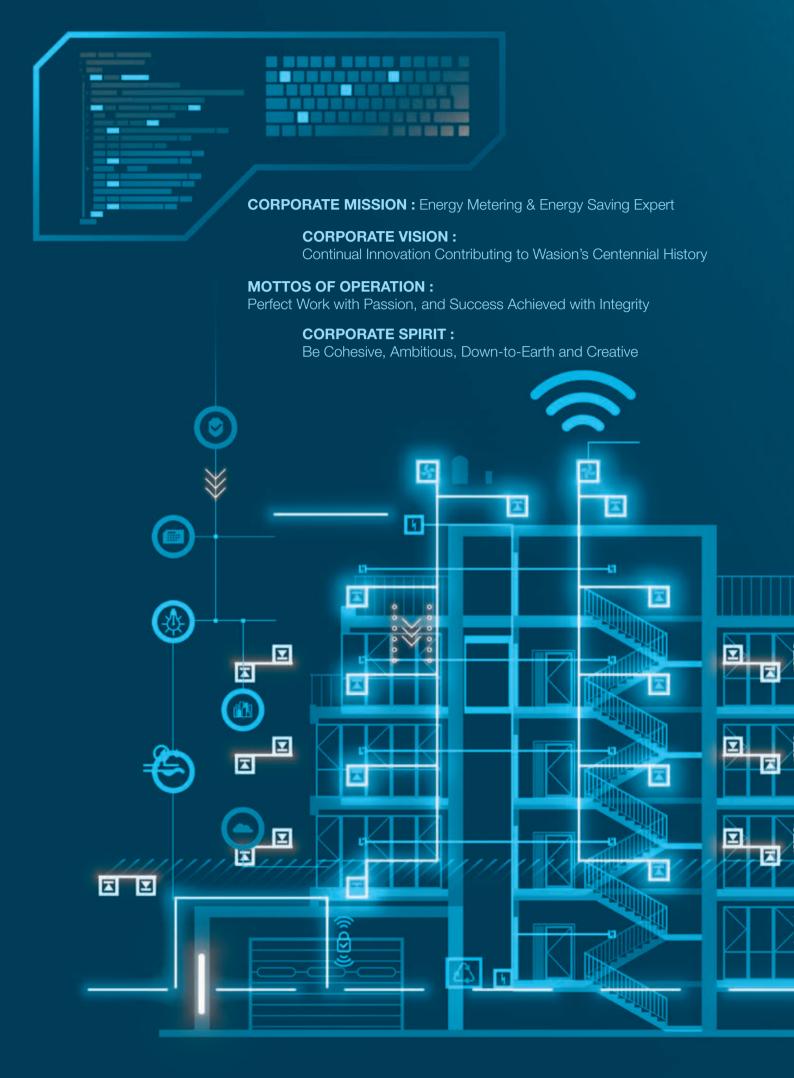
# ENERGY METERING ENERGY SAVING EXPERT



(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 3393)



Interim Report 2021



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#### **CORPORATE INFORMATION**

#### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

Mr. Ji Wei (Chairman)

Ms. Cao Zhao Hui

Mr. Zeng Xin

Ms. Li Hong

Ms. Zheng Xiao Ping

Mr. Tian Zhongping

#### **NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Mr. Kat Chit

#### INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. Chan Cheong Tat

Mr. Luan Wenpeng

Mr. Cheng Shi Jie

Mr. Wang Yaonan

#### **COMPANY SECRETARY**

Mr. Choi Wai Lung Edward FCCA, FCPA

#### **AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES**

Mr. Ji Wei

Mr. Choi Wai Lung Edward FCCA, FCPA

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Chan Cheong Tat (Chairman)

Mr. Luan Wenpeng

Mr. Cheng Shi Jie

Mr. Wang Yaonan

#### **NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

Mr. Ji Wei (Chairman)

Mr. Chan Cheong Tat

Mr. Luan Wenpeng

#### REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Chan Cheong Tat (Chairman)

Mr. Ji Wei

Mr. Luan Wenpeng

# INTERNAL CONTROL AND RISK MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Chan Cheong Tat (Chairman)

Mr. Luan Wenpeng

Mr. Cheng Shi Jie

Mr. Wang Yaonan

Ms. Li Hong

Mr. Kat Chit

#### **PRINCIPAL BANKERS**

In Hong Kong:

Hang Seng Bank

China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited

The Bank of East Asia, Limited

Bank of Communications Hong Kong Branch

In the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"):

China Construction Bank

Bank of Communications



# **CORPORATE INFORMATION (Continued)**

#### **LEGAL ADVISER**

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#### **AUDITOR**

Ernst & Young

Certified Public Accountants

Registered Public Interest Entity Auditor

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Hong Kong

#### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Cricket Square
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P.O. Box 2681GT
George Town
Grand Cayman
British West Indies

#### PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

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# PRINCIPAL SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

SMP Partners (Cayman) Limited Royal Bank House — 3rd Floor 24 Shedden Road P.O. Box 1586 Grand Cayman KY1-1110 Cayman Islands

# HONG KONG BRANCH SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

Link Market Services (Hong Kong) Pty Limited Suite 1601, 16/F, Central Tower 28 Queen's Road Central Hong Kong

#### **COMPANY WEBSITE**

www.wasion.com

#### **STOCK CODE**

3393

#### **CORPORATE PROFILE**

# LEADING TOTAL SOLUTION PROVIDER OF ADVANCED METERING, ADVANCED DISTRIBUTION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY MANAGEMENT

Wasion Holdings Limited ("Wasion Holdings" or the "Group") is the leading total solution provider of advanced metering, advanced distribution and energy efficiency management in China, and is committed to becoming an "Energy Metering and Energy Saving Expert" in China and across the world. The Group was listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") in December 2005, which was the first professional syndicate engaged in energy metering and energy efficiency management in China listed overseas, as well as the first company in Hunan Province listed on the Main Board overseas.

Wasion Holdings has long been focusing on the research and development, production and sales of total solutions relating to energy metering and energy efficiency management, the products and services of which have been extensively applied in energy supply industries for electricity, water, gas and heat, and large energy-consuming units of large-scale public infrastructure, petroleum and chemical, transportation, 5G communication, machine manufacturing, metallurgical and chemical fields and residents.

The advanced smart metering business of the Group mainly comprises of comprehensive smart meters, smart water meters, smart gas meters and ultrasonic calorimeters; various meters and power quality monitoring devices; comprehensive energy data collection terminals, load management terminals and user management devices; measurement automation systems and various application systems, services and energy data mining. The Group, with more than 20% of the domestic market share of high-end metering products, has built up its leading position in China and is the only professional manufacturer in China which provides various advanced energy metering products, systems and services for electricity, water, gas and heat, as well as satisfies the demand of the whole process from energy production, transmission and distribution to consumers.

The advanced distribution and energy efficiency management business of the Group comprises mainly of 40.5kV/12kV comprehensive high voltage switchgear; 12kV smart switchgear; 35kV/10kV comprehensive circuit breakers; 10kV power distribution automation terminals; electrical and electronic devices for power quality control and smooth connection with new energy; smart distribution systems, engineering and services; energy-saving services, etc. The Group is devoted to becoming the leading total solution provider for advanced distribution system in China.

In January 2020, the Group's "Communication and Fluid AMI" business — Willfar Information Technology Company Limited (Stock Code: 688100), a 58.5% owned subsidiary of the Group — received approval from the China Securities Regulatory Commission to become the first company in Hunan Province to list on the STAR Market, and was included in the "STAR 50 Index" in August 2020. The Communication and Fluid AMI business mainly focuses on reshaping the energy management methods of electricity, water, gas and heat with the IoT technology, and provides a full-level integrated solution for the IoT of energy from data perception, network transmission to application management, with communication technology from basic chip design, data perception and data acquisition to high-speed data transmission and stable connection, as well as the capability to provide users with such digital solutions as software management.



# **CORPORATE PROFILE (Continued)**

For research and development, the Group has developed State Grid multicore IoT smart power meters and Southern Grid multimodular smart power meters that meet both the R46 standard and new national standard, and achieved the separation of legal metrology and non-legal metrology, providing smart power meters that are safe, reliable, upgradable and have wide range and long life to accommodate to the power market reform. In addition, the development of "domestic microchips" is a major national strategy and the Group will continue to pursue independent research and development of microchip to enhance its core competitiveness. The fifth generation of high-speed power-line carrier chip WTZ13 developed by the Group has passed the inspection of the State Grid Metrology Center, which means that the Group can meet the technical requirements of the State Grid and Southern Grid for the new generation of smart power meters, power distribution automation and power operation maintenance. Meanwhile, as for the prospects for prepayment devices in international markets, the overseas research and development team has worked to create a new series of smart prepayment products based on the new FM33A0 platform, achieving a unified upgrade of the platform and decreased product cost. These products have been successfully marketed in Asian, African and Latin American markets such as South Africa, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Uganda, Egypt, Nigeria, Uruguay and Russia, and have become a new generation of key products in the international prepayment market. At the same time, based on its in-depth research and system construction of the IEC62056 standard, COSEM/DLMS Blue Book and IDIS specifications, the Group has successively established enterprise function specifications based on the IEC62056 standard, laying a good foundation for a breakthrough in the future power meter market of the Group's new generation of anti-tampering technology.

The goals of "Carbon Neutrality" and "CO<sup>2</sup> Emission Peak" are driving substantial changes in energy production and energy consumption mode in China and even the world. Amidst the material social responsibility and development opportunities arisen from energy saving and carbon reduction as well as the substantial demand arisen from the transformation and upgrading of smart power grids to the internet of energy, Wasion Holdings will adhere to its corporate motto "Energy Metering and Energy Saving Expert" while upholding its core value "Perfect Work with Passion, and Success Achieved with Integrity" by continuous innovation and improvement in order to become the pioneer in smart power grids and smart metering in China, one of the major international smart power grids and smart metering provider and a well-known international brand.

In the future, every city, every enterprise and every family will be benefited from the use of the technology, products and services of Wasion.

#### **MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### **Financial Highlights**

#### Six months ended 30 June

|  | 2021<br>RMB'000 | 2020<br>RMB'000 |
|--|-----------------|-----------------|
|  |                 |                 |
| Turnover   | 2,065,632       | 1,687,701       |
| Gross profit   | 678,207         | 542,686         |
| Profit from operations                                     | 281,250         | 258,989         |
| Net profit attributable to owners of the Company           | 123,141         | 116,264         |
| Total assets   | 11,999,758      | 10,980,116      |
| Shareholders' equity attributable to owners of the Company | 4,502,701       | 4,364,303       |
| Basic earnings per share (RMB cents)                       | 12.5            | 11.8            |
| Diluted earnings per share (RMB cents)                     | 12.5            | 11.8            |

#### **Key Financial Figures**

#### Six months ended 30 June

|  | 2021 | 2020 |
|--|------|------|
|  |      |      |
| Gross profit margin  | 33%  | 32%  |
| Operating profit margin  | 14%  | 15%  |
| Net profit margin  | 10%  | 10%  |
| Trade receivable turnover period (Days)  | 357  | 376  |
| Inventory turnover period (Days)   | 81   | 92   |
| Trade payable turnover period (Days)   | 392  | 443  |
| Gearing ratio (Total borrowings divided by total assets)                         | 24%  | 21%  |
| Interest coverage (Profit before finance costs and tax divided by finance costs) | 5.79 | 5.24 |

#### Revenue

During the period under review, revenue increased by 22% to RMB2,065.63 million (Period 2020: RMB1,687.70 million).

#### **Gross Profit**

The Group's gross profit increased by 25% to RMB678.21 million for the six months ended 30 June 2021 (Period 2020: RMB542.69 million). The overall gross profit margin is 33% in the first half of 2021 (Period 2020: 32%).

#### Other Income

The other income of the Group amounted to RMB89.03 million (Period 2020: RMB93.53 million) which was mainly comprised of interest income, government grants and refund of value-added tax.



#### Other gains and losses

Other losses for the six months ended 30 June 2021 amounted to RMB2.18 million (Period 2020: RMB2.24 million) which comprised mainly of net foreign exchange loss.

#### **Operating Expenses**

In the first half of 2021, the Group's operating expenses amounted to RMB455.88 million (Period 2020: RMB361.12 million). Operating expenses accounted for 22% of the Group's revenue in the first half of 2021, representing an increase of 1% as compared with 21% in the first half of 2020.

#### **Finance Costs**

For the six months ended 30 June 2021, the Group's finance costs amounted to RMB48.59 million (Period 2020: RMB49.43 million), representing a decrease of 2% as compared with the same period of last year.

#### **Operating Profit**

Earnings before finance costs and tax for the six months ended 30 June 2021 amounted to RMB281.25 million (Period 2020: RMB258.99 million), representing an increase of 9% as compared with the same period of last year.

#### **Profit Attributable to Equity Shareholders of the Company**

The profit attributable to equity shareholders of the Company for the six months ended 30 June 2021 increased by 6% to RMB123.14 million (Period 2020: RMB116.26 million) as compared with the corresponding period of last year.

#### **Liquidity and Financial Resources**

The Group's primary sources of working capital and long-term funding needs have been cash flows from operation and financing activities.

As at 30 June 2021, the Group's current assets amounted to approximately RMB9,102.33 million (31 December 2020: RMB8,557.84 million), with cash and cash equivalents totaling approximately RMB1,939.98 million (31 December 2020: RMB2,255.47 million).

As at 30 June 2021, the Group's total bank and other borrowings amounted to approximately RMB2,871.89 million (31 December 2020: RMB2,290.12 million), of which RMB1,802.26 million (31 December 2020: RMB1,787.99 million) will be due to repay within one year and the remaining RMB1,069.63 million (31 December 2020: RMB502.13 million) will be due after one year. In the first half of 2021, the interest rate for the Group's bank borrowings ranged from 1.18% to 5.22% per annum (31 December 2020: 2.44% to 5.55% per annum).

