Ordinance and the Listing Rules with respect to procedures and internal controls for the handling and dissemination of inside information. The Group's disclosure policy ("**Disclosure Policy**") sets out guidelines and procedures to the Directors and officers of the Group to ensure inside information of the Group is to be disseminated to the public in equal and timely manner. Under the Disclosure Policy, the Company's Disclosure Team comprising executive directors and members of senior management have the overall delegated authority to decide whether the information reported is inside information and require disclosure and refer the subject matter to the Board for decision. Measures are in place to preserve the confidentiality of inside information and to ensure that its recipients recognise their obligations to maintain confidentiality. In communicating with external parties, only designated officers are authorised to respond to enquiries in allocated areas of issues. Briefing session is held regularly for officers to facilitate their understanding and compliance with the Disclosure Policy.

I. Company Secretary

The Company Secretary provides advice and services to the Board in relation to the compliance with all the Board procedures and all applicable rules and regulations. The Company Secretary notifies the Board of rule amendments and updates in respect of corporate governance practices, to assist the Directors to fulfill their responsibilities.

The Company Secretary has sufficient relevant professional training during the Year as required under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules.

J. Directors' and Officers' liability insurance

The Company has taken out liability insurance to indemnify its Directors and senior management for their liabilities arising from the performance of their duties. The insurance coverage is reviewed by the Company on an annual basis. No claim has been made against the Directors and senior management of the Company during the Year.

K. Shareholders' Rights and Investor Relations

The Company's shareholders' communication policy is to maintain transparency and provide timely information of the Group's material developments to shareholders and investors.

General meetings of the Company are formal channels for communication between shareholders and the Board. The chairmen of the Board and the Board Committees are invited to attend the general meetings to have direct communication with the shareholders. External auditor of the Company also attend annual general meetings to answer shareholders' enquires where appropriate.

The Board considers that the Company was in compliance with all applicable code provisions set out in the CG Code throughout the Year.

During the Year, pursuant to article 50 of the Articles and section 566 of the new Companies Ordinance (Cap. 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong), shareholders holding not less than 5% of the paid-up capital of the Company carrying the right of voting at general meeting of the Company may by written requisition to the Board for convening and putting forward proposals at an extraordinary general meeting. The procedures for shareholders to convene extraordinary general meetings and put forward proposal are as follows:

1. The requisitionist(s) must sign a written request stating the objects of the meeting to be convened, and deposit the same at the registered office of the Company situated at Unit 2110, 21/F, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong, for the attention of the Company Secretary. The written request may consist of several documents in like form, each signed by one or more requisitionist(s).
2. The Company will then verify the particulars of the requisitionist(s) in their written request with the Company's share registrar, and upon confirmation from the Company's share registrar that the written request is in order, the Company Secretary will arrange with the Board to convene an extraordinary general meeting by serving sufficient notice to all the registered shareholders in accordance with all the relevant statutory and regulatory requirements and the provisions in the Articles.
3. In the event that the written request has been verified as not in order, the shareholders concerned will be advised of this outcome and accordingly, an extraordinary general meeting will not be convened as requested.
4. If the Directors do not within 21 days from the date of the deposit of the written request proceed duly to convene an extraordinary general meeting for a day not more than 28 days after the date on which the notice convening the meeting is given, the requisitionist(s), or any of them representing more than onehalf of the total voting rights of all of them, may themselves convene an extraordinary general meeting, but any extraordinary general meeting so convened shall not be held after the expiration of 3 months from the date of deposit of the written request.

The investor relations and corporate communication department of the Company maintains regular communication and dialogue with shareholders, investors and analysts. It can be accessed during normal business hour by phone (Telephone: 86 543 489 1888/852 3188 4518).

Shareholders can also send their written enquiries or suggestions on the business of the Company to Company Secretary at the Company's business address in Hong Kong. The Board and senior management of the Company will seriously consider shareholders' enquiries and address them accordingly and in compliance with the Listing Rules.

Shareholders and investors can also visit the Company's website at www.xiwangsteel.com and the Stock Exchange's website for the Company's announcements, circulars, financial information, corporate governance practices, annual reports, interim reports and other corporate information and updates of business development and operations.

Pursuant to rule 13.90 of the Listing Rules, the Company has published on the Company's website and the website of the Stock Exchange its Articles. During the Year, no amendments were made to the constitutional documents of the Company.

L. Compliance of Non-Competition Undertaking

The Company has entered into a deed of non-competition dated 30 January 2012 (the "**Non-competition Deed**") with each of the controlling shareholders of the Company named therein (the "**Controlling Shareholders**") pursuant to which each of the Controlling Shareholders has jointly and severally undertaken to the Company (for itself and for the benefit of other members of the Group) that each of them will not, and procure that its/his/her associates will not, whether as principal or agent and whether undertaken directly or indirectly (including through any of their respective associate, subsidiary, partnership, joint venture or other contractual arrangement) and whether for profit or otherwise, carry on, engage, invest, participate or otherwise be interested in any business which is, in each case, the same as, similar to or in direct or indirect competition with any business relating to steel manufacturing and such other business conducted or carried on by any member of the Group from time to time. Details of the Non-competition Deed are set out in the paragraph headed "Non-competition Undertaking" in the section headed "Relationship with Controlling Shareholders" of the prospectus of the Company dated 13 February 2012.

The Company has received the annual confirmation from all of its Controlling Shareholders in compliance with the terms of the Non-competition Deed. The independent non-executive Directors have reviewed the annual confirmation from the Controlling Shareholders relating to the compliance with the non-competition undertaking by the Controlling Shareholders under the Non-competition Deed and are satisfied that the same has been complied with by the Controlling Shareholders under the Non-competition Deed.

For details of the corporate governance measures adopted by the Company to manage the conflicts of interests arising from any competing business and to safeguard the interests of the shareholders of Company, please refer to the paragraph headed "Corporate Governance Measures" in the section headed "Relationship with Controlling Shareholders" of the prospectus of the Company dated 13 February 2012.

On behalf of the Board

WANG Di
Chairman

Hong Kong, 23 March 2018

Directors and Senior Management

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. ZHANG Jian (張健)

Mr. ZHANG, aged 36, was appointed as an executive Director and the Chief Executive Officer of the Company on 14 October 2015. He obtained his Bachelor of Engineering from Yanbian University* (延邊大學) in 2004 and Master of Engineering from Qilu University of Technology (齊魯工業大學) in 2013. He joined the production department of Shandong Xiwang Sugar Company Limited (山東西王糖業有限公司) (“**Xiwang Sugar**”) from February 2004 to August 2004. From August 2004 to October 2014, he held several managerial positions including director of general manager office, manager of supply department, project manager, deputy managers and general managers within Xiwang Group and its subsidiaries, including Shangdong Xiwang Steel Co., Ltd. (山東西王鋼鐵有限公司), Shandong Xiwang Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd. (山東西王生化科技有限公司), Xiwang Sugar, Shandong Youhuo Fructose Co., Ltd. (山東西王悠活果糖有限公司) and Xiwang Pharmaceutical Company Limited* (西王藥業有限公司). Since October 2014, he has been the general manager of Xiwang Metal Science & Technology Company Ltd (西王金屬科技有限公司) (“**Xiwang Metal Science**”) (previously named Shangdong Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited 山東西王特鋼有限公司), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company.

Mr. SUN Xihu (孫新虎)

Mr. SUN, aged 43, was appointed as a non-executive Director in June 2011 and re-designated to executive Director on 16 April 2015. Mr. Sun has been serving as vice general manager since he joined Xiwang Group Company Limited in March 2003. Mr. Sun earned his master’s degree in food science from Southern Yangtze University (江南大學) in July 2004 and bachelor’s degree in food science from Shandong Polytechnic University (山東輕工業學院) in July 1997. Mr. Sun was an executive director of Xiwang Property Holdings Company Limited (previously named Xiwang Sugar Holdings Company Limited, a company listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited under stock code 2088) since December 2008 and re-designated as a non-executive director on July 2012. Mr. Sun has also been a director of Xiwang Foodstuffs Company Limited (“**Xiwang Foodstuffs**”, a company listed on the Main Board of the Shenzhen Stock Exchange under stock code 000639) since 2010 and the vice chairman of the board of Xiwang Foodstuffs since June 2014. Mr. Sun was the secretary of the board of Xiwang Foodstuffs from 2010 to October 2013.

Ms. LI Hai Xia (李海霞)

Ms. LI, aged 36, was appointed as an executive Director of the Company on 14 October 2015. She graduated from the Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C (中共中央黨校) with a bachelor degree in Economics and Management in 2009. She worked in Xiwang Sugar from December 2003 to July 2015, during which she was the finance manager from May 2013 to July 2015. She has been the deputy finance general manager of Xiwang Metal Science since August 2015.

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. WANG Yong (王勇)

Mr. WANG, aged 67, was appointed as the chairman and a non-executive Director of the Company in June 2011. Mr. WANG stepped down from his role as the Chairman but remain as a non-executive Director of the Company commencing from 9 October 2014. Mr. WANG is father of Mr. WANG Di (王棣), who is a non-executive Director of the Company. Mr. WANG is one of the founders of the Group. As a non-executive Director, Mr. WANG regularly attends the board meetings and is responsible for the strategic planning of the Group, but does not engage in the day-to-day management of the Group. Mr. WANG was the legal representative of Zouping County Xiwang Social Benefits Oil and Cotton Factory (鄒平縣西王社會福利油棉廠) from 1986 to 1992 and of Zouping County Xiwang Industrial Head Company (鄒平縣西王實業總公司) from 1993 to 1996. He was the managing director of Xiwang Group from 1996 to 2001. Mr. WANG has been the chairman of the board of directors of Xiwang Group since 2001. Mr. WANG has been assessed by Professional Position Evaluation Committee of Binzhou Non-Public Ownership Organisations (濱州市非公有制經濟組織專業技術職務評審委員會) as a senior economist and was appointed as the vice president of the third council of China Fermentation Industry Association (中國發酵工業協會) in December 2004. Mr. WANG received secondary education in the PRC.

Mr. WANG was awarded with several prizes and titles, including the National Advanced Worker in Quality Management of Township Enterprise (全國鄉鎮企業質量管理先進工作者) awarded by the Ministry of Agriculture of the PRC (中華人民共和國農業部) in 2000. Mr. WANG was awarded The National Labour Role Model (全國勞動模範) by the State Council in April 2000, the Fourth National Township Entrepreneur Award (第四屆全國鄉鎮企業家) and National Advanced Worker in Technological Progress of Township Enterprise of the Eighth Five-year Plan (「八五」全國鄉鎮企業科技進步先進工作者) awarded by the Ministry of Agriculture of the PRC in 2001.

Mr. WANG has several positions in listed companies. He was appointed as the chairman and an executive director of Xiwang Property and was re-designated as the deputy chairman and a non-executive director from 15 July 2013. He is also a director of Xiwang Foodstuffs since February 2010 and is effectively held as to 60.52% by Xiwang Group.

Mr. WANG Di (王棣)

Mr. WANG, aged 34, was appointed as a non-executive Director in November 2007 and was appointed as the chairman of the Company in October 2014, he is the son of Mr. WANG Yong. He has been serving as the head of branding of the Group since March 2010. Mr. WANG attended the bachelor's degree course of information conflict from the Electronic Engineering Institute of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (中國人民解放軍電子工程學院) from 2001 to 2005. Mr. WANG joined Xiwang Group in August 2005 and has been in charge of the international trading business of Xiwang Group for more than eight years. Mr. WANG has been granted various awards and honours, including outstanding worker for enterprise education and training of Shandong Province of the PRC in 2006, labour model of Binzhou City of Shandong Province of the PRC, labour model of Shandong Province, the PRC and outstanding entrepreneur in food industry of Shandong Province of the PRC. Mr. WANG is director and the chairman of Xiwang Foodstuffs. He was appointed as the executive director of Xiwang Property in November 2010 and the deputy chairman in July 2012, and was re-designated as the chairman and a non-executive director on 15 July 2013. Mr. WANG was appointed an chairman of Xiwang Group Company Limited in October 2013.

Directors and Senior Management

INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny (梁樹新)

Mr. LEUNG, aged 55, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director commencing from 23 February 2012. He is the chairman of the audit committee of the Company (“**Audit Committee**”). He has over 20 years’ working experience in, among other things, accounting, treasury management, budgeting and corporate finance. He is a fellow member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants, an associate member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a member of Certified General Accountants’ Association of Canada. Mr. LEUNG is an independent non-executive director of China Arts Financial Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange under stock code 1572, since October 2016. Mr. LEUNG is an independent non-executive director of Pan Asia Environmental Protection Group Limited, a company listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange under stock code 556, since December 2007. From 2005 to 2007, he served as the financial controller, qualified accountant and company secretary of Xiwang Property. From 2001 to date, he was a director of a company providing accounting, tax and corporate finance services. From 1999 to 2001, he held key finance position in a listed company in Hong Kong. From 1998 to 1999, he was a finance director of a company principally engaged in the provision of network infrastructure solutions. From 1993 to 1998, he was the financial controller of a company principally engaged in property investment, trading and securities. From 1987 to 1990, he had worked in international accounting firms, handling audit, tax and accounting matters. Mr. LEUNG received a professional diploma in accountancy from Hong Kong Polytechnic University in November 1994 and earned a master’s degree in business administration, which is a long distance course from the University of South Australia in 1997.

Mr. YU Kou (于叩)

Mr. YU, aged 70, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director commencing from 23 February 2012. Mr. YU is the deputy secretary general of China Special Steel Enterprise Association (中國特鋼企業協會) since 2008. He served as vice general manager of the Shougang Company and the vice general manager of the sales company of the Shougang Group (首鋼集團) from 2005 to 2008, and was with Shougang Group since 1983. Mr. YU has worked in the steel industry since 1969. He studied in the master program at the Party School of the Central Committee of C.P.C. (中共中央黨校) in economics and management from September 2004 to July 2007. Mr. YU received a professional diploma in industrial management from Beijing Institute of Economic Management (北京市經濟管理幹部學院) in December 1986.

Mr. LI Bangguang (李邦廣)

Mr. LI, aged 44, was appointed as an independent non-executive Director commencing from 31 March 2016. Mr. LI is a qualified PRC lawyer. Mr. LI graduated from Shandong University (山東大學) in 2005 majoring in law. Mr. LI worked as sales manager at Zouping County Health Products Company (鄒平縣保健品有限公司) from June 1994 to October 2000 and as staff attorney at Zouping County Cheng Zhong Legal Services Office (鄒平縣城中法律服務所) from October 2000 to May 2005. Since May 2005, Mr. LI joined Shandong Li Zhi Law Office (山東勵志律師事務所) and is working as a practicing lawyer there.

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Mr. ZHANG Qingsheng (張慶生)

Mr. ZHANG, aged 40, was appointed as the vice president of the technical department of the Group in November 2008 and was re-designated as the deputy general manager of production department on 7 October 2013. Mr. ZHANG is responsible for the overall management and supervision for the technical support and issues related to the steel production process and the large bar rolling line project. Mr. ZHANG has served as the vice president of Shandong Xiwang Special Steel since 2008. Mr. ZHANG worked for Xiwang Property overseeing technical issues for its factories and was its vice president from 2005 to 2008. Mr. ZHANG earned his bachelor's degree from Liaoning Shihua University (遼寧石油化工大學) in July 2002.

Mr. HU Zhe (胡哲)

Mr. HU, aged 38, was appointed as the deputy general manager of sales department of the Group in July 2013 and is responsible for the overall management of the sales department. Mr. HU joined the planning department of Xiwang Group in September 2010 and was responsible for the editing of the Group's newspaper. He served as the head of planning department from July 2011 to July 2013. Mr. HU obtained his master degree in law from Communist Party's School of Hubei Province (中共湖北省委黨校) in July 2010 and his bachelor degree in English in July 2007 from China University of Petroleum (中國石油大學).

Mr. LI Dian Zhong (李殿中)

Mr. Li Dian Zhong, aged 49, was appointed as the technical director of the Group commencing from 16 April 2015. He was graduated from Harbin Institute of Technology (哈爾濱工業大學) with a doctorate degree in engineering in 1998. Mr. Li is a researcher and doctoral supervisor and the director of the Materials Process Modeling Division of Shenyang National Laboratory for Materials Science, Institute of Metal Research of Chinese Academy of Sciences. In 1998, he was admitted to the "Hundred Talents Program (百人計劃)" of China Academy of Science. He is mainly engaged in the research of optimizing the key material composition and alloy phase control for heavy castings and forgings products and high-quality special steel; material modeling and defect control; simulation of nucleation during metal solidification; computer simulation of structural evolution under deformation condition for steel; real-time observation and computer simulation of liquid metal flows, etc. He has won National Outstanding Science and Technology Worker in 2014, State Scientific and Technological Progress Award (Second Class) in 2012, Outstanding Achievement Award in Science and Technology from Chinese Academy of Science in 2009, and Ho Leung Ho Lee Foundation Prize for Scientific and Technological Innovation in 2007. He has published more than 100 papers on periodicals like Acta Mater, and registered more than 30 patents and 2 software licenses.



Directors and Senior Management

Mr. WONG Kai Hing (黃繼興)

Mr. Wong, aged 43, was appointed as the Chief Financial Officer and the Company Secretary of the Company (the “**Company Secretary**”) commencing from 20 November 2015. Mr. Wong is a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a member of Chartered Financial Analyst. Mr. Wong holds a Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration in Professional Accountancy from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 1997. He obtained a Master of Business Administration from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in 2006. He has over 17 years of experience in company secretary, auditing, finance and accounting fields in various listed companies and an international accounting firm in Hong Kong. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Wong was the financial controller and company secretary of China Modern Dairy Holdings Limited from April 2012 to October 2015.

Mr. Wong was appointed as the Chief Financial Officer and the Company Secretary of Xiwang Property commencing from 20 November 2015.

Mr. WANG Jianxiang (王健翔)

Mr. WANG Jianxiang, aged 34, graduated from The University of Newcastle, Australia with a master’s degree in international trade. Mr. Wang was appointed as the investor relations director of the Group in 2017. Mr. Wang was a business manager of Xiwang International Trade Co., Ltd from September 2009 to October 2010, and served in the investment department of Xiwang Group Company Limited since October 2010. From October 2013 to June 2017, he served as the securities affairs representative of Xiwang Foodstuffs Company Limited.

Directors' Report

The Board is pleased to present its annual report together with the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2017.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Group is a leading high-end special steel manufacturer located in Shandong Province of China. Our products consist of ordinary steel products that are used primarily buildings and infrastructures, as well as special steel products that is used in automobile, shipbuilding, chemical and petrochemical, machinery and equipment sectors. The Group also engaged in commodities trading business, mainly iron ore trading.

DIVIDEND

The Board recommended the payment of a final dividend of RMB13 cents per ordinary share (approximately HKD16 cents per ordinary share), in respect of the year ended 31 December 2017 to the shareholders of the Company whose names appear on the register of members of the Company at the close of business on Tuesday, 12 June 2018. The payment of final dividend on Monday, 25 June 2018 are subject to the approval of the shareholders of the Company at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting of the Company (the "AGM") to be held on Friday, 1 June 2018. The dividend is payable in cash in Hong Kong dollars and the conversion of RMB into Hong Kong dollars is made at the exchange rate of HKD1.00 = RMB82 cents as at 23 March 2018 (for illustration only). The actual conversion rate for the purpose of dividend payment in Hong Kong dollars will be subject to exchange rate at the remittance date.

BUSINESS REVIEW

Business review of the Company and a discussion and analysis of the Group's performance during the Year, the material factors underlying its results and financial position, and an indication of likely future development in the Company's business are set out in the Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 11 to 21 of this Annual Report. An analysis of Group's performance using financial key performance indicators is provided in the Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 11 to 21 of this Annual Report. These discussions form part of this Directors' report.

1. Major Risks and Uncertain Factors

A. Risk of Raw Material Price Increase

The supply of raw material has a material impact on the price of iron and steel, and fluctuation in raw material price also brings uncertainty to the Company's market strategy formulation and implementation as well as impacts the cost control of the Company to certain extent.

B. Market Risks

The Group bears market risks such as risks of interest rate and currency rate. Since the steel industry is a capital intensive industry, operation of the Group needs to be supported by financing. Increase of loan interest rate will cause burden of increased financial cost. Some businesses of the Group involve foreign currency, so adverse fluctuation of currency rate will cause exchange loss to be borne by us. The Group has proactively communicated with some financial institutions which have fixed the exchange rates for some businesses.

C. Risk of New Product

We are proactively carrying out industrial upgrade and transformation, and gradually increase the ratio of special steel products with relatively high profit. Therefore we may face increased capital input and production cost while we are unable to secured sales in the fierce market competition.

Directors' Report

2. Environmental Policies and Performance

The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology of the PRC, together with other authorities, established the Standard Conditions for Iron and Steel Industry which prescribes specific standards for the production scale, equipment and environmental protection of steel enterprises. Upon review of competent authorities, the Group has complied with the requirements and qualifications set forth in the Standard Conditions for Iron and Steel Industry. We discharge pollutants in strict compliance with the requirement of the permit for pollutant discharge, the requirement of China's environmental protection laws and regulations and the requirement of competent environmental protection authorities.

The Group strives to be an environment friendly enterprise by investing large amount of fund to install environmental protection facilities and proactively designing recycle and reuse of wastes. The Group has completed the design and implementation of related plans together with Zouping Xiwang Power Co., Ltd (鄒平縣西王動力有限公司) in recycling and reusing the waste water and gas generated from the production and applying them on heating in properties and surrounding buildings. This project will not only contribute to environmental protection but also generate financial earnings for the Group.

The Group pays attention to nourishing and enhancing employees' awareness of cherishing resources and utilizing resources with high efficiency, and proactively promotes environmental protection. In recent years, the Group has implemented a number of policies to encourage employees on duty to summarize and improve the procedures that waste raw materials and energies, eliminate wasting and increase effective use of raw materials and energy. Meanwhile, the Group also urges and encourages employees on duty to save energy and paper during office works. The ultimate purpose for all of the above is to save resources and costs, protect the environment and promote the general profit of the Group.

3. Compliance with Laws and Regulations

The Group's operations are mainly carried out by the Company's subsidiaries in the mainland China while the Company itself is listed on the Stock Exchange. Our establishment and operations accordingly shall comply with relevant laws and regulations in the mainland China and Hong Kong. During the year ended 31 December 2017 and up to the date of this report, to the knowledge of the Company, we have complied with all the relevant laws and regulations in the mainland China and Hong Kong that have a significant impact on the Group in all material respects.

4 Notes on Important Relationship with Employees, Customers and Suppliers

The Group promotes a person-oriented management culture and emphasizes the value of employees as it believes the employees are very important resource for enhancing the Company's productivity and core competency. To provide employees with competitive remunerations and opportunities to receive skill trainings is closely connected to the realization of employees' individual values as well as the Group's strategic goals.

The Group's regular income relies on the constant patronage of its major customers. Many customers are distributors who sell our products to the downstream steel producers, real estate developers and construction contractors. They contribute to a substantial portion of the Group's earnings and operation performance. Maintaining good cooperative relationship with customers will positively promote the Group's business performance and obtain steady and healthily growing results. The Group has entered into long-term supply contracts with some major customers. Meanwhile, we are also proactively developing new customers and providing them with high-quality presale and post-sale supporting services for the sake of reducing risks and obtaining more market shares.

We also pay close attention to the relationship with suppliers. Being able to obtain sufficient quantity of raw materials with competitive prices is an important safeguard for the Group to maintain production schedule and fulfill commitments to customers. Though the Group may use electric arc furnaces to produce billets internally, we still need raw materials supplied by major supplies such as waste steel, molten iron, pig iron and billets to meet the production demand. The Group proactively enters into purchase agreements with current supplies and meanwhile proactively seeks to expand the supplier network, timely communicate with suppliers and produce plans to maintain good relationship and solve problems in order to provide effective safeguard for the planned production schedule.

The Group holds annual meeting every year, and distributes questionnaires to share our achievements with employees, customers and suppliers. The Group also discusses the defects existing in the past and strives to discover any room of improvement in order to create closer mutually benefiting relationship.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Details of movements in the property, plant and equipment of the Group during the Year are set out in note 13 to the financial statements.

BORROWINGS

Details of the Group's borrowings as at the end of the reporting period are set out in note 23 to the financial statements of this annual report.

Directors' Report

SHARE CAPITAL

Details of movements in the Company's share capital for the year ended 31 December 2017 are set out in note 28 to the financial statements of this annual report.

FIVE YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A summary of the results and of the assets and liabilities of the Group for the last five financial years is set out on page 148 of this annual report.

SHARE OPTION SCHEME

The Company operates a share option scheme for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to eligible participants for their contribution or would be contribution to the Group so as to encourage them to participate in the long-term development of the Group and to share common interests and objectives with the Group and/or to enable the Group to recruit and retain high calibre employees and attract human resources that are valuable to the Group. The share option scheme became effective on 3 September 2014, 3,000,000 share options were exercised during the year ended 31 December 2017.

(1) Eligible Participants to the Share Option Scheme

The Directors may, at their absolute discretion, invite any eligible participants (the "**Eligible Participants**"), to take up options (the "**Options**") to subscribe for Shares at a price calculated in accordance with paragraph (7) below for such number of Shares as it may determine in accordance with the terms of the Share Option Scheme.

The basis of eligibility of any of the Eligible Participants to the grant of any Options shall be determined by the Directors from time to time on the basis of their contribution to the development and growth of the Group and any invested entity.

