1. General

The Company is incorporated in Bermuda as an exempted company with limited liability. The shares of the Company are listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Hong Kong Stock Exchange").

The Company is an investment holding company. The activities of its principal subsidiaries and associates are set out in note 16 and note 17 respectively.

2. Adoption of Hong Kong financial reporting standards

In the current year, the Group has adopted for the first time, Statement of Standard Accounting Practice ("SSAP") 12 (Revised) "Income Taxes" issued by the Hong Kong Society of Accountants ("HKSA"). The principal effect of the implementation of SSAP 12 (Revised) is in relation to deferred tax. In previous years, partial provision was required to be made for deferred tax using the income statement liability method, i.e. a liability was recognised in respect of timing differences arising, except where those timing differences were not expected to reverse in the foreseeable future. SSAP 12 (Revised) requires the adoption of a balance sheet liability method, whereby deferred tax is recognised in respect of all temporary differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit, with limited exceptions. In the absence of any specific transitional requirements in SSAP 12 (Revised), the new accounting policy has been applied retrospectively. Comparative amounts for 2002 have been restated accordingly. As at 1st April, 2002, deficit has been reduced and deferred tax asset has been increased in respect of tax losses by HK\$5,036,000 respectively, which are the cumulative effect of the change in policy on the results for the periods prior to 2002. The effect of the change was an increase in charge to income taxes for the year of HK\$2,712,000 (2003: HK\$2,927,000).

3. Significant accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified for the valuation of investment properties and certain of its investments in securities.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in Hong Kong. The principal accounting policies adopted are set out below:

Basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries made up to 31st March each year.

The results of subsidiaries and associates which were acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated income statement from the effective date of acquisition or up to the effective date of disposal, as appropriate.

All significant intra-group transactions and balances have been eliminated on consolidation.

Goodwill

Goodwill arising on consolidation represents the excess of the cost of acquisition over the Group's interest in the fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of a subsidiary or an associate at the date of acquisition.

On disposal of investments in subsidiaries or associates, the attributable amount of unamortised goodwill/goodwill previously eliminated against reserve is included in the determination of the gain or loss on disposal.

Negative goodwill

Negative goodwill represents the excess of the Group's interest in fair value of the identifiable assets and liabilities of an associate at the date of acquisition over the cost of acquisition. Negative goodwill arising on the acquisition of an associate is deducted from the carrying value of that associate and is recognised as income on a straight-line basis over the remaining average useful life of the depreciable assets of that associate.

Investments in subsidiaries

Investments in subsidiaries are included in the Company's balance sheet at cost less any identified impairment loss.

Investments in associates

The consolidated income statement includes the Group's share of the post-acquisition results of its associates for the year. In the consolidated balance sheet, interest in associates is stated at the Group's share of the net assets of the associates plus the goodwill/less the negative goodwill in as far as it has not already been written off/amortised/released to income, less any identified impairment loss.

Revenue recognition

Sales of goods are recognised when goods are delivered and title has passed to the customers.

Sales of investments in securities are recognised when the sale contracts become unconditional.

Sales of properties are recognised on the execution of a binding sales agreement.

Revenue from estate agency work services is recognised when the services are rendered.

Dividend income from investments in securities is recognised when the shareholders' rights to receive payment have been established.

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the interest rate applicable.

Rental income, including rental invoiced in advance from properties under operating leases, is recognised on a straight line basis over the period of the respective leases.

Impairment

At each balance sheet date, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its tangible and intangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss. If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount under another SSAP, in which case the impairment loss is treated as revaluation decrease under that SSAP.

Impairment (continued)

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount, such that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised as income immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount under another SSAP, in which case the reversal of the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation increase under that other SSAP.

Investment properties

Investment properties are completed properties which are held for their investment potential, any rental income being negotiated at arm's length.

Investment properties are stated at open market value based on professional valuation at the balance sheet date. Any revaluation increase or decrease arising on the revaluation of investment properties is credited or charged to the investment property revaluation reserve unless the balance on this reserve is insufficient to cover a revaluation decrease, in which case the excess of the revaluation decrease over the balance on the investment property revaluation reserve is charged to the income statement. Where a revaluation decrease has previously been charged to the income statement and a revaluation increase subsequently arises, this increase is credited to the income statement to the extent of the decrease previously charged.

On disposal of an investment property, the balance on the investment property revaluation reserve attributable to the disposed property is transferred to the income statement.

No depreciation or amortisation is provided on investment properties except where the unexpired term, including the renewal period, of the relevant lease is twenty years or less.

Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss.

The gain or loss arising from disposal or retirement of an asset is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in the income statement.

Depreciation is provided to write off the cost of property, plant and equipment over their estimated useful lives and after taking into account their estimated residual value, using the straight line method, at the following rate per annum:

Furniture, fixtures and office equipment 20% Motor vehicles 20% Vessel 20%

Properties held for development

Properties held for development where no decision has yet been taken to re-sell or hold for long term purposes are stated at cost less accumulated impairment losses until the construction is completed and the properties are ready for their intended use. No depreciation and amortisation is provided on properties held for development.

Investments in securities

Investments in securities are recognised on a trade date basis and are initially measured at cost.

Investments other than held-to-maturity debt securities are classified as investment securities and other investments.

Investment securities, which are securities held for an identified long-term strategic purpose, are measured at subsequent reporting dates at cost, as reduced by any impairment loss that is other than temporary.

Other investments are measured at fair value, with unrealised gains and losses included in net profit or loss for the period.

Properties held for sale

Properties held for sale are stated at the lower of cost or net realisable value. Cost comprises all costs of purchase and other direct cost to acquire the properties. Net realisable value is calculated at the actual or estimated selling price less related costs of marketing and selling.

Operating leases

Rentals payable in respect of operating leases are charged to the income statement on a straight line basis over the relevant lease term.

Retirement benefit scheme

Payments to Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme are charged as an expense as the fall due.

Foreign currencies

Transactions in currencies other than Hong Kong dollars are initially recorded at the rates of exchange prevailing on the dates of the transactions. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in such currencies are re-translated at the rates prevailing on the balance sheet date. Profits and losses arising on exchange are included in net profit or loss for the period.

Taxation

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from net profit as reported in the income statement because it excludes items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and it further excludes items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted at the balance sheet date.

Taxation (continued)

Deferred tax is the tax expected