The gearing ratio (total borrowings divided by total assets) on 30 June 2021 increased from 20% on 31 December 2020 to 24% on 30 June 2021.

#### **Exchange Rate Risk**

Most of the businesses of the Group are settled in Renminbi while businesses in foreign currencies are mainly settled in USD. The fluctuation of exchange rate of both currencies will have certain impact on the Group's business which are settled in foreign currencies. As far as possible, the Group aims to achieve natural hedging by investing and borrowing in the functional currencies. Where a natural hedge is not possible, the Group will mitigate foreign exchange risks via appropriate foreign exchange contracts. During the period under review, the Group has entered into foreign exchange forward contracts with notional amount of USD45 million with a commercial bank to minimise the exposure to fluctuations in foreign currency exchange rates of USD revenue received from overseas customers.

#### **Employees and Remuneration Policies**

As at 30 June 2021, the Group had 3,289 (31 December 2020: 3,222) staff. The staff costs (including other benefits and contributions to defined contribution retirement plan) amounted to RMB211.28 million in the first half of 2021 (Period 2020: RMB159.02 million). Employee remuneration is determined on performance, experience and prevailing market conditions, with compensation policies being reviewed on a regular basis. The aggregate amount of the emoluments of the Company's directors was RMB2.16 million for the six months ended 30 June 2021 (Period 2020: RMB2.22 million).

The Group's employees in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC") have enrolled in the mandatory central pension scheme operated by the State. The Group also provides housing allowances and benefits for medicine, employment injury and retirement for its staff in the PRC in accordance with the relevant PRC rules and regulations. The directors of the Company (the "Directors") confirm that the Group has fulfilled its obligations under the relevant PRC employment laws. The Group also set up the mandatory provident fund scheme for the employees in Hong Kong.

#### **Share Option Scheme**

The Company has adopted a share option scheme (the "Share Option Scheme") on 16 May 2016 whereby the Directors are authorised, at their discretion, to invite eligible participants, including directors of any company in the Group, to take up options to subscribe for ordinary shares in the Company.

The exercise price of options granted, as specified in the rules governing the Share Option Scheme, is to be not less than the highest of the official closing price of the ordinary shares of the Company on the Stock Exchange on the date of the offer of grant of the options, the average of the official closing price of the ordinary shares on the Stock Exchange for the five trading days immediately preceding the date of the offer of grant of the options and the nominal value of an ordinary share of the Company. For acceptance of options granted by the Company, an eligible participant is required to duly sign the duplicate offer document constituting acceptance of the options and remit HK\$1 to the company within 30 days from the date of receiving the offer of the options.



Share price

## **MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (Continued)**

The movements in the Company's share options during the period are as follows:

|                                   |                            | Numbe                           | er of share op                    | tions  |                          |                                      |  |  |   | of the<br>Company<br>as at the                        |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Name and category of participants | As at<br>1 January<br>2021 | Granted<br>during<br>the period | Exercised<br>during<br>the period | Cancelled/<br>lapsed<br>during the<br>period | As at<br>30 June<br>2021 | Date of<br>grant of<br>share options | Vesting period of share options        | Exercise period of share options       | Exercise<br>price of<br>share<br>options*<br>HK\$ | date of the<br>grant of<br>share<br>options**<br>HK\$ |
| Other employees                   | 9,000,000                  | _                               | _                                 | -  | 9,000,000                | 10 February 2014                     | 10 February 2014 to<br>9 February 2016 | 10 February 2016 to<br>9 February 2024 | 4.680   | 4.680   |
| Other employees                   | 9,000,000                  | _                               | _                                 | _  | 9,000,000                | 10 February 2014                     | 10 February 2014 to<br>9 February 2017 | 10 February 2017 to<br>9 February 2024 | 4.680   | 4.680   |
| Total                             | 18,000,000                 | _                               | _                                 | _  | 18,000,000               |                                      |  |  |   |   |

<sup>\*</sup> The exercise price of share options is subject to adjustment made in respect of the alteration in capital structure of the Company.

The valuation was conducted based on the binomial model with the following data and assumptions:

| Grant date                  | 10 February<br>2014 | 10 February<br>2014 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Fair value per share option | HK\$1.846           | HK\$1.927           |
| Expected volatility         | 52% per annum       | 52% per annum       |
| Expected life               | 6.14 years          | 6.93 years          |
| Expected dividend           | 3.3% per annum      | 3.3% per annum      |
| Risk-free rate of interest  | 2.23% per annum     | 2.23% per annum     |
| Rate of leaving service     | 8% per annum        | 8% per annum        |

The binomial model was developed to value option plans which contain vesting and performance conditions. Such option pricing model requires input of highly subjective assumptions, including the expected volatility of the Company's share price which was determined with reference to the historical movements of the share prices of the Company and its comparators. Changes in subjective input assumptions could materially affect the fair value estimate. The binomial model does not necessarily provide a reliable measure of the fair value of share options.

#### **Share Award Scheme**

The Company has adopted a share award scheme on 3 May 2016 in which the eligible employees will be entitled to participate. The purposes of the share award scheme are to recognise the contributions by certain employees and to provide them with incentives in order to retain them for the continual operation and development of the Group and also to attract suitable personnel for further development of the Group.

<sup>\*\*</sup> The share price of the Company as at the date of the grant of share options was the closing price as quoted on the Stock Exchange of the trading day on the date of the grant of share options.

#### **Charge on Assets**

As at 30 June 2021, the pledge deposits are denominated in Renminbi and are pledged to banks as security for bills facilities granted to the Group. In addition, the Group's land and buildings are pledged to banks as security for bank loans to the Group.

#### **Capital Commitments**

As at 30 June 2021, the capital commitments in respect of the acquisition of property, plant and equipment contracted for but not provided in the condensed consolidated financial information amounted to RMB42.22 million (31 December 2020: RMB38.80 million).

#### **Contingent Liabilities**

As at 30 June 2021, the Group had no material contingent liabilities.

#### **MARKET REVIEW**

#### **Macro Environment**

Throughout the first half of 2021 ("period under review"), the global economy experienced steady recovery in the post-pandemic era. Global economies, especially in Europe, the United States and China, recorded better than expected growth as various parts of the world launched mass COVID-19 vaccination programs. According to the National Bureau of Statistics, China's GDP was RMB53.2 trillion in the first half of the year, an increase of 12.7% year-on-year ("YoY"), with the economy has steadily strengthening and improving. Supported by government policies, China's energy supply, high-end manufacturing and infrastructure industries all recorded satisfactory growth, gradually returning to pre-pandemic levels. In terms of the energy market, the electricity, heat, gas and water production and supply industries grew by 13.4% in the first half of 2021. With China committed to achieving "Peak Emissions" by 2030 and "Carbon Neutrality" by 2060, energy transformation and intelligent development have become essential to achieving a sustainable, low-carbon economy. The power generation, power transmission & distribution, power storage and energy-efficiency management sectors have all become a focus for future development. Although the pace of recovery in China and the global economy is picking up, the COVID-19 pandemic and outbreaks of the Delta variant in many regions continue to present a threat, causing fluctuations in economic recovery both at home and abroad — as well as posing enormous challenges to emerging markets and developing countries.

#### **Review of the Power Grid Industry**

During the period under review, China's overall electricity consumption was 3.93 trillion KWh, representing an increase of 16.2% YoY. The State Grid Corporation of China ("State Grid") started constructing 18,900 km of infrastructure projects (of 110 kV and above), totaling 133 million kVA. In terms of smart power meter tenders, State Grid invited tenders worth approximately RMB8.69 billion for power meters in the first half of this year, while China Southern Power Grid Company Limited ("Southern Grid") invited tenders for electricity meters worth approximately RMB673 million. In the first half of the year, new energy power generation within State Grid's area of operations increased by 38.4% YoY, with the utilisation rate for new energy reaching 97.1%, and new energy cloud platforms connecting to more than 2 million new energy terminals. Moreover, consumption of electricity by Southern Grid, during the period under review, increased by 20.4% YoY to 690 billion kWh across five provinces, an all-time record for this period.



#### **Review of Major Policies for the Power Grid Industry**

Guided by China's 14th Five-Year Plan, State Grid formulated its "Action Plan on New Type Power System Construction with New Energy as the Main Body (2021–2030)" which clearly presents a "One Body, Four Wings" development plan with the initial goal of forming an energy Internet industry ecosystem by 2025. In line with developing a low-carbon, green economy, State Grid also promoted and implemented China's first "Peak Emission, Carbon Neutrality" action plan by investing in construction of the world's largest new energy cloud platform, commissioning a new generation of intelligent power grid dispatching automation systems, accelerating the construction of a new power system and a new digital infrastructure with new energy at the core — in order to fully implement intelligent transformation. In addition, State Grid continued to proactively explore overseas markets, creating new overseas business opportunities for domestic power-equipment companies.

#### **Review of the Group's Overall Performance**

As an expert in energy metering and energy-efficiency management, the Group recorded a total turnover of RMB2,065.63 million in its three main business segments in the first half of 2021 (first half of 2020: RMB1,687.70 million), representing an increase of 22% YoY; gross profit was RMB678.21 million (first half of 2020: RMB542.69 million), representing an increase of 25% YoY. The Group's overall gross profit margin was 33% (first half of 2020: 32%), representing an increase of 1% percentage point YoY. These increases were due to optimizing its product structure and increasing the proportion of high-margin products. Net profit attributable to the owners of the Company was RMB123.14 million (first half of 2020: RMB116.26 million), representing an increase of 6% YoY.

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

#### Power Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("Power AMI")

#### **Business Overview**

Power AMI business focuses on research and development ("R&D"), production and the sale of smart power meters, as well as providing total energy-efficiency management solutions with a product range that mainly comprises single-phase and three-phase power meters, and other smart metering devices. Major customers for Power AMI are primarily power grid and non-power grid customers, both domestic and overseas. They include State Grid, Southern Grid and more than 60 local power companies, while non-power grid customers range from large-scale public infrastructures with high levels of energy-consumption to petroleum & petrochemicals, transportation, machine manufacturing, metallurgical and chemical industries, and residential users.

#### **Review of Business**

During the period under review, the Group's Power AMI business recorded a turnover of RMB731.33 million (first half of 2020: RMB711.19 million), representing an increase of 3% YoY, accounting for 35% of the Group's total turnover (first half of 2020: 42%). Gross profit margin was 31% (first half of 2020: 30%). The Group's power grid customers and non-power grid customers accounted for 56% and 44% of turnover, respectively (first half of 2020: 61% and 39%).

#### Order Data in the Period under Review

During the period under review, the Group's Power AMI business secured orders totalling RMB627.41 million. Of this, bids from power-grid customers amounted to approximately RMB466.08 million. The increase is mainly due to the YoY increase in demand for power meters from State Grid, and the positive impact from increasing the unit price of products resulting from changes in the technical standards for purchased products. Bids from non-power grid customers were worth approximately RMB161.33 million. During the period under review, the Group won a contract worth RMB322 million in a centralized tender organized by State Grid, ranking highest among its peers in terms of total contracts. The Group also won a contract worth RMB80.84 million in a centralized tender from Southern Grid, ranking lead position in terms of total contracts.

#### Review of Development of Power AMI Business and Relevant Policies

During the period under review, the power grid business remained the main source of business revenue. Growth in sales was due to the revisions in technical standards and repricing of products for State Grid and Southern Grid. In terms of non-power grid business and development of the new infrastructure market, the Group continued to improve its NB-IoT metering/power consumption solutions, successfully winning tenders from telecommunication operators in Hunan and Hainan provinces. Furthermore, influenced by "Peak Emissions" and "Carbon Neutrality" policies, technologies such as energy storage for microgrids, demand-side response, and virtual power plants have all progressed rapidly, while precise metering as the foundation of green-energy saving technology has developed rapidly. According to the "2021 China Electric Vehicle Charging Pile Industry Panorama Map", new investment in charging stations in China is estimated to reach RMB1.815 billion by 2060, and this will indirectly stimulate growth for domestically-produced energy-metering products.

#### **Prospects for Power AMI Business**

For the power grid market: Benefiting from implementation of the GB/T17215 series of national standards that align with IR46 international recommendations, the demand for products from the power grid industry is expected to steadily increase. The procurement needs of State Grid and Southern Grid for products that meet the new standard will be a major source of future growth for the Group's power grid business. At the same time, the country is vigorously reforming spot electricity trading and renewable electricity generation which will further boost demand for high-end products. As more power companies transform into integrated energy service providers, providing general contracting, operational and maintenance services for them will become a future source of business for the Group.

For the non-power grid market: Benefiting from the fruits of its R&D program into new products, and the revision of sales targets for the non-power grid market, the Group is currently shifting from pure sales of power-meter products to providing one-stop power metering and charging solutions. In the second half of 2021, the Group will aggressively expand its customer base, from providing overall solutions for industrial and commercial parks, apartments and commercial complexes; government investment such as street lamp metering for airports and high-speed railway stations; energy-saving solutions for university dormitories, classrooms and hospitals; to constructing 5G base stations and renovating traditional base stations for the three major telecommunication operators and China Tower. In June 2021, the National Development and Reform Commission and the National Energy Administration jointly issued their Notice on the Implementation Plan for 5G Applications in the Energy Sector, proposing to further expand 5G application scenarios in the energy sector. In the future, the Group's NB-IoT, CAT1 and communication site solutions will keep pace with market trends and grow steadily as the new infrastructure market rapidly develops.