(2) Maximum Number of Shares Available for Exercise

- (a) The maximum number of Shares to be issued upon exercise of all outstanding Options granted and yet to be exercised under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company must not in aggregate exceed 30 per cent of the total number of Shares in issue from time to time.
- (b) The total number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all Options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company must not in aggregate exceed 200,000,000 Shares (the "**General Scheme Limit**"), representing 10 per cent of the Shares in issue as at the day of the passing of the relevant ordinary resolution.

- (c) Subject to paragraph (a) above and without prejudice to paragraph (d) below, the Company may seek approval of the Shareholders in general meeting to refresh the General Scheme Limit provided that the total number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all Options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company must not exceed 10 per cent of the Shares in issue as at the date of approval of the General Scheme Limit. For the purpose of calculating the General Scheme Limit, Options previously granted (including those outstanding, cancelled, lapsed or exercised in accordance with the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company) will not be counted.
- (d) Subject to paragraph (a) above and without prejudice to paragraph (c) above, the Company may issue a circular to the Shareholders and seek separate Shareholders' approval in general meeting to grant Options beyond the General Scheme Limit or, if applicable, the limit referred to in paragraph (c) above to the Eligible Participants specifically identified by the Company before such approval is sought.

(3) Maximum Entitlement of each Eligible Participant

The total number of Shares in issue and which may fall to be issued upon exercise of the Options granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company (including exercised, cancelled and outstanding Options) to each Eligible Participant in any 12 month period shall not exceed 1 per cent of the total number of the relevant class of Shares (the "Individual Limit"). Any further grant of options in excess of the Individual Limit in any 12 month period up to and including the date of such further grant, shall be subject to the issue of a circular to the Shareholders and the Shareholders' approval in general meeting of the Company with such Eligible Participant and his associates abstaining from voting.

(4) Grant of Options to Connected Persons

- (a) Any grant of Options under the Share Option Scheme to a Director, chief executive or Substantial Shareholder of the Company or any of their respective associates must comply with the requirements of Rule 17.04 of the Listing Rules and must be approved by independent non-executive Directors (excluding any independent non-executive Director who is the Grantee of the Options).

In the event of any change in the terms of Options granted to a Substantial Shareholder or an independent non-executive director of the Company; or where any grant of Options to a Substantial Shareholder or an independent non-executive Director, or any of their respective associates, would result in the Shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of all Options already granted and to be granted (including Options exercised, cancelled and outstanding) to such person in the 12 month period up to and including the date of such grant:

- (i) representing in aggregate over 0.1 per cent of the total number of Shares in issue;

Directors' Report

- (ii) having an aggregate value on the closing price of the Shares at the date of each grant, in excess of HKD5 million;

such further grant of Options must be approved by the Shareholders. The Company must send a circular to the Shareholders. All connected persons of the Company must abstain from voting at such general meeting, except that any Connected Person may vote against the relevant resolution at the general meeting provided that his intention to do so has been stated in the circular. Any vote taken at the meeting to approve the grant of such options must be taken on a poll.

(5) Time of Acceptance and Exercise of an Option

An offer of grant of an Option may be accepted by an Eligible Participant within 28 days from the date of the offer of grant of the Option. A consideration of HKD1.00 is payable on acceptance of the offer of grant of an Option.

An option may be exercised in accordance with the terms of the Share Option Scheme at any time during a period to be determined and notified by the Directors to each Grantee, which period may commence on the date on which the offer for the grant of Options is made but shall end in any event not later than 10 years from the date of grant of the Option subject to the provisions for early termination thereof and to the minimum period for which the Option has to be held before it can be exercised as the Directors may at their discretion determine ("**Option Period**"). No minimum period for which the Option has to be held before it can be exercised is specified in the Share Option Scheme.

(6) Performance Targets

Unless otherwise determined and stated by the Directors in the offer of the grant of Options to an Eligible Participant, an Eligible Participant is not required to achieve any performance targets before any Options granted under the Share Option Scheme can be exercised.

(7) Subscription Price for Shares

The subscription price for Shares under the Share Option Scheme shall be a price determined by the Directors, but shall not be less than the higher of (i) the closing price of Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheet on the date of the offer of grant, which must be a trading day; (ii) the average closing price of Shares as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheeting for the five trading days immediately preceding the date of the offer of grant; and (iii) the nominal value of a Share (if applicable). Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, the Directors may grant Options in respect of which the subscription price is fixed at different prices for different periods during the Option Period provided that the subscription price for Shares for each of the different periods shall not be less than the subscription price determined in the aforesaid manner.

(8) Restrictions on the Time of Grant of Options

A grant of Option under the Share Option Scheme shall not be made after inside information has come to the knowledge of the Company until the information has been announced. In particular, during the period commencing one month immediately preceding the earlier of (i) the date of the board meeting (as such is first notified to the Exchange in accordance with the Listing Rules) for approval of the Company's results for any year, half year, quarterly or any other interim period (whether or not required under the Listing Rules); and (ii) the deadline for the Company to publish an announcement of its results for any year or half year under the Listing Rules, or quarterly or any other interim period (whether or not under the Listing Rules), no Option should be granted.

The Directors may not grant any Option to an Eligible Participant who is a Director during the periods or times in which Directors are prohibited from dealing in shares pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies prescribed by the Listing Rules or any corresponding code or securities dealing restrictions adopted by the Company.

(9) Period of the Share Option Scheme

The Share Option Scheme will remain in force for a period of 10 years commencing on the date on which the Share Option Scheme becomes unconditional.

As at 31 December 2017, options to subscribe for 12,500,000 ordinary shares of the Company were outstanding, details of which are set out in note 29 to the financial statements and below:

| Grantee | Date of grant | At | Number of Share Options | | | At | Exercise price per Share (HKD) | Exercise period |
|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------|------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| | | 1 January 2017 | Granted | Exercised | Lapsed | 31 December 2017 | | |
| Directors | | | | | | | | |
| WANG Di | 19 September 2014 | 2,000,000 | - | (2,000,000) | - | - | 1.064 | 19/9/2016-18/9/2017 |
| | 25 August 2016 (Note 2) | 5,000,000 | - | - | - | 5,000,000 | 0.73 | 25/8/2016-24/8/2021 |
| SUN Xinhua | 19 September 2014 | 1,000,000 | - | (1,000,000) | - | - | 1.064 | 19/9/2016-18/9/2017 |
| | 25 August 2016 (Note 2) | 1,500,000 | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | 0.73 | 25/8/2016-24/8/2021 |
| Employees (Note 1) | 22 July 2016 (Note 2) | 1,500,000 | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | 0.676 | 22/7/2016-21/7/2021 |
| | 25 August 2016 (Note 2) | 3,900,000 | - | - | - | 3,900,000 | 0.73 | 25/8/2016-24/8/2021 |
| | 12 April 2017 (Note 2) | - | 600,000 | - | - | 600,000 | 1.38 | 12/4/2017-11/4/2022 |
| | | 14,900,000 | 600,000 | (3,000,000) | - | 12,500,000 | | |

Notes:

- Employee include employee of the Group (other than the directors) working under employment contracts with the Group which are regarded as "continuous contracts" for the purpose of the Employment Ordinance (Chapter 57 of the Laws of Hong Kong).
- The closing price of the Share immediately before the date on which the options were granted were (i) 21 July 2016: HKD0.67; (ii) 24 August 2016: HKD0.71 and (iii) 11 April 2017: HKD1.39.

Directors' Report

EQUITY-LINKED AGREEMENT

Save as disclosed in this annual report regarding Share Option Scheme, the Company has not entered into any equity-link agreement during the year ended 31 December 2017 and no equity-link agreement subsisted as at the end of the year.

PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights under the Company's memorandum and articles of association or the laws of Hong Kong, being the jurisdiction in which the Company was incorporated, which would oblige the Company to offer new shares on a pro rata basis to existing shareholders.

PURCHASE, SALES OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S SECURITIES

During the Year, two grantees of the share option scheme of the Company adopted on 3 September 2014, Mr. Wang Di and Mr. Sun Xihu, exercised a total of 3,000,000 share options of the Company.

Save as disclosed in this annual report, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the listed securities of the Company during the Year.

SHARES AND DEBENTURE ISSUED DURING THE YEAR

A total of 100,000,000 shares were issued pursuant to the placing and subscription agreement dated 14 September 2017, details of which are set out in "Management Discussion and Analysis – Equity fund raising activities" of this annual report.

On 28 September 2017, the Company issued a HK\$200 million in aggregate principal amount of 9% guaranteed and secured notes due 2018 ("**Notes**") to Zhongtai Financial Investment Limited. The Notes would rank senior to the share capital of the Company and at least pari passu with other present and future unsecured and unsubordinated obligation of the Company. By issuing the Notes, the Company received the proceeds of approximately HK\$200 million and the Company has the benefit of raising capital without resulting in any dilution effect on the shareholding of the existing shareholders of the Company. The proceeds of the Notes issued were used for the purpose of providing general working capital for the Company.

RESERVES

Details of movements in the reserves of the Company during the Year are set out in note 30 to the financial statements. As at 31 December 2017, the reserves of the Company available for distribution, calculated in accordance with the provision of Section 290-306 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, (Cap. 622) amounted to nil.

MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS

The Group's five largest suppliers accounted for approximately 45.4% (2016: 43.2%) of the Group's total cost of purchase for the Year. The largest supplier accounted for approximately 17.3% (2016: 17.8%) of the Group's total cost of purchase.

The Group's five largest customers accounted for approximately 27.6% (2016: 24.2%) of the Group's total revenue for the Year. The largest customer accounted for approximately 8.2% (2016: 8.6%) of the Group's total revenue for the Year.

To the knowledge of the Directors, none of the Directors, their respective close associates or any shareholder (which to the knowledge of the Directors own more than 5% of the Company's share capital) owned any direct or indirect interest in the Company's suppliers and customers mentioned above during the Year.

DIRECTORS AND DIRECTORS' SERVICE CONTRACTS

The Directors during the Year and up to the date of this annual report were:

Executive Directors

Mr. ZHANG Jian (*Chief Executive Officer*)

Mr. SUN Xihu

Ms. LI Hai Xia

Non-executive Directors

Mr. WANG Di (*Chairman*)

Mr. WANG Yong

Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny

Mr. YU Kou

Mr. LI Bangguang

Each of the executive Directors, non-executive Directors, and independent non-executive Directors has entered into a service agreement with the Company for a term of three years. Each of these service agreements may be terminated by either party by giving to the other not less than three months' prior notice in writing.

None of the Directors has a service contract with the Company or any of its subsidiaries which is not determinable by the Group within one year without payment of compensation, other than statutory compensation.

The Company has received from each of the independent non-executive Directors an annual confirmation of independence pursuant to Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules and the Board considered each of the independent non-executive Directors to be independent.

Directors' Report

DIRECTORS' AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S BIOGRAPHIES

Biographical details of the Directors and the senior management of the Group are set out on pages 34 to 38 of this annual report.

DIRECTORS OF SUBSIDIARIES

The directors of our subsidiaries during the Year and up to the date of this annual report were:

| Company | Director |
|---|---|
| XIWANG METAL SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY COMPANY LIMITED | Mr. WANG Yong, Mr. WANG Di, Mr. WANG Dong, Mr. WANG Liang, Mr. SUN Xinhua, Mr. ZHANG Jian |
| XIWANG SPECIAL STEEL COMPANY LTD. | Mr. WANG Yong, Mr. WANG Di, Mr. WANG Dong, Mr. WANG Liang, Mr. SUN Xinhua, Mr. ZHANG Jian |
| SHANDONG XIWANG METAL MATERIAL COMPANY LTD | Mr. WANG Yong, Mr. WANG Di, Mr. WANG Dong, Mr. WANG Liang, Mr. SUN Xinhua, Mr. ZHANG Jian |
| SHANDONG XIWANG RECYCLING RESOURCES COMPANY LTD | Mr. ZHANG Jian |
| XIWANG INTERNATIONAL TRADE (QINGDAO) CO, LTD | Mr. WANG Di, Mr. WANG Hong Yu, Ms. WANG Chun Ying |
| WIN GOAL TRADING LIMITED | Mr. WANG Di |

DIRECTORS' INTEREST IN CONTRACTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Saved as disclosed in the paragraph headed "Connected Transactions" below and in note 37 to the financial statements, no Director had a material interest, either directly or indirectly, in any contract of significance to the business of the Group to which the Company, its holding company or any of its subsidiaries was a party subsisting during or at the end of the Year.

DIRECTORS' RIGHTS TO ACQUIRE SHARES OR DEBENTURES

Save as disclosed above, at no time during the Year was the Company or any of its subsidiaries or the holding company or a subsidiary of the Company's holding company a party to any arrangements to enable the Directors to acquire benefits by means of an acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate.

DIRECTORS' INTEREST IN COMPETING BUSINESS

During the Year and up to the date of this annual report, none of the Directors has any interest in a business apart from our business which competes or is likely to compete, either directly or indirectly, with our Group's business.

PERMITTED INDEMNITY

Pursuant to the Company's Articles, every Director shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Company against all liabilities which he/she may incur in the execution and discharge of his/her duties or otherwise in relation thereto. The Company has kept in force insurance against the liability and costs associated with defending any proceedings which may be brought against directors of the Company.

MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS

No contracts concerning the management and administration of the whole or any substantial part of the business of the Company were entered into or existed during the Year.

REMUNERATION POLICY

The remuneration policy of the Group is set on the basis of the employees' merit, qualifications and competence and reviewed by the Remuneration Committee periodically.

The remuneration package of the Directors are reviewed and recommended by the Remuneration Committee and approved by the Board, with consideration to the Group's operating results, individual performance and comparable market statistics.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES OF THE COMPANY AND ITS ASSOCIATED CORPORATIONS

As at 31 December 2017, the Directors or chief executive of the Company and their respective associates had the following interests in the shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company and its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong) ("SFO")) which were recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to section 352 of the SFO; or notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code, were as follows:

| Name of Director | Name of company/ associated corporation | Capacity | Number and class of securities held/interested (Note 1) | Approximate percentage shareholding in the same class of securities in the relevant corporation as at 31 December 2017 |
|------------------|---|--|---|---|
| WANG Yong | Company | Interest of controlled corporations (Note 2) | 1,500,000,000 ordinary shares (L) (Note 4) | 71.10% |
| | Xiwang Investment | Interest of controlled corporations (Notes 2, 3) | 3 shares (L) | 100% |
| | Xiwang Holdings | Beneficial owner (Note 2) | 6,738 shares (L) | 3.37% |
| | | Interest of controlled corporations (Note 2) | 190,000 shares (L) | 95% |
| | Xiwang Hong Kong | Interest of controlled corporations (Note 2) | 694,132,000 shares (L) | 100% |
| | Xiwang Group | Beneficial owner (Note 2) | RMB1,383,000,000 (L) | 69.15% |
| | Xiwang Property | Interest of controlled corporations (Note 3) | 982,999,588 ordinary shares (L) (Note 3) | 69.78% |
| | | | 506,244,669 convertible preference shares (L) (Note 3) | 99.75% |

| Name of Director | Name of company/ associated corporation | Capacity | Number and class of securities held/interested (Note 1) | Approximate percentage shareholding in the same class of securities in the relevant corporation as at 31 December 2017 |
|------------------|---|------------------|---|---|
| WANG Di | Company | Beneficial owner | 6,000,000 shares (L) | 0.28% |
| | Company | Beneficial owner | 5,000,000 share options (L) | 0.23% |
| | Xiwang Holdings | Beneficial owner | 177 shares (L) | 0.09% |
| | Xiwang Group | Beneficial owner | RMB35,460,000 (L) | 1.77% |
| | Xiwang Property | Beneficial owner | 3,000,000 shares (L) | 0.24% |
| SUN Xinqu | Company | Beneficial owner | 1,000,000 shares (L) | 0.04% |
| | Company | Beneficial owner | 1,500,000 share options (L) | 0.07% |
| | Xiwang Holdings | Beneficial owner | 89 shares (L) | 0.04% |
| | Xiwang Group | Beneficial owner | RMB35,460,000 (L) | 1.77% |
| | Xiwang Property | Beneficial owner | 3,000,000 shares (L) | 0.24% |

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" represents the Director's long position in the shares of the relevant corporation.
- (2) As at 31 December 2017, Xiwang Group is the ultimate holding company of the Company. Xiwang Group is owned as to 69.15% by Mr. WANG Yong and remaining 30.85% by 20 individuals. Further, these 20 individuals are accustomed to act in accordance with the directions of Mr. WANG Yong in respect of the exercise by such 20 individuals of their voting powers as a shareholder of Xiwang Group. Accordingly, Mr. WANG Yong is deemed to be interested in all the shares of the Company in which Xiwang Group is interested.
- Xiwang Hong Kong is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Xiwang Group. Xiwang Hong Kong directly holds 95% and Mr. WANG Yong and 22 individuals directly hold 5% of the issued share capital of Xiwang Holdings, respectively. Xiwang Investment is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Xiwang Holdings. Therefore, Xiwang Holdings, Xiwang Hong Kong and Xiwang Group are deemed to be interested in the number of shares of the Company held by Xiwang Investment.
- On 8 December 2017, 1,400,000,000 shares of the Company was held by way of security by Haitong International Financial Solutions Limited as security agent for Haitong International Financial Solutions Limited and CM Wealth Holdings Limited.
- (3) As at 31 December 2017, Xiwang Investment, where the entire issued shares are deemed to be interested by Mr. WANG Yong, held 65.57% of ordinary shares of Xiwang Property Holdings Company Limited ("**Xiwang Property**") and 99.81% of convertible preference shares of Xiwang Property.
- (4) These shares are registered in the name of Xiwang Investment. Mr. WANG Yong is deemed to have interest in all shares of the Company held by Xiwang Investment.

SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS AND OTHER PERSONS WHO ARE REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE THEIR INTERESTS PURSUANT TO PART XV OF THE SFO

(a) Substantial shareholders of the Company

As at 31 December 2017, so far as it is known to the Directors of the Company, the following persons (other than the Directors and chief executive of the Company) had or were deemed or taken to have interests or short positions in the shares and underlying shares of the Company as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under section 336 of the SFO:

| Name of substantial shareholder | Capacity | Number of shares of the Company held/interested (Note 1) | Approximate percentage of interest in the Company as at 31 December 2017 |
|--|--|---|--|
| Xiwang Investment | Beneficial owner | 1,500,000,000 ordinary shares (L) | 71.10% |
| Xiwang Holdings | Interest of a controlled corporation (Note 2) | 1,500,000,000 ordinary shares (L) | 71.10% |
| Xiwang Hong Kong | Interest of controlled corporations (Notes 2, 3) | 1,500,000,000 ordinary shares (L) | 71.10% |
| Xiwang Group | Interest of controlled corporations (Notes 2, 3) | 1,500,000,000 ordinary shares (L) | 71.10% |
| ZHANG Shufang | Interest of spouse (Note 4) | 1,500,000,000 ordinary shares (L) | 71.10% |
| Haitong Securities Co., Ltd. | Interest of a controlled corporation/Trustee | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |
| | Investment manager | 102,094,240 | 4.84% |
| Haitong International Holdings Limited | Interest of a controlled corporation/Trustee | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |
| | Investment manager | 102,094,240 | 4.84% |
| Haitong International Securities Group Limited | Interest of a controlled corporation/Trustee | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |
| | Investment manager | 102,094,240 | 4.84% |

| Name of substantial shareholder | Capacity | Number of shares of the Company held/ interested (Note 1) | Approximate percentage of interest in the Company as at 31 December 2017 |
|--|---|--|--|
| Haitong International Financial Solutions Limited | Security interest in shares/ Trustee (Note 5) | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |
| China Minsheng Investment Corporation Limited | Interest of a controlled corporation | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |
| China Minsheng Financial Holding Corporation Limited | Interest of corporation controlled | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |
| CM Wealth Holdings Limited | Security interest in shares (Note 5) | 1,400,000,000 | 66.36% |

Notes:

- (1) The letter "L" represents the entity's long position in the shares of the Company.
- (2) Xiwang Holdings directly holds 100% of the issued share capital of Xiwang Investment and therefore is deemed to be interested in the number of shares of the Company held by Xiwang Investment.
- (3) Xiwang Hong Kong directly holds 95% and Mr. WANG Yong and 22 individuals directly hold 5% of the issued share capital of Xiwang Holdings, respectively. Xiwang Hong Kong is in turn wholly-owned by Xiwang Group. Therefore, Xiwang Hong Kong and Xiwang Group are deemed to be interested in the number of shares of the Company held by Xiwang Investment.
- (4) Ms. ZHANG Shufang, being the spouse of Mr. WANG Yong, is deemed to be interested in all the shares of the Company in which Mr. WANG Yong is deemed to be interested.
- (5) On 8 December 2017, 1,400,000,000 shares of the Company was held by way of security by Haitong International Financial Solutions Limited as security agent for Haitong International Financial Solutions Limited and CM Wealth Holdings Limited.

(b) Other persons who are required to disclose their interests pursuant to Part XV of the SFO

Save as disclosed in the paragraph headed "Directors' interests in shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company and its associated corporations" and paragraph (a) above, as at 31 December 2017, no other person had interests or short positions in the shares or underlying shares of the Company which are recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under section 336 of the SFO.

CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

The related party transactions set out in note 37 to the financial statements constitute continuing connected transactions under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules after the listing of the Company on the Stock Exchange.

A. Continuing Connected Transactions in 2017

Save as (i) the supply of steam under the Steam Supply Agreement dated 11 November 2014 and the New Steam Supply Agreement dated 14 December 2016 entered into between the Xiwang Metal Science and Xiwang Sugar; (ii) supply of steel under the Steel Delivery Service Agreement, supply of ore powder under the Ore Powder Delivery Service Agreement and leasing of certain vehicles under the Vehicle Leasing Agreement, all of which are dated 29 December 2015 and the Supplemental Agreement dated 20 October 2016 entered into between Shandong Xiwang Logistics Company Limited ("**Xiwang Logistics**") and Xiwang Metal Science; (iii) the provision of financial services under the Financial Services Agreement dated 29 December 2015 entered into between the Company and Xiwang Group Finance Company Limited ("**Xiwang Finance Company**"); (iv) the provision of guarantee services under the Guarantee Agreement dated 4 January 2016 and the New Guarantee Agreement dated 10 November 2017 entered into between the Company and Xiwang Group Company Limited ("**Xiwang Group**"), respectively; (v) the provision of finance leasing services under the Sale and Leaseback Agreement dated 20 October 2016 entered into between Xiwang Metal Science and Xiwang Finance Leasing Company Limited ("**Xiwang Leasing**"); (vi) the provision of heat energy and cooling energy services to Zouping Xiwang Power Company Limited ("**Xiwang Power**") under the Heat Energy Supply Agreement dated 4 October 2017 and Cooling Energy Supply Agreement dated 4 October 2017, which were conducted in compliance with the requirements on connected transactions under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules, all such continuing connected transactions were exempt continuing connected transactions under Rule 14A.33 of the Listing Rules and were exempted from the reporting, annual review, announcement and independent shareholders' approval requirement under the Listing Rules.

(1) Sale of Steam to Xiwang Sugar

On 11 November 2014, Xiwang Metal Science, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into the steam supply agreement ("**Steam Supply Agreement**") with Xiwang Sugar, pursuant to which, the Group would supply steam to Xiwang Sugar for a period commencing on the date of the Steam Supply Agreement and ending on 31 December 2016 (both dates inclusive).

Xiwang Investment Company Limited ("**Xiwang Investment**") is the controlling shareholder of the Company and indirectly holds the entire equity interest in Xiwang Sugar. As such, Xiwang Sugar is a connected person of the Company and the transactions contemplated under the Steam Supply Agreement constituted continuing connected transactions.

Pursuant to the Steam Supply Agreement, Xiwang Metal Science was responsible for laying or altering the steam pipe, installing the steam meter and supplying steam to Xiwang Sugar and its subsidiaries. It was agreed that if the coal price in the Zouping County market reaches RMB0.15 per kcal (tax-inclusive), the corresponding price for steam will be RMB125 per tonne (tax-inclusive). With the aforesaid standard as basis, the price for steam would be adjusted upward or downward by RMB5 per tonne (tax-inclusive) accordingly for the corresponding increase or decrease of each RMB0.01 per kcal (tax-inclusive) of the coal price.

Steam is a by-product generated during the Group's production of special steel, while the Group only make use of a small amount of steam in its production process. By entering into the Steam Supply Agreement, the Group can generate additional income from the sale of steam unused while saving the cost in its construction of steam pipeline.

On 14 December 2016, Xiwang Metal Science and Xiwang Sugar entered into the new steam supply agreement (the **"New Steam Supply Agreement"**) to renew the terms of the Steam Supply Agreement, which was effective from 1 January 2017 to 31 December 2019. Similar to the Steam Supply Agreement, it was agreed in the New Steam Supply Agreement that if the coal price in the Zouping County market reaches RMB0.15 per kcal (tax-inclusive), the corresponding price for steam will be RMB125 per tonne (tax-inclusive). With the aforesaid standard as basis, the price for steam would be adjusted upward or downward by RMB5 per tonne (tax-inclusive) accordingly for the corresponding increase or decrease of each RMB0.01 per kcal (tax-inclusive) of the coal price.

Pursuant to the New Steam Supply Agreement, it was expected that the maximum aggregate annual transaction amounts for each of the three years ending 31 December 2019 would be RMB60,000,000. As of the year ended 31 December 2017, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount incurred was approximately RMB35,987,000.

During the term of the agreement, the transaction amount did not exceed the annual cap as set out in the agreement.

For details of the transaction, please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 14 December 2016.

(2) **Provision of Delivery Service and Leasing of Vehicles from Xiwang Logistics**

On 29 December 2015, Xiwang Metal Science and Xiwang Logistics entered into the steel delivery service agreement (the **"Steel Delivery Service Agreement"**) in relation to the provision of steel delivery services to Xiwang Metal Science, the ore powder delivery service agreement (the **"Ore Powder Delivery Service Agreement"**) in relation to the provision of ore powder delivery services to Xiwang Metal Science, and the vehicle leasing agreement (the **"Vehicle Leasing Agreement"**) in relation to the leasing of 42 vehicles (the **"Vehicles"**) by Xiwang Logistics to Xiwang Metal Science, all of which were effective from 1 January 2016 (or a date when the shareholders' approval is obtained) and ending 31 December 2018 (both dates inclusive).

Xiwang Metal Science is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company. Xiwang Investment is the controlling shareholder of the Company and is wholly owned by Xiwang Holdings Limited (**"Xiwang Holding"**). Xiwang Holdings is held as to 95% by Xiwang Hong Kong Company Limited (**"Xiwang Hong Kong"**) and Xiwang Hong Kong is in turn wholly-owned by Xiwang Group. Xiwang Logistics is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Xiwang Group. Therefore, Xiwang Logistics is a connected person of the Company.

Pursuant to the Steel Delivery Service Agreement, Xiwang Logistics agreed to provide steel delivery service to Xiwang Metal Science to Linyi City, Qingdao City and other cities of Shandong Province, the PRC. It was agreed that the cost of delivery service should be determined according to the weight of steel for each delivery with reference to the prevailing market prices. By entering into the Steel Delivery Service Agreement, in the event the Company is required to bear the delivery cost due to change of delivery mode that the customers no longer collect the end products at the factory and bear the delivery cost, Xiwang Logistics has logistics capability, possesses adequate vehicles and can deliver the goods in a timely manner for the Company.

It was expected that the maximum aggregate annual transaction amount under the Steel Delivery Service Agreement for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 would be RMB98,000,000, RMB104,000,000 and RMB111,000,000, respectively.

As of the year ended 31 December 2017, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount incurred was approximately RMB59,527,000. During the term of the agreement, the transaction amount did not exceed the annual cap as set out in the agreement.

Pursuant to the Ore Powder Delivery Service Agreement, Xiwang Logistics agreed to provide ore powder delivery service to Xiwang Metal Science from Qingdao City and other cities of Shandong Province, the PRC. It was agreed that the cost of delivery service should be determined according to the weight of ore powder for each delivery with reference to the prevailing market prices. By entering into the Ore Powder Delivery Service Agreement, in the event the Company is required to bear the delivery cost due to change of delivery mode that the suppliers no longer deliver the procured raw materials and bear the delivery cost, Xiwang Logistics has logistics capability, possesses adequate vehicles and can deliver the goods in a timely manner for the Company.

It was expected that the maximum aggregate annual transaction amount under the Ore Powder Delivery Service Agreement for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 would be RMB208,000,000, RMB223,000,000 and RMB240,000,000, respectively.

As of the year ended 31 December 2017, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount incurred was approximately RMB173,497,000. During the term of the agreement, the transaction amount did not exceed the annual cap as set out in the agreement.

Pursuant to the Vehicle Leasing Agreement, Xiwang Logistics agreed to lease 42 vehicles in total to Xiwang Metal Science, who would be responsible for the management and fees incurred for using the Vehicles such as fuel fees and maintenance fees. It was agreed that the fee for renting the Vehicles would be determined with reference to the prevailing market prices. By entering into the Vehicle Leasing Agreement, the Company could greatly reduce the its transportation costs with respect to its products loading in the factory and delivery, as the Company does not possess enough vehicles and the cost to purchase vehicles is relatively high, and Xiwang Logistics possesses adequate vehicles.

It was expected that the maximum aggregate annual transaction amount under the Vehicle Leasing Agreement for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 would be RMB6,800,000, RMB7,100,000 and RMB7,500,000, respectively.

As of the year ended 31 December 2017, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount incurred was nil. During the term of the agreement, the transaction amount did not exceed the annual cap as set out in the agreement.

For details of the transactions, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 29 December 2015 and the circular of the Company dated 19 February 2016.

(3) **Provision of Financial Services from Xiwang Finance Company**

On 29 December 2015, the Company and Xiwang Finance Company entered into the financial services agreement (the "**Financial Services Agreement**") in relation to the provision of deposit services, loan services, bill discounting services and other financial services, which was effective from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2018.

Xiwang Group is the ultimate holding company of the Company. Xiwang Finance Company is a subsidiary of Xiwang Group and is owned as to 10% by the Company. As such, Xiwang Finance Company is a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules.

Pursuant to the Financial Services Agreement, Xiwang Finance Company agreed to provide the Company and its certain subsidiaries with deposit services, loan services, bill discounting services and other financial services. It was agreed that the interest rates for deposit, loan and bill discounting services and service fees for other financial services charged by/offered by Xiwang Finance Company should not be less favourable than the interest rates and services fees charged by/offered by other independent commercial banks for comparable services. By entering into the Financial Services Agreement, the Company could, inter alia, have the benefit to centralise its control and management over the financial resources of the Company, improve the utilisation and efficiency of fund usage and mitigate its operating risks. It can also accelerate the turnover of funds and reduce transaction costs and expenses, thereby enhancing the amount and efficiency of fund utilisation.

The proposed caps in respect of the maximum daily deposit balance (including any interest accrued therefrom) with Xiwang Finance Company for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 would be RMB1.2 billion, RMB1.5 billion and RMB1.8 billion, respectively. The proposed caps in respect of the amount of bill discounting provided by Xiwang Finance Company for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 would be RMB0.5 billion, RMB0.8 billion and RMB1.0 billion, respectively. The loan services to be provided by Xiwang Finance Company were on normal commercial terms which were similar to or even more favourable than those offered by other major commercial banks in the PRC, and that no security over the assets of the Company would be granted in respect of the loan services. Other financial services provided under the Financial Services Agreement would be on normal commercial terms and on terms similar to or even more favourable than those offered by other independent commercial banks in the PRC.

On 20 October 2016, the Company and Xiwang Finance Company entered into the supplemental agreement (the “**Supplemental Agreement**”) to (i) revise the annual caps in respect of the amount of bill discounting (including interest) for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 to RMB3.0 billion, RMB7.0 billion and RMB8.0 billion, respectively; and (ii) to revise the extent of the existing financial services under the Financial Services Agreement to include bill acceptance with annual caps in respect of the amount of bill acceptance for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 at RMB3.0 billion, RMB7.0 billion and RMB8.0 billion, respectively. By entering into the Supplemental Agreement, the loan services under the Financial Services Agreement were also revised that (i) the maximum loan amounts (including any accrued interest) for the three years ended 31 December 2018 were changed to RMB5 billion, RMB5.5 billion and RMB6 billion, respectively; (ii) the scope of other finance services would include the guarantee services, the limit of which should not exceed RMB1 billion. By entering into the Supplemental Agreement, the Company has the needs to increase the utilisation of the bill discounting services and to obtain bill acceptance services and guarantee services, so that the Company could take advantage of the capital leverage mechanism provided by Xiwang Finance Company to improve the cash flow and capital liquidity of the Company.

As of 31 December 2017, the maximum daily deposit balance (including any interest accrued therefrom) was approximately RMB1,060,675,000, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount of bill discounting was approximately RMB431,946,000, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount of bill acceptance was approximately RMB400,030,000 and the maximum loan amounts (including any accrued interest) was approximately RMB2,407,863,000. During the term of the agreement, the transaction amounts did not exceed the annual caps as set out in the agreement, and the fees payable by the Company to Xiwang Finance Company for the provision of other financial services under the Financial Services Agreement did not exceed the de-minimis threshold as stipulated under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

For details of the transaction, please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 29 December 2015 and dated 20 October 2016 and the circulars of the Company dated 19 February 2016 and 24 November 2016.

(4) Provision of Guarantee Service to Xiwang Group

On 4 January 2016, the Company and Xiwang Group entered into the guarantee agreement (the “**Guarantee Agreement**”) in relation to the provision of guarantee services, which was effective from 4 January 2016 to 31 December 2018.

Xiwang Group is the ultimate holding company of the Company. Therefore, Xiwang Group is a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules.

Pursuant to the Guarantee Agreement, the Company agreed to provide the Xiwang Group and its certain subsidiaries with guarantee services. It was agreed that the no guarantee fees should be paid by Xiwang Group to the Company for the provision of guarantee services, and any loan to be repaid by the Company for Xiwang Group and its certain subsidiaries pursuant to the Guarantee Agreement should be offset by the loans payable by the Company to Xiwang Group, or as other amounts payable by the Company to Xiwang Group or its certain subsidiaries.

Directors' Report

As the Company has obtained a large amount of interest-free loan from Xiwang Group for business operation, entering into the Guarantee Agreement would enhance the financing capacity of Xiwang Group, which in turn promotes Xiwang Group to provide more financial supports to the Company in the form of loans or financing guarantee.

On 10 November 2017, the Group entered into the New Guarantee Agreement with Xiwang Group (the “**New Guarantee Agreement**”) to renew the terms of the Guarantee Agreement, which was effective from 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2020. Similar to the New Guarantee Agreement, the Group undertakes to guarantee and bear any obligations and liabilities of Xiwang Group and its certain subsidiaries provided under the loan agreement to be entered between the lenders and Xiwang Group and/or its certain subsidiaries subject to the terms of the specific guarantee agreements to be entered between the lenders and the Group. No guarantee fees should be paid by Xiwang Group to the Company for the provision of guarantee services, and any loan to be repaid by the Company for Xiwang Group and its certain subsidiaries pursuant to the New Guarantee Agreement should be offset by the loans payable by the Company to Xiwang Group, or as other amount payable by the Company to Xiwang Group or its certain subsidiaries.

It was agreed under the Guarantee Agreement that the caps in respect of the maximum guarantee amount for each of the three years ending 31 December 2018 would be RMB4 billion, RMB4 billion and RMB4 billion, respectively. Under the New Guarantee Agreement, it was expected that the maximum guarantee amount for each of the three years ending 31 December 2020 would be RMB5 billion, RMB5 billion and RMB5 billion, respectively.

As of 31 December 2017, the maximum guarantee amount was approximately RMB2.47 billion. During the term of the agreement, the transaction amount did not exceed the annual cap as set out in the agreement.

For details of the transaction, please refer to the announcements of the Company dated 4 January 2016, dated 10 November 2017, 1 December 2017, 15 December 2017 and dated 9 January 2018 and the circulars of the Company dated 19 February 2016 and dated 19 December 2017.

(5) **Provision of Finance Leasing Services from Xiwang Leasing**

On 20 October 2016, Xiwang Metal Science and Xiwang Leasing entered into the sale and leaseback agreement (the “**Sale and Leaseback Agreement**”) in relation to the provision of finance leasing services, which was effective on the date when the respective finance amount was paid by Xiwang Leasing to Xiwang Metal Science and ending on 30 November 2021.

Xiwang Group is the ultimate holding company of the Company. Xiwang Leasing is a subsidiary of Xiwang Group. Therefore, Xiwang Leasing is a connected person of the Company under the Listing Rules.

Pursuant to the Sale and Leaseback Agreement, Xiwang Leasing agreed to provide Xiwang Metal Science with finance leasing services in relation to certain machinery equipment. For the purpose of obtaining finance by adopting the sale and leaseback model, Xiwang Metal Science should sell to Xiwang Leasing its machinery equipment which should be leased back for use by Xiwang Metal Science. It was agreed that the leasing fee was the sum of the quarterly repayment of the principal amount and the interest calculated at 5.9% per annum accrued under the respective finance leasing transaction. Upon expiry of the lease term, Xiwang Metal Science should repurchase the leased assets in accordance with the terms of the Sale and Leaseback Agreement.

By entering into the Sale and Leaseback Agreement, the Company would be able to source funds from the sale of certain machinery equipment to Xiwang Leasing and to use the sale proceeds to repay by instalments the loans granted by Xiwang Group to the Group. By doing so, the Company would be able to (i) broaden and stabilise the financing channels, as the Company may not be able to obtain refinance from other financial institution for the reason that the leased assets may not be easily regarded as acceptable security; and (ii) lower the finance cost. Also, the Company would be able to vitalise the inventory of fixed assets, and improve the asset utilization efficiency ratio of the Company.

It was agreed that the caps in respect of the maximum finance amount to Xiwang Leasing for each of the six year ending 30 November 2021 would be RMB0.51 billion, RMB1.6 billion, RMB2.7 billion, RMB3.2 billion, RMB3.2 billion and RMB1.6 billion, respectively.

As of 31 December 2017, the maximum finance amount was RMB615,000,000. During the term of the agreement, the transaction amount did not exceed the annual cap as set out in the agreement.

For details of the transaction, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 20 October 2016 and the circular of the Company dated 24 November 2016.

(6) Provision of Heat Energy and Cooling Energy Services to Xiwang Power

On 4 October 2017, Xiwang Metal Science & Technology Company Limited (formerly known as Shandong Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited) ("**Xiwang Metal**") entered into: (a) the Heat Energy Supply Agreement with Xiwang Power, pursuant to which, the Company shall supply heat energy to Xiwang Power for a period commencing from 4 October 2017 and ending on 3 October 2020 (the "**Heat Energy Supply Agreement**"); and (b) the Cooling Energy Supply Agreement with Xiwang Power, pursuant to which, the Company shall supply cooling energy to Xiwang Power for a period commencing from 1 January 2018 and ending on 31 December 2020 (the "**Cooling Energy Supply Agreement**").

Xiwang Group is the ultimate holding company of the Company, Xiwang Metal is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, and Xiwang Power is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Xiwang Group. As such, Xiwang Power is a connected person of the Company.

Pursuant to the Heat Energy Supply Agreement, it was agreed that the consideration for the heat energy supply is calculated based on the volume of heat energy supplied by Xiwang Metal to Xiwang Power at a rate of RMB20 (tax inclusive) per gigajoule to be payable on a monthly basis in arrears by the tenth calendar day of the next month. The price for the heat energy supply is determined by reference to two sets of terms offered by independent third parties which engage in the supply of heat energy.

Pursuant to the Cooling Energy Supply Agreement, it was agreed that the consideration for the cooling energy supply is calculated based on the volume of cooling energy supplied by Xiwang Metal to Xiwang Power at a rate of RMB55 (tax inclusive) per gigajoule to be payable on a monthly basis in arrears by the tenth calendar day of the next month. The price for the cooling energy supply is determined by reference to two sets of terms offered by independent third parties which engage in the supply of cooling energy.

Under the Heat Energy Supply Agreement, it was expected that the maximum aggregate annual transaction amounts was as follows: 4 October 2017 to 31 December 2017: RMB3,604,000; 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018: RMB10,571,000; 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019: RMB11,628,000; 1 January 2020 to 3 October 2020: RMB7,994,000. Under the Cooling Energy Supply Agreement, it would be expected that the maximum aggregate annual transaction amounts would be as follows: 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018: RMB7,432,000; 1 January 2019 to 31 December 2019: RMB8,993,000; 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020: RMB10,881,000.

As of the year ended 31 December 2017, the actual aggregate annual transaction amount incurred under the Heat Energy Supply Agreement was approximately RMB2,071,000.

During the term of the agreements, the respective transaction amounts did not exceed the annual caps as set out in the agreements.

For details of the transaction, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 4 October 2017.

Pursuant to Rule 14A.55 of the Listing Rules, the independent non-executive Directors of the Company have reviewed the above continuing connected transactions and are of the opinion that the above continuing connected transactions have been (i) carried out in the usual and ordinary course of business of the Group; (ii) conducted on normal commercial terms; and (iii) entered into in accordance with the terms of the agreement which are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the Company's shareholders as a whole. The Company has followed the pricing policies and guidelines when determining the price and terms of the above transactions conducted during the year (please refer to the announcements relating to the respective transactions for details).

The Company's external auditor was engaged to report on the Group's continuing connected transaction in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised) "Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information" and with reference to Practice Note 740 "Auditor's Letter on Continuing Connected Transactions under the Hong Kong Listing Rules" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. For the purpose of Rule 14A.56 of the Listing Rules, the auditor of the Company, has provided a letter to the Board confirming that nothing has come to their attention to cause them to believe that the continuing connected transactions:

- (i) have not been approved by the Board;
- (ii) were not, in all material respects, in accordance with the pricing policies of the Group if the transactions involve provision of services by the Group;
- (iii) were not entered into, in all material respects, in accordance with the agreements governing the transactions; and
- (iv) have exceeded the cap.

A copy of the auditors' letter has been provided by the Company to the Stock Exchange.

Directors' Report

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

A report on the principal corporate governance practices adopted by the Company is set out on pages 22 to 33 of this annual report.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The audit committee of the Company (the “**Audit Committee**”) was comprised of three Directors, namely, Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny, Mr. LI Bangguang and Mr. YU Kou who are independent non-executive Directors. Mr. LEUNG Shu Sun Sunny serves as the chairman of the Audit Committee. The major duties of the Audit Committee under its written terms of reference include monitoring the integrity of the financial statements and reports, overseeing the independence and performance of the external auditors of the Company, reviewing the Group’s financial reporting system and internal control procedures.

The Audit Committee has reviewed with the management the accounting policies and practices adopted by the Group and discussed with the management internal control and financial reporting matters of the Company, including the review of the Group’s audited consolidated financial results for the Year.

SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

Based on information that is available to the Company and as far as the Directors are aware, the Company has maintained a sufficient public float as required under the Listing Rules as at the date of this annual report.

AUDITORS

The financial statements for the Year have been audited by Ernst & Young. A resolution will be proposed at the forthcoming AGM of the Company to re-appoint Ernst & Young as auditors of the Company.

On behalf of the Board

WANG DI

Chairman

Hong Kong, 23 March 2018

Independent Auditor's Report



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To the members of Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)

OPINION

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited (the “**Company**”) and its subsidiaries (the “**Group**”) set out on pages 70 to 147, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2017, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss, the consolidated statement of comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2017, and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“**HKFRSs**”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“**HKICPA**”) and have been properly prepared in compliance with the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing (“**HKSAs**”) issued by the HKICPA. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA's *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the “**Code**”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

KEY AUDIT MATTERS

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters. For each matter below, our description of how our audit addressed the matter is provided in that context.

Independent Auditor's Report

KEY AUDIT MATTERS (Continued)

We have fulfilled the responsibilities described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the consolidated financial statements* section of our report, including in relation to these matters. Accordingly, our audit included the performance of procedures designed to respond to our assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements. The results of our audit procedures, including the procedures performed to address the matters below, provide the basis for our audit opinion on the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

| Key audit matter | How our audit addressed the key audit matter |
|--|---|
| <p>Convertible bonds</p> <p>On 11 October 2017, the Company issued 300 7.5% convertible bonds with a nominal value of USD30,000,000. The interest expenses should be paid half a year from issued. The convertible bonds will mature on the date falling on the second anniversary of the date of convertible bonds at an initial conversion price of HKD1.91 per convertible share, and will be subject to adjustments under certain circumstances in accordance with the terms and conditions of the convertible bonds. If the convertible bonds have not been converted, they will be redeemed on the maturity date at the principal amount. The embedded derivative of the convertible bonds was initially recognised at fair value at the issue date, and the net proceeds exceeding the fair value of the derivative was recognised as a liability.</p> <p>As the structure of the aforementioned transaction is complex, the accounting treatment has involved a significant amount of management's analysis and judgement on the contract terms.</p> <p>Related disclosures are included in the note 2.4 and note 25 to the financial statements.</p> | <p>Our procedures in relation to the accounting treatment of convertible bonds included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We obtained the announcement and board minutes regarding the issuance and, examined the terms of the agreement, and assessed if the classification and measurement of financial instruments were appropriate. • We involved our internal valuation specialists to assist us in reviewing the estimates, models and inputs used in the valuation of the derivative financial instruments by the Group. • We obtained the details of the transaction costs associated with the issuance of the convertible bonds, and reviewed the supporting documents and receipts of proceeds. • We assessed the accounting treatment and disclosure of convertible bonds of the Group as at 31 December 2017. |

OTHER INFORMATION INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL REPORT

The directors of the Company are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with HKFRSs issued by the HKICPA and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors of the Company are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors of the Company either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors of the Company are assisted by the Audit Committee in discharging their responsibilities for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.



Independent Auditor's Report

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Our report is made solely to you, as a body, in accordance with section 405 of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSA's will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSA's, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS *(Continued)*

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Audit Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Audit Committee with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the Audit Committee, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report is TJEN, MICHAEL.

Ernst & Young
Certified Public Accountants
Hong Kong
23 March 2018

Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss

Year ended 31 December 2017

| | Notes | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| REVENUE | 5 | 12,362,478 | 7,566,781 |
| Cost of sales | | (10,337,237) | (6,498,392) |
| Gross profit | | 2,025,241 | 1,068,389 |
| Other income and gains | 5 | 29,763 | 22,173 |
| Selling and distribution expenses | | (102,651) | (20,535) |
| Administrative expenses | | (98,044) | (52,356) |
| Other expenses | | (51,115) | (1,794) |
| Research and development costs | | (371,198) | (253,293) |
| Finance costs | 7 | (328,680) | (336,060) |
| PROFIT BEFORE TAX | 6 | 1,103,316 | 426,524 |
| Income tax expense | 10 | (205,263) | (93,935) |
| PROFIT FOR THE YEAR | | 898,053 | 332,589 |
| Profit attributable to owners of the parent | | 898,053 | 332,589 |
| EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT | 12 | | |
| Basic | | RMB44.15 cents | RMB16.57 cents |
| Diluted | | RMB41.93 cents | RMB15.79 cents |

Consolidated Statement of Comprehensive Income

Year ended 31 December 2017

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| PROFIT FOR THE YEAR | 898,053 | 332,589 |
| OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS) | | |
| Other comprehensive income/(loss) to be reclassified to profit or loss in subsequent periods: | | |
| Exchange differences: | | |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations | 14,644 | (15,724) |
| OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS) FOR THE YEAR, NET OF TAX | 14,644 | (15,724) |
| TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR | 912,697 | 316,865 |
| Total comprehensive income attributable to owners of the parent | 912,697 | 316,865 |

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2017

| | Notes | 31 December 2017 RMB'000 | 31 December 2016 RMB'000 (Restated) |
|--|-----------|--------------------------------|--|
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Property, plant and equipment | 13 | 10,206,774 | 9,717,889 |
| Prepaid land lease payments | 14 | 94,062 | 96,283 |
| Prepayments for long term assets | 19 | 282,394 | 208,984 |
| Other intangible assets | 15 | 97,802 | – |
| Available for sale investment | 16 | 100,000 | 100,000 |
| Deferred tax assets | 26 | 16,271 | 5,171 |
| Total non-current assets | | 10,797,303 | 10,128,327 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Inventories | 17 | 797,129 | 1,050,596 |
| Trade and bills receivables | 18 | 240,750 | 128,670 |
| Prepayments, deposits and other receivables | 19 | 193,164 | 181,763 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 24 | – | 3,584 |
| Pledged deposits | 20 | 513,829 | 334,588 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 20 | 125,644 | 102,459 |
| Total current assets | | 1,870,516 | 1,801,660 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Trade and bills payables | 21 | 1,772,353 | 1,661,073 |
| Receipts in advance, other payables and accruals | 22 | 1,204,982 | 800,220 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 24 | 44,118 | 540 |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | 23 | 2,380,062 | 2,380,157 |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | 37(d)(ii) | – | 1,482,375 |
| Income tax payable | | 10,760 | 18,750 |
| Total current liabilities | | 5,412,275 | 6,343,115 |
| NET CURRENT LIABILITIES | | (3,541,759) | (4,541,455) |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 7,255,544 | 5,586,872 |

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

31 December 2017

| | Notes | 31 December 2017 RMB'000 | 31 December 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-----------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | | |
| Convertible bonds | 25 | 156,763 | – |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | 23 | 1,769,390 | – |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | 37(d)(ii) | 4,401 | 1,399,900 |
| Deferred tax liabilities | 26 | 18,337 | 3,640 |
| Other long term payable | 27 | 161,000 | 161,000 |
| Total non-current liabilities | | 2,109,891 | 1,564,540 |
| Net assets | | 5,145,653 | 4,022,332 |
| EQUITY | | | |
| Equity attributable to owners of the parent | | | |
| Share capital | 28 | 1,091,561 | 962,949 |
| Reserves | 30 | 4,054,092 | 3,059,383 |
| Total equity | | 5,145,653 | 4,022,332 |