#### Communication and Fluid Advanced Metering Infrastructure ("Communication and Fluid AMI")

#### **Business Overview**

Our Communication and Fluid AMI business mainly focuses on reshaping energy management for power, water, gas and heat with technologies ranging from chip substrate design, to data perception and acquisition, and routing networks. It also includes communication technologies that ensure high-speed data transmission and stable connections for communication networking technologies, providing a full-chain energy Internet solution, and providing users with digital solutions such as data management. In terms of power Internet of Things ("IoT"), the Group is striving to improve the utilization efficiencies within existing power-system infrastructure, and provide key technological support for power grid generation, transmission, transformation, distribution, and power consumption. This will gradually extend to smart water services, smart fire protection, smart street lamps, smart charging and other smart-city applications. The Group's Communication and Fluid AMI business, Willfar Information Technology Company Limited (a 58.5% shareholding subsidiary of the Group), is the first company in Hunan Province to list on the STAR Market of the Shanghai Stock Exchange and was also shortlisted for the constituent of "STAR Market 50 Index".

#### **Review of Business**

During the period under review, the Group's Communication and Fluid AMI business recorded turnover of RMB814.54 million (first half of 2020: RMB636.49 million), representing an increase of 28% YoY, and accounting for 40% of the Group's total turnover (first half of 2020: 38%). The gross profit margin was 37% (first half of 2020: 35%).

#### Order Data in the Period under Review

During the period under review, the value of newly-signed contracts for the Communication and Fluid AMI business totalled RMB1,161 million. As of June 30, 2021, the value of signed contracts on hand reached RMB1,841 million, laying a strong foundation for future development.

#### Review of Development of Communication and Fluid AMI Business and Relevant Policies

During the period under review, driven by the dual-carbon economy, the optimization of industry and energy structures, and the scaling up of new energy development will become important measures to achieving the goal of dual-carbon. In March 2021, the State Council issued its "Opinions on Implementing the Division of Key Work in the Report on the Work of the Government", allowing all manufacturing companies to participate in marketizing power trading and increasing the installation of facilities such as charging piles and power-swap stations. According to the "Zero Carbon China • Green Investment Bluebook" published by the China Investment Association, it is estimated that carbon neutrality will bring about RMB70 trillion of investment in green infrastructure development between 2020 and 2025. The digital economy and dual-carbon policy will therefore become strong drivers of economic growth.

In view of this, the Group has continuously optimised its product line to keep pace with the market trend of fully integrating the IoT into all walks of life and constructing a new energy ecosystem. (I) Power IoT R&D: "Domestic microchips" as a major national development focus, the Group will continue adhering to the development foundation of "technological innovation" and spare no effort in conducting proprietary research into microchips to provide efficient and reliable sensing and communication solutions for IoT networking. (II) Smart City IoT: The Group provided a comprehensive solution for the energy Internet at every level, integrating hardware and software products into an overall solution for smart energy such as electricity, water, gas and heat, smart fire protection and other application fields, which was well recognized by the market. (III) Partnering with technology giants: During the period under review, the Group cooperated with Tencent to launch a joint solution for smart cities, becoming Tencent's strategic partner in the IoT field. With the common development goal of building industrial Internet and smart cities, the Group has made significant leaps forward in this emerging industry.

#### Prospects for Communication and Fluid AMI Business

Digital grids are a new energy ecosystem that rely on digital innovations such as cloud technology as their core driving force. Data is the key resource being produced, and the new IoT and information network are the foundation that will enable the energy internet to integrate with industrial parks, buildings and enterprise and realize the digitalization and development of low-carbon urban infrastructure such as electricity, water, gas, heating, electricity and rechargeable lamps. All these fully comply with the Group's current strategic cooperation with technology giants and its focus on developing smart cities and actively providing basic support for the interaction of the digital grid's source-network-load-storage.

With the rapid development of the global IoT, the market value of China's IoT has surpassed RMB2 trillion. According to IDC data, global IoT expenditure reached US\$690.47 billion in 2020, with the China market accounting for 23.6%. By 2025, the global IoT market will grow at a CAGR of 11.4% to US\$1.1 trillion, with China's market share rising to 25.9%, ranking first in the world.

Given the trend toward green and low-carbon development, new low-carbon technologies especially deep decarbonization and zero-carbon, efficient power consumption and renewable electricity generation technologies, will become new competitive elements of future technologies. Guided by the 14th Five-Year Plan and dual-carbon policy, the digital grid will connect with smart cities. Power data will inform urban governance, the advantages of digital technology are emphasized, the access and application of new energy are given priority, and various energy consumption IoT systems will be established and consolidated. Currently, the Group has built a smart cloud platform for IoT, consolidating the vertical application capabilities for smart parks, smart water, smart gas, smart fire protection, smart power distribution safety monitoring and management, and energy utilization information collection and management. It is also accumulating customer bases such as new infrastructure operating companies, water groups, Siemens and Tencent. These core technologies will be positively laid out in the application scenarios of the new digital-intelligent city to adapt to the large-scale development in the future.

#### Advanced Distribution Operations ("ADO")

#### **Business Overview**

ADO business focuses on advanced distribution products and solutions. As power distribution networks are key to grid connection and services for end users, the ADO business primarily provides different users with individualised terminal distribution solutions (including technical requirements/hardware replacement for power transmission, distribution and consumption in constructing smart power grids). The business focuses on four areas: clean energy, smart grids, electric transportation and energy storage industrialization. These all form an integrated solution for energy sourcing, networking, loading and storage in different scenarios and areas. Customers primarily fall into three categories: power grid customers (including State Grid and Southern Grid); key industrial customers (including metros, rail transport, hospitals, and data centres); and renewable energy customers and users.

#### **Review of Business**

During the period under review, the Group's ADO business recorded a turnover of RMB519.76 million (first half of 2020: RMB340.02 million), representing an increase of 53% YoY, and accounting for 25% of the Group's total turnover (first half of 2020: 20%). The gross profit margin was 29% (first half of 2020: 33%). The Group's power grid and non-power grid customers accounted for 34% and 66% of turnover, respectively (first half of 2020: 42% and 58%).



#### Order Data in the Period Under Review

The Group's ADO business secured RMB807.8 million worth of orders during the reporting period. Of these, contracts won from the power-grid market with a combined value of more than RMB406.5 million were primarily achieved from obtaining satisfactory outcomes in bidding for State Grid projects. However, it was also influenced by the bidding cycles of customers. Bidding for major projects from Southern Grid in 2021, which corresponds to the main products, will commence in the third quarter. Contracts won from the non-power grid market were worth over RMB401.3 million. The increase was mainly due to the excellent performance in key industry markets such as data centres and rail transportation. However, adjustments in the new energy business and the development cycle of new business led to a decrease in orders from the new energy market.

#### Review of development of ADO Business and Relevant Policies

Distribution networks are the vital infrastructures that support the population's energy use, empowering people to enjoy a better life. The "State Grid Corporation of China Energy Internet Planning" issued by State Grid and the "White Paper on Digital Power Grid Promoting the Construction of the New Power System with New Energy as the Main Body" issued by Southern Grid both propose building a new power system to help realize the goal of dual-carbon. State Grid has also proposed building a world-leading Energy Internet with Chinese characteristics by 2035. During the period under review, the Group responded to power distribution demands from the new power system by continuing to launch intelligent power distribution, and primary and secondary integrated products for power systems, as well as comprehensive solutions for intelligent power distribution. The Group's power-grid business achieved all-round growth in terms of scope, frequency and volume by winning bids for State Grid projects. It also expanded its business through cooperation under the premise of changes in the customer bidding cycle of Southern Grid, thereby ensuring the stable development of power grid performance. In terms of non-power grid business, the data centres and rail transport business for key industry customers achieved major breakthroughs with significant growth in overall performance.

In terms of the new energy market, the development goals of "Peak Emissions" and "Carbon Neutrality" were among the eight major objectives determined by the Central Economic Work Conference in 2021. The National Energy Administration has continuously prioritised a clean energy industrial policy, issuing a series of policy documents to promote the integration of source-network-load-storage of power, the complementary development of multiple energy sources, and using renewable energy for heating which all will help better utilization of clean energy and improve the operational efficiency of power systems. Responding to large-scale developments in clean energy, the Group focused on overall smart energy solutions, with the integration of source-network-load-storage in smart parks, power storage system, and green travel as the core businesses and main tracks. During the reporting period, the first green and low-carbon pilot project of integration of source-network-load-storage, located in an industrial park in Hunan Province led by the Group was officially approved and entered the construction stage. Moreover, the Group established a professional energy-storage technology team to work around the grid energy storage market and the user side energy storage market.

#### **Prospects for ADO Business**

Benefiting from an increase in the number of tenders from State Grid and its steadily expanding coverage, as well as Southern Grid's ongoing consolidation, the Group's share of the power grid market is expected to continue rising throughout the second half of 2021. In terms of key industry customers, the Group will pursue closer cooperation, build on long-term relationships and stable market sources in order to expand within the overall key industry market. Regarding the new energy industry, the Group will closely adhere to national policies and focus on the construction and operation of its source-grid-load-storage integration project in Xiangtan Economic and Technological Development Zone which has been recognised as a pilot project. It will also promote development of a distributed photovoltaic cabinet mode for the whole county and bid for large-scale energy storage power stations. In terms of transportation electrification, the Group will focus on the low-speed electric vehicle market and provide services to key customers such as leading Internet companies, State Grid Electric Company and Tower Energy through mass producing energy-efficient, intelligent power-exchange cabinets and developing its own power-exchange system solutions (platforms, power exchange cabinets, batteries and electric vehicles).

#### **International Markets**

#### Global Smart Power Meter Market

According to the Bloomberg New Energy Financial Report, global investment in power grids will grow to at least USD14 trillion by 2025 to help transform power systems. Data released by Markets and Markets indicates that the global smart metering market will increase to USD28.6 billion in 2025 with compound annual growth of 6.7%. According to research by Berg Insight, an industry analyst firm that focuses on IoT, 572.3 million smart power meters will be deployed in the Asia region including China, India, Japan and South Korea between 2021 and 2025. Currently, demand for smart power meters is rising in different parts of the world. However, the development stages for power meters differ widely, and there is still a need for prepaid power meter and smart power meter equipment.

#### **Review of Business**

During the period under review, overseas business turnover was RMB248.10 million (first half of 2020: RMB93.14 million), representing an increase of 166% YoY which attributed to the Group's breakthroughs in Nigeria, Côte d'Ivoire, Morocco, Ecuador, Sweden, Russia and other markets.

#### Order Data in the Period under Review

During the period under review, the Group secured approximately RMB621 million worth of overseas orders.

#### Market Developments in Each Country

In Asian markets, the Group was added to Indonesia's supplier list for the residential renovation market. As the main technical promoter of AMI renovation projects for the country, the Group has successfully completed intelligent renovation pilot projects. In Malaysia, the Group, which is one of the country's main suppliers, again secured the annual renovation procurement contract from Tenaga Nasional Berhad (TNB), rising to second place in terms of overall market share. In Bangladesh, the Group has worked on system access, technology promotion and pilot work on intelligent transformation for four major power distribution companies, becoming one of the country's three major local suppliers. In Russia, the Group won new customers and seamlessly delivered a major order for smart power meter packages. In Saudi Arabia, the Group successfully renewed numerous communications module contracts and expanded its core business.



In Africa, the Group continues to be a major supplier in Egypt's electricity metering market and has been recognized by users in a pilot project for intelligent transformation. In West Africa, the Group continues to be one of the three major suppliers in Côte d'Ivoire, expanding its share of supply and being invited to participate in a smart water renovation project. At the same time, the Group obtained bulk orders in Guinea. It has also actively explored the Ugandan and Kenyan markets, receiving bulk orders from Uganda.

In South America, the Group's Brazilian subsidiary further strengthened its operational and delivery capabilities, and completed the customization and optimization of various products. During the period under review, the Group won bids for power meter projects from five power companies totalling more than RMB100 million. Furthermore, the Group won a major order for power meter projects from five power authorities in Ecuador during the period under review, further expanding its market share.

In Europe, the Group continued partnering with Siemens and Itron. During the period under review, the Group maintained its cooperation with Siemens in Austria, successfully completing the delivery of smart power meters and winning new orders for next-generation smart power meters.

#### **Future Development of International Markets**

The Group's business in international markets will embrace the core market as the centre, adopt the expansion strategy of strengthening the ability of the local language system and accessing surrounding markets. It will continue cultivating existing markets, maintain stable development, and actively explore new markets.

In Asia, the Group has chosen Indonesia as its base. From here it can steadily develop new markets in Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Vietnam and other countries. The Group has selected Bangladesh as another base, and begun accessing Pakistan and Indian markets. In Russian-speaking regions, the Group has chosen Russia as its operational base from where it can expand into Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan and neighbouring countries. In the Middle East, the Group will use Saudi Arabia as a base and gradually expand into the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and neighbouring countries. In Africa, Tanzania will be its base for eastern Africa and the Group is accessing Uganda, Kenya and other countries from here. From its base in Egypt, the Group has gradually expanded its business into neighbouring North African countries. Relying on Western African nations such as Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Nigeria, the Group has gradually expanded into neighbouring countries such as Benin, Niger, Mali, Mauritania and Sierra Leone. In the South American market, the Group's Brazilian subsidiary has commenced operations and will access Ecuador, Chile, Peru, Dominica, Guatemala and other markets. In Europe, Group will continue expanding from its Austrian base into other countries.

#### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ("R&D")

To drive innovation, the Group invests substantially in R&D, closely complying with national policies and industry transformation trends, developing in step with the energy Internet, building new power systems and smart cities, satisfying customer needs, and actively promoting its own technological innovations. During the period under review, the Group was granted 75 patents and authored 38 software copyrights, boosting the total number of valid patents and software copyrights to 1,405 and 1,252, respectively.