WANG Di
Director

WANG Yong
Director

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity

Year ended 31 December 2017

| | Attributable to owners of the parent | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Share capital RMB'000 (note 28) | Contributed surplus RMB'000 | Other reserve RMB'000 | Statutory surplus reserve RMB'000 (note 30(a)) | Share option reserve RMB'000 (note 29) | Special reserve RMB'000 (note 30(b)) | Exchange fluctuation reserve RMB'000 | Retained profits RMB'000 | Total equity RMB'000 |
| At 1 January 2016 | 962,949 | 78,938 | 297,069 | 459,185 | 406 | 156,355 | (8,576) | 1,998,640 | 3,944,966 |
| Profit for the year | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 332,589 | 332,589 |
| Other comprehensive loss for the year: | | | | | | | | | |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations | - | - | - | - | - | - | (15,724) | - | (15,724) |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | - | - | - | - | - | - | (15,724) | 332,589 | 316,865 |
| Profit appropriated to reserves | - | - | - | 21,676 | - | 3,990 | - | (25,666) | - |
| Utilised special reserve | - | - | - | - | - | (2,217) | - | 2,217 | - |
| Reversal of capital contribution previously recognised | - | - | (240,985) | - | - | - | - | - | (240,985) |
| Equity-settled share option expenses (note 29) | - | - | - | - | 1,486 | - | - | - | 1,486 |
| At 31 December 2016 | 962,949 | 78,938* | 56,084* | 480,861* | 1,892* | 158,128* | (24,300)* | 2,307,780* | 4,022,332 |

| | Attributable to owners of the parent | | | | | | | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------|-------------------------|
| | Share capital RMB'000 (note 28) | Contributed surplus RMB'000 | Other reserve RMB'000 | Statutory surplus reserve RMB'000 (note 30(a)) | Share option reserve RMB'000 (note 29) | Special reserve RMB'000 (note 30(b)) | Exchange fluctuation reserve RMB'000 | Retained profits RMB'000 | Total equity RMB'000 |
| At 1 January 2017 | 962,949 | 78,938* | 56,084* | 480,861* | 1,892* | 158,128* | (24,300)* | 2,307,780* | 4,022,332 |
| Profit for the year | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 898,053 | 898,053 |
| Other comprehensive income for the year: | | | | | | | | | |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14,644 | - | 14,644 |
| Total comprehensive income for the year | - | - | - | - | - | - | 14,644 | 898,053 | 912,697 |
| Profit appropriated to reserves | - | - | - | 94,659 | - | 34,495 | - | (129,154) | - |
| Utilised special reserve | - | - | - | - | - | (27,587) | - | 27,587 | - |
| Share-based payment (note 15) | - | - | 81,585 | - | - | - | - | - | 81,585 |
| Share options exercised (note 28) | 3,275 | - | - | - | (608) | - | - | - | 2,667 |
| Issued of shares (note 28) | 128,364 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 128,364 |
| Share issue expenses (note 28) | (3,027) | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | (3,027) |
| Equity-settled share option expenses (note 29) | - | - | - | - | 1,035 | - | - | - | 1,035 |
| At 31 December 2017 | 1,091,561 | 78,938* | 137,669* | 575,520* | 2,319* | 165,036* | (9,656)* | 3,104,266* | 5,145,653 |

* These reserve accounts comprise the consolidated reserves of RMB4,054,092,000 (2016: RMB3,059,383,000) in the consolidated statement of financial position.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 December 2017

| | Notes | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-------|--------------------|-----------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Profit before tax | | 1,103,316 | 426,524 |
| Adjustments for: | | | |
| Finance costs | 7 | 328,680 | 336,060 |
| Interest income | 5 | (8,356) | (6,975) |
| Exchange differences, net | 5 | (5,011) | (770) |
| Depreciation | 6 | 355,192 | 347,321 |
| Recognition of prepaid land lease payments | 6 | 2,221 | 2,221 |
| Amortisation of other intangible assets | 6 | 26,377 | – |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | 6 | 1,035 | 1,486 |
| Impairment of other receivables | 6 | 21,610 | – |
| Write-back of inventories to net realisable value | 6 | (2,157) | (6,405) |
| Fair value losses/(gains) on derivative financial instruments | 6 | 4,041 | (698) |
| Fair value losses on embedded derivatives component of convertible bonds | 6 | 4,007 | – |
| Losses/(gains) on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment | 6 | 8,774 | (77) |
| | | 1,839,729 | 1,098,687 |
| Decrease/(increase) in inventories | | 255,624 | (384,824) |
| Increase in trade and bills receivables | | (112,504) | (67,996) |
| Increase in prepayments, deposits and other receivables | | (35,288) | (10,176) |
| Increase in trade and bills payables | | 112,780 | 176,534 |
| Increase in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals | | 427,499 | 32,363 |
| Cash generated from operations | | 2,487,840 | 844,588 |
| Interest received | | 10,634 | 6,090 |
| Government grants received | | – | 651 |
| PRC tax paid | | (209,656) | (38,947) |
| Net cash flows from operating activities | | 2,288,818 | 812,382 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Purchases of items of property, plant and equipment | | (968,223) | (577,541) |
| Proceeds from disposal of items of property, plant and equipment | | 5,740 | 1,360 |
| Receipt of government grants for property, plants and equipment | | 7,620 | 2,500 |
| (Increase)/decrease in pledged time deposits | | (179,241) | 127,579 |
| Net cash flows used in investing activities | | (1,134,104) | (446,102) |

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended 31 December 2017

| | Note | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|------|--------------------|------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Proceeds from issue of shares | | 128,972 | – |
| New bank and other borrowings | | 6,053,270 | 3,551,674 |
| Decrease in borrowings from the ultimate holding company | | (2,893,615) | (463,121) |
| Capital element of finance lease rental payments | | (615,000) | – |
| Repayment of bank and other borrowings | | (3,643,040) | (3,266,181) |
| Proceeds from share options exercised | | 2,655 | – |
| Proceeds from issue of convertible bonds | | 190,513 | – |
| Interest paid | | (363,627) | (344,319) |
| Net cash flows used in financing activities | | (1,139,872) | (521,947) |
| NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year | | 102,459 | 271,764 |
| Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net | | 8,343 | (13,638) |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR | | 125,644 | 102,459 |
| ANALYSIS OF BALANCES OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | | | |
| Cash and bank balances | 20 | 125,644 | 102,459 |
| Cash and cash equivalents as stated in the statement of cash flows | | 125,644 | 102,459 |

Notes to Financial Statements

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1. CORPORATE AND GROUP INFORMATION

Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited (the “**Company**”) is a limited company and was incorporated in Hong Kong on 6 August 2007. The Company’s registered office is located at Unit 2110, 21/F, Harbour Centre, 25 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong. The Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the “**Group**”) are principally engaged in the production and sale of steel products in the People’s Republic of China (“**PRC**”).

In the opinion of the directors, the immediate holding company of the Company is Xiwang Investment Limited Company (“**Xiwang Investment**”) (西王投資有限公司) which is wholly owned by Xiwang Holdings Limited (西王控股有限公司). During the year ended 31 December 2017, the ultimate holding company of the Company was Xiwang Group Company Limited (“**Xiwang Group**”) (西王集團有限公司).

Information about subsidiaries

Particulars of the Company’s subsidiaries are as follows:

| Company name | Place and date of incorporation/ registration and place of business | Issued ordinary/ registered share capital | Percentage of equity attributable to the Company | | Principal activities |
|--|---|---|--|------------|---------------------------------------|
| | | | Direct % | Indirect % | |
| Win Goal Trading Limited | Hong Kong 9 November 2012 | USD28,500,000 | 100 | – | Trading of commodities |
| Xiwang International Trade (Qingdao) Company Limited (西王國際貿易(青島)有限公司)* | PRC/Mainland China 24 June 2013 | USD16,380,000 | 100 | – | Trading of commodities |
| Shandong Xiwang Metal Material Company Limited (山東西王金屬材料有限公司)* | PRC/Mainland China 20 April 2004 | RMB407,359,000 | – | 100 | Production and sale of steel products |
| Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited, formerly known as Shandong Xiwang Steel Company Limited (西王特鋼有限公司·原名:山東西王鋼鐵有限公司)* | PRC/Mainland China 31 December 2003 | RMB240,000,000 | – | 100 | Production and sale of steel products |
| Xiwang Metal Science & Technology Company Limited, formerly known as Shandong Xiwang Special Steel Company Limited (“Xiwang Metal Science & Technology”) (西王金屬科技有限公司·原名:山東西王特鋼有限公司)* | PRC/Mainland China 29 December 2007 | USD111,800,000 | 100 | – | Production and sale of steel products |
| Shandong Xiwang Recycling Resources Company Limited (山東西王再生資源有限公司)* | PRC/Mainland China 7 May 2009 | RMB677,359,000 | – | 100 | Purchase and sale of steel scrap |

* Companies registered as limited liability companies under PRC law.

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31 December 2017

2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“**HKFRSs**”) (which include all Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards, Hong Kong Accounting Standards (“**HKASs**”) and Interpretations) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“**HKICPA**”), accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for derivative financial instruments which has been measured at fair value. These financial statements are presented in Renminbi (“**RMB**”) and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand except when otherwise indicated.

Going concern

As at 31 December 2017, the Group’s current liabilities exceeded its current assets by approximately RMB3,541.8 million (2016: RMB4,541.5 million). The directors of the Company have considered the following factors:

- the Group’s expected cash inflows from operating activities in 2018;
- the directors of the Company are also confident that bank borrowings, which will expire during the next 12 months, could be renewed upon expiration based on the Group’s past experience and credit standing; and
- other available sources of financing from banks and the ultimate shareholder given the Group’s credit history.

The directors of the Company believe that the Group has adequate resources to continue operation for the foreseeable future of not less than 12 months from the end of the reporting period. The directors of the Company therefore are of the opinion that it is appropriate to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the consolidated financial statements.

The validity of the going concern assumption on which the consolidated financial statements are prepared is dependent on the favourable factors as described above.

Should the going concern assumption be inappropriate, adjustments may have to be made to reflect the situation that assets may need to be realised at the amounts other than which they are currently recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position. In addition, the Group may have to provide for any further liabilities that might arise, and to reclassify non-current assets and non-current liabilities as current assets and current liabilities, respectively. The effects of these adjustments have not been reflected in the consolidated financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the “**Group**”) for the year ended 31 December 2017. A subsidiary is an entity (including a structured entity), directly or indirectly, controlled by the Company. Control is achieved when the Group is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and has the ability to affect those returns through its power over the investee (i.e., existing rights that give the Group the current ability to direct the relevant activities of the investee).

2.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION (Continued)

Basis of consolidation (Continued)

When the Company has, directly or indirectly, less than a majority of the voting or similar rights of an investee, the Group considers all relevant facts and circumstances in assessing whether it has power over an investee, including:

- (a) the contractual arrangement with the other vote holders of the investee;
- (b) rights arising from other contractual arrangements; and
- (c) the Group's voting rights and potential voting rights.

The financial statements of the subsidiaries are prepared for the same reporting period as the Company, using consistent accounting policies. The results of subsidiaries are consolidated from the date on which the Group obtains control, and continue to be consolidated until the date that such control ceases.

Profit or loss and each component of other comprehensive income are attributed to the owners of the parent of the Group and to the non-controlling interests, even if this results in the non-controlling interests having a deficit balance. All intra-group assets and liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

The Group reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control described above. A change in the ownership interest of a subsidiary, without a loss of control, is accounted for as an equity transaction.

If the Group loses control over a subsidiary, it derecognises (i) the assets (including goodwill) and liabilities of the subsidiary, (ii) the carrying amount of any non-controlling interest and (iii) the cumulative translation differences recorded in equity; and recognises (i) the fair value of the consideration received, (ii) the fair value of any investment retained and (iii) any resulting surplus or deficit in profit or loss. The Group's share of components previously recognised in other comprehensive income is reclassified to profit or loss or retained profits, as appropriate, on the same basis as would be required if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities.

2.2 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES

The Group has adopted the following revised HKFRSs for the first time for the current year's financial statements.

Amendments to HKAS 7
Amendments to HKAS 12
Amendments to HKFRS 12
included in *Annual Improvements to
HKFRSs 2014-2016 Cycle*

Disclosure Initiative
Recognition of Deferred Tax Assets for Unrealised Losses
*Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities: Clarification of
the Scope of HKFRS 12*

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

2.2 CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES (Continued)

None of the above amendments to HKFRSs has had a significant financial effect on these financial statements. Disclosure has been made in note 32 to the financial statements upon the adoption of amendments to HKAS 7, which require an entity to provide disclosures that enable users of financial statements to evaluate changes in liabilities arising from financing activities, including both changes arising from cash flows and non-cash changes.

2.3 ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

The Group has not applied the following new and revised HKFRSs, that have been issued but are not yet effective, in these financial statements.

| | |
|--|--|
| Amendments to HKFRS 2 | <i>Classification and Measurement of Share-based Payment Transactions¹</i> |
| Amendments to HKFRS 4 | <i>Applying HKFRS 9 Financial Instruments with HKFRS 4 Insurance Contracts¹</i> |
| HKFRS 9 | <i>Financial Instruments¹</i> |
| Amendments to HKFRS 9 | <i>Prepayment Features with Negative Compensation²</i> |
| Amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28 (2011) | <i>Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture³</i> |
| HKFRS 15 | <i>Revenue from Contracts with Customers¹</i> |
| Amendments to HKFRS 15 | <i>Clarifications to HKFRS 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers¹</i> |
| HKFRS 16 | <i>Leases²</i> |
| Amendments to HKAS 40 | <i>Transfers of Investment Property¹</i> |
| HK(IFRIC)-Int 22 | <i>Foreign Currency Transactions and Advance Consideration¹</i> |
| HK(IFRIC)-Int 23 | <i>Uncertainty over Income Tax Treatments²</i> |
| <i>Annual Improvements 2014-2016 Cycle</i> | <i>Amendments to HKFRS 1 and HKAS 28¹</i> |

¹ Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018

² Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2019

³ No mandatory effective date yet determined but available for adoption

2.3 ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (Continued)

Further information about those HKFRSs that are expected to be applicable to the Group is described below:

The HKICPA issued amendments to HKFRS 2 in August 2016 that address three main areas: the effects of vesting conditions on the measurement of a cash-settled share-based payment transaction; the classification of a share-based payment transaction with net settlement features for withholding a certain amount in order to meet an employee's tax obligation associated with the share-based payment; and the accounting where a modification to the terms and conditions of a share-based payment transaction changes its classification from cash-settled to equity-settled. The amendments clarify that the approach used to account for vesting conditions when measuring equity-settled share-based payments also applies to cash-settled share-based payments. The amendments introduce an exception so that a share-based payment transaction with net share settlement features for withholding a certain amount in order to meet the employee's tax obligation is classified in its entirety as an equity-settled share-based payment transaction when certain conditions are met.

Furthermore, the amendments clarify that if the terms and conditions of a cash-settled share-based payment transaction are modified, with the result that it becomes an equity-settled share-based payment transaction, the transaction is accounted for as an equity-settled transaction from the date of the modification. On adoption, entities are required to apply the amendments without restating prior periods, but retrospective application is permitted if they elect to adopt for all three amendments and other criteria are met. The Group will adopt the amendments from 1 January 2018. The amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

In September 2014, the HKICPA issued the final version of HKFRS 9, bringing together all phases of the financial instruments project to replace HKAS 39 and all previous versions of HKFRS 9. The standard introduces new requirements for classification and measurement, impairment and hedge accounting. The Group will adopt HKFRS 9 from 1 January 2018. The Group will not restate comparative information and will recognise any transition adjustments against the opening balance of equity at 1 January 2018. During 2017, the Group has performed a detailed assessment of the impact of the adoption of HKFRS 9. The expected impacts related to the classification and measurement and the impairment requirements and are summarised as follows:

- (a) Classification and measurement
- The Group does not expect that the adoption of HKFRS 9 will have a significant impact on the classification and measurement of its financial assets. It expects to continue measuring at fair value all financial assets currently held at fair value. Equity investments currently held as available for sale will be measured at fair value through other comprehensive income as the investments are intended to be held for the foreseeable future and the Group expects to apply the option to present fair value changes in other comprehensive income. Gains and losses recorded in other comprehensive income for the equity investments cannot be recycled to profit or loss when the investments are derecognised.

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

2.3 ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (Continued)

(b) Impairment

HKFRS 9 requires an impairment on debt instruments recorded at amortised cost or at fair value through other comprehensive income, lease receivables, loan commitments and financial guarantee contracts that are not accounted for at fair value through profit or loss under HKFRS 9, to be recorded based on an expected credit loss model either on a twelve-month basis or a lifetime basis. The Group will apply the simplified approach and record lifetime expected losses that are estimated based on the present values of all cash shortfalls over the remaining life of all of its trade receivables. Furthermore, the Group will apply the general approach and record twelve-month expected credit losses that are estimated based on the possible default events on its other receivables within the next twelve months.

In general, the directors of the Company anticipate the application of the expected loss model of HKFRS 9 will result in earlier provision of credit losses which are not yet incurred in relation to the Group's financial assets measured at amortised costs and other items that are subject to the impairment provisions upon application of HKFRS 9 by the Group.

HKFRS 15, issued in July 2014, establishes a new five-step model to account for revenue arising from contracts with customers. Under HKFRS 15, revenue is recognised at an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for transferring goods or services to a customer. The principles in HKFRS 15 provide a more structured approach for measuring and recognising revenue. The standard also introduces extensive qualitative and quantitative disclosure requirements, including disaggregation of total revenue, information about performance obligations, changes in contract asset and liability account balances between periods and key judgements and estimates. The standard will supersede all current revenue recognition requirements under HKFRSs. Either a full retrospective application or a modified retrospective adoption is required on the initial application of the standard. In June 2016, the HKICPA issued amendments to HKFRS 15 to address the implementation issues on identifying performance obligations, application guidance on principal versus agent and licences of intellectual property, and transition. The amendments are also intended to help ensure a more consistent application when entities adopt HKFRS 15 and decrease the cost and complexity of applying the standard. The Group plans to adopt the transitional provisions in HKFRS 15 to recognise the cumulative effect of initial adoption as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained earnings at 1 January 2018. In addition, the Group plans to apply the new requirements only to contracts that are not completed before 1 January 2018. The Group expects that the transitional adjustment to be made on 1 January 2018 upon initial adoption of HKFRS 15 will not be material.

2.3 ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (Continued)

HKFRS 16, issued in May 2016, replaces HKAS 17 *Leases*, HK(IFRIC)-Int 4 *Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease*, HK(SIC)-Int 15 *Operating Leases – Incentives* and HK(SIC)-Int 27 *Evaluating the Substance of Transactions Involving the Legal Form of a Lease*. The standard sets out the principles for the recognition, measurement, presentation and disclosure of leases and requires lessees to recognise assets and liabilities for most leases. The standard includes two elective recognition exemptions for lessees – leases of low-value assets and short-term leases. At the commencement date of a lease, a lessee will recognise a liability to make lease payments (i.e., the lease liability) and an asset representing the right to use the underlying asset during the lease term (i.e., the right-of-use asset). The right-of-use asset is subsequently measured at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses unless the right-of-use asset meets the definition of investment property in HKAS 40, or relates to a class of property, plant and equipment to which the revaluation model is applied. The lease liability is subsequently increased to reflect the interest on the lease liability and reduced for the lease payments. Lessees will be required to separately recognise the interest expense on the lease liability and the depreciation expense on the right-of-use asset. Lessees will also be required to remeasure the lease liability upon the occurrence of certain events, such as change in the lease term and change in future lease payments resulting from a change in an index or rate used to determine those payments. Lessees will generally recognise the amount of the remeasurement of the lease liability as an adjustment to the right-of-use asset. Lessor accounting under HKFRS 16 is substantially unchanged from the accounting under HKAS 17. Lessors will continue to classify all leases using the same classification principle as in HKAS 17 and distinguish between operating leases and finance leases. HKFRS 16 requires lessees and lessors to make more extensive disclosures than under HKAS 17.

Lessees can choose to apply the standard using either a full retrospective or a modified retrospective approach. The Group expects to adopt HKFRS 16 from 1 January 2019. The Group is currently assessing the impact of HKFRS 16 upon adoption and is considering whether it will choose to take advantage of the practical expedients available and which transition approach and reliefs will be adopted. As disclosed in note 35 to the financial statements, at 31 December 2017, the Group had future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases in aggregate of approximately RMB17,256,000. Upon adoption of HKFRS 16, certain amounts included therein may need to be recognised as new right-of-use assets and lease liabilities. Further analysis, however, will be needed to determine the amount of new rights of use assets and lease liabilities to be recognised, including, but not limited to, any amounts relating to leases of low-value assets and short term leases, other practical expedients and reliefs chosen, and new leases entered into before the date of adoption.

Notes to Financial Statements

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2.3 ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS (Continued)

HK(IFRIC)-Int 22, issued in June 2017, provides guidance on how to determine the date of the transaction when applying HKAS 21 to the situation where an entity receives or pays advance consideration in a foreign currency and recognises a non-monetary asset or liability. The interpretation clarifies that the date of the transaction for the purpose of determining the exchange rate to use on initial recognition of the related asset, expense or income (or part of it) is the date on which an entity initially recognises the non-monetary asset (such as a prepayment) or non-monetary liability (such as deferred income) arising from the payment or receipt of the advance consideration. If there are multiple payments or receipts in advance of recognising the related item, the entity must determine the transaction date for each payment or receipt of the advance consideration. Entities may apply the interpretation on a full retrospective basis or on a prospective basis, either from the beginning of the reporting period in which the entity first applies the interpretation or the beginning of the prior reporting period presented as comparative information in the financial statements of the reporting period in which the entity first applies the interpretation. The Group expects to adopt the interpretation prospectively from 1 January 2018. The amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

HK(IFRIC)-Int 23, issued in July 2017, addresses the accounting for income taxes (current and deferred) when tax treatments involve uncertainty that affects the application of HKAS 12 (often referred to as "uncertain tax positions"). The interpretation does not apply to taxes or levies outside the scope of HKAS 12, nor does it specifically include requirements relating to interest and penalties associated with uncertain tax treatments. The interpretation specifically addresses (i) whether an entity considers uncertain tax treatments separately; (ii) the assumptions an entity makes about the examination of tax treatments by taxation authorities; (iii) how an entity determines taxable profits or tax losses, tax bases, unused tax losses, unused tax credits and tax rates; and (iv) how an entity considers changes in facts and circumstances. The interpretation is to be applied retrospectively, either fully retrospectively without the use of hindsight or retrospectively with the cumulative effect of application as an adjustment to the opening equity at the date of initial application, without the restatement of comparative information. The Group expects to adopt the interpretation from 1 January 2019. The amendments are not expected to have any significant impact on the Group's financial statements.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Business combinations and goodwill

Business combinations are accounted for using the acquisition method. The consideration transferred is measured at the acquisition date fair value which is the sum of the acquisition date fair values of assets transferred by the Group, liabilities assumed by the Group to the former owners of the acquiree and the equity interests issued by the Group in exchange for control of the acquiree. For each business combination, the Group elects whether to measure the non-controlling interests in the acquiree that are present ownership interests and entitle their holders to a proportionate share of net assets in the event of liquidation either at fair value or at the proportionate share of the acquiree's identifiable net assets. All other components of non-controlling interests are measured at fair value. Acquisition-related costs are expensed as incurred.

When the Group acquires a business, it assesses the financial assets and liabilities assumed for appropriate classification and designation in accordance with the contractual terms, economic circumstances and pertinent conditions as at the acquisition date. This includes the separation of embedded derivatives in host contracts of the acquiree.

If the business combination is achieved in stages, the previously held equity interest is remeasured at its acquisition date fair value and any resulting gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss.

Any contingent consideration to be transferred by the acquirer is recognised at fair value at the acquisition date. Contingent consideration classified as an asset or liability is measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in profit or loss. Contingent consideration that is classified as equity is not remeasured and subsequent settlement is accounted for within equity.

Fair value measurement

The Group measures its derivative financial instruments at fair value at the end of each reporting period. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value measurement is based on the presumption that the transaction to sell the asset or transfer the liability takes place either in the principal market for the asset or liability, or in the absence of a principal market, in the most advantageous market for the asset or liability. The principal or the most advantageous market must be accessible by the Group. The fair value of an asset or a liability is measured using the assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, assuming that market participants act in their economic best interest.

A fair value measurement of a non-financial asset takes into account a market participant's ability to generate economic benefits by using the asset in its highest and best use or by selling it to another market participant that would use the asset in its highest and best use.

The Group uses valuation techniques that are appropriate in the circumstances and for which sufficient data are available to measure fair value, maximising the use of relevant observable inputs and minimising the use of unobservable inputs.

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2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Fair value measurement (Continued)

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within the fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

- Level 1: based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2: based on valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is observable, either directly or indirectly
- Level 3: based on valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable

For assets and liabilities that are recognised in the financial statements on a recurring basis, the Group determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by reassessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Impairment of non-financial assets

Where an indication of impairment exists, or when annual impairment testing for an asset is required (other than inventories, deferred tax assets and financial assets), the asset's recoverable amount is estimated. An asset's recoverable amount is the higher of the asset's or cash-generating unit's value in use and its fair value less costs to sell, and is determined for an individual asset, unless the asset does not generate cash inflows that are largely independent of those from other assets or groups of assets, in which case the recoverable amount is determined for the cash-generating unit to which the asset belongs.

An impairment loss is recognised only if the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its recoverable amount. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset. An impairment loss is charged to the statement of profit or loss in the period in which it arises in those expense categories consistent with the function of the impaired asset.

An assessment is made at the end of each reporting period as to whether there is an indication that previously recognised impairment losses may no longer exist or may have decreased. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount is estimated. A previously recognised impairment loss of an asset other than goodwill and certain financial assets is reversed only if there has been a change in the estimates used to determine the recoverable amount of that asset, but not to an amount higher than the carrying amount that would have been determined (net of any depreciation/amortisation) had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of such an impairment loss is credited to the statement of profit or loss in the period in which it arises.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Related parties

A party is considered to be related to the Group if:

- (a) the party is a person or a close member of that person's family and that person
 - (i) has control or joint control over the Group;
 - (ii) has significant influence over the Group; or
 - (iii) is a member of the key management personnel of the Group or of a parent of the Group;

or

- (b) the party is an entity where any of the following conditions applies:
 - (i) the entity and the Group are members of the same group;
 - (ii) one entity is an associate or joint venture of the other entity (or of a parent, subsidiary or fellow subsidiary of the other entity);
 - (iii) the entity and the Group are joint ventures of the same third party;
 - (iv) one entity is a joint venture of a third entity and the other entity is an associate of the third entity;
 - (v) the entity is a post-employment benefit plan for the benefit of employees of either the Group or an entity related to the Group;
 - (vi) the entity is controlled or jointly controlled by a person identified in (a);
 - (vii) a person identified in (a)(i) has significant influence over the entity or is a member of the key management personnel of the entity (or of a parent of the entity); and
 - (viii) the entity, or any member of a group of which it is a part, provides key management personnel services to the Group or to the parent of the Group.

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2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Property, plant and equipment and depreciation

Property, plant and equipment, other than construction in progress, are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. When an item of property, plant and equipment is classified as held for sale or when it is part of a disposal group classified as held for sale, it is not depreciated and is accounted for in accordance with HKFRS 5. The cost of an item of property, plant and equipment comprises its purchase price and any directly attributable costs of bringing the asset to its working condition and location for its intended use.

Expenditure incurred after items of property, plant and equipment have been put into operation, such as repairs and maintenance, is normally charged to the statement of profit or loss in the period in which it is incurred. In situations where the recognition criteria are satisfied, the expenditure for a major inspection is capitalised in the carrying amount of the asset as a replacement. Where significant parts of property, plant and equipment are required to be replaced at intervals, the Group recognises such parts as individual assets with specific useful lives and depreciates them accordingly.

Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line basis to write off the cost of each item of property, plant and equipment to its residual value over its estimated useful life. The principal annual rates used for this purpose are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Buildings | 2.5% – 3.3% |
| Machinery and equipment | 5% – 6.6% |
| Motor vehicles | 20% |
| Office equipment and fixtures | 20% |

Where parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, the cost of that item is allocated on a reasonable basis among the parts and each part is depreciated separately. Residual values, useful lives and the depreciation method are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at least at each financial year end.

An item of property, plant and equipment including any significant part initially recognised is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected from its use or disposal. Any gain or loss on disposal or retirement recognised in the statement of profit or loss in the year the asset is derecognised is the difference between the net sales proceeds and the carrying amount of the relevant asset.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Property, plant and equipment and depreciation (Continued)

Construction in progress represents buildings, machinery and equipment under construction, which are stated at cost less any impairment losses, and are not depreciated. Cost comprises the direct costs of construction and capitalised borrowing costs on related borrowed funds during the period of construction. Construction in progress is reclassified to the appropriate category of property, plant and equipment when completed and ready for use.

Other intangible assets (other than goodwill)

Intangible assets acquired separately are measured on initial recognition at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is the fair value at the date of acquisition. The useful lives of intangible assets are assessed to be either finite or indefinite. Intangible assets with finite lives are subsequently amortised over the useful economic life and assessed for impairment whenever there is an indication that the intangible asset may be impaired. The amortisation period and the amortisation method for an intangible asset with a finite useful life are reviewed at least at each financial year end.

Intellectual properties

Purchased patents and licences are stated at cost less any impairment losses and are amortised on the straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of 10 years.

Software

Software are stated at cost less any impairment losses and are amortised on the straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of 10 years.

Leases

Leases that transfer substantially all the rewards and risks of ownership of assets to the Group, other than legal title, are accounted for as finance leases. At the inception of a finance lease, the cost of the leased asset is capitalised at the present value of the minimum lease payments and recorded together with the obligation, excluding the interest element, to reflect the purchase and financing. Assets held under capitalised finance leases, including prepaid land lease payments under finance leases, are included in property, plant and equipment, and depreciated over the shorter of the lease terms and the estimated useful lives of the assets. The finance costs of such leases are charged to the statement of profit or loss so as to provide a constant periodic rate of charge over the lease terms.

Assets acquired through hire purchase contracts of a financing nature are accounted for as finance leases, but are depreciated over their estimated useful lives.

Leases where substantially all the rewards and risks of ownership of assets remain with the lessor are accounted for as operating leases. Where the Group is the lessor, assets leased by the Group under operating leases are included in non-current assets, and rentals receivable under the operating leases are credited to the consolidated statement of profit or loss on the straight-line basis over the lease terms. Where the Group is the lessee, rentals payable under the operating leases net of any incentives received from the lessor are charged to the statement of profit or loss on the straight-line basis over the lease terms.

Prepaid land lease payments under operating leases are initially stated at cost and subsequently recognised on the straight-line basis over the lease terms.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Investments and other financial assets

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial assets are classified, at initial recognition, as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables, and available for sale financial investments, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate. When financial assets are recognised initially, they are measured at fair value, plus transaction costs that are attributable to the acquisition of the financial assets, except in the case of financial assets recorded at fair value through profit or loss.

All regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date, that is, the date that the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Regular way purchases or sales are purchases or sales of financial assets that require delivery of assets within the period generally established by regulation or convention in the marketplace.

Subsequent measurement

The subsequent measurement of financial assets depends on their classification as follows:

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss include financial assets held for trading and financial assets designated upon initial recognition as at fair value through profit or loss. Financial assets are classified as held for trading if they are acquired for the purpose of sale in the near term. Derivatives, including separated embedded derivatives, are also classified as held for trading unless they are designated as effective hedging instruments as defined by HKAS 39.

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are carried in the statement of financial position at fair value with positive net changes in fair value presented as other income and gains and negative net changes in fair value presented as finance costs in the statement of profit or loss. These net fair value changes do not include any dividends or interest earned on these financial assets, which are recognised in accordance with the policies set out for "Revenue recognition" below.

Financial assets designated upon initial recognition as at fair value through profit or loss are designated at the date of initial recognition and only if the criteria in HKAS 39 are satisfied.

Derivatives embedded in host contracts are accounted for as separate derivatives and recorded at fair value if their economic characteristics and risks are not closely related to those of the host contracts and the host contracts are not held for trading or designated as at fair value through profit or loss. These embedded derivatives are measured at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in the statement of profit or loss. Reassessment only occurs if there is either a change in the terms of the contract that significantly modifies the cash flows that would otherwise be required or a reclassification of a financial asset out of the fair value through profit or loss category.

Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. After initial measurement, such assets are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method less any allowance for impairment. Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and includes fees or costs that are an integral part of the effective interest rate. The effective interest rate amortisation is included in other income and gains in the statement of profit or loss. The loss arising from impairment is recognised in the statement of profit or loss in finance costs for loans and in other expenses for receivables.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Investments and other financial assets (Continued)

Subsequent measurement (Continued)

Available for sale financial investments

Available for sale financial investments are non-derivative financial assets in listed and unlisted equity investments and debt securities. Equity investments classified as available for sale are those which are neither classified as held for trading nor designated as at fair value through profit or loss. Debt securities in this category are those which are intended to be held for an indefinite period of time and which may be sold in response to needs for liquidity or in response to changes in market conditions.

After initial recognition, available for sale financial investments are subsequently measured at fair value, with unrealised gains or losses recognised as other comprehensive income in the available for sale investment revaluation reserve until the investment is derecognised, at which time the cumulative gain or loss is recognised in the statement of profit or loss in other income, or until the investment is determined to be impaired, when the cumulative gain or loss is reclassified from the available for sale investment revaluation reserve to the statement of profit or loss in other gains or losses.

Interest and dividends earned whilst holding the available for sale financial investments are reported as interest income and dividend income, respectively and are recognised in the statement of profit or loss as other income in accordance with the policies set out for “Revenue recognition” below.

When the fair value of unlisted equity investments cannot be reliably measured because (a) the variability in the range of reasonable fair value estimates is significant for that investment or (b) the probabilities of the various estimates within the range cannot be reasonably assessed and used in estimating fair value, such investments are stated at cost less any impairment losses.

The Group evaluates whether the ability and intention to sell its available for sale financial assets in the near term are still appropriate. When, in rare circumstances, the Group is unable to trade these financial assets due to inactive markets, the Group may elect to reclassify these financial assets if management has the ability and intention to hold the assets for the foreseeable future or until maturity.

For a financial asset reclassified from the available for sale category, the fair value carrying amount at the date of reclassification becomes its new amortised cost and any previous gain or loss on that asset that has been recognised in equity is amortised to profit or loss over the remaining life of the investment using the effective interest rate. Any difference between the new amortised cost and the maturity amount is also amortised over the remaining life of the asset using the effective interest rate. If the asset is subsequently determined to be impaired, then the amount recorded in equity is reclassified to the statement of profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial assets

A financial asset (or, where applicable, a part of a financial asset or part of a group of similar financial assets) is primarily derecognised (i.e., removed from the Group’s consolidated statement of financial position) when:

- the rights to receive cash flows from the asset have expired; or
- the Group has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from the asset or has assumed an obligation to pay the received cash flows in full without material delay to a third party under a “pass-through” arrangement; and either (a) the Group has transferred substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, or (b) the Group has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset, but has transferred control of the asset.

Notes to Financial Statements

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2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Derecognition of financial assets (Continued)

When the Group has transferred its rights to receive cash flows from an asset or has entered into a pass-through arrangement, it evaluates if and to what extent it has retained the risk and rewards of ownership of the asset. When it has neither transferred nor retained substantially all the risks and rewards of the asset nor transferred control of the asset, the Group continues to recognise the transferred asset to the extent of the Group's continuing involvement. In that case, the Group also recognises an associated liability. The transferred asset and the associated liability are measured on a basis that reflects the rights and obligations that the Group has retained.

Continuing involvement that takes the form of a guarantee over the transferred asset is measured at the lower of the original carrying amount of the asset and the maximum amount of consideration that the Group could be required to repay.

Impairment of financial assets

The Group assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. An impairment exists if one or more events that occurred after the initial recognition of the asset have an impact on the estimated future cash flows of the financial asset or the group of financial assets that can be reliably estimated. Evidence of impairment may include indications that a debtor or a group of debtors is experiencing significant financial difficulty, default or delinquency in interest or principal payments, the probability that they will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation and observable data indicating that there is a measurable decrease in the estimated future cash flows, such as changes in arrears or economic conditions that correlate with defaults.

Financial assets carried at amortised cost

For financial assets carried at amortised cost, the Group first assesses individually whether objective evidence of impairment exists individually for financial assets that are individually significant, or collectively for financial assets that are not individually significant. If the Group determines that no objective evidence of impairment exists for an individually assessed financial asset, whether significant or not, it includes the asset in a group of financial assets with similar credit risk characteristics and collectively assesses them for impairment. Assets that are individually assessed for impairment and for which an impairment loss is, or continues to be, recognised are not included in a collective assessment of impairment.

The amount of any impairment loss identified is measured as the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows (excluding future credit losses that have not been incurred). The present value of the estimated future cash flows is discounted at the financial asset's original effective interest rate (i.e., the effective interest rate computed at initial recognition).

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Impairment of financial assets (Continued)

Financial assets carried at amortised cost (Continued)

The carrying amount of the asset is reduced through the use of an allowance account and the amount of the loss is recognised in the statement of profit or loss. Interest income continues to be accrued on the reduced carrying amount using the rate of interest used to discount the future cash flows for the purpose of measuring the impairment loss. Loans and receivables together with any associated allowance are written off when there is no realistic prospect of future recovery and all collateral has been realised or has been transferred to the Group.

If, in a subsequent period, the amount of the estimated impairment loss increases or decreases because of an event occurring after the impairment was recognised, the previously recognised impairment loss is increased or reduced by adjusting the allowance account. If a future write-off is later recovered, the recovery is credited to other expenses in the statement of profit or loss.

Available for sale financial investments

For available for sale financial investments, the Group assesses at the end of each reporting period whether there is objective evidence that an investment or a group of investments is impaired.

If an available for sale asset is impaired, an amount comprising the difference between its cost (net of any principal payment and amortisation) and its current fair value, less any impairment loss previously recognised in the statement of profit or loss, is removed from other comprehensive income and recognised in the statement of profit or loss.

In the case of equity investments classified as available for sale, objective evidence would include a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of an investment below its cost. "Significant" is evaluated against the original cost of the investment and "prolonged" against the period in which the fair value has been below its original cost. Where there is evidence of impairment, the cumulative loss – measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that investment previously recognised in the statement of profit or loss – is removed from other comprehensive income and recognised in the statement of profit or loss. Impairment losses on equity instruments classified as available for sale are not reversed through the statement of profit or loss. Increases in their fair value after impairment are recognised directly in other comprehensive income.

The determination of what is "significant" or "prolonged" requires judgement. In making this judgement, the Group evaluates, among other factors, the duration or extent to which the fair value of an investment is less than its cost.

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Financial liabilities

Initial recognition and measurement

Financial liabilities are classified, at initial recognition, as financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, loans and borrowings, or as derivatives designated as hedging instruments in an effective hedge, as appropriate.

All financial liabilities are recognised initially at fair value and, in the case of loans and borrowings, net of directly attributable transaction costs.

The Group's financial liabilities include trade and bills payables, other payables, derivative financial instruments, an amount due to the immediate holding company, amounts due to fellow subsidiaries, an amount due to the ultimate holding company and interest-bearing bank and other borrowings.

Subsequent measurement

The subsequent measurement of financial liabilities depends on their classification as follows:

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss

Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss include financial liabilities held for trading and financial liabilities designated upon initial recognition as at fair value through profit or loss.

Financial liabilities are classified as held for trading if they are acquired for the purpose of repurchasing in the near term. This category includes derivative financial instrument entered into by the Group that are not designated as hedging instruments in hedge relationships as defined by HKAS 39. Separated embedded derivatives are also classified as held for trading unless they are designated as effective hedging instruments. Gains or losses on liabilities held for trading are recognised in the statement of profit or loss. The net fair value gain or loss recognised in the statement of profit or loss does not include any interest charged on these financial liabilities.

Financial liabilities designated upon initial recognition as at fair value through profit or loss are designated at the date of initial recognition and only if the criteria in HKAS 39 are satisfied.

Loans and borrowings

After initial recognition, interest-bearing loans and borrowings are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest rate method unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost. Gains and losses are recognised in the statement of profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised as well as through the effective interest rate amortisation process.

Amortised cost is calculated by taking into account any discount or premium on acquisition and fees or costs that are an integral part of the effective interest rate. The effective interest rate amortisation is included in finance costs in the statement of profit or loss.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Financial liabilities (Continued)

Convertible bonds

If the conversion option of convertible bonds exhibits characteristics of an embedded derivative, it is separated from its liability component. On initial recognition, the derivative component of the convertible bonds is measured at fair value and presented as part of derivative financial instruments. Any excess of proceeds over the amount initially recognised as the derivative component is recognised as the liability component. Transaction costs are apportioned between the liability and derivative components of the convertible bonds based on the allocation of proceeds to the liability and derivative components when the instruments are initially recognised. The portion of the transaction costs relating to the liability component is recognised initially as part of the liability. The portion relating to the derivative component is recognised immediately in the statement of profit or loss.

Derecognition of financial liabilities

A financial liability is derecognised when the obligation under the liability is discharged or cancelled, or expires.

When an existing financial liability is replaced by another from the same lender on substantially different terms, or the terms of an existing liability are substantially modified, such an exchange or modification is treated as a derecognition of the original liability and a recognition of a new liability, and the difference between the respective carrying amounts is recognised in the statement of profit or loss.

Offsetting of financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset and the net amount is reported in the statement of financial position if there is a currently enforceable legal right to offset the recognised amounts and there is an intention to settle on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously.

Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost is determined on the weighted average basis and, in the case of work in progress and finished goods, comprises direct materials, direct labour and an appropriate proportion of overheads. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling prices less any estimated costs to be incurred to completion and disposal.

Cash and cash equivalents

For the purpose of the consolidated statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and demand deposits, and short term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible into known amounts of cash, are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value, and have a short maturity of generally within three months when acquired, less bank overdrafts which are repayable on demand and form an integral part of the Group's cash management.

For the purpose of the consolidated statement of financial position, cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and at banks, including term deposits, and assets similar in nature to cash, which are not restricted as to use.

Notes to Financial Statements

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2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Income tax expense

Income tax comprises current and deferred tax. Income tax relating to items recognised outside profit or loss is recognised outside profit or loss, either in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current tax assets and liabilities for the current and prior periods are measured at the amount expected to be recovered from or paid to the taxation authorities, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period, taking into consideration interpretations and practices prevailing in the countries in which the Group operates.

Deferred tax is provided, using the liability method, on all temporary differences at the end of the reporting period between the tax bases of assets and liabilities and their carrying amounts for financial reporting purposes.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for all taxable temporary differences, except:

- when the deferred tax liability arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss; and
- in respect of taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, when the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences can be controlled and it is probable that the temporary differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences, the carryforward of unused tax credits and any unused tax losses. Deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the deductible temporary differences, the carryforward of unused tax credits and unused tax losses can be utilised, except:

- when the deferred tax asset relating to the deductible temporary differences arises from the initial recognition of an asset or liability in a transaction that is not a business combination and, at the time of the transaction, affects neither the accounting profit nor taxable profit or loss; and
- in respect of deductible temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, deferred tax assets are only recognised to the extent that it is probable that the temporary differences will reverse in the foreseeable future and taxable profit will be available against which the temporary differences can be utilised.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Income tax expense (Continued)

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be utilised. Unrecognised deferred tax assets are reassessed at the end of each reporting period and are recognised to the extent that it has become probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the deferred tax asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured at the tax rates that are expected to apply to the period when the asset is realised or the liability is settled, based on tax rates (and tax laws) that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period.

Deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities are offset if and only if the Group has a legally enforceable right to set off current tax assets and current tax liabilities and the deferred taxes assets and deferred tax liabilities relate to income taxes levied by the same taxation authority on either the same taxable entity or different taxable entities which intend either to settle current tax liabilities and assets on a net basis, or to realise the assets and settle the liabilities simultaneously, in each future period in which significant amounts of deferred tax liabilities or assets are expected to be settled or recovered.

Government grants

Government grants are recognised at their fair value where there is reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attaching conditions will be complied with. When the grant relates to an expense item, it is recognised as income on a systematic basis over the periods that the costs, which it is intended to compensate, are expensed.

Where the grant relates to an asset, the fair value is credited to a deferred income account and is released to the statement of profit or loss over the expected useful life of the relevant asset by equal annual instalments or deducted from the carrying amount of the asset and released to the statement of profit or loss by way of a reduced depreciation charge.

Revenue recognition

Revenue is recognised when it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Group and when the revenue can be measured reliably on the following bases:

- (a) from the sale of goods, when the significant risks and rewards of ownership have been transferred to the buyer, provided that the Group maintains neither managerial involvement to the degree usually associated with ownership, nor effective control over the goods sold;
- (b) rental income, on a time proportion basis over the lease terms;
- (c) interest income, on an accrual basis using the effective interest method by applying the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts over the expected life of the financial instrument or a shorter period, when appropriate, to the net carrying amount of the financial asset; and
- (d) dividend income, when the shareholder's right to receive payment has been established.

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Share-based payments

The Company operates a share option scheme for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to eligible participants who contribute to the success of the Group's operations. Employees (including directors) of the Group receive remuneration in the form of share-based payments, whereby employees render services as consideration for equity instruments ("equity-settled transactions").

The cost of equity-settled transactions with employees is measured by reference to the fair value at the date at which they are granted. The fair value is determined by an external valuer using a binomial model, further details of which are given in note 29 to the financial statements.

The cost of equity-settled transactions is recognised in employee benefit expense, together with a corresponding increase in equity, over the period in which the performance and/or service conditions are fulfilled. The cumulative expense recognised for equity-settled transactions at the end of each reporting period until the vesting date reflects the extent to which the vesting period has expired and the Group's best estimate of the number of equity instruments that will ultimately vest. The charge or credit to the statement of profit or loss for a period represents the movement in the cumulative expense recognised as at the beginning and end of that period.

Service and non-market performance conditions are not taken into account when determining the grant date fair value of awards, but the likelihood of the conditions being met is assessed as part of the Group's best estimate of the number of equity instruments that will ultimately vest. Market performance conditions are reflected within the grant date fair value. Any other conditions attached to an award, but without an associated service requirement, are considered to be non-vesting conditions. Non-vesting conditions are reflected in the fair value of an award and lead to an immediate expensing of an award unless there are also service and/or performance conditions.

For awards that do not ultimately vest because non-market performance and/or service conditions have not been met, no expense is recognised. Where awards include a market or non-vesting condition, the transactions are treated as vesting irrespective of whether or not the market or non-vesting condition is satisfied, provided that all other performance and/or service conditions are satisfied.

Where the terms of an equity-settled award are modified, as a minimum an expense is recognised as if the terms had not been modified, if the original terms of the award are met. In addition, an expense is recognised for any modification that increases the total fair value of the share-based payments, or is otherwise beneficial to the employee as measured at the date of modification.

Where an equity-settled award is cancelled, it is treated as if it had vested on the date of cancellation, and any expense not yet recognised for the award is recognised immediately. This includes any award where non-vesting conditions within the control of either the Group or the employee are not met. However, if a new award is substituted for the cancelled award, and is designated as a replacement award on the date that it is granted, the cancelled and new awards are treated as if they were a modification of the original award, as described in the previous paragraph.

The dilutive effect of outstanding options is reflected as additional share dilution in the computation of earnings per share.

2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Other employee benefits

Pension scheme

The employees of the Group's subsidiaries which operate in Mainland China are required to participate in a central pension scheme operated by the local municipal government. These subsidiaries are required to contribute to the central pension scheme which are based on a certain percentage of the total salary of these employees. The contributions are charged to the statement of profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the central pension scheme.

Mandatory Provident Fund

The Company's subsidiaries, incorporated in Hong Kong, operate a defined contribution Mandatory Provident Fund retirement benefit scheme (the "MPF Scheme") under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance for all of its employees in Hong Kong. Contributions are made based on a percentage of the employees' basic salaries and are charged to the statement of profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the MPF Scheme. The assets of the MPF Scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund. The employer contributions vest fully with the employees when contributed into the MPF Scheme except for the employer voluntary contributions, which are refunded to the Company's subsidiaries which are incorporated in Hong Kong when an employee leaves employment prior to the contributions vesting fully, in accordance with the rules of the MPF Scheme.

Borrowing costs

Borrowing costs directly attributable to the acquisition, construction or production of qualifying assets, i.e., assets that necessarily take a substantial period of time to get ready for their intended use or sale, are capitalised as part of the cost of those assets. The capitalisation of such borrowing costs ceases when the assets are substantially ready for their intended use or sale. Investment income earned on the temporary investment of specific borrowings pending their expenditure on qualifying assets is deducted from the borrowing costs capitalised. All other borrowing costs are expensed in the period in which they are incurred. Borrowing costs consist of interest and other costs that an entity incurs in connection with the borrowing of funds.

Where funds have been borrowed generally, and used for the purpose of obtaining qualifying assets, a capitalisation rate ranging between 5% and 7% has been applied to the expenditure on the individual assets.

Dividends

Final dividends are recognised as a liability when they are approved by the shareholders in a general meeting. Proposed final dividends are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

Foreign currencies

These financial statements are presented in RMB, which is the Group's functional currency. Each entity in the Group determines its own functional currency and items included in the financial statements of each entity are measured using that functional currency. Foreign currency transactions recorded by the entities in the Group are initially recorded using their respective functional currency rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the functional currency rates of exchange ruling at the end of the reporting period. Differences arising on settlement or translation of monetary items are recognised in the statement of profit or loss.

Notes to Financial Statements

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2.4 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Foreign currencies (Continued)

Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the dates of the initial transactions. Non-monetary items measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was measured.

The functional currency of the Company is the Hong Kong dollar (“HKD”). The functional currency of the Company’s subsidiaries in Mainland China is RMB. As at the end of the reporting period, the assets and liabilities of these entities are translated into the presentation currency of RMB at the exchange rates prevailing at the end of the reporting period and their statements of profit or loss are translated into RMB at the weighted average exchange rates for the year.

The resulting exchange differences are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the exchange fluctuation reserve.

For the purpose of the consolidated statement of cash flows, the cash flows of overseas subsidiaries are translated into RMB at the exchange rates ruling at the dates of the cash flows. Frequently recurring cash flows of overseas subsidiaries which arise throughout the year are translated into RMB at the weighted average exchange rates for the year.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES

The preparation of the Group’s financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities, and their accompanying disclosures, and the disclosure of contingent liabilities. Uncertainty about these assumptions and estimates could result in outcomes that could require a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of the assets or liabilities affected in the future.

Judgements

In the process of applying the Group’s accounting policies, management has made the following judgements, apart from those involving estimations, which have the most significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements:

Derecognition of financial assets

Where the Group has transferred the right to receive cash flows arising from an asset but has not transferred or has retained substantially all risks and rewards associated with such asset, or has not transferred the controlling right in such asset, such asset shall be recognised and accounted for so long as the Group continues to be involved in such asset. If the Group has not transferred or has retained substantially all risks and rewards associated with the asset or transferred the controlling right in the asset, the exercise of significant judgement is often required, and estimations need to be made as to the extent of the Group’s continued involvement in the asset.