#### **Power AMI Business**

During the period under review, the Group's IoT smart meters for State Grid and Southern Grid, which comply with IR46 and the new national standards, passed a rigorous inspection by China Electric Power Research Institute in the first half of the year, and developed a non-intrusive load identification module and power quality module for IoT meters. The Group has actively researched operating systems for IoT smart meters and key power meter APP technologies for State Grid with some being successfully applied to State Grid's IoT meters. Moreover, to maintain its technological lead in gateway products, the Group conducted R&D for a new generation of high-precision gateway power meter platforms, as well as intensive research on operational reliability, satellite timing technology and precise metering of diversified load scenarios, so as to improve the operational reliability, and clock and meter accuracy of its gateway power meters.

#### Communication and Fluid AMI Business

In view of the trend toward building new energy ecosystems, digital power grids and intelligent digital cities, the Group has launched HPLC/HPLC + RF dual-mode, micro-power and Wi-SUN chips and modules for the final step of networking communication needs of the IoT, and low-power consumption MCU and sensing chips for the end perception and master control needs of the IoT, so as to provide diverse solutions for power IoT and wire-free communication in the IoT of intelligent digital cities. As the macro environment was affected by a shortage of chips in the first half of the year, the Group will continue pursuing independent R&D into chips to ensure the smooth delivery of orders from various business segments and enhance its core competitiveness.

#### **ADO Business**

Responding to growing demand for power distribution equipment from development of the IoT and digitalization of power grids, the Group developed primary and secondary integrated pole-mounted circuit breakers, decentralized controllers for intelligent distribution and permanent magnet normal-pressure sealed ring network cabinets based on new standards that meet State Grid's more demanding requirements. To meet the demand for "digitalization, modularization, miniaturization and integration" in key industries, the Group has developed its power shelter series and 550 miniaturized high-voltage switchgear which has entered the prototype design stage. It has also developed high and low voltage intelligent switchgear based on a comprehensive solution for intelligent power distribution and utilization industry and this has become the physical foundation for digital platforms and a carrier of primary and secondary integration. Furthermore, the Group collaborated with universities to conduct basic technology research into BMS + PCS, and prepare for the field of energy storage. These new technologies and products have created a foundation from which the Group can grow its smart power distribution and new energy business.

#### International Markets

Regarding opportunities in international markets, the Group has strived to build an AMI overall-system solution based on CBB shelf and bottom decoupling technology. This was successfully extended to smart electricity, water, gas and other areas of the smart city with the Group winning orders in Brazil, Ecuador, Nigeria, Bangladesh and other countries. The stable operation of BPLC, G3-PLC and Wi-SUN overall-system solutions, the integration of LoRaWAN into Acklio SCHC in France, and the successful integration of IPv6 network protocol and DLMS/COSEM energy communication protocol have greatly enhanced the global competitiveness of the Group in AMI business. Meanwhile, the Group has acquired IDIS certification for its full product range on the new FM33A0 platform, and received HCWW certification. This will inject new vitality into the high-end market and further improve the Group's global configuration.



#### **OTHER INFORMATION**

# UTILISATION OF NET PROCEEDS FROM THE IPO OF WILLFAR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ON THE STAR MARKET

The net proceeds from the initial public offering ("IPO") of shares of Willfar Information Technology Company Limited ("Willfar Information Technology") on the STAR Market of Shanghai Stock Exchange ("STAR Market") on 21 January 2020 amounted to approximately RMB610.83 million and the below table sets out the use of the net proceeds from the listing date up to 30 June 2021:

|     | Intended use of net proceeds   | Net<br>proceeds<br>RMB'000 | Amount utilised from date of listing to 31 December 2020 RMB'000 | Amount utilised during the six months ended 30 June 2021 RMB'000 | Unused<br>proceeds<br>RMB'000 |
|-----|--|----------------------------|--|--|-------------------------------|
|     |  |                            |  |  |                               |
| (1) | Expansion of production capacity and technological upgrade of monitoring equipment applied in the perception layer of IoT    | 60,292                     | 8,869  | 2,472  | 48,951                        |
| (2) | Expansion of production capacity and technological upgrade of fluid sensing equipment applied in the perception layer of IoT | 62,940                     | 5,266  | 981  | 56,693                        |
| (3) | Expansion of production capacity and technological upgrade of products applied in the network layer of IoT                   | 204,873                    | 39,581   | 14,518   | 150,774                       |
| (4) | Construction of comprehensive research and development centre for IoT  | 146,951                    | 11,942   | 9,907  | 125,102                       |
| (5) | Replenishment of working capital   | 135,778                    | 127,469  | _  | 8,309                         |
|     |  | 610,834                    | 193,127  | 27,878   | 389,829                       |

The net proceeds were used in accordance with the intentions previously disclosed by Willfar Information Technology.

#### **INTERIM DIVIDEND**

The directors do not recommend the payment of an interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2021 (Period 2020: Nil).

# **OTHER INFORMATION (Continued)**

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN SHARES AND UNDERLYING SHARES**

At 30 June 2021, the interests of the directors and their associates in the shares and underlying shares of the Company and its associated corporations, as recorded in the register maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 352 of the Securities and Futures Ordinance ("SFO"), or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers, were as follows:

#### Long positions

Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each of the Company

|                  |   |                 | Percentage of    |
|------------------|---|-----------------|------------------|
|                  |   | Number of       | the issued share |
|                  |   | issued ordinary | capital of the   |
| Name of director | Capacity                                    | shares held     | Company          |
|                  |   |                 |                  |
| Ji Wei           | Interest of controlled corporation (Note 1) | 531,286,888     | 53.35%           |
| Cao Zhao Hui     | Beneficial owner                            | 2,000,000       | 0.20%            |
| Li Hong          | Beneficial owner                            | 350,000         | 0.04%            |
| Zheng Xiao Ping  | Beneficial owner (Note 2)                   | 3,682,000       | 0.37%            |
| Chan Cheong Tat  | Beneficial owner                            | 120,000         | 0.01%            |

#### Notes:

- (1) The shares are held by Star Treasure Investments Holdings Limited ("Star Treasure"), a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, the entire issued share capital of which is beneficially owned by Mr. Ji Wei.
- (2) 1,990,000 shares and 1,692,000 shares are held by Ms. Zheng Xiao Ping and Mr. Wang Xue Xin respectively. Mr. Wang Xue Xin is the spouse of Ms. Zheng Xiao Ping.

Other than as disclosed above, none of the directors, chief executives nor their associates had any interest or short positions in any shares or underlying shares of the Company or any of its associated corporations, as recorded in the register required to be kept under section 352 of the SFO or otherwise notified to the Company pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies as at 30 June 2021.

#### SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS

As at 30 June 2021, the register of substantial shareholders maintained by the Company pursuant to Section 336 of the SFO shows that other than the interests disclosed in the section headed "Directors' interests in shares and underlying shares" above, the following shareholders had notified the Company of relevant interests in the issued share capital of the Company.



# **OTHER INFORMATION (Continued)**

#### Long positions — Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each of the Company

| Name of shareholder     | Capacity  | Number of issued ordinary shares held | Percentage of<br>the issued capital<br>of the Company |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Name of Shareholder     | Сарасну   | Shares neid                           | or the Company  |
| Ji Wei<br>Star Treasure | Interest in controlled corporation Beneficial owner | 531,286,888<br>531,286,888            | 53.35%<br>53.35%                                      |

Other than as disclosed above, the Company has not been notified of any other relevant interests or short positions in the issued share capital of the Company as at 30 June 2021.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee is responsible for assisting the Board in safeguarding the Group's assets by providing an independent review of the effectiveness of the financial reporting process and the internal controls and risk management systems of the Group. It also performs other duties as assigned by the Board.

All the members of the Audit Committee are independent non-executive directors of the Company.

The interim results of the Group for the six months ended 30 June 2021 have been reviewed by the auditors of the Company, Ernst & Young, and the Audit Committee.

# COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE OF THE RULES GOVERNING THE LISTING OF SECURITIES ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED (THE "LISTING RULES")

During the six months ended 30 June 2021, save for Code Provision A.6.7, the Company has applied the principles of and has complied with all code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code as set forth in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules.

Code Provision A.6.7 provides that independent non-executive directors and non-executive directors of the Company should attend general meetings of the Company. Mr. Luan Wenpeng, Mr. Cheng Shi Jie and Mr. Wang Yaonan, who are independent non-executive directors of the Company, failed to attend the annual general meeting of the Company held on 3 June 2021 due to conflicts with their schedules.

Save as disclosed, there has been no deviation from the code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code as set forth in the Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules for the six months ended 30 June 2021.

# **OTHER INFORMATION (Continued)**

#### MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") as set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules.

Specific enquiry has been made with all the directors and the directors have confirmed that they have complied with the Model Code throughout the six months ended 30 June 2021.

The Company has also established written guidelines on terms no less exacting than the Model Code for securities transactions by employees who are likely to be in possession of unpublished price-sensitive information of the Company.

#### **PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF LISTED SECURITIES**

During the six months ended 30 June 2021, there was no purchase, sale or redemption by the Company, or any of its subsidiaries, of the listed securities of the Company.

#### **APPRECIATION**

The Board would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude to our shareholders, customers, banks, professional parties and employees for their continuous patronage and support.

By order of the Board

Ji Wei

Chairman

Hong Kong, 30 August 2021



#### INDEPENDENT REVIEW REPORT



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To the board of directors of Wasion Holdings Limited

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

#### INTRODUCTION

We have reviewed the interim financial information set out on pages 25 to 56, which comprise the condensed consolidated statement of financial position of Wasion Holdings Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together the "Group") as at 30 June 2021 and the related condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, condensed consolidated statement of changes in equity and condensed consolidated statement of cash flows for the six-month period then ended, and explanatory notes. The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited require the preparation of a report on interim financial information to be in compliance with the relevant provisions thereof and Hong Kong Accounting Standard 34 *Interim Financial Reporting* ("HKAS 34") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"). The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation and presentation of this interim financial information in accordance with HKAS 34. Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on this interim financial information based on our review. Our report is made solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

#### **SCOPE OF REVIEW**

We conducted our review in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410 Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity issued by the HKICPA. A review of interim financial information consists of making inquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

# **INDEPENDENT REVIEW REPORT (Continued)**

#### CONCLUSION

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the interim financial information is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with HKAS 34.

Ernst & Young
Certified Public Accountants
Hong Kong

30 August 2021



# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

|  | Six | mon' | ths en | ded : | 30 June |
|--|-----|------|--------|-------|---------|
|--|-----|------|--------|-------|---------|

|   |           | 2021        | 2020        |
|---|-----------|-------------|-------------|
|   | Notes     | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|   | NOTES     |             |             |
|   |           | (unaudited) | (unaudited) |
|   |           |             |             |
| Revenue   | 4         | 2,065,632   | 1,687,701   |
| Cost of sales   |           | (1,387,425) | (1,145,015) |
|   |           |             |             |
| Gross profit  |           | 678,207     | 542,686     |
| Other income, gains and losses, net                           | 4         | 86,849      | 91,286      |
|   | 4         |             |             |
| Administrative expenses                                       |           | (85,707)    | (85,337)    |
| Selling expenses  |           | (186,649)   | (148,812)   |
| Research and development expenses                             |           | (183,523)   | (126,967)   |
| Impairment losses on financial assets and contract assets     |           | (27,927)    | (13,867)    |
| Finance costs   | 5         | (48,591)    | (49,433)    |
|   |           |             |             |
| Profit before tax   | 6         | 232,659     | 209,556     |
| Income tax expense  | 7         | (31,743)    | (35,664)    |
| ·   |           | •           |             |
| PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD   |           | 200,916     | 173,892     |
| FNOTITION THE FEMOLE  |           | 200,910     | 173,092     |
|   |           |             |             |
| Profit for the period attributable to                         |           |             |             |
| <ul> <li>Owners of the parent</li> </ul>                      |           | 123,141     | 116,264     |
| <ul> <li>Non-controlling interests</li> </ul>                 |           | 77,775      | 57,628      |
|   |           |             |             |
|   |           | 200,916     | 173,892     |
|   |           |             |             |
| OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS):                            |           |             |             |
| Other comprehensive loss that will not be reclassified to     |           |             |             |
| profit or loss in subsequent periods:                         |           |             |             |
| Equity investments designated at fair value through           |           |             |             |
|   |           |             |             |
| other comprehensive income:                                   |           | (40.040)    | (44,000)    |
| Change in fair value  |           | (10,648)    | (11,026)    |
| Tax effect  |           | 102         | 2,549       |
|   |           |             |             |
|   |           | (10,546)    | (8,477)     |
| Other comprehensive income/(loss) that may be reclassified to |           |             |             |
| profit or loss in subsequent periods:                         |           |             |             |
| Exchange differences:   |           |             |             |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations     |           | 11,806      | (14,376)    |
|   |           |             |             |
| OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME/(LOSS) FOR THE PERIOD, NET O       | F TAX     | 1,260       | (22,853)    |
|   | <b></b> . | 1,200       | (22,000)    |

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Continued)

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

#### Six months ended 30 June

| Note   | 2021<br>RMB'000<br>(unaudited) | 2020<br>RMB'000<br>(unaudited) |
|--|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD  | 202,176                        | 151,039                        |
| Attributable to: Owners of the parent Non-controlling interests                                | 124,401<br>77,775              | 93,411<br>57,628               |
|  | 202,176                        | 151,039                        |
| EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO  ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT  Basic and diluted 9 | RMB12.5 cents                  | RMB11.8 cents                  |



# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF **FINANCIAL POSITION**

At 30 June 2021

| Notes  | 30 June<br>2021<br>RMB'000<br>(unaudited)  | 31 December<br>2020<br>RMB'000<br>(audited)   |
|--|--|---|
| NON-CURRENT ASSETS  Property, plant and equipment 10 Investment properties Right-of-use assets Goodwill Other intangible assets  Equity investments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income 11 Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss 12 Loan receivables 15 Prepayments, other receivables and other assets 16 Deferred tax assets | 1,381,043<br>23,099<br>193,755<br>313,272<br>517,763<br>64,655<br>200,000<br>109,240<br>54,099<br>40,502 | 1,322,117<br>23,346<br>188,114<br>313,272<br>511,201<br>78,775<br>—<br>109,384<br>132,308<br>33,726 |
|  | 2,897,428  | 2,712,243   |
| CURRENT ASSETS Inventories  Trade and bills receivables  Contract assets  14  Prepayments, other receivables and other assets  Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss  Structured deposits  17  Pledged deposits  Cash and bank balances  | 740,754<br>4,293,492<br>666,214<br>774,073<br>258<br>365,000<br>322,558<br>1,939,981                     | 497,838<br>3,850,096<br>651,206<br>720,998<br>200,000<br>80,000<br>302,229<br>2,255,473             |
|  | 9,102,330  | 8,557,840   |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES Trade and bills payables 18 Other payables and accruals 19 Interest-bearing bank borrowings 20 Lease liabilities Tax payable   | 3,040,634<br>243,630<br>1,802,259<br>8,485<br>64,126   | 2,963,135<br>258,600<br>1,787,997<br>5,306<br>52,680  |
|  | 5,159,134  | 5,067,718   |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS   | 3,943,196  | 3,490,122   |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES  | 6,840,624  | 6,202,365   |

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF **FINANCIAL POSITION (Continued)**

At 30 June 2021

|   | 30 June     | 31 December |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | 2021        | 2020        |
| Notes                                       | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|   | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|   |             |             |
| NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES                     |             |             |
| Interest-bearing bank borrowings 20         | 1,069,630   | 502,126     |
| Lease liabilities                           | 9,225       | 4,337       |
| Deferred tax liabilities                    | 19,674      | 19,444      |
|   |             |             |
| Total non-current liabilities               | 1,098,529   | 525,907     |
|   |             |             |
| Net assets                                  | 5,742,095   | 5,676,458   |
|   |             |             |
| EQUITY                                      |             |             |
| Equity attributable to owners of the parent |             |             |
| Issued capital 21                           | 9,906       | 9,906       |
| Reserves                                    | 4,492,795   | 4,513,395   |
|   |             |             |
|   | 4,502,701   | 4,523,301   |
| Non-controlling interests                   | 1,239,394   | 1,153,157   |
|   |             |             |
| Total equity                                | 5,742,095   | 5,676,458   |



# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF **CHANGES IN EQUITY**

|   |                             |                             |  |                                | Attributal   | ble to owners o                    | f the parent   |  |  |                                |                  |  |                            |
|---|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--------------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------------|
|   | Share<br>capital<br>RMB'000 | Share<br>premium<br>RMB'000 | Merger<br>reserve<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(i)) | Exchange<br>reserve<br>RMB'000 | PRC<br>statutory<br>reserves<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(ii)) | Share option<br>reserve<br>RMB'000 | Fair value<br>reserve of<br>financial assets<br>at fair value<br>through other<br>comprehensive<br>income<br>RMB'000 | Shares held<br>for share<br>award<br>scheme<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(iii)) | Other<br>reserve<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(iv)) | Retained<br>profits<br>RMB'000 | Total<br>RMB'000 | Non-<br>controlling<br>interest<br>RMB'000 | Total<br>equity<br>RMB'000 |
| At 1 January 2021 (audited)   | 9,906                       | 1,011,659                   | 49,990                                       | (39,628)                       | 463,816  | 27,730                             | (34,277)   | (36,998)   | 219,253                                      | 2,851,850                      | 4,523,301        | 1,153,157                                  | 5,676,458                  |
| Profit for the period Other comprehensive income for the period: Change in fair value of equity investments at fair value through other comprehensive | -                           | -                           | -  | -                              | _  | -                                  | _  | -  | -  | 123,141                        | 123,141          | 77,775                                     | 200,916                    |
| income, net of tax  Exchange differences on translation of foreign  | -                           | -                           | -  | -                              | -  | -                                  | (10,546)   | -  | -  | -                              | (10,546)         | -  | (10,546)                   |
| operations  | _                           | _                           | _  | 11,806                         | _  | _                                  | _  | _  | _  | _                              | 11,806           | _  | 11,806                     |
| Total comprehensive income for the period   | -                           | -                           | -  | 11,806                         | -  | -                                  | (10,546)   | -  | -  | 123,141                        | 124,401          | 77,775                                     | 202,176                    |
| Transfer to PRC statutory reserves Transfer of fair value reserve upon the disposal of equity investments at fair value through                       | -                           | -                           | -  | -                              | 30,187   | -                                  | -  | -  | -  | (30,187)                       | -                | -  | -                          |
| other comprehensive income  Deemed partial disposal of interest in  | -                           | -                           | -  | -                              | -  | -                                  | (60)   | -  | -  | 60                             | -                | -  | -                          |
| a subsidiary (Note 22(v)) Dividend paid to non-controlling  | -                           | -                           | -  | -                              | -  | -                                  | -  | -  | 19,866                                       | -                              | 19,866           | 55,134                                     | 75,000                     |
| shareholders<br>Dividend  | -<br>-                      | –<br>(164,867)              | -<br>-                                       | -<br>-                         | -<br>-   | -<br>-                             | -<br>-   | -<br>-   | -  | -<br>-                         | (164,867)        | (46,672)<br>—                              | (46,672)<br>(164,867)      |
| At 30 June 2021 (unaudited)   | 9,906                       | 846,792*                    | 49,990*                                      | (27,822)*                      | 494,003*   | 27,730*                            | (44,883)*  | (36,998)*  | 239,119*                                     | 2,944,864*                     | 4,502,701        | 1,239,394                                  | 5,742,095                  |

# INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF **CHANGES IN EQUITY (Continued)**

|   | Attributable to owners of the parent |                             |  |                                |  |                                       |  |  |   |  |                                |                  |  |                            |
|---|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|--|---|--|--------------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------------|
|   | Share<br>capital<br>RMB'000          | Share<br>premium<br>RMB'000 | Merger<br>reserve<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(i)) | Exchange<br>reserve<br>RMB'000 | PRC<br>statutory<br>reserves<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(ii)) | Share<br>option<br>reserve<br>RMB'000 | Fair value<br>reserve of<br>financial assets<br>at fair value<br>through other<br>comprehensive<br>income<br>RMB'000 | Shares held<br>for share<br>award<br>scheme<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(iii)) | Share<br>repurchase<br>reserve<br>RMB'000 | Other<br>reserve<br>RMB'000<br>(Note 22(iv)) | Retained<br>profits<br>RMB'000 | Total<br>RMB'000 | Non-<br>controlling<br>interest<br>RMB'000 | Total<br>equity<br>RMB'000 |
| At 1 January 2020 (audited)   | 9,947                                | 1,205,648                   | 49,990                                       | (62,498)                       | 426,949  | 27,730                                | (35,233)   | (39,421)   | (13,855)                                  | (15,001)                                     | 2,662,061                      | 4,216,317        | 630,083                                    | 4,846,400                  |
| Profit for the period Other comprehensive income for the period: Change in fair value of equity investments at fair value through other comprehensive income, | -                                    | -                           | -  | -                              | -  | -                                     | -  | -  | -   | -  | 116,264                        | 116,264          | 57,628                                     | 173,892                    |
| net of tax  | -                                    | -                           | _  | -                              | _  | -                                     | (8,477)  | _  | -   | -  | -                              | (8,477)          | -  | (8,477)                    |
| Exchange differences on translation of foreign operations   | _                                    |                             | -  | (14,376)                       | -  | -                                     | -  | -  | -   | _  | -                              | (14,376)         | _  | (14,376)                   |
| Total comprehensive income for the period   | _                                    | _                           | _  | (14,376)                       | _  | -                                     | (8,477)  | -  | _   | -  | 116,264                        | 93,411           | 57,628                                     | 151,039                    |
| Transfer to PRC statutory reserves Acquisition of non-controlling interests   | -                                    | -                           | -  | -                              | 18,903   | -                                     | -  | -  | -   | -  | (18,903)                       | -                | -  | -                          |
| (Note 22(v))  Transfer of fair value reserve upon the disposal of equity investments at fair value through other comprehensive                                | -                                    | -                           | -  | -                              | -  | -                                     | -  | -  | -   | (10,924)                                     | -                              | (10,924)         | (3,547)                                    | (14,471)                   |
| income  | -                                    | -                           | -  | -                              | -  | -                                     | (273)  | -  | -   | -  | 273                            | -                | -  | -                          |
| Shares cancelled  | (41)                                 | (13,814)                    | _  | -                              | -  | _                                     | _  | -  | 13,855                                    | -  | -                              | -                | -  | -                          |
| Deemed partial disposal of interest in a subsidiary (Note 22(v))  | _                                    | _                           | _  | (499)                          | (4,448)  | _                                     | -  | _  | _   | 250,621                                      | -                              | 245,674          | 365,160                                    | 610,834                    |
| Dividend paid to non-controlling  |                                      |                             |  |                                |  |                                       |  |  |   |  |                                |                  | (00.057)                                   | (00.00=)                   |
| shareholders<br>Dividend  | -                                    | (180,175)                   | -  | -                              | -<br>-   | -                                     | -  | -  | -   | -  | -                              | (180,175)        | (36,300)                                   | (36,300)<br>(180,175)      |
| At 30 June 2020 (unaudited)   | 9,906                                | 1,011,659                   | 49,990                                       | (77,373)                       | 441,404  | 27,730                                | (43,983)   | (39,421)   | _   | 224,696                                      | 2,759,695                      | 4,364,303        | 1,013,024                                  | 5,377,327                  |

These reserve accounts comprise the consolidated other reserves of RMB4,492,795,000 (31 December 2020: RMB4,513,395,000) in the interim condensed consolidated statement of financial position.



# **INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

| Six months ended 30 June |
|--------------------------|
|--------------------------|

|  | 2021<br>RMB'000<br>(unaudited)  | 2020<br>RMB'000<br>(unaudited)   |
|--|---|--|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Cash used in operations PRC taxes paid  | (277,645)<br>(26,741)   | (197,953)<br>(28,467)  |
| Net cash flows used in operating activities  | (304,386)   | (226,420)  |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Purchase of items of property, plant and equipment Additions to other intangible assets Proceeds from disposal of equity investments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income Investment in structured deposits Withdrawal of structured deposits Placement in bank deposits with maturity over 3 months Withdrawal of bank deposits with maturity over 3 months Placement in pledged deposits Withdrawal of pledged deposits Other investing cash flows | (95,629)<br>(70,933)<br>3,060<br>(1,000,000)<br>715,000<br>(130,000)<br>140,000<br>(292,391)<br>272,062<br>58,449 | (30,564)<br>(86,881)<br>17,549<br>(540,000)<br>—<br>(170,000)<br>—<br>(372,362)<br>361,174<br>34,559 |
| Net cash flows used in investing activities  | (400,382)   | (786,525)  |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES  New bank loans  Repayment of bank loans  Dividend paid  Dividend paid to non-controlling shareholders  Principal portion of lease payments  Proceeds from disposal of interests in subsidiaries  Acquisition of non-controlling interests  Other financing cash flows  | 1,608,932<br>(1,017,832)<br>(164,867)<br>(46,672)<br>(4,964)<br>75,000<br>—<br>(48,165)                           | 991,926<br>(777,724)<br>—<br>(36,300)<br>(2,531)<br>610,834<br>(14,471)<br>(49,433)                  |
| Net cash flows from financing activities   | 401,432   | 722,301  |
| NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period Effect of foreign exchange rate changes, net  | (303,336)<br>1,983,473<br>(2,156)   | (290,644)<br>1,778,088<br>1,483  |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF PERIOD   | 1,677,981   | 1,488,927  |
| ANALYSIS OF BALANCES OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS Cash and bank balances Time deposits   | 1,677,981<br>262,000  | 1,488,927<br>171,003   |
| Cash and bank balances as stated in the condensed consolidated statement of financial position Less: Time deposits with original maturity over three months  | 1,939,981<br>(262,000)  | 1,659,930<br>(171,003)   |
| Cash and cash equivalents as stated in the statement of cash flows   | 1,677,981   | 1,488,927  |

# NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION, BASIS OF PREPARATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Company is incorporated in the Cayman Islands as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Law of Cayman Islands and its shares are listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). The directors consider the immediate and ultimate holding company to be Star Treasure Investments Holdings Limited, a limited liability company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (the "BVI"). The addresses of the registered office and principal place of business of the Company are disclosed in the "Corporate Information" section of the interim report.

The interim condensed consolidated financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2021 has been prepared in accordance with HKAS 34 *Interim Financial Reporting*. The interim condensed consolidated financial information does not include all the information and disclosures required in the annual financial statements, and should be read in conjunction with the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020. They have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for equity investments designated at fair value through other comprehensive income and financial assets at fair value through profit or loss which have been measured at fair value. The interim financial information is presented in Renminbi ("RMB") and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand except when otherwise indicated.

#### 2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES

The accounting policies adopted in the preparation of the interim condensed consolidated financial information are consistent with those applied in the preparation of the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020, except for the adoption of the following revised Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs") for the first time for the current period's financial information.

Amendments to HKFRS 9, HKAS 39, HKFRS 7, Interest Rate Benchmark Reform — Phase 2

HKFRS 4 and HKFRS 16

Amendment to HKFRS 16 Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions

Amendment to HKFRS 16 Covid-19-Related Rent Concessions beyond 30 June 2021 (early adopted)

The nature and impact of the revised HKFRSs are described below:

(a) Amendments to HKFRS 9, HKAS 39, HKFRS 7, HKFRS 4 and HKFRS 16 address issues not dealt with in the previous amendments which affect financial reporting when an existing interest rate benchmark is replaced with an alternative risk-free rate ("RFR"). The phase 2 amendments provide a practical expedient to allow the effective interest rate to be updated without adjusting the carrying amount of financial assets and liabilities when accounting for changes in the basis for determining the contractual cash flows of financial assets and liabilities, if the change is a direct consequence of the interest rate benchmark reform and the new basis for determining the contractual cash flows is economically equivalent to the previous basis immediately preceding the change. In addition, the amendments permit changes required by the interest rate benchmark reform to be made to hedge designations and hedge documentation without the hedging relationship being discontinued. Any gains or losses that could arise on transition are dealt with through the normal requirements of HKFRS 9 to measure and recognise hedge ineffectiveness.



# NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

#### 2. CHANGES IN ACCOUNTING POLICIES AND DISCLOSURES (Continued)

#### (a) (Continued)

The amendments also provide a temporary relief to entities from having to meet the separately identifiable requirement when an RFR is designated as a risk component. The relief allows an entity, upon designation of the hedge, to assume that the separately identifiable requirement is met, provided the entity reasonably expects the RFR risk component to become separately identifiable within the next 24 months. Furthermore, the amendments require an entity to disclose additional information to enable users of financial statements to understand the effect of interest rate benchmark reform on an entity's financial instruments and risk management strategy.

The Group had certain interest-bearing bank borrowings denominated in Hong Kong dollars and foreign currencies based on the Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate and the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") as at 30 June 2021. Since the interest rates of these borrowings were not replaced by RFRs during the period, the amendment did not have any impact on the financial position and performance of the Group. If the interest rates of these borrowings are replaced by RFRs in a future period, the Group will apply this practical expedient upon the modification of these borrowings provided that the "economically equivalent" criterion is met.

(b) Amendment to HKFRS 16 issued in April 2021 extends the availability of the practical expedient for lessees to elect not to apply lease modification accounting for rent concessions arising as a direct consequence of the Covid-19 pandemic by 12 months. Accordingly, the practical expedient applies to rent concessions for which any reduction in lease payments affects only payments originally due on or before 30 June 2022, provided the other conditions for applying the practical expedient are met. The amendment is effective retrospectively for annual periods beginning on or after 1 April 2021 with any cumulative effect of initially applying the amendment recognised as an adjustment to the opening balance of retained profits at the beginning of the current accounting period. Earlier application is permitted.

The amendments did not have any impact on the financial position and performance of the Group as the Group does not have any lease payments being reduced or waived during the period ended 30 June 2021.

#### 3. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION

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

- Power advanced metering infrastructure segment, which engages in the development, manufacture and sale of smart power meters and provision of respective system solution;
- Communication and fluid advanced metering infrastructure segment, which engages in the development, manufacture
  and sale of communication terminals and water, gas and heat metering products and provision of respective system
  solution; and
- Advanced distribution operations segment, which engages in the manufacture and sale of smart power distribution devices and provision of smart power distribution solution and energy efficiency solution.

# NOTES TO INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

#### 3. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

Management monitors the results of the Group's operating segments separately for the purpose of making decisions about resource allocation and performance assessment. Segment performance is evaluated based on reportable segment results, which is a measure of adjusted profit before tax. The adjusted profit before tax is measured consistently with the Group's profit before tax except that interest income, finance costs, dividend income as well as unallocated corporate income, expenses, gains and losses are excluded from this measurement.

#### Six months ended 30 June 2021 (unaudited)

|   |                | Communication  |              |           |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|
|   | Power          | and fluid      |              |           |
|   | advanced       | advanced       | Advanced     |           |
|   | metering       | metering       | distribution |           |
|   | infrastructure | infrastructure | operations   | Total     |
|   | RMB'000        | RMB'000        | RMB'000      | RMB'000   |
|   |                |                |              |           |
| Segment revenue (Note 4):                     |                |                |              |           |
| Sales to external customers                   | 731,334        | 814,536        | 519,762      | 2,065,632 |
| Intersegment sales                            | 11,804         | 31,904         | _            | 43,708    |
|   |                |                |              |           |
|   | 743,138        | 846,440        | 519,762      | 2,109,340 |
| Reconciliation:                               |                |                |              |           |
| Elimination of intersegment sales             |                |                |              | (43,708)  |
|   |                |                |              |           |
|   |                |                |              | 2,065,632 |
|   |                |                |              | _,,,,,,,_ |
| Segment results                               | 17,119         | 179,474        | 65,644       | 262,237   |
| Reconciliation:                               | 17,119         | 179,474        | 05,044       | 202,237   |
| Bank interest income                          |                |                |              | 19,396    |
| Finance costs                                 |                |                |              | (48,591)  |
| Unallocated corporate gains and expenses, net |                |                |              | (383)     |
| Grandouted corporate gains and expenses, fiet |                |                |              | (000)     |
| 5 5 6 6                                       |                |                |              | 000.055   |
| Profit before tax                             |                |                |              | 232,659   |



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 3. OPERATING SEGMENT INFORMATION (Continued)

Six months ended 30 June 2020 (unaudited)

|   |                | Communication  |              |           |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|
|   | Power          | and fluid      |              |           |
|   | advanced       | advanced       | Advanced     |           |
|   | metering       | metering       | distribution |           |
|   | infrastructure | infrastructure | operations   | Total     |
|   | RMB'000        | RMB'000        | RMB'000      | RMB'000   |
| Segment revenue (Note 4):                     |                |                |              |           |
| Sales to external customers                   | 711,187        | 636,494        | 340,020      | 1,687,701 |
| Intersegment sales                            | 6,551          | 32,190         | 63           | 38,804    |
|   |                |                |              |           |
| D "" "  | 717,738        | 668,684        | 340,083      | 1,726,505 |
| Reconciliation:                               |                |                |              | (00.004)  |
| Elimination of intersegment sales             |                |                | -            | (38,804)  |
|   |                |                | _            | 1,687,701 |
| Segment results                               | 73,062         | 128,547        | 46,103       | 247,712   |
| Reconciliation:                               |                |                |              |           |
| Bank interest income                          |                |                |              | 12,836    |
| Finance costs                                 |                |                |              | (49,433)  |
| Unallocated corporate gains and expenses, net |                |                | _            | (1,559)   |
| Profit before tax                             |                |                |              | 209,556   |

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 4. REVENUE, OTHER INCOME, GAINS AND LOSSES, NET

An analysis of revenue is as follows:

|   | Six months ended 30 June |             |  |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--|
|   | 2021                     | 2020        |  |
|   | RMB'000                  | RMB'000     |  |
|   | (unaudited)              | (unaudited) |  |
| Develope of the responsible and the supplications and | 0.005.000                | 1 007 701   |  |
| Revenue from contracts with customers                 | 2,065,632                | 1,687,701   |  |

### **Revenue from contracts with customers**

### (i) Disaggregated revenue information

For the six months ended 30 June 2021 (unaudited)

| Segments   | Power<br>advanced<br>metering<br>infrastructure<br>RMB'000        | Communication<br>and fluid<br>advanced<br>metering<br>infrastructure<br>RMB'000 | Advanced distribution operations RMB'000 | Total<br>RMB'000   |
|--|---|---|--|--|
| Types of goods or services Smart power meters Communication terminals, water, gas and heat metering products Smart power distribution devices System solution services | 731,334<br>-<br>-<br>-  | -<br>814,536<br>-<br>-  | –<br>517,964<br>1,798                    | 731,334<br>814,536<br>517,964<br>1,798                                 |
| Geographic markets PRC South America Africa Asia, except for PRC Europe Others   | 731,334<br>550,192<br>47,757<br>88,321<br>16,337<br>28,570<br>157 | 814,536<br>747,572<br>—<br>50,547<br>16,392<br>25<br>—                          | 519,762<br>519,762<br>-<br>-<br>-<br>-   | 2,065,632<br>1,817,526<br>47,757<br>138,868<br>32,729<br>28,595<br>157 |
| Total revenue from contracts with customers  Timing of revenue recognition  Goods transferred at a point in time  Services rendered over time                          | 731,334<br>731,334<br>–   | 814,536<br>814,536<br>—   | 519,762<br>517,964<br>1,798              | 2,065,632<br>2,063,834<br>1,798  |
|  | 731,334   | 814,536   | 519,762                                  | 2,065,632  |



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### REVENUE, OTHER INCOME, GAINS AND LOSSES, NET (Continued)

### Revenue from contracts with customers (Continued)

Disaggregated revenue information (Continued)

For the six months ended 30 June 2020 (unaudited)

|   |                | Communication  |              |           |
|---|----------------|----------------|--------------|-----------|
|   | Power          | and fluid      |              |           |
|   | advanced       | advanced       | Advanced     |           |
|   | metering       | metering       | distribution |           |
| Segments                                    | infrastructure | infrastructure | operations   | Total     |
|   | RMB'000        | RMB'000        | RMB'000      | RMB'000   |
| Types of goods or services                  |                |                |              |           |
| Smart power meters                          | 711,187        |                |              | 711,187   |
| Communication terminals, water, gas and     | 711,107        | _              | _            | 711,107   |
| heat metering products                      | _              | 636,494        | _            | 636,494   |
| Smart power distribution devices            |                | 030,494        | 340,020      | 340,020   |
| - Contact power distribution devices        |                |                | 040,020      | 040,020   |
|   | 711,187        | 636,494        | 340,020      | 1,687,701 |
|   | 711,107        |                | 0.10,020     | 1,001,101 |
| Geographic markets                          |                |                |              |           |
| PRC   | 642,748        | 611,795        | 340,020      | 1,594,563 |
| South America                               | 43,786         | _              | _            | 43,786    |
| Africa                                      | 16,278         | 16,076         | _            | 32,354    |
| Asia, except for PRC                        | 1,326          | 7,051          | _            | 8,377     |
| Europe                                      | 5,023          | _              | _            | 5,023     |
| Others                                      | 2,026          | 1,572          |              | 3,598     |
|   |                |                |              |           |
| Total revenue from contracts with customers | 711,187        | 636,494        | 340,020      | 1,687,701 |
| Timing of revenue recognition               |                |                |              |           |
| Goods transferred at a point in time        | 711,187        | 636,494        | 340,020      | 1,687,701 |

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### REVENUE, OTHER INCOME, GAINS AND LOSSES, NET (Continued)

| Six months en | ded 30 June |
|---------------|-------------|
| 2021          | 20          |
| RMB'000       | RMB'0       |
| /             | / a alika   |

|  | 2021        | 2020        |
|--|-------------|-------------|
|  | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|  | (unaudited) | (unaudited) |
|  |             |             |
| Other income   |             |             |
| Bank interest income   | 19,396      | 12,836      |
| Interest income from structured deposits                                   | 2,817       | 8,844       |
| Interest income from loans receivables                                     | 6,267       | 6,951       |
| Interest income from consideration receivable for disposal of a subsidiary | 2,192       | 2,287       |
| Interest income on financial assets at FVTPL                               | 7,345       | 7,357       |
| Dividend income from equity investment designated at fair value through    |             |             |
| other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI")                                      | _           | 845         |
| Refund of value-added tax  | 33,160      | 20,479      |
| Government grants*   | 15,288      | 29,933      |
| Gross rental income  | 908         | 1,837       |
| Others   | 1,651       | 2,159       |
|  |             |             |
|  | 89,024      | 93,528      |
|  |             |             |
| Gains and losses, net  |             |             |
| Gain/(loss) on disposal of items of property, plant and equipment          | 277         | (80)        |
| Foreign exchange losses, net   | (2,710)     | (2,162)     |
| Fair value gains on financial assets at FVTPL                              | 258         | _           |
|  |             |             |
|  | (2,175)     | (2,242)     |
|  |             |             |
|  | 86,849      | 91,286      |

There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies relating to these grants.

### **FINANCE COSTS**

| Si | Χ | m | or | nth | าร | en | de | d | 30 | Jur | ıe |
|----|---|---|----|-----|----|----|----|---|----|-----|----|
|----|---|---|----|-----|----|----|----|---|----|-----|----|

|                                | 2021        | 2020        |
|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|                                | (unaudited) | (unaudited) |
|                                |             |             |
| Interests on borrowings        | 48,165      | 49,318      |
| Interests on lease liabilities | 426         | 115         |
|                                |             |             |
|                                | 48,591      | 49,433      |



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### PROFIT BEFORE TAX

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

|   | Six months ended 30 June |             |  |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--|
|   | <b>2021</b> 20           |             |  |
|   | RMB'000                  | RMB'000     |  |
|   | (unaudited)              | (unaudited) |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
| Cost of inventories sold  | 1,383,822                | 1,141,889   |  |
| Cost of services rendered   | 1,177                    | _           |  |
| Depreciation of property, plant and equipment   | 35,039                   | 31,233      |  |
| Depreciation of right-of-use assets   | 7,387                    | 4,797       |  |
| Depreciation of investment properties   | 247                      | 299         |  |
| Amortisation of other intangible assets*  | 3,283                    | 3,393       |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
| Research and development costs:   |                          |             |  |
| Research and development expenses   | 192,763                  | 146,904     |  |
| Less: capitalised development costs   | (70,328)                 | (84,924)    |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
|   | 122,435                  | 61,980      |  |
| Amortisation of capitalised development costs   | 61,088                   | 64,987      |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
|   | 183,523                  | 126,967     |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
| Provision/(reversal) of impairment losses on financial assets and contract assets, net: |                          |             |  |
| Trade receivables   | 27,788                   | 14,407      |  |
| Contract assets   | 139                      | (540)       |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
|   | 27,927                   | 13,867      |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
| Write-down of inventories to net realisable value**                                     | 2,426                    | 3,126       |  |
| Foreign exchange losses, net  | 2,710                    | 2,162       |  |

Amortisation of other intangible assets (excluding capitalised development costs) for the period is included in "Selling expenses" and "Administrative expenses" in profit or loss.

Included in "Cost of inventories sold".