Estimation uncertainty

The key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year, are described below.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND ESTIMATES (Continued)

Estimation uncertainty (Continued)

Impairment of non-financial assets (other than goodwill)

The Group assesses whether there are any indicators of impairment for all non-financial assets at the end of each reporting period. Indefinite life intangible assets are tested for impairment annually and at other times when such an indicator exists. Other non-financial assets are tested for impairment when there are indicators that the carrying amounts may not be recoverable. An impairment exists when the carrying value of an asset or a cash-generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of its fair value less costs to sell and its value in use. The calculation of the fair value less costs to sell is based on available data from binding sales transactions in an arm's length transaction of similar assets or observable market prices less incremental costs for disposing of the asset. When value in use calculations are undertaken, management must estimate the expected future cash flows from the asset or cash-generating unit and choose a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows.

Useful lives and residual values of property, plant and equipment

In determining the useful life and residual value of an item of property, plant and equipment, the Group has to consider various factors, such as technical or commercial obsolescence arising from changes or improvements in production, or from changes in the market demand for the product or service output of the asset, the expected usage of the asset, the expected physical wear and tear, the care and maintenance of the asset, and legal or similar limits on the use of the asset. The estimation of the useful life of the asset is based on the experience of the Group with similar assets that are used in a similar way. Additional depreciation is made if the estimated useful lives and/or the residual values of items of property, plant and equipment are different from the previous estimation. Useful lives and residual values are reviewed, at each financial year end date based on changes in circumstances.

Recognition of the deferred tax liability for withholding taxes arising from the distributions of dividends

Deferred tax liabilities recognized for withholding taxes from the distribution of dividends from the subsidiaries in Mainland China according to the relevant tax jurisdictions are subject to estimation on the likely dividends declared in foreseeable future and the judgement on the applicable rate based on the tax treaty between mainland China and the jurisdiction of the foreign investors. A deferred tax liability is recognised for 5% withholding tax levied on 10% profits of the subsidiaries in Mainland China, where the Group considers that only about 10% profits of the subsidiaries in Mainland China will be distributed in the foreseeable future.

Impairment of available for sale financial assets

The Group classifies certain assets as available for sale and recognises movements of their fair values in equity. When the fair value declines, management makes assumptions about the decline in value to determine whether there is an impairment that should be recognised in the statement of profit or loss.

Deferred tax assets

Deferred tax assets are recognised for all deductible temporary differences and unused tax losses to the extent that it is probable that taxable profit will be available against which the losses can be utilised. Significant management judgement is required to determine the amount of deferred tax assets that can be recognised, based upon the likely timing and level of future taxable profits together with future tax planning strategies.

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4. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION

For management purposes, the Group is organised into business units based on their products and has four reportable operating segments as follows:

- (a) the ordinary steel segment, which engages in the production and sale of ordinary steel products;
- (b) the special steel segment, which engages in the production and sale of special steel products;
- (c) the trading of commodities segment, which mainly engages in the trading of commodities such as iron ore dust, pellets, steel billets and coke; and
- (d) the by-products segment, which includes the sale of by-products such as steel slag, steam and electricity.

Management monitors the results of the Group's operating segments separately for the purpose of making decisions about resources allocation and performance assessment. Segment performance is evaluated based on reportable segment profit, which is a measure of adjusted profit before tax.

Intersegment sales and transfers are transacted with reference to the selling prices used for sales made to third parties at the then prevailing market prices.

Geographical information

The Group generates substantially all of its revenue from customers domiciled in Mainland China. The principal assets and capital expenditure of the Group were located and incurred in Mainland China. Accordingly, no further geographical information is presented.

Information about major customers

For the years ended 31 December 2017 and 2016, no revenue from transactions with a single external customer amounted to 10% or more of the Group's total revenue.

4. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

The segment results and other segment items included in profit before tax for the reporting period are as follows:

| | Ordinary steel RMB'000 | Special steel RMB'000 | Trading of commodities RMB'000 | By-products RMB'000 | Consolidated RMB'000 |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Year ended 31 December 2017 | | | | | |
| Segment revenue: | | | | | |
| Sales to external customers | 7,473,866 | 2,547,073 | 1,992,394 | 349,145 | 12,362,478 |
| Cost of sales | (5,889,670) | (2,132,617) | (1,975,561) | (339,389) | (10,337,237) |
| Gross profit | 1,584,196 | 414,456 | 16,833 | 9,756 | 2,025,241 |
| Reconciliation: | | | | | |
| Other income and gains | | | | | 29,763 |
| Selling and distribution expenses | | | | | (102,651) |
| Administrative expenses | | | | | (98,044) |
| Research and development costs | | | | | (371,198) |
| Other expenses | | | | | (51,115) |
| Finance costs | | | | | (328,680) |
| Profit before tax | | | | | 1,103,316 |
| | Ordinary steel RMB'000 | Special steel RMB'000 | Trading of commodities RMB'000 | By-products RMB'000 | Consolidated RMB'000 |
| Year ended 31 December 2016 | | | | | |
| Segment revenue: | | | | | |
| Sales to external customers | 4,156,353 | 1,809,967 | 1,323,979 | 276,482 | 7,566,781 |
| Cost of sales | (3,378,050) | (1,547,900) | (1,303,982) | (268,460) | (6,498,392) |
| Gross profit | 778,303 | 262,067 | 19,997 | 8,022 | 1,068,389 |
| Reconciliation: | | | | | |
| Other income and gains | | | | | 22,173 |
| Selling and distribution expenses | | | | | (20,535) |
| Administrative expenses | | | | | (52,356) |
| Research and development costs | | | | | (253,293) |
| Other expenses | | | | | (1,794) |
| Finance costs | | | | | (336,060) |
| Profit before tax | | | | | 426,524 |

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5. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS

Revenue represents the net invoiced value of goods sold, net of value-added tax and government surcharges during the year.

An analysis of revenue, other income and gains are as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|
| Revenue | | |
| Sale of ordinary steel | 7,473,866 | 4,156,353 |
| Sale of special steel | 2,547,073 | 1,809,967 |
| Trading of commodities | 1,992,394 | 1,323,979 |
| Sale of by-products | 349,145 | 276,482 |
| | 12,362,478 | 7,566,781 |
| Other income | | |
| Bank interest income | 8,356 | 6,975 |
| Subsidy income | 12,868 | 651 |
| Write-back of inventories to net realisable value | 2,157 | 6,405 |
| Gains on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment | – | 77 |
| Others | 1,371 | 6,597 |
| Gains | | |
| Foreign exchange gains, net | 5,011 | 770 |
| Fair value gains on derivative financial instruments | – | 698 |
| Other income and gains | 29,763 | 22,173 |

6. PROFIT BEFORE TAX

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

| | Notes | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Cost of inventories sold | | 10,337,237 | 6,498,392 |
| Depreciation | 13 | 355,192 | 347,321 |
| Minimum lease payments under operating leases | | 3,434 | 2,584 |
| Amortisation of prepaid land lease payments | 14 | 2,221 | 2,221 |
| Amortisation of other intangible assets | 15 | 26,377 | – |
| Research and development costs | | 371,198 | 253,293 |
| Auditor's remuneration | | 1,750 | 1,750 |
| Employee benefit expense (including directors' remuneration): | | | |
| Wages and salaries | | 235,654 | 191,779 |
| Pension scheme contributions* | | 15,416 | 12,586 |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | 29 | 1,035 | 1,486 |
| Staff welfare expenses | | 3,125 | 7,180 |
| | | 255,230 | 213,031 |
| Foreign exchange differences, net | 5 | (5,011) | (770) |
| Impairment of other receivables** | 19 | 21,610 | – |
| Write-back of inventories to net realisable value | 5 | (2,157) | (6,405) |
| Losses/(gains) on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment** | 5 | 8,774 | (77) |
| Fair value losses/(gains) on derivative financial instruments (excluding embedded derivative component of convertible bonds)** | 5 | 4,041 | (698) |
| Fair value losses on embedded derivative component of convertible bonds** | 25 | 4,007 | – |

* As at the end of the reporting period, the Group had no forfeited contributions available to reduce its contributions to the pension scheme in future years.

** The impairment of other receivables, losses on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment and fair value losses on derivative financial instruments and embedded derivative component of convertible bonds are included in "Other expenses" in the consolidated statement of profit or loss.

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7. FINANCE COSTS

An analysis of finance costs is as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Interest on bank and other borrowings | 84,277 | 81,209 |
| Interest on a finance lease | 21,362 | – |
| Interest on convertible bonds (note 25) | 7,512 | – |
| Finance costs on bills discounted | 52,709 | 27,661 |
| Interest on borrowings from the ultimate holding company | 73,791 | 204,748 |
| Interest on borrowings from Xiwang Group Finance Company Limited (“Xiwang Finance”) (西王集團財務有限公司) | 130,354 | 60,800 |
| Total interest expense on financial liabilities not at fair value through profit or loss | 370,005 | 374,418 |
| Less: Interest capitalised | (41,325) | (38,358) |
| | 328,680 | 336,060 |

8. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION

Directors' remuneration for the year, disclosed pursuant to the Listing Rules, section 383(1)(a), (b), (c) and (f) of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance and Part 2 of the Companies (Disclosure of Information about Benefits of Directors) Regulation, is as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Fees | 230 | 218 |
| Other emoluments: | | |
| Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind | 794 | 427 |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | 500 | 900 |
| Pension scheme contributions | 33 | 25 |
| | 1,557 | 1,570 |

During 2016, two directors were granted share options, in respect of their services to the Group, under the share option scheme of the Company, further details of which are set out in note 29 to the financial statements. The fair value of such options, which has been recognised in the statement of profit or loss over the vesting period, was determined as at the date of grant and the amount included in the financial statements for the current year is included in the above directors' and chief executive's remuneration disclosures.

8. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION (Continued)**(a) Independent non-executive directors**

The fees paid to independent non-executive directors during the year were as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Mr. Leung Shu Sun Sunny | 130 | 130 |
| Mr. Yu Kou | 50 | 50 |
| Mr. Liu Xiangming* | - | 25 |
| Mr. Li Bangguang* | 50 | 13 |
| | 230 | 218 |

* On 31 March 2016, Mr. Liu Xiangming resigned as an independent non-executive director; and Mr. Li Bangguang was appointed as an independent non-executive director.

There were no other emoluments payable to the independent non-executive directors during the year (2016: Nil).

(b) Executive directors and non-executive directors

| | Fees RMB'000 | Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind RMB'000 | Equity-settled share option expenses RMB'000 | Pension scheme contributions RMB'000 | Total remuneration RMB'000 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 2017 | | | | | |
| Executive directors: | | | | | |
| Mr. Zhang Jian | - | 468 | - | 15 | 483 |
| Ms. Li Haixia | - | 220 | - | 12 | 232 |
| Mr. Sun Xinqu | - | 106 | 115 | 6 | 227 |
| | - | 794 | 115 | 33 | 942 |
| Non-executive directors: | | | | | |
| Mr. Wang Yong | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mr. Wang Di | - | - | 385 | - | 385 |
| | - | - | 385 | - | 385 |
| | - | 794 | 500 | 33 | 1,327 |

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8. DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION (Continued)

(b) Executive directors and non-executive directors (Continued)

| | Fees RMB'000 | Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind RMB'000 | Equity-settled share option expenses RMB'000 | Pension scheme contributions RMB'000 | Total remuneration RMB'000 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 2016 | | | | | |
| Executive directors: | | | | | |
| Mr. Zhang Jian | - | 285 | - | 14 | 299 |
| Ms. Li Haixia | - | 142 | - | 11 | 153 |
| Mr. Sun Xihu | - | - | 230 | - | 230 |
| | - | 427 | 230 | 25 | 682 |
| Non-executive directors: | | | | | |
| Mr. Wang Yong | - | - | - | - | - |
| Mr. Wang Di | - | - | 670 | - | 670 |
| Ms. Li Yiyi* | - | - | - | - | - |
| | - | - | 670 | - | 670 |
| | - | 427 | 900 | 25 | 1,352 |

* On 24 May 2016, Ms. Li Yiyi resigned as a non-executive director.

There was no arrangement under which a director waived or agreed to waive any remuneration during the year.

9. FIVE HIGHEST PAID EMPLOYEES

The five highest paid employees during the year did not include any director (2016: one director), details of whose remuneration are set out in note 8(b) above. Details of the remuneration for the year of the five (2016: four) non-director highest paid employees for the year are as follows:

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|----------------|---------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Salaries, allowances and benefits in kind | 2,667 | 2,083 |
| Performance-related bonuses | 1,138 | 240 |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | 257 | 152 |
| Pension scheme contributions | 43 | 42 |
| | 4,105 | 2,517 |

The number of non-director highest paid employees whose remuneration fell within the following bands is as follows:

| | Number of employees | |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|------|
| | 2017 | 2016 |
| Nil to RMB1,000,000 | 3 | 3 |
| RMB1,000,001 to RMB1,500,000 | 2 | 1 |
| | 5 | 4 |

During the year, no share options were granted to the non-director and non-chief executive highest paid employees (2016: Nil) in respect of their services to the Group.

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10. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 16.5% (2016: 16.5%) on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong during the year. Taxes on profits assessable in Mainland China have been calculated at the prevailing tax rates, based on existing legislation, interpretations and practices in respect thereof.

Pursuant to the PRC Corporate Income Tax Law effective on 1 January 2008, the PRC subsidiaries except for Xiwang Metal Science & Technology are subject to corporate income tax (“CIT”) at a statutory rate of 25% on their respective taxable income for the year ended 31 December 2017. Xiwang Metal Science & Technology is subject to CIT at a rate of 15% on its respective taxable income for the year ended 31 December 2017 as a national-grade high-tech enterprise.

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|----------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Current – Mainland China | | |
| Charge for the year | 201,666 | 108,084 |
| Deferred (note 26) | 3,597 | (14,149) |
| Total tax charge for the year | 205,263 | 93,935 |

The income tax charge for the year of RMB201,666,000 (2016: RMB108,084,000) is after deduction of the effect of the super deduction of research expenses of RMB29,055,000 (2016: RMB21,694,000). The super deduction of research expenses was approved by the local tax authorities in 2017.

10. INCOME TAX EXPENSE (Continued)

A reconciliation of the tax expense applicable to profit before tax at the applicable tax rate for the location in which the Company and the majority of its subsidiaries are domiciled to the tax expense at the effective tax rate, and a reconciliation of the applicable rate to the effective tax rate, are as follows:

| | 2017 | | 2016 | |
|--|------------------|----------------|----------|---------|
| | RMB'000 | % | RMB'000 | % |
| Profit before tax | 1,103,316 | | 426,524 | |
| Tax at the statutory tax rate | 275,829 | 16.5-25 | 106,524 | 16.5-25 |
| High and new technology enterprise tax preferential treatment | (81,434) | (7) | – | – |
| Expenses not deductible for tax | 10,691 | 1 | 10,965 | 3 |
| Effect of withholding tax at 5% on the distributable profits of the Group's PRC subsidiaries | 14,697 | 1 | 1,897 | 1 |
| Adjustments in respect of current tax of previous periods | 9,424 | 1 | (8,690) | (2) |
| Effect of super deduction of research expenses | (29,055) | (3) | (21,694) | (5) |
| Tax losses not recognised | 5,111 | 1 | 4,933 | 1 |
| Tax charge at the Group's effective tax rate | 205,263 | 19 | 93,935 | 22 |

The Group has tax losses arising in Hong Kong of approximately RMB102,169,000 as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB69,582,000), that are available for offsetting against future taxable profits of the Company in which the loss arose. The Group also has tax losses arising in Mainland China of RMB26,886,000 as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB27,951,000), that will expire in one to five years for offsetting against future taxable profits. A deferred tax asset has not been recognised as at the end of the reporting period in respect of the tax losses as the directors of the Company consider that it is uncertain of the extent that future profits will be available against which tax losses can be utilised in the foreseeable future.

11. DIVIDEND

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|---------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Proposed final dividend – RMB13 cents (2016: Nil) per ordinary share | 294,187 | – |

The proposed final dividend for the year is subject to the approval of the Company's shareholders at the forthcoming annual general meeting.

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

The calculation of the basic earnings per share amount is based on the profit for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent and the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year.

The calculation of the diluted earnings per share amount is based on the profit for the year attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent. The weighted average number of ordinary shares used in the calculation is the number of ordinary shares in issue during the year, as used in the basic earnings per share calculation, and the weighted average number of ordinary shares assumed to have been issued at no consideration on the deemed exercise or conversion of all dilutive potential ordinary shares into ordinary shares.

The calculations of basic and diluted earnings per share are based on:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| Earnings | | |
| Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent, used in the basic earnings per share calculation | 898,053 | 332,589 |
| Interest on convertible bonds, net of tax | 6,273 | – |
| Add: Fair value losses on the derivative component of the convertible bonds | 4,007 | – |
| Profit attributable to ordinary equity holders of the parent before interest on convertible bonds and fair value losses on the derivative component of the convertible bonds | 908,333 | 332,589 |
| | 2017 | 2016 (Restated) |
| Shares | | |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the year used in the basic earnings per share calculation | 2,034,137,899 | 2,006,666,666 |
| Effect of dilution – weighted average number of ordinary shares | | |
| Share options | 5,051,946 | 283,763 |
| Share-based payments | 100,000,000 | 100,000,000 |
| Convertible bonds | 27,187,836 | – |
| | 2,166,377,681 | 2,106,950,429 |

13. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

| | Buildings RMB'000 | Machinery and equipment RMB'000 | Motor vehicles RMB'000 | Office equipment and fixtures RMB'000 | Construction in progress RMB'000 (Restated) | Total RMB'000 (Restated) |
|---|----------------------|--|------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|
| 31 December 2017 | | | | | | |
| At 31 December 2016 and at 1 January 2017: | | | | | | |
| Cost | 5,038,647 | 4,697,378 | 42,685 | 77,313 | 1,702,948 | 11,558,971 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (550,032) | (1,230,190) | (14,172) | (46,688) | - | (1,841,082) |
| Net carrying amount | 4,488,615 | 3,467,188 | 28,513 | 30,625 | 1,702,948 | 9,717,889 |
| At 1 January 2017, net of accumulated depreciation | 4,488,615 | 3,467,188 | 28,513 | 30,625 | 1,702,948 | 9,717,889 |
| Additions | 5,075 | 41,094 | 2,467 | 18,644 | 833,047 | 900,327 |
| Disposal | - | (12,062) | (2,450) | (2) | - | (14,514) |
| Depreciation provided during the year (note 6) | (122,693) | (215,241) | (5,169) | (12,089) | - | (355,192) |
| Transfers | 1,155,128 | 845,323 | 8,775 | 30,823 | (2,081,785) | (41,736) |
| At 31 December 2017, net of accumulated depreciation | 5,526,125 | 4,126,302 | 32,136 | 68,001 | 454,210 | 10,206,774 |
| At 31 December 2017: | | | | | | |
| Cost | 6,198,850 | 5,563,563 | 49,315 | 126,774 | 454,210 | 12,392,712 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (672,725) | (1,437,261) | (17,179) | (58,773) | - | (2,185,938) |
| Net carrying amount | 5,526,125 | 4,126,302 | 32,136 | 68,001 | 454,210 | 10,206,774 |

As at 31 December 2017, the Group has not yet obtained the building ownership certificates in respect of certain buildings with a net book value of RMB4,653,240,000 (2016: RMB3,706,246,000).

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13. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (Continued)

| | Buildings RMB'000 | Machinery and equipment RMB'000 | Motor vehicles RMB'000 | Office equipment and fixtures RMB'000 | Construction in progress RMB'000 (Restated) | Total RMB'000 (Restated) |
|---|----------------------|--|------------------------------|--|--|--------------------------------|
| 31 December 2016 | | | | | | |
| At 31 December 2015 and at 1 January 2016: | | | | | | |
| Cost | 4,843,378 | 4,925,911 | 34,184 | 72,401 | 1,095,360 | 10,971,234 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (380,955) | (993,139) | (8,177) | (34,250) | – | (1,416,521) |
| Net carrying amount | 4,462,423 | 3,932,772 | 26,007 | 38,151 | 1,095,360 | 9,554,713 |
| At 1 January 2016, net of accumulated depreciation | | | | | | |
| | 4,462,423 | 3,932,772 | 26,007 | 38,151 | 1,095,360 | 9,554,713 |
| Additions | 16,225 | 19,237 | 5,858 | 2,493 | 467,967 | 511,780 |
| Disposal | – | (1,111) | (108) | (64) | – | (1,283) |
| Depreciation provided during the year (note 6) | (115,757) | (214,825) | (5,392) | (11,347) | – | (347,321) |
| Transfers | 125,724 | (268,885) | 2,148 | 1,392 | 139,621 | – |
| At 31 December 2016, net of accumulated depreciation | 4,488,615 | 3,467,188 | 28,513 | 30,625 | 1,702,948 | 9,717,889 |
| At 31 December 2016: | | | | | | |
| Cost | 5,038,647 | 4,697,378 | 42,685 | 77,313 | 1,702,948 | 11,558,971 |
| Accumulated depreciation | (550,032) | (1,230,190) | (14,172) | (46,688) | – | (1,841,082) |
| Net carrying amount | 4,488,615 | 3,467,188 | 28,513 | 30,625 | 1,702,948 | 9,717,889 |

14. PREPAID LAND LEASE PAYMENTS

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Carrying amount at 1 January | 98,504 | 100,725 |
| Recognised during the year (note 6) | (2,221) | (2,221) |
| Carrying amount at 31 December | 96,283 | 98,504 |
| Current portion included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables (note 19) | (2,221) | (2,221) |
| Non-current portion | 94,062 | 96,283 |

At 31 December 2017, none of the Group's leasehold land (2016: RMB55,397,000) was pledged as security for the Group's bank borrowings and other borrowings (note 23).

15. OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

| | Intellectual properties RMB'000 | Software RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|---|---------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 31 December 2017 | | | |
| Cost at 1 January 2017, net of accumulated amortisation | – | – | – |
| Additions (note) | 81,585 | 41,736 | 123,321 |
| Amortisation provided during the year | (25,334) | (1,043) | (26,377) |
| Exchange realignment | 858 | – | 858 |
| At 31 December 2017 | 57,109 | 40,693 | 97,802 |
| At 31 December 2017: | | | |
| Cost | 81,585 | 41,736 | 123,321 |
| Accumulated amortisation (note 6) | (25,334) | (1,043) | (26,377) |
| Exchange realignment | 858 | – | 858 |
| Net carrying amount | 57,109 | 40,693 | 97,802 |

Note:

Pursuant to the Technology License and Cooperation Agreement (the "Agreement") with the Institute of Metal Research (the "IMR"), the IMR agreed to license certain steel production technologies (the "Licensed Technologies") to the Group for a period of 10 years commencing on the date from the Agreement as well as to provide technological services and support to the Group in relation to the application of the Licensed Technologies. The consideration will be satisfied by allotting and issuing 100,000,000 ordinary shares of the Company, once the IMR has completed all necessary procedures in relation to foreign investment and entity incorporation.

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16. AVAILABLE FOR SALE INVESTMENT

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Unlisted equity investment, at cost | 100,000 | 100,000 |

As at 31 December 2017, the unlisted equity investment with a carrying amount of RMB100,000,000 represents a 10% equity interest in Xiwang Finance (2016: RMB100,000,000). The amount is stated at cost less impairment because the range of reasonable fair value estimates is so significant that the directors are of the opinion that their fair value cannot be measured reliably. The Group does not intend to dispose of the investment in the near future.

17. INVENTORIES

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Raw materials | 362,421 | 404,917 |
| Work in progress | 181,787 | 159,763 |
| Finished goods | 184,188 | 244,043 |
| Trading commodities | 68,733 | 241,873 |
| | 797,129 | 1,050,596 |

18. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Bills receivable | 152,916 | 21,966 |
| Trade receivables | 87,834 | 106,704 |
| | 240,750 | 128,670 |

For sales under the ordinary steel and special steel segments, the Group requires advance payments from its customers, except for certain long term customers which are granted credit terms by the Group. The credit period for these long term customers is generally three months and each customer has a maximum credit limit. For sales under the trading of commodities and by-products segments, the Group's trading terms with its customers are mainly on credit, and the credit period is generally within six months.

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 customers with a good track record, there is no significant concentration of credit risk. Trade receivables are non-interest-bearing.

18. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES (Continued)

An aging analysis of the trade and bills receivables as at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--------------------|----------------|---------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Within 3 months | 212,935 | 92,068 |
| 3 to 6 months | 15,145 | 13,842 |
| 6 months to 1 year | 2,874 | 9,553 |
| Over 1 year | 9,796 | 13,207 |
| | 240,750 | 128,670 |

The aging analysis of the trade and bills receivables that are not individually nor collectively considered to be impaired is as follows:

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|-------------------------------|----------------|---------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Neither past due nor impaired | 228,080 | 105,910 |
| Less than 1 month past due | – | – |
| 1 to 6 months past due | 2,874 | 9,553 |
| 6 months to 1 year past due | 9,796 | 13,207 |
| | 240,750 | 128,670 |

Receivables that were neither past due nor impaired relate to certain customers for whom there was no recent history of default.

Receivables that were past due but not impaired relate to a number of independent customers that have a good track record with the Group. Based on past experience, the directors of the Company are of the opinion that no provision for impairment is necessary in respect of these balances as there has not been a significant change in credit quality and the balances are still considered fully recoverable.