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 7. INCOME TAX

No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been made as the Group did not earn any income that was subject to Hong Kong Profits Tax during the periods ended 30 June 2021 and 2020.

Tax on profits assessable in the People's Republic of China ("PRC") has been calculated at the applicable PRC corporate income tax ("CIT") rate of 25% (30 June 2020: 25%), except that certain PRC subsidiaries which are approved as enterprises that satisfied the condition as high technology development enterprises and obtained the Certificate of High New Technology Enterprise can continue to enjoy the preferential tax rate of 15% for a consecutive three years from year 2018 to 2020 or year 2021 to 2023.

In addition, according to relevant laws and regulations promulgated by the State Administration of Tax of the PRC, certain subsidiaries established in the PRC engaging in research and development activities are entitled to claim an additional 75% of their qualified research and development expenses as tax deductible expenses when determining their assessable profits since 2018.

Taxes on profits assessable elsewhere have been calculated at the rates of tax prevailing in the jurisdictions in which the Group operates.

#### Six months ended 30 June

|                                 | 2021        | 2020        |
|---------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                 | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|                                 | (unaudited) | (unaudited) |
|                                 |             |             |
| Current                         |             |             |
| Charge for the period           | 40,507      | 42,706      |
| Overprovision in prior periods  | (2,320)     | (2,709)     |
|                                 |             |             |
|                                 | 38,187      | 39,997      |
| Deferred tax                    | (6,444)     | (4,333)     |
|                                 |             |             |
| Total tax charge for the period | 31,743      | 35,664      |

No deferred tax has been recognised for withholding taxes that would be payable on the undistributed earnings of the Group's PRC subsidiaries arising on or after 1 January 2008 as the directors consider it is not probable that these subsidiaries will distribute such earnings in the foreseeable future.



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 8. DIVIDENDS

|   | Six months ended 30 June |             |  |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--|
|   | 2021                     | 2020        |  |
|   | RMB'000                  | RMB'000     |  |
|   | (unaudited)              | (unaudited) |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
| Final dividends declared and paid — HK20 cents (31 December 2020: HK20 cents) |                          |             |  |
| per ordinary share  | 164,867                  | 180,175     |  |

The directors of the Company did not recommend the payment of a dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2021 (six months ended 30 June 2020: Nil).

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

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to owners of the parent is based on the following data:

|   | Six months en | ded 30 June  |
|---|---------------|--------------|
|   | 2021          | 2020         |
|   | RMB'000       | RMB'000      |
|   | (unaudited)   | (unaudited)  |
|   |               |              |
| Earnings  |               |              |
| Profit attributable to owners of the parent, used in the basic earnings per share calculation | 123,141       | 116,264      |
|   |               |              |
|   | Six months en | ided 30 June |
|   | 2021          | 2020         |
|   | Number of     | Number of    |
|   | shares        | shares       |
|   | (unaudited)   | (unaudited)  |
|   |               |              |
| Shares  |               |              |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period used                    |               |              |
| in the basic and diluted earnings per share calculation                                       | 984,985,675   | 982,593,675  |

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 9. EARNINGS PER SHARE ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE PARENT (Continued)

Note:

The weighted average number of ordinary shares shown above has been arrived at after deducting the shares held by the trustee of the share award scheme of the Company as set out in note 23.

The Group had no potentially dilutive ordinary shares in issue during the periods ended 30 June 2021 and 2020 because the exercise price of those share options was higher than the average market price of the Company's shares during the periods.

### 10. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the six months ended 30 June 2021, the Group acquired assets at a cost of RMB95,629,000 (30 June 2020: RMB30,564,000).

Assets with a net book value of RMB2,161,000 (30 June 2020: RMB80,000) were disposed of by the Group during the six months ended 30 June 2021 for a consideration of RMB2,438,000 (30 June 2020: Nil), resulting in a net gain on disposal of RMB277,000 (30 June 2020: net loss on disposal of RMB80,000).

At 30 June 2021, the Group's property, plant and equipment with a carrying amount of RMB114,032,000 (31 December 2020: RMB115,370,000) were pledged as security for the Group's bank loans. Further details are set out in note 20 to the interim condensed consolidated financial information.

### 11. EQUITY INVESTMENTS DESIGNATED AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Equity instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income comprise:

|   | 30 June     | 31 December |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | 2021        | 2020        |
|   | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|   | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|   |             |             |
| Equity investments designated at FVTOCI               |             |             |
| Equity investments listed in Hong Kong, at fair value | 28,091      | 38,803      |
| Equity investments listed in the PRC, at fair value   | 9,945       | 10,353      |
| Unlisted equity investments, at fair value — A        | _           | 3,000       |
| Unlisted equity investments, at fair value — B        | 26,619      | 26,619      |
|   |             |             |
|   | 64,655      | 78,775      |



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 11. EQUITY INVESTMENTS DESIGNATED AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (Continued)

The above equity investments were irrevocably designated at FVTOCI as the Group considers these investments to be strategic in nature.

During the six months ended 30 June 2021, the Group sold certain of its equity investments in the PRC (six months ended 30 June 2020: Hong Kong) as these investments no longer coincide with the Group's investment strategy. The fair value on the date of disposal was RMB3,060,000 (six months ended 30 June 2020: RMB17,549,240) and the accumulated gain recognised in other comprehensive income of RMB60,000 (six months ended 30 June 2020: RMB273,000) was transferred to retained profits.

#### 12. FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss comprise:

|  | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--|-------------|-------------|
|  | 2021        | 2020        |
| Notes  | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|  | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|  |             |             |
| Unlisted investments in trust funds, at fair value (i) | 200,000     | 200,000     |
| Forward currency contracts (ii)                        | 258         | _           |
|  |             |             |
|  | 200,258     | 200,000     |
| Less: current portion                                  | (258)       | (200,000)   |
|  |             |             |
|  | 200,000     | _           |

#### Notes:

(i) Amounts represent investments in trust funds made by the Group through a financial institution. The trust funds invest in ranges of debt instrument products which are generally government bonds and corporate loans. During the period, the Group has further extended the trust funds investments with the financial institution and it will expire in 2024, and the balances are reclassified to non-current assets as at 30 June 2021.

They are mandatorily classified as financial assets at FVTPL as their contractual cash flows are not solely payments of principal and interest.

(ii) As at 30 June 2021, the Group had entered into forward currency contracts, which are not designated for hedge purposes and are measured at fair value through profit or loss. There were changes in the fair values of non-hedging currency derivatives of RMB258,000 (six months ended 30 June 2020: Nil) charged to profit or loss during the period.

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 13. TRADE AND BILLS RECEIVABLES

|  | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--|-------------|-------------|
|  | 2021        | 2020        |
|  | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|  | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|  |             |             |
| Trade receivables                          | 4,236,726   | 3,693,395   |
| Bills receivables                          | 208,178     | 280,325     |
|  |             |             |
|  | 4,444,904   | 3,973,720   |
| Less: impairment loss on trade receivables | (151,412)   | (123,624)   |
|  |             |             |
|  | 4,293,492   | 3,850,096   |

Due to the nature of business, the settlement terms of trade receivables are based on the achievement of certain milestones of each sales transaction. There were no uniform credit terms granted to customers, but the Group allows credit periods ranging from 90 days to 365 days to its customers, except for certain customers, where the credit periods may be beyond 365 days.

Included in the Group's trade receivables are amounts due from the Group's joint venture of RMB27,397,000 (31 December 2020: RMB52,446,000), which are repayable on credit terms similar to those offered to the major customers of the Group.

An ageing analysis of the trade and bills receivables as at the end of the reporting period, based on the revenue recognition date and net of loss allowance, is as follows:

|              | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
|              | 2021        | 2020        |
|              | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|              | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|              |             |             |
| 0–90 days    | 1,410,137   | 1,258,938   |
| 91–180 days  | 642,890     | 595,989     |
| 181–365 days | 1,044,047   | 869,661     |
| 1–2 years    | 713,744     | 811,161     |
| Over 2 years | 482,674     | 314,347     |
|              |             |             |
|              | 4,293,492   | 3,850,096   |



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 14. CONTRACT ASSETS

|  | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--|-------------|-------------|
|  | 2021        | 2020        |
|  | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|  | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|  |             |             |
| Contract assets                          | 672,197     | 657,050     |
| Less: impairment loss on contract assets | (5,983)     | (5,844)     |
|  |             |             |
|  | 666,214     | 651,206     |

The contract assets primarily relate to the Group's right to consideration for goods delivered and not billed for the sales contracts because the rights are conditional on the completion of the retention period. The contract assets are transferred to trade receivables when the rights become unconditional. The balance will be settled in accordance with the terms of the respective contracts. The terms and conditions in relation to the release of retention vary from contract to contract, which is subject to practical completion, the expiry of the defect liability period or a pre-agreed time period.

Included in the Group's contract assets are amounts due from the Group's joint venture of RMB7,550,000 (31 December 2020: RMB5,275,000), which are repayable on credit terms similar to those offered to the major customers of the Group.

### 15. LOANS RECEIVABLES

|                   | 30 June     | 31 December |
|-------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                   | 2021        | 2020        |
|                   | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|                   | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|                   |             |             |
| Loans receivables | 109,240     | 109,384     |

The amounts represent loans advanced by the Group to an independent third party under entrusted loan contracts. These entrusted loans carry fixed interest at 12% per annum and are repayable in August 2025.

As at 30 June 2021, the Group's loan receivables amounted to RMB43,400,000 (31 December 2020: RMB43,400,000) were secured by certain properties, and the Group is not permitted to sell these assets in the absence of default of the borrowers. The security will be released upon settlement of the relevant loans.

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 16. PREPAYMENTS, OTHER RECEIVABLES AND OTHER ASSETS

|   | 30 June     | 31 December |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | 2021        | 2020        |
|   | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|   | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|   |             |             |
| Consideration receivables for disposal of subsidiaries (note (i))                 | _           | 77,000      |
| Life insurance products (note (ii))   | 54,099      | 55,308      |
|   |             |             |
| Non-current portion   | 54,099      | 132,308     |
|   |             |             |
| Purchase prepayments (note (iii))   | 282,110     | 402,140     |
| Bidding deposits  | 7,147       | 27,218      |
| Other prepayments   | 79,150      | 64,853      |
| Other receivables   | 184,366     | 96,515      |
| Consideration receivables for disposal of subsidiaries (note (i))                 | 77,000      | _           |
| Consideration receivables for disposal of unlisted equity instruments (note (iv)) | 23,652      | 23,652      |
| Loan receivable from a joint venture (note (v))                                   | _           | 17,850      |
| VAT recoverable   | 120,648     | 88,770      |
|   |             |             |
| Current portion   | 774,073     | 720,998     |
|   |             |             |
|   | 828,172     | 853,306     |

#### Notes:

<sup>(</sup>i) The balance of RMB77,000,000 carries fixed interest at 4.75% per annum and is repayable in 2022.

<sup>(</sup>ii) In prior years, the Company entered into three life insurance policies with an insurance company to insure three executive directors. Under these policies, the beneficiary and policy holder are the Company. The Company is required to pay an upfront payment for each policy. The Company may request a partial surrender or full surrender of the policy at any time and receive cash back based on the value of the policy at the date of withdrawal, which is determined by the gross premium paid at inception plus accumulated guaranteed interest earned and minus insurance premium charged. If such withdrawal is made at any time during the first to the fifteenth or eighteenth policy year, as appropriate, a pre-determined specified surrender charge would be imposed on the Company. As at 30 June 2021, the balance included a prepayment of life insurance premium and cash value amounting to RMB1,802,000 (31 December 2020: RMB1,919,000) and RMB52,297,000 (31 December 2020: RMB53,389,000), respectively.



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 16. PREPAYMENTS, OTHER RECEIVABLES AND OTHER ASSETS (Continued)

Notes: (Continued)

(ii) (Continued)

Particulars of the policies are as follows:

| _     |       |       |       |       |     |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| (ilia | rante | ed ir | ntere | et ra | tac |
|       |       |       |       |       |     |

| Policy               | Insured sum                      | Upfront payment                | First year                      | Second year and onwards      |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Policy A             | US\$7,557,000                    | US\$3,421,000                  | 4.25% per annum                 | 3% per annum                 |
| Policy B<br>Policy C | US\$10,000,000<br>US\$13,741,418 | US\$1,771,000<br>US\$3,229,513 | 4% per annum<br>4.25% per annum | 2% per annum<br>2% per annum |

- (iii) During the six months ended 30 June 2021, the Group entered into purchase contracts with certain suppliers to stabilise material supply. The purchase prepayments will be utilised within one year from the end of the reporting period.
- (iv) The balance is unsecured, non-guaranteed, carrying fixed interest at 4.35% per annum and is repayable in 2022. The Group has an option to request the repayment on demand.
- (v) The amount represents an unsecured, non-guaranteed short-term loan to a joint venture which carries a fixed interest at 4.35% per annum. The amount was fully repaid during the reporting period.

#### 17. STRUCTURED DEPOSITS

Structured deposits were stated at fair value and represented several deposits placed with banks. The Group designated the structured deposits as investments at fair value through profit or loss. As at 30 June 2021, the aggregate fair value of the structured deposits was approximately RMB365,000,000 (31 December 2020: RMB80,000,000) and total interest income of approximately RMB2,817,000 (six months ended 30 June 2020: RMB5,487,000) was recognised by the Group during the period.

The fair value was based on the market values provided by financial institutions at the end of the reporting period.