Included in the Group's trade receivables are amounts due from the Group's fellow subsidiaries of RMB10,554,000 as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB14,942,000), which are repayable on credit terms similar to those offered to the other customers of the Group.

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19. PREPAYMENTS, DEPOSITS AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 (Restated) |
|--|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Non-Current Prepayments for long term assets | 282,394 | 208,984 |
| Current Prepayments | 146,545 | 149,296 |
| Bank interest receivables | 1,313 | 3,590 |
| VAT recoverable | 3,814 | 4,922 |
| Deposits and other receivables | 60,881 | 21,734 |
| Current portion of prepaid land lease payments (note 14) | 2,221 | 2,221 |
| | 214,774 | 181,763 |
| Impairment of other receivables | (21,610) | – |
| | 193,164 | 181,763 |
| | 475,558 | 390,747 |

Included in the Group's deposits and other receivables are amounts due from the Group's fellow subsidiaries of nil as at 31 December 2017 (2016: Nil).

The movements in provision for impairment of other receivables are as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| At beginning of year | – | – |
| Impairment losses recognised (note 6) | 21,610 | – |
| | 21,610 | – |

Included in the above provision for impairment of other receivables is a provision for individually impaired other receivables of RMB21,610,000 (2016: Nil) with a carrying amount before provision of RMB21,610,000 (2016: RMB21,610,000). The individually impaired other receivables relate to companies that were in default in principal payment and none of the receivables are expected to be recovered.

20. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AND PLEDGED DEPOSITS

| | Notes | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-------|------------------|-----------------|
| Cash and bank balances | | 125,644 | 102,459 |
| Time deposits | | 513,829 | 334,588 |
| | | 639,473 | 437,047 |
| Less: Pledged time deposits: | | | |
| Guarantee deposits for facilities | | (177,329) | (70,323) |
| Guarantee deposits for issuance of bills payable | 21 | (336,500) | (234,015) |
| Guarantee deposits for certain bank borrowings | 23 | – | (30,250) |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | 125,644 | 102,459 |

At the end of the reporting period, the cash and bank balances of the Group denominated in RMB amounted to RMB71,538,000 (2016: RMB76,768,000). The RMB is not freely convertible into other currencies, however, under Mainland China's Foreign Exchange Control Regulations and Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange Regulations, the Group is permitted to exchange RMB for other currencies through banks authorised to conduct foreign exchange business.

Cash at banks earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates. Short term time deposits are made for varying periods of between one month and six months depending on the immediate cash requirements of the Group, and earn interest at the respective time deposit rates. The bank balances and bank deposits are deposited with creditworthy banks with no recent history of default.

Included in the Group's cash and bank balances are deposits of RMB42,720,000 (2016: RMB64,729,000) placed with Xiwang Finance, which is a financial institution approved by the People's Bank of China. The effective interest rates for these deposits ranged from 0.35% to 1.15% per annum, being the savings rates offered by the People's Bank of China.

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21. TRADE AND BILLS PAYABLES

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Bills payable | 673,000 | 1,157,386 |
| Trade payables | 1,099,353 | 503,687 |
| | 1,772,353 | 1,661,073 |

An aging analysis of the trade and bills payables as at the end of the reporting period, based on the invoice date, is as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Within 1 month | 471,445 | 383,647 |
| 1 to 3 months | 353,385 | 341,111 |
| 3 to 6 months | 738,479 | 784,537 |
| 6 to 12 months | 66,492 | 85,972 |
| Over 12 months | 142,552 | 65,806 |
| | 1,772,353 | 1,661,073 |

As at 31 December 2017, the Group's bills payable amounting to RMB673,000,000 (2016: RMB513,480,000) were secured by the pledged time deposits of RMB336,500,000 (2016: RMB234,015,000) (note 20).

Included in the trade and bills payables are trade payables of RMB52,057,000 as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB26,982,000) due to fellow subsidiaries which are non-interest-bearing and repayable on demand.

21. TRADE AND BILLS PAYABLES (Continued)

The Group's certain bills payable are guaranteed by certain related parties, as further detailed in note 37(b) (i) to the financial statement.

The trade payables are non-interest-bearing and are normally settled on term of six months.

22. RECEIPTS IN ADVANCE, OTHER PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Advances from customers | 418,956 | 183,121 |
| Salaries and welfare payables | 50,006 | 33,741 |
| Other tax payables | 143,277 | 5,495 |
| Construction and equipment payables | 446,110 | 496,430 |
| Deferred revenue | 11,162 | 3,500 |
| Other payables | 135,471 | 77,933 |
| | 1,204,982 | 800,220 |

As at 31 December 2017, included in other payables are outstanding balances of RMB50,470,000 (2016: RMB37,558,000) due to fellow subsidiaries, and of RMB432,000 (2016: RMB16,173,000) due to Xiwang Group, which are non-interest-bearing and repayable on demand.

The remaining amounts of other payables are non-interest-bearing and have an average term of six months.

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23. INTEREST-BEARING BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS

| | 2017 | | | 2016 | | |
|---|-----------------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------------------|----------|-----------|
| | Effective interest rate (%) | Maturity | RMB'000 | Effective interest rate (%) | Maturity | RMB'000 |
| Current | | | | | | |
| Interest-bearing bank borrowings | 2.40-6.53 | 2018 | 806,631 | 4.91-6.60 | 2017 | 419,894 |
| – secured | | | | | | |
| Interest-bearing other borrowings | 9.00 | 2018 | 167,182 | HIBOR+2.8, 9.00 | 2017 | 422,991 |
| – secured | | | | | | |
| Borrowings from Xiwang Finance | | | | | | |
| – unsecured | 4.65-6.60 | 2018 | 1,218,870 | 4.65-6.60 | 2017 | 1,537,272 |
| Borrowings from Xiwang Finance | | | | | | |
| – secured | 6.60 | 2018 | 187,379 | | | – |
| | | | 2,380,062 | | | 2,380,157 |
| Non-current | | | | | | |
| Long term interest-bearing other borrowings – secured | 5.60-8.45 | 2019 | 1,769,390 | | | – |
| | | | 4,149,452 | | | 2,380,157 |

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Analysed into: | | |
| Bank and other borrowings repayable: | | |
| Within one year | 2,380,062 | 2,380,157 |
| In the second year | 1,769,390 | – |
| | 4,149,452 | 2,380,157 |

Notes:

- (i) As at 31 December 2017, none of the Group's bank borrowings are secured by Group's leasehold land. At 31 December 2016, certain of the Group's bank borrowings were secured by certain of the Group's leasehold land with a carrying amount of RMB55,397,000 (note 14) and pledged time deposits of RMB30,250,000 (note 20).
- (ii) The Group's interest-bearing borrowings are guaranteed by certain related parties, as further detailed in note 37(b)(ii) to the financial statement.
- (iii) The carrying amounts of the Group's interest-bearing bank and other borrowings approximate to their fair values.

24. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

| | | 2017 | 2016 | |
|---|-------|---------------|---------|-------------|
| | | Liabilities | Assets | Liabilities |
| | | RMB'000 | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Forward currency contract | (i) | – | 3,584 | 540 |
| Futures | (ii) | 998 | – | – |
| Derivative component of convertible bonds | (iii) | 43,120 | – | – |
| | | 44,118 | 3,584 | 540 |

(i) The Group has entered into some forward currency contracts to manage its exchange rate exposures. They are not designated for hedge purposes and are measured at fair value through profit or loss. The net unrealised gains on changes in the fair value of the forward currency contracts amounted to nil (2016: RMB3,044,000), which were recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss during the year.

(ii) The Group has entered into some futures contracts to manage its steel price risks. They are not designated for hedge purposes and are measured at fair value through profit or loss. The net unrealised gains on changes in the fair value of the futures contracts amounted to RMB998,000 (2016: Nil), which were recognized in the consolidated statement of profit or loss during the year.

(iii) Details of the derivative component of convertible bonds are included in note 25 to the financial statements.

25. CONVERTIBLE BONDS

On 11 October 2017, the Company issued 300 7.5% convertible bonds. The interest expenses should be paid half a year from issued. The convertible bonds will mature on the date falling on the second anniversary of the date of convertible bonds at an initial conversion price of HKD1.91 per convertible share and will be subject to adjustments under certain circumstances in accordance with the terms and conditions of the convertible bonds. If the convertible bonds have not been converted, they will be redeemed on the maturity date at the principal amount.

The convertible bonds contain a liability component and a conversion option. The conversion option of convertible bonds is not closely related to the liability component and is classified as a derivative because the conversion will not result in the Company issuing a fixed number of shares in settlement of a fixed amount of the liability component. Conversion option is measured at fair value with change in fair value recognised in profit or loss.

The split of the liability component and embedded derivative component of the convertible bonds for the year is set out as below:

| | Liability component | Embedded derivative component |
|--|---------------------|-------------------------------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Issued during the year | 155,347 | 40,813 |
| Transaction costs | (4,448) | (1,199) |
| Interest expenses (note 7) | 7,512 | – |
| Change in fair value of embedded derivative (note 6) | – | 4,007 |
| Foreign exchange movement | (1,648) | (501) |
| As at 31 December 2017 | 156,763 | 43,120 |

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25. CONVERTIBLE BONDS (Continued)

The methods and assumptions applied for the valuation of the convertible bonds are as follows:

(a) Valuation of the liability component

At the date of issue, the derivative component of the convertible bonds is measured at fair value and presented as part of derivative financial instruments. Any excess of proceeds over the amount initially recognized as the derivative component is recognized as the liability component. Transaction costs are apportioned between the liability and derivative components of the convertible bonds based on the allocation of proceeds to the liability and derivative components when the instruments are initially recognized. In subsequent periods, the liability component is carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The effective interest rate of the liability component of the convertible bonds is 23.8%.

(b) Valuation of the conversion option

The binomial model is used for valuation of conversion option of the convertible bonds. The inputs into the model were as follows:

11 October 2017

| | |
|-------------------------|---------|
| Stock price | USD0.19 |
| Exercise price | USD0.24 |
| Volatility | 52.54% |
| Option life | 2 years |
| Dividend yield | Nil |
| Risk-free interest rate | 0.93% |

26. DEFERRED TAX

The movements in deferred tax assets and liabilities during the year are as follows:

Deferred tax assets

| | 2017 | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|------------------|
| | Unrealised profits RMB'000 | Impairment of inventories RMB'000 | Impairment of other receivables RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
| At 1 January | 4,632 | 539 | - | 5,171 |
| Deferred tax credited/(charged) to the statement of profit or loss during the year (note 10) | 6,387 | (539) | 5,252 | 11,100 |
| Gross deferred tax assets at the end of the year | 11,019 | - | 5,252 | 16,271 |

26. DEFERRED TAX (Continued)**Deferred tax assets** (Continued)

| | Unrealised profits RMB'000 | 2016 Impairment of inventories RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|--|----------------------------------|---|------------------|
| At 1 January | 3,684 | 2,140 | 5,824 |
| Deferred tax credited/(charged) to the statement of profit or loss during the year (note 10) | 948 | (1,601) | (653) |
| Gross deferred tax assets at the end of the year | 4,632 | 539 | 5,171 |

Deferred tax liabilities

| | 2017 Withholding tax on the distributable profits RMB'000 | 2016 Withholding tax on the distributable profits RMB'000 |
|---|--|--|
| At 1 January | 3,640 | 18,442 |
| Deferred tax charged/(credited) to the statement of profit or loss during the year (note 10) | 14,697 | (14,802) |
| Gross deferred tax liabilities at the end of the year | 18,337 | 3,640 |

Pursuant to the New CIT Law effective on 1 January 2008, a 10% withholding tax is levied on dividends declared to foreign investors from the foreign investment enterprises established in Mainland China. A lower withholding tax rate may be applied if there is a tax treaty between Mainland China and the jurisdiction of the foreign investors. For the Group, the applicable rate is 5%. The Group is therefore liable for withholding taxes on dividend distributed by those subsidiaries established in Mainland China in respect of earnings generated from 1 January 2008.

At 31 December 2017, no deferred tax has been recognised for withholding taxes that would be payable on certain unremitted earnings. In the opinion of the directors, it is not probable that these subsidiaries will distribute such earnings in the foreseeable future. The aggregate amount of temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries in Mainland China for which a deferred tax liability has not been recognised totalled approximately RMB1,287,550,000 (2016: RMB601,675,000).

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27. OTHER LONG TERM PAYABLE

On 23 December 2015, the Company, Xiwang Metal Science & Technology and Zouping Finance Bureau entered into an investment agreement with China Development Fund Company Limited (“**CD Fund**”) (國開發基金有限公司). Pursuant to the investment agreement, CD Fund invested RMB161,000,000 in Xiwang Metal Science & Technology. Based on the terms of the investment agreement, CD Fund has the right to request Zouping Finance Bureau to purchase the equity interest of the Company owned by CD Fund within 15 years. The Company shall pay CD Fund quarterly dividends at an annual rate of return amounting to 1.2% of the capital investment. Based on the terms of the investment agreement, Xiwang Metal Science & Technology, which is a shareholder of the Company, has a contractual obligation to CD Fund in the event of uncertain future events such as liquidation, dissolution or termination of the Company that are beyond the control of the Group. As Xiwang Metal Science & Technology does not have the unconditional right to avoid delivering cash, the capital investment of RMB161,000,000 made by CD Fund to the Company was recorded as a financial liability.

28. SHARE CAPITAL

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Issued and fully paid: 2,109,666,666 (2016: 2,006,666,666) ordinary shares | 1,091,561 | 962,949 |

A summary of movements in the Company's share capital is as follows:

| | Number of shares in issue | Share capital RMB'000 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| At 1 January 2016 | 2,006,666,666 | 962,949 |
| At 31 December 2016 | 2,006,666,666 | 962,949 |
| At 1 January 2017 | 2,006,666,666 | 962,949 |
| New shares issued (Note (a)) | 100,000,000 | 128,364 |
| Share options exercised (Note (b)) | 3,000,000 | 3,275 |
| | 2,109,666,666 | 1,094,588 |
| Share issue expenses | – | (3,027) |
| At 31 December 2017 | 2,109,666,666 | 1,091,561 |

28. SHARE CAPITAL (Continued)

Notes:

- (a) The Company issued 100,000,000 shares to not fewer than 6 non-connected placees on 25 September 2017 at an issue price of HKD1.51 per share, resulting in the issue of 100,000,000 shares for a total cash consideration, before expenses, of HKD151,000,000 (equivalent to RMB128,364,000).
- (b) The subscription rights attaching to 3,000,000 share options were exercised at the subscription price of HKD1.064 per share (note 29), resulting in the issue of 3,000,000 shares for a total cash consideration, before expenses, of HKD3,192,000 (equivalent to RMB2,667,000). An amount of HKD728,000 (equivalent to RMB608,000) was transferred from the share option reserve to share capital upon the exercise of the share options.

Share options

Details of the Company's share option scheme and the share options issued under the scheme are included in note 29 to the financial statements.

29. SHARE OPTION SCHEME

The Company operates a share option scheme (the "**Scheme**") for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to eligible participants who contribute to the success of the Group's operations. Eligible participants of the Scheme include any employees of the Group, any non-executive directors (including independent non-executive directors) and any suppliers and customers of the Group, as absolutely determined by the directors. The Scheme became effective on 3 September 2014 and, unless otherwise cancelled or amended, will remain in force for 10 years from the date.

The maximum number of shares to be issued upon the exercise of all outstanding options granted and yet to be exercised under the Scheme and any other schemes of the Company must not exceed 30% of the shares of the Company in issue from time to time. The maximum number of shares issuable under share options to each eligible participant in the Scheme within any 12-month period is limited to 1% of the shares of the Company in issue at any time. Any further grant of share options in excess of this limit is subject to shareholders' approval in a general meeting.

Share options granted to a director, chief executive or substantial shareholder of the Company, or to any of their associates, are subject to approval in advance by the independent non-executive directors. In addition, any share options granted to a substantial shareholder or an independent non-executive director of the Company, or to any of their associates, in excess of 0.1% of the shares of the Company in issue at any time and with an aggregate value (based on the price of the Company's shares at the date of grant) in excess of HKD5 million, within any 12-month period, are subject to shareholders' approval in advance in a general meeting.

The offer of a grant of share options may be accepted within 28 days from the date of offer, upon payment of a nominal consideration of HKD1 in total by the grantee. The exercise period of the share options granted is determinable by the directors, and may commence on the date of grant of the share options and end on a date which is not later than ten years from the date of grant of the share options.

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29. SHARE OPTION SCHEME (Continued)

The exercise price of share options is determinable by the directors, but may not be less than the highest of (i) the stock exchange closing price of the Company's shares on the date of grant of the share options; (ii) the average stock exchange closing price of the Company's shares for the five trading days immediately preceding the date of grant; and (iii) the nominal value of the shares.

Share options do not confer rights on the holders to dividends or to vote at shareholders' meetings.

As at 31 December 2017, the following share options were outstanding under the Scheme of the Company during the year:

| Date of grant | Number of share options | | | | As at 31 December 2017 | Exercise price per share HKD |
|-------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| | As at 1 January 2017 | Granted during the year | Exercised during the year | Lapsed during the year | | |
| 16 September 2014 | 3,000,000 | - | 3,000,000 | - | - | 1.064 |
| 22 July 2016 | 1,500,000 | - | - | - | 1,500,000 | 0.676 |
| 25 August 2016 | 10,400,000 | - | - | - | 10,400,000 | 0.730 |
| 12 April 2017 | - | 600,000 | - | - | 600,000 | 1.380 |
| Total | 14,900,000 | 600,000 | 3,000,000 | - | 12,500,000 | - |

3,000,000 share options were exercised on 12 September 2017 (2016 : Nil). The weighted average share price at the date of exercise for share options exercised in 2017 was HKD1.87 per share.

The fair value of the share options granted in 2014 was HKD2,156,000, of which the Group recognised a share option expense of nil (2016: HKD243,000 (equivalent to RMB242,000)) during the year ended 31 December 2017.

The fair values of the share options granted on 22 July 2016 and 25 August 2016 were HKD313,000 and HKD2,456,000 respectively, of which the Group recognised share option expenses of HKD113,000 and HKD930,000 (equivalent to RMB94,000 and RMB778,000) (2016: HKD170,000 and HKD1,221,000 (equivalent to RMB152,000 and RMB1,092,000)) respectively during the year ended 31 December 2017.

The fair value of the share options granted on 12 April 2017 was HKD287,000, of which the Group recognised a share option expense of HKD195,000 (equivalent to RMB163,000) during the year ended 31 December 2017.

29. SHARE OPTION SCHEME (Continued)

During the year, the following share options continued to be effective under the Scheme of the Company:

| Date of grant | Number of options | Exercise price HKD per share | Exercise period |
|----------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 22 July 2016 | 500,000 | 0.676 | 22 July 2016 to 21 July 2021 |
| | 500,000 | 0.676 | 22 July 2017 to 21 July 2021 |
| | 500,000 | 0.676 | 22 July 2018 to 21 July 2021 |
| 25 August 2016 | 3,466,666 | 0.730 | 25 August 2016 to 24 August 2021 |
| | 3,466,667 | 0.730 | 25 August 2017 to 24 August 2021 |
| | 3,466,667 | 0.730 | 25 August 2018 to 24 August 2021 |
| 12 April 2017 | 200,000 | 1.380 | 12 April 2017 to 11 April 2022 |
| | 200,000 | 1.380 | 12 April 2018 to 11 April 2022 |
| | 200,000 | 1.380 | 12 April 2019 to 11 April 2022 |

The fair value of equity-settled share options granted during the year was estimated as at the date of grant using the binomial model, taking into account the terms and conditions upon which the options were granted. The following table lists the inputs to the model used:

Options granted on 12 April 2017:

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Dividend yield (%) | – |
| Expected volatility (%) | 46 |
| Risk-free interest rate (%) | 1.18 |
| Expected life of options (years) | 1.00 – 5.00 |

The expected life of the options is based on the historical data over the past three years and is not necessarily indicative of the exercise patterns that may occur. The expected volatility reflects the assumption that the historical volatility is indicative of future trends, which may also not necessarily be the actual outcome.

No other feature of the options granted was incorporated into the measurement of fair value.

The 3,000,000 share options exercised in 2017 resulted in the issue of 3,000,000 ordinary shares of HKD3,920,000 (equivalent to RMB3,275,000).

At the end of the reporting period, the Company had 12,500,000 share options outstanding under the Scheme. The exercise in full of the outstanding share options would, under the present capital structure of the Company, result in the issue of 12,500,000 additional ordinary shares of the Company and additional share capital of HKD9,434,000 (equivalent to RMB7,886,000) (before issue expenses).

At the date of approval of these financial statements, the Company had 12,500,000 share options outstanding under the Scheme, which represented approximately 0.59% of the Company's shares in issue as at that date.

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30. RESERVES

- (a) In accordance with the PRC Company Law and the respective articles of association of the subsidiaries registered in the PRC (the “**PRC Subsidiaries**”), each of the PRC Subsidiaries is required to appropriate 10% of its annual statutory net profit after tax (after offsetting any prior years’ losses) to the statutory surplus reserve. When the balance of such reserve fund reaches 50% of each entity’s capital, any further appropriation is optional. The statutory surplus reserve can be utilised to offset prior years’ losses or to increase the capital. However, such balance of the statutory surplus reserve must be maintained at a minimum of 25% of the capital after such usages.
- (b) In accordance with the regulation regarding safety production expenditures jointly issued by the Ministry of Finance and the State Administration of Work Safety on 14 February 2012, the subsidiaries of the Group engaging in the covered industries were required to accrue the safety production expenditures according to their sales of the previous year in a progressive way. The special reserve should be used to improve the production safety of these subsidiaries.

31. TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS

Transferred financial assets that are not derecognised in their entirety

Bills discounted

At 31 December 2017, certain bills receivable were discounted by one bank in Hong Kong and three banks in Mainland China (the “**Discounted Bills**”) with carrying amounts of RMB286,885,000 and RMB544,996,000 (2016: RMB100,159,000 and RMB200,000,000) respectively. In the opinion of the directors, the Group has retained the substantial risks and rewards, which include default risks relating to the Discounted Bills, and accordingly, it continued to recognise the full carrying amounts of the Discounted Bills.

Financial assets that are derecognised in their entirety

Bills discounted

At 31 December 2017, certain bills receivable were discounted by one bank in Mainland China with a carrying amount of RMB21,500,000 (2016: RMB182,517,000). In the opinion of the directors, the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards relating to the Discounted Bills. Accordingly, it has derecognised the full carrying amounts of the Discounted Bills. The maximum exposure to loss from the Group’s continuing involvement in the Discounted Bills and the undiscounted cash flows to repurchase these Discounted Bills are equal to their carrying amounts. In the opinion of the directors, the fair values of the Group’s continuing involvement in the Discounted Bills are not significant.

31. TRANSFERS OF FINANCIAL ASSETS (Continued)**Financial assets that are derecognised in their entirety** (Continued)**Bills discounted** (Continued)

During the year ended 31 December 2017, no gains or losses were recognised on the date of transfer of the Discounted Bills (2016: Nil). No gains or losses were recognised from the continuing involvement, both during the year or cumulatively.

32. NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Changes in liabilities arising from financing activities:

| | Bank and other loans RMB'000 | Finance lease payables RMB'000 | Convertible bonds RMB'000 | Amount due to the ultimate holding company RMB'000 |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|--|
| At 1 January 2017 | 2,380,157 | – | – | 2,882,275 |
| Changes from financing cash flows | 1,769,295 | (615,000) | 190,513 | (2,893,615) |
| Embedded derivative component of convertible bonds | – | – | (39,614) | – |
| New finance lease | – | 615,000 | – | – |
| Foreign exchange movement | – | – | (1,648) | – |
| Interest expense | – | – | 7,512 | 15,741 |
| At 31 December 2017 | 4,149,452 | – | 156,763 | 4,401 |

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

33. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

On 4 January 2016, the Company entered into a guarantee agreement with Xiwang Group with a term of three years commencing from 4 January 2016, pursuant to which the Company will provide Xiwang Group and its subsidiaries other than the Group (the “**Relevant Subsidiaries**”) with guarantee services (the “**Guarantee Agreement**”).

Pursuant to the Guarantee Agreement, the Company shall undertake to guarantee and bear any obligations and liabilities of Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries provided under the loan agreement to be entered into between the lenders and Xiwang Group and/or the Relevant Subsidiaries subject to the terms of the specific guarantee agreements to be entered into between the lenders and the Company. The guarantee amount to be provided by the Company to Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries under the Guarantee Agreement (the “**Guarantee Amount**”) shall not exceed the aggregate amount due from the Group to Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries (including but not limited to the borrowings provided by Xiwang Group to the Group) and the aggregate amount of the Group’s borrowings which is guaranteed and/or secured by Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries, less the aggregate amount due from Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries to the Group (including but not limited to the deposits placed by the Group with Xiwang Finance) (the “**Outstanding Amount**”) and shall be subject to the maximum cap of RMB4 billion.

Any borrowings to be repaid by the Company for and on behalf of Xiwang Group (and the Relevant Subsidiaries) pursuant to the Guarantee Agreement shall be offset by the borrowings payable by the Company to Xiwang Group, or as other amounts payable by the Company to Xiwang Group or the Relevant Subsidiaries.

As at 31 December 2017, contingent liabilities not provided for in the financial statements in respect of the Guarantee Amount were as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|
| Guarantees given to banks in connection with facilities: | | |
| Granted to Xiwang Group | 500,000 | 180,000 |
| Granted to the Relevant Subsidiaries | 2,890,000 | 1,730,000 |
| | 3,390,000 | 1,910,000 |

As at 31 December 2017, the banking facilities guaranteed by the Group to Xiwang Group and Relevant Subsidiaries were utilised to the extent of approximately RMB340,000,000 and RMB2,130,000,000 (2016: RMB180,000,000 and RMB1,300,000,000) respectively.

As at 31 December 2017, the Outstanding Amount was approximately RMB3,569,907,000 (2016: RMB4,420,589,000).

34. PLEDGE OF ASSETS

Details of the Group's assets pledged for the Group's bank loans are included in notes 14 and 20 to the financial statements.

35. OPERATING LEASE ARRANGEMENTS

The Group leases certain land from Xiwang Group, leases certain land and vehicles from Shandong Xiwang Logistics Company Limited ("**Xiwang Logistics**") (山東西王物流有限公司) and leases certain houses and equipments from third parties under operating lease arrangements. At 31 December 2017, the Group had total future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases falling due as follows:

| Group | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|-----------------|-----------------|
| Within one year | 3,904 | 1,058 |
| In the second to fifth years, inclusive | 4,014 | 3,928 |
| After five years | 9,500 | 10,482 |
| | 17,418 | 15,468 |

36. COMMITMENTS

The Group had the following capital commitments at the end of the reporting period:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Contracted, but not provided for: Property, plant and equipment | 848,580 | 360,516 |

The Group entered into a technical cooperation agreement with Luoyang Bearing Research Centre Company Limited ("**Luoyang Bearing Research Centre**") (洛陽軸承研究所有限公司) on 6 June 2014. Pursuant to the agreement, the Group should pay RMB600,000 annually for the services to be provided by Luoyang Bearing Research Centre in four years commencing from 6 June 2014.

The Group had the following commitment under the technical cooperation agreement at the end of the reporting period:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
| Contracted, but not provided for: Consulting services | 300 | 900 |

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37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES

- (a) In addition to the transactions detailed elsewhere in these financial statements, the Group had the following transactions with related parties during the year:

| | Notes | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|---|------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Rental expenses to Xiwang Group | 37(a)(i) | 183 | 183 |
| Rental expenses to a fellow subsidiary | 37(a)(i) | | |
| – Lease of land | | 799 | 799 |
| – Lease of vehicles | | – | 1,602 |
| Delivery service fees to a fellow subsidiary | 37(a)(i) | | |
| – Delivery of steel | | 59,527 | 8,216 |
| – Delivery of ore-powder | | 173,497 | 74,566 |
| Interest expenses on borrowings from Xiwang Group | 37(a)(ii) | 73,791 | 204,748 |
| Interest expenses on borrowings from Xiwang Finance | 37(a)(iii) | 130,354 | 60,800 |
| Interest on discounted bills paid to Xiwang Finance | 37(a)(iii) | 4,480 | 16,447 |
| Interest income from Xiwang Finance | 37(a)(iii) | 619 | 522 |
| Interest expenses to a fellow subsidiary | 37(a)(iv) | 21,362 | – |
| Sale of steam to a fellow subsidiary | 37(a)(v) | 35,987 | 33,884 |
| Sale of steel to fellow subsidiaries | 37(a)(v) | 448 | – |
| Sale of heat energy to fellow subsidiaries | 37(a)(v) | 2,078 | – |
| Sale of cooling energy to fellow subsidiaries | 37(a)(v) | 2,236 | – |

- (i) The rental expenses to Xiwang Group and the rental expenses and delivery service fees to a fellow subsidiary were charged at rates based on mutual agreements between both parties.
- (ii) The interest expenses to Xiwang Group for the year of 2017 amounted to RMB73,791,000 (2016: RMB204,748,000).
- (iii) Details of deposits with and the interest-bearing borrowings from Xiwang Finance are disclosed in notes 20 and 23 to the financial statements.
- (iv) The interest expenses to a fellow subsidiary for the year of 2017 amounted to RMB21,362,000 (2016: Nil). The finance lease loan from a fellow subsidiary was RMB615,000,000 during 2017 charged at interest rate of 5.9% per annum, and was repaid before the year end.
- (v) The selling prices of steam, steel, heat energy and cooling energy to fellow subsidiaries were mutually agreed between both parties.

37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (Continued)

(b) Other related party transactions

(i) Certain bills payable are guaranteed by certain related parties as follows:

31 December 2017

| Bills payable RMB'000 | Notes | Guaranteed by: |
|----------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 73,000 | 21 | Xiwang Group, Mr. Wang Yong, a non-executive director and Mr. Wang Di, the Chairman, jointly and severally |
| 100,000 | 21 | Mr. Wang Yong Xiwang Group |

31 December 2016

| Bills payable RMB'000 | Notes | Guaranteed by: |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---|
| 182,517 | 21 | Mr. Wang Yong and Ms. Zhang Shufang (spouse of Mr. Wang Yong) jointly and severally Xiwang Group |
| 190,000 | 21 | Mr. Wang Yong, Mr. Wang Di and Xiwang Group jointly and severally |

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (Continued)

(b) Other related party transactions (Continued)

(ii) Certain interest-bearing borrowings are guaranteed by certain related parties as follows:

31 December 2017

| Borrowings RMB'000 | Notes | Guaranteed by: |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 167,182 | 23 | Mr. Wang Yong Certain ordinary shares of a fellow subsidiary Certain convertible preference shares of a fellow subsidiary |
| 719,600 | 23 | Certain ordinary shares of a fellow subsidiary |
| 1,049,790 | 23 | Xiwang Group Mr. Wang Di and Ms. Su Xin (spouse of Mr. Wang Di) jointly and severally Mr. Wang Yong and Ms. Zhang Shufang (spouse of Mr. Wang Yong) jointly and severally Certain land and buildings from fellow subsidiaries Certain machinery and equipment from a fellow subsidiary Certain shares of fellow subsidiaries |

31 December 2016

| Borrowings RMB'000 | Notes | Guaranteed by: |
|-------------------------------|--------------|---|
| 419,288 | 23 | Xiwang Group Mr. Wang Yong and Ms. Zhang Shufang (spouse of Mr. Wang Yong) jointly and severally |
| 100,000 | 23 | Mr. Wang Yong An independent third party |

(iii) The Group provided guarantee services to Xiwang Group and the Relevant Subsidiaries during the year, details of which are included in note 33 to the financial statements.

37. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS AND BALANCES (Continued)

(c) Commitments with related parties

The Group leases certain land from Xiwang Group and leases certain land and vehicles from a fellow subsidiary under operating lease arrangements. The total amounts of lease of land and lease of vehicles from a fellow subsidiary for the year are disclosed in note 37(a)(i) to the financial statements. The related operating lease commitments are disclosed in note 35 to the financial statements.

(d) Outstanding balances with related parties

(i) The Group had short term interest-bearing borrowings from Xiwang Finance, a fellow subsidiary, as at 31 December 2017. Details of the interest-bearing borrowings from Xiwang Finance are disclosed in note 23 to the financial statements.

The Group had certain deposits placed with Xiwang Finance as at 31 December 2017. Details of the deposits in Xiwang Finance are disclosed in note 20.

(ii) The Group had current and non-current interest-bearing borrowings from its ultimate holding company at carrying amounts of nil and RMB4,401,000 as at 31 December 2017 (2016: RMB1,482,375,000 and RMB1,399,900,000) respectively. The non-current balance was unsecured, interest-bearing at 6.6% and will mature in 2020. The current outstanding balance of 31 December 2016 was unsecured, interest-bearing at 6.6% and had no fixed terms of repayment.

(iii) Details of the Group's outstanding balances due from its fellow subsidiaries are included in note 18 and note 19 to the financial statements.

(iv) Details of the Group's outstanding balances due to its fellow subsidiaries are included in note 21 and note 22 to the financial statements.

(e) Compensation of key management personnel of the Group:

| | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|----------------|---------|
| | RMB'000 | RMB'000 |
| Employee benefit expenses | 8,976 | 4,554 |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | 603 | 697 |
| Pension scheme contributions | 207 | 163 |
| Total compensation paid to key management personnel | 9,786 | 5,414 |

Further details of directors' emoluments are included in note 8 to the financial statements.

The related party transactions in respect of note (a) above also constitute continuing connected transactions as defined in Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

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38. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS BY CATEGORY

The carrying amounts of each of the categories of financial instruments as at the end of the reporting period are as follows:

2017

Financial assets

| | Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss RMB'000 | Loans and receivables RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|--|--|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Trade and bills receivables | – | 240,750 | 240,750 |
| Financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables | – | 40,584 | 40,584 |
| Pledged deposits | – | 513,829 | 513,829 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | – | 125,644 | 125,644 |
| Total | – | 920,807 | 920,807 |

2017

Financial liabilities

| | Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss RMB'000 | Financial liabilities at amortised cost RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|--|---|--|------------------|
| Trade and bills payables | – | 1,772,353 | 1,772,353 |
| Financial liabilities included in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals | – | 631,587 | 631,587 |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | – | 4,401 | 4,401 |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | – | 4,149,452 | 4,149,452 |
| Other long term payable | – | 161,000 | 161,000 |
| Convertible bonds | – | 156,763 | 156,763 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 44,118 | – | 44,118 |
| Total | 44,118 | 6,875,556 | 6,919,674 |

38. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS BY CATEGORY (Continued)**2016****Financial assets**

| | Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss RMB'000 | Loans and receivables RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| Trade and bills receivables | – | 128,670 | 128,670 |
| Financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables | – | 25,325 | 25,325 |
| Pledged deposits | – | 334,588 | 334,588 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | – | 102,459 | 102,459 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 3,584 | – | 3,584 |
| Total | 3,584 | 591,042 | 594,626 |

2016**Financial liabilities**

| | Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss RMB'000 | Financial liabilities at amortised cost RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
|---|--|--|------------------|
| Trade and bills payables | – | 1,661,073 | 1,661,073 |
| Financial liabilities included in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals | – | 608,104 | 608,104 |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | – | 2,882,275 | 2,882,275 |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | – | 2,380,157 | 2,380,157 |
| Other long term payable | – | 161,000 | 161,000 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 540 | – | 540 |
| Total | 540 | 7,692,609 | 7,693,149 |

39. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts of the Group's and the Company's financial instruments approximate to their fair values.

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39. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(Continued)

Management has assessed that the fair values of cash and cash equivalents, pledged deposits, trade and bills receivables, financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables, trade and bills payables, financial liabilities included in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals, the current portion of borrowings from the ultimate holding company and the current portion of interest-bearing bank and other borrowings approximated to their respective carrying amounts largely due to the short term maturities of these instruments.

The Group's finance department headed by the finance manager is responsible for determining the policies and procedures for the fair value measurement of financial instruments. The finance department reports directly to the executive vice president and the audit committee. At each reporting date, the finance department analyses the movements in the values of financial instruments and determines the major inputs applied in the valuation. The valuation is reviewed and approved by the executive vice president. The valuation process and results are discussed with the audit committee twice a year for interim and annual financial reporting.

The fair values of the financial assets and liabilities are included at the amount at which the instrument could be exchanged in a current transaction between willing parties, other than in a forced or liquidation sale. The following methods and assumptions were used to estimate the fair values:

The fair values of the non-current portion of borrowings from the ultimate holding company, interest-bearing bank and other borrowings and other long term payable have been calculated by discounting the expected future cash flows using rates currently available for instruments with similar terms, credit risk and remaining maturities. The Group's own non-performance risk for borrowings from the ultimate holding company, interest-bearing bank and other borrowings and other long term payable as at 31 December 2017 was assessed to be insignificant. The fair value of the liability portion of the convertible bonds is estimated by discounting the expected future cash flows using an equivalent market interest rate for a similar convertible bonds with consideration of the Group's own non-performance risk.

As 31 December 2017, the unlisted available for sale equity investment of RMB100,000,000 (2016: RMB100,000,000) (note16) was stated at cost less impairment as the fair value cannot be measured reliably because the probabilities of the various estimates within the range of reasonable fair value estimates cannot be reasonably assessed and used in estimating fair value.

The Group enters into derivative financial instruments with various counterparties. Derivative financial instruments mainly included forward currency contracts, futures and derivative component of convertible bonds which are measured using valuation techniques similar to forward pricing, using present value calculations. The models incorporate various market observable inputs including the credit quality of counterparties, foreign exchange spot and forward rates. The carrying amounts of forward currency contracts, futures and derivative component of convertible bonds are the same as their fair values.

As at 31 December 2017, the marked to market value of the derivative asset position is net of a credit valuation adjustment attributable to derivative counterparty default risk. The changes in counterparty credit risk had no material effect on financial instruments recognised at fair value.

As at 31 December 2017, the derivative financial instruments were measured at fair value using significant observable inputs (Level 2). There were no transfers of fair value measurements between Level 1 and Level 2 and no transfers into or out of Level 3 for both financial assets and financial liabilities (2016: Nil).

40. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES

The Group's principal financial instruments, other than derivatives, comprise interest-bearing bank and other borrowings, borrowings from the ultimate holding company, other long term liabilities, pledged deposits and cash and cash equivalents. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to raise finance for the Group's operations. The Group has various other financial assets and liabilities such as trade and bills receivables, trade and bills payables, financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables and financial liabilities included in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals which arise directly from its operations.

The Group also enters into derivative transaction of forward currency contracts, futures and derivative component of convertible bonds. The purpose is to manage the currency risks and market risks arising from the Group's operations and its sources of finance.

The main risks arising from the Group's financial instruments are interest rate risk, foreign currency risk, credit risk and liquidity risk. The board of directors reviews and agrees policies for managing each of these risks and they are summarised below.

Interest rate risk

The Group's exposure to the risk of changes in market interest rates relates primarily to the Group's interest-bearing bank and other borrowings.

The Group's policy is to obtain the most favourable interest rate available. The effective interest rates and terms of repayment of the interest-bearing bank and other borrowings of the Group are set out in note 23 to the financial statements.

The Group has not used any interest swaps to hedge its exposure to interest rate risk. At the end of the reporting period, all (2016: 99%) of the Group's interest-bearing borrowings bore interest at fixed rates.

The following table demonstrates the sensitivity to a reasonably possible change in interest rates, with all other variables held constant, of the Group's profit before tax (through the impact of floating rate borrowings) and the Group's equity during the year.

| | Increase/ (decrease) in basis points | Increase/ (decrease) in profit before tax RMB'000 | Increase/ (decrease) in equity* RMB'000 |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
| 31 December 2017 | | | |
| RMB | 100 | - | - |
| RMB | (100) | - | - |
| 31 December 2016 | | | |
| RMB | 100 | (340) | - |
| RMB | (100) | 340 | - |

* Excluding retained profits

Notes to Financial Statements

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40. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (Continued)

Foreign currency risk

Most of the operating income of the Group's business is in RMB and the Group's assets held and all of the committed borrowings of the Group are mainly denominated in RMB, except for certain bank borrowings denominated in Hong Kong dollars and United States dollars held by the Group.

The following table demonstrates the sensitivity at the end of the reporting period to a reasonably possible change in the Hong Kong dollar and United States dollar exchange rates, with all other variables held constant, of the Group's profit before tax and the Group's equity.

| | Increase/ (decrease) in foreign exchange rate | Increase/ (decrease) in profit before tax RMB'000 | Increase/ (decrease) in equity* RMB'000 |
|---|--|---|--|
| 2017 | | | |
| If the United States dollar weakens against the RMB | (5%) | 12,090 | – |
| If the United States dollar strengthens against the RMB | 5% | (12,090) | – |
| If the Hong Kong dollar weakens against the RMB | (5%) | – | – |
| If the Hong Kong dollar strengthens against the RMB | 5% | – | – |
| 2016 | | | |
| If the United States dollar weakens against the RMB | (5%) | 21,472 | – |
| If the United States dollar strengthens against the RMB | 5% | (21,472) | – |
| If the Hong Kong dollar weakens against the RMB | (5%) | – | – |
| If the Hong Kong dollar strengthens against the RMB | 5% | – | – |

* Excluding retained profits.

40. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (Continued)

Credit risk

The carrying amount of the trade receivables represents the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk in relation to its financial assets. The Group minimises its exposure to credit risk by only dealing with counterparties with acceptable credit ratings.

The Group trades only with recognised and creditworthy third parties. It is the Group's policy that all customers who wish to trade on credit terms are subject to credit verification procedures. In addition, receivable balances are monitored on an ongoing basis and the Group's exposure to bad debts is not significant. For transactions that are not denominated in the functional currency of the relevant operating unit, the Group does not offer credit terms without the specific approval of the General Manager.

The credit risk of the Group's other financial assets, which comprise cash and cash equivalents, pledge deposits and financial assets included in prepayments, deposits and other receivables arises from default of the counterparty, with a maximum exposure equal to the carrying amounts of these instruments.

Further quantitative data in respect of the Group's exposure to credit risk arising from trade and bills receivables and deposits and other receivables are disclosed in notes 18 and 19, respectively, to the financial statements.

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40. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (Continued)

Liquidity risk

The Group's policy is to maintain sufficient cash and cash equivalents and have available funding through bank and other borrowings to meet its working capital requirements.

The maturity profile of the Group's financial liabilities as at the end of the reporting period, based on the contractual undiscounted payments, is as follows:

| | 31 December 2017 | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| | On demand RMB'000 | Less than 3 months RMB'000 | 3 to less than 12 months RMB'000 | 1 to 5 years RMB'000 | Over 5 years RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
| Convertible bonds | - | - | 15,297 | 215,180 | - | 230,477 |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | - | 499,388 | 2,158,124 | 1,868,220 | - | 4,525,732 |
| Trade and bills payables | 52,057 | 938,261 | 782,035 | - | - | 1,772,353 |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | - | 73 | 222 | 4,947 | - | 5,242 |
| Financial liabilities included in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals | 48,443 | 510,838 | 72,306 | - | - | 631,587 |
| Other long term payable | - | 424 | 1,476 | 38,089 | 142,675 | 182,664 |
| Derivative financial instruments | - | - | 998 | 43,120 | - | 44,118 |
| | 100,500 | 1,948,984 | 3,030,458 | 2,169,556 | 142,675 | 7,392,173 |

| | 31 December 2016 | | | | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
| | On demand RMB'000 | Less than 3 months RMB'000 | 3 to less than 12 months RMB'000 | 1 to 5 years RMB'000 | Over 5 years RMB'000 | Total RMB'000 |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | - | 299,207 | 2,150,524 | - | - | 2,449,731 |
| Trade and bills payables | 26,982 | 934,432 | 699,659 | - | - | 1,661,073 |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | 1,482,375 | 23,098 | 70,578 | 1,667,328 | - | 3,243,379 |
| Financial liabilities included in receipts in advance, other payables and accruals | 34,854 | 525,465 | 47,786 | - | - | 608,105 |
| Derivative financial instruments | - | 540 | - | - | - | 540 |
| Other long term payable | - | 424 | 1,476 | 40,048 | 142,675 | 184,623 |
| | 1,544,211 | 1,783,166 | 2,970,023 | 1,707,376 | 142,675 | 8,147,451 |

40. FINANCIAL RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES (Continued)**Capital management**

The primary objectives of the Group's capital management are to safeguard the Group's ability to continue as a going concern and to maintain healthy capital ratios in order to support its business and maximise shareholders' value.

The Group manages its capital structure and makes adjustments to it in light of changes in economic conditions. To maintain or adjust the capital structure, the Group may adjust the dividend payment to shareholders, return capital to shareholders or issue new shares. No changes were made in the objectives, policies or processes for managing capital during the years ended 31 December 2017 and 31 December 2016.

The Group monitors capital using a gearing ratio, which is total debt divided by total assets. Total debt includes interest-bearing bank and other borrowings, borrowings from the ultimate holding company, the liability component of convertible bonds and other long term payable. The Group's policy is to maintain the gearing ratio between 20% and 50%. The gearing ratios as at the end of the reporting periods were as follows:

| | Notes | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|-----------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | 23 | 4,149,452 | 2,380,157 |
| Borrowings from the ultimate holding company | 37(d)(ii) | 4,401 | 2,882,275 |
| Convertible bonds, the liability component | 25 | 156,763 | – |
| Other long term payable | 27 | 161,000 | 161,000 |
| Total debt | | 4,471,616 | 5,423,432 |
| Total assets | | 12,667,819 | 11,929,987 |
| Gearing ratio | | 35.3% | 45.5% |

Notes to Financial Statements

31 December 2017

41. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMPANY

Information about the statement of financial position of the Company at the end of the reporting period is as follows:

| | 2017 RMB'000 | 2016 RMB'000 |
|--|------------------|-----------------|
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Other intangible assets | 57,109 | – |
| Investments in subsidiaries | 960,348 | 960,348 |
| Total non-current assets | 1,017,457 | 960,348 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Derivative financial instruments | – | 3,584 |
| Prepayments and other receivables | 628,237 | 402,400 |
| Pledged deposits | – | 3,882 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 7,909 | 2,466 |
| Total current assets | 636,146 | 412,332 |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | 167,182 | – |
| Other payables and accruals | 181,796 | 418,168 |
| Tax payable | – | 756 |
| Derivative financial instruments | 43,120 | – |
| Long term loan within one year | – | 33,991 |
| Total current liabilities | 392,098 | 452,915 |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) | 244,048 | (40,583) |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Convertible bonds | 156,763 | – |
| Total non-current liabilities | 156,763 | – |
| Net assets | 1,104,742 | 919,765 |
| EQUITY | | |
| Share capital | 1,091,561 | 962,949 |
| Reserves (note) | 13,181 | (43,184) |
| Total equity | 1,104,742 | 919,765 |

WANG Di
Director

WANG Yong
Director

41. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMPANY (Continued)

Note:

A summary of the Company's reserves is as follows:

| | Exchange reserve RMB'000 | Other reserve RMB'000 | Share option reserve RMB'000 | Retained profits RMB'000 | Total reserves RMB'000 |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Balance at 1 January 2016 | (19,218) | – | 406 | 3,032 | (15,780) |
| Loss for the year | – | – | – | (12,171) | (12,171) |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | – | – | 1,486 | – | 1,486 |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations | (16,719) | – | – | – | (16,719) |
| At 31 December 2016 and 1 January 2017 | (35,937) | – | 1,892 | (9,139) | (43,184) |
| Loss for the year | – | – | – | (30,079) | (30,079) |
| Share options exercised (note 28) | – | – | (608) | – | (608) |
| Equity-settled share option expenses | – | – | 1,035 | – | 1,035 |
| Other reserve of share-based payment (note 15) | – | 81,585 | – | – | 81,585 |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations | 4,432 | – | – | – | 4,432 |
| At 31 December 2017 | (31,505) | 81,585 | 2,319 | (39,218) | 13,181 |

The share option reserve comprises the fair value of share options granted which are yet to be exercised, as further explained in the accounting policy for share-based payments in note 2.4 to the financial statements. The amount will either be transferred to the share capital when the related options are exercised, or to be transferred to retained profits should the related options expire after the resting period.

42. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

On 6 February 2018, the Company issued 151,111,000 shares to not fewer than six non-connected placees at an issue price of HKD1.59 per share, resulting in the issue of 151,111,000 shares for a net proceed of HKD235,200,000 (equivalent to RMB189,689,000).

43. COMPARATIVE AMOUNTS

Certain comparative amounts had been reclassified to conform with the current year's presentation.

44. APPROVAL OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 23 March 2018.

Five-year Financial Summary

| | 2017 | 2016 | 2015 | 2014 | 2013 |
|--|---------------|------------|--------|--------|--------|
| | | (Restated) | | | |
| For the year (RMB million) | | | | | |
| Revenue | 12,362 | 7,567 | 6,752 | 8,642 | 7,030 |
| Gross profit | 2,025 | 1,068 | 576 | 1,112 | 650 |
| EBITDA ⁽¹⁾ | 1,816 | 1,112 | 765 | 1,148 | 863 |
| Operating profit | 1,432 | 763 | 283 | 740 | 635 |
| Net profit | 898 | 333 | 169 | 407 | 384 |
| As at December 31 (RMB million) | | | | | |
| Current assets | 1,871 | 1,802 | 1,702 | 2,254 | 2,494 |
| Non-current assets | 10,797 | 10,128 | 9,938 | 8,982 | 7,914 |
| Total assets | 12,668 | 11,930 | 11,640 | 11,236 | 10,408 |
| Current liabilities | 5,412 | 6,343 | 5,936 | 6,266 | 6,759 |
| Non-current liabilities | 2,110 | 1,565 | 1,759 | 1,159 | 516 |
| Total liabilities | 7,522 | 7,908 | 7,695 | 7,425 | 7,275 |
| Total equity | 5,146 | 4,022 | 3,945 | 3,811 | 3,134 |
| Total liabilities and equity | 12,668 | 11,930 | 11,640 | 11,236 | 10,409 |
| Per share (RMB) | | | | | |
| Earnings per share | | | | | |
| Basic | 0.442 | 0.166 | 0.085 | 0.203 | 0.192 |
| Diluted | 0.419 | 0.158 | 0.084 | 0.203 | 0.192 |
| Dividends per share | 0.130 | – | – | 0.015 | 0.015 |

Note:

⁽¹⁾ EBITDA refers to profit before tax plus finance cost, depreciation and amortization of prepaid land lease payments and other intangible assets.



XIWANG SPECIAL STEEL COMPANY LIMITED

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