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 18. TRADE AND BILLS PAYABLES

|                          | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                          | 2021        | 2020        |
|                          | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|                          | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|                          |             |             |
| Trade and bills payables | 3,040,634   | 2,963,135   |

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

|              | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|
|              | 2021        | 2020        |
|              | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|              | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|              |             |             |
| 0–90 days    | 1,814,218   | 1,706,865   |
| 91–180 days  | 885,680     | 704,585     |
| 181–365 days | 247,561     | 455,537     |
| Over 1 year  | 93,175      | 96,148      |
|              |             |             |
|              | 3,040,634   | 2,963,135   |

### 19. OTHER PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS

|                      | 30 June     | 31 December |
|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                      | 2021        | 2020        |
|                      | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|                      | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|                      |             |             |
| Accruals             | 16,031      | 42,058      |
| Other payables       | 123,143     | 113,567     |
| Contract liabilities | 104,456     | 102,975     |
|                      |             |             |
|                      | 243,630     | 258,600     |



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 20. INTEREST-BEARING BANK BORROWINGS

The loans carry interests at market rates ranging from 1.18% to 5.22% (31 December 2020: 2.44% to 5.55%) per annum and are repayable within one to three years. The proceeds were used for general working capital purposes.

#### 21. SHARE CAPITAL

|  | 30 June     | 31 December |
|--|-------------|-------------|
|  | 2021        | 2020        |
|  | HK\$'000    | HK\$'000    |
|  | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|  |             |             |
| Authorised:                                      |             |             |
| 100,000,000,000 ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each | 1,000,000   | 1,000,000   |
|  |             |             |
|  | 30 June     | 31 December |
|  | 2021        | 2020        |
|  | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|  | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|  |             |             |
| Issued and fully paid:                           |             |             |
| 995,879,675 ordinary shares                      | 9,906       | 9,906       |

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

|  | Number of shares in issue | Share<br>capital<br>RMB'000 |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| At 1 January 2020                                    | 999,961,675               | 9,947                       |
| Shares cancelled (note)                              | (4,082,000)               | (41)                        |
| At 31 December 2020, 1 January 2021 and 30 June 2021 | 995,879,675               | 9,906                       |

Note: As at 30 June 2021, there was no outstanding repurchased share not yet cancelled.

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

#### 22. RESERVES

- (i) Merger reserve represents the difference between the nominal value of shares of the subsidiaries acquired over the nominal value of shares used by the Company in exchange thereafter.
- (ii) The PRC statutory reserve is non-distributable and the transfer to this reserve is determined by the board of directors of the subsidiaries established in the PRC in accordance with the relevant laws and regulations of the PRC. According to the relevant rules and Accounting Regulations in PRC applicable to wholly foreign-owned enterprises, a wholly foreign-owned enterprise is required to transfer at least 10% of its profit after taxation, to a reserve fund until the reserve fund balance reaches 50% of the relevant enterprise's registered capital. This reserve can be used to offset accumulated losses or to increase capital upon approval from the relevant authorities.
- (iii) Shares held for share award scheme represent the own shares of the Company repurchased by a trustee for an employee's share award scheme.
- (iv) Other reserve mainly comprises equity transactions credited to the other reserves, and the excess balance of share award plan assets under the share award plan of the Company upon termination of the plan, amounting to RMB205,955,000 and RMB33,164,000 respectively.
- (v) The Group accounts for changes in the Group's ownership interests in existing subsidiaries that do not result in the Group losing control over those subsidiaries as equity transactions and recognises any difference between the amount by which the non-controlling interests are adjusted and the fair value of the consideration paid or received in other reserve.

During the period ended 30 June 2021, Wasion Electric Limited, a non-wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group issued 28,000,000 ordinary shares, equivalent to 5.09% equity interests, to its non-controlling shareholder at a consideration of RMB2.7 per share, for a total consideration of approximately RMB75,000,000. The difference of RMB19,866,000 between the non-controlling interests recognised and the consideration was credited to other reserve.

During the period ended 30 June 2020, the Group had completed the spin-off of its Communication and Fluid Advanced Metering Infrastructure business through a separate listing of a then non-wholly-owned subsidiary, Willfar Information Technology Company Limited and its subsidiaries (together as "Willfar Group") on the Science and Technology Innovation Board of the Shanghai Stock Exchange. The difference of RMB250,621,000 between the non-controlling interests recognised, reserves released and the net consideration was credited to other reserve.

During the period ended 30 June 2020, the Group acquired 2,020,100 ordinary shares, equivalent to 5.8% equity interests in Zhuhai Zhonghui Microelectronics Co., Ltd., a non-wholly-owned subsidiary incorporated in the PRC, from its non-controlling shareholder at a consideration of RMB7.15 per share, for a total consideration of RMB14,444,000 with a transaction cost of RMB27,000. The difference of RMB10,924,000 between the non-controlling interests derecognised and the net consideration was debited to other reserve.



For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 23. SHARE-BASED PAYMENT TRANSACTION

#### Share award scheme

The Company's share award scheme (the "Scheme") was adopted pursuant to a resolution passed on 3 May 2016. Pursuant to the Scheme under which eligible employees are entitled to participate. The purpose of the Scheme is to recognise the contributions by certain employees and to provide them with incentives in order to retain them for the continual operation and development of the Group and also to attract suitable personnel for further development of the Group. The Scheme became effective on 3 May 2016 and, unless otherwise terminated or amended, will remain in force for 10 years.

The Scheme is operated through a trustee which is independent of the Group and has the right to, among other conditions, in its sole discretion, determine whether the shares are to be purchased on or off the Stock Exchange from time to time, unless during the year at which the directors of the Company are prohibited by the Listing Rules or any corresponding codes or securities dealing restrictions adopted by the Company. In any given financial year of the Company, the maximum number of shares to be purchased by the trustee for the purpose of the Scheme shall not exceed 10% of the total number of issued shares as at the beginning of that financial year.

The directors would notify the trustee of the Scheme in writing upon the making of any award to any participants. Upon the receipt of such notice, the trustee would set aside the appropriate number of awarded shares in the pool of shares. No new shares would be allotted and issued to satisfy the awards made under the Scheme.

As at 30 June 2021, 10,894,000 (30 June 2020: 12,328,000) ordinary shares of the Company were held by trustee of the Scheme.

### 24. COMMITMENTS

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

|                                   | 30 June     | 31 December |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                   | 2021        | 2020        |
|                                   | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|                                   | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|                                   |             |             |
| Contracted, but not provided for: |             |             |
| Property, plant and equipment     | 42,216      | 38,804      |

For the six months ended 30 June 2021

### 25. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

(a) The Group had the following transactions with related parties during the period:

|   | Six months ended 30 June |             |  |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--|
|   | 2021                     | 2020        |  |
| Notes                                       | RMB'000                  | RMB'000     |  |
|   | (unaudited)              | (unaudited) |  |
|   |                          |             |  |
| Sales of goods to a joint venture (i)       | 43,052                   | 23,610      |  |
| Interest received from a joint venture (ii) | 372                      | 492         |  |
| Rental income received from a joint venture | 170                      | 170         |  |

#### Notes:

- (i) The sales to the joint venture were made according to the prices and conditions offered to the major customers of the Group.
- (ii) The loan to the joint venture is unsecured and interest-bearing at 4.71% per annum. The balance was fully repaid as at 30 June 2021.
- (b) The remuneration of directors and other members of key management of the Group during the period were as follows:

#### Six months ended 30 June

|   | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|---|-------------|-------------|
|   | (unaudited) | (unaudited) |
|   |             |             |
| Short-term benefits                     | 2,810       | 2,691       |
| Retirement benefit scheme contributions | 65          | 22          |
|   |             |             |
|   | 2,875       | 2,713       |

The remuneration of key management is determined by the remuneration committee of the Company having regard to the performance of individuals and market trends.



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### 26. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The carrying amounts and fair values of the Group's financial instruments, other than those with carrying amounts that reasonably approximate to fair values, are as follows:

|  | Carrying amounts |             | Fair values |             |
|--|------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|  | 30 June          | 31 December | 30 June     | 31 December |
|  | 2021             | 2020        | 2021        | 2020        |
|  | RMB'000          | RMB'000     | RMB'000     | RMB'000     |
|  | (unaudited)      | (audited)   | (unaudited) | (audited)   |
|  |                  |             |             |             |
| Financial assets                           |                  |             |             |             |
| Equity investments designated at FVTOCI    | 64,655           | 78,775      | 64,655      | 78,775      |
| Financial assets at FVTPL                  | 200,258          | 200,000     | 200,258     | 200,000     |
| Structured deposits                        | 365,000          | 80,000      | 365,000     | 80,000      |
|  |                  |             |             |             |
|  | 629,913          | 358,775     | 629,913     | 358,775     |
|  |                  |             |             |             |
| Financial liabilities                      |                  |             |             |             |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | 2,871,889        | 2,290,123   | 2,773,580   | 2,251,469   |

The Group's management is responsible for determining the policies and procedures for the fair value measurement of financial instruments. Management reports directly to the executive directors 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 management. The valuation process and results are discussed with the audit committee twice a year for interim and annual financial reporting.

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### 26. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

The fair values of the financial assets and liabilities are included in 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 listed equity investments are based on quoted market prices. The fair values of unlisted equity investments, which were classified as equity investment designated at FVTOCI, have been estimated using a market-based valuation technique (31 December 2020: a market-based valuation technique or a recent transaction price) based on assumptions that are not supported by observable market prices or rates. For market-based valuation technique, the valuation requires the directors to determine comparable public companies (peers) based on industry, size, leverage and strategy. They are also required to calculate an appropriate price multiple, such as enterprise value to earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortisation ("EBITDA") multiple, for each comparable company identified. The multiple is calculated by dividing the enterprise value of the comparable company by an earnings measure. The trading multiple is then discounted for considerations such as illiquidity and size differences between the comparable companies based on specific facts and circumstances of the Company. The discounted multiple is applied to the corresponding earnings measure of the unlisted equity investments to measure the fair value. For valuation based on recent transaction price, the valuation is made by reference to the transaction price of the same investment being valued. The directors of the Company believe that the estimated fair values resulting from the valuation technique, which are recorded in the consolidated statement of financial position, and the related changes in fair values, which are recorded in other comprehensive income, are reasonable, and that they were the most appropriate values at the end of the reporting period.

The fair value of the unlisted investments in trust funds are measured using valuation techniques by discounted cash flow method. The valuation requires the directors to determine a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows. The directors of the Company believe that the estimated fair values which are recorded in the interim condensed consolidated statement of financial position with net changes in fair value recognised in the interim condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss are reasonable, and that they were the most appropriate values at the end of the reporting period.

The fair values of structured deposits were based on the market values provided by the banks at the end of the reporting period. They are estimated with the principal plus estimated interest income based on expected annual rate of return.

The fair values of forward currency contracts are based on quotes from financial institutions.

The fair values of other financial assets and financial liabilities carried at amortised cost approximate to their carrying amounts.



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### 26. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

Set out below is a summary of significant unobservable inputs to the valuation of financial instruments together with a quantitative sensitivity analysis as at 30 June 2021 and 31 December 2020:

|  | Valuation technique | Significant unobservable input | Range                             | Sensitivity of fair value to the input   |
|--|---------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Unlisted equity investments designated at FVTOCI — B | Valuation multiple  | EV/EBITDA multiple of peers    | 5.8<br>(31 December<br>2020: 6.3) | 1% (31 December 2020: 1%) increase/(decrease) in the multiple would result in increase/(decrease) in fair value by RMB209,000 (31 December 2020: RMB211,000) |

### Fair value hierarchy

The following table illustrates the fair value measurement hierarchy of the Group's financial instruments:

### Assets measured at fair value:

|   | Fair value measurement using                                  |   |   |                         |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------------|
|   | Quoted prices<br>in active<br>markets<br>(Level 1)<br>RMB'000 | Significant<br>observable<br>inputs<br>(Level 2)<br>RMB'000 | Significant<br>unobservable<br>inputs<br>(Level 3)<br>RMB'000 | <b>Total</b><br>RMB'000 |
| As at 30 June 2021 (unaudited)          |   |   |   |                         |
| Equity investments designated at FVTOCI | 38,036  | _   | 26,619  | 64,655                  |
| Financial assets at FVTPL               | _   | 200,258   | _   | 200,258                 |
| Structured deposits                     | _   | 365,000   | _   | 365,000                 |
|   |   |   |   |                         |
|   | 38,036  | 565,258   | 26,619  | 629,913                 |
| As at 31 December 2020 (audited)        |   |   |   |                         |
| Equity investments designated at FVTOCI | 49,156  | _   | 29,619  | 78,775                  |
| Financial assets at FVTPL               | _   | 200,000   | _   | 200,000                 |
| Structured deposits                     | _   | 80,000  | _   | 80,000                  |
|   |   |   |   |                         |
|   | 49,156  | 280,000   | 29,619  | 358,775                 |

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### 26. FAIR VALUE AND FAIR VALUE HIERARCHY OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (Continued)

### Fair value hierarchy (Continued)

Liabilities for which fair values are disclosed:

|  | Fair value measurement using          |                                     |                                       |           |
|--|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
|  | Quoted prices<br>in active<br>markets | Significant<br>observable<br>inputs | Significant<br>unobservable<br>inputs |           |
|  | (Level 1)                             | (Level 2)                           | (Level 3)                             | Total     |
|  | RMB'000                               | RMB'000                             | RMB'000                               | RMB'000   |
| As at 30 June 2021 (unaudited)             |                                       |                                     |                                       |           |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | _                                     | 2,773,580                           |                                       | 2,773,580 |
| As at 31 December 2020 (audited)           |                                       |                                     |                                       |           |
| Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings | _                                     | 2,251,469                           | _                                     | 2,251,469 |

During the period, there were no movement for the fair value measurements within Level 3 (six months ended 30 June 2020: Nil).

During the period, there were no transfers of fair value measurement between Level 1 and Level 2 and no transfers into or out of Level 3 for both financial assets and financial liabilities (six months ended 30 June 2020: Nil).

### 27. APPROVAL OF THE INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The interim condensed consolidated financial information was approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 30 August 2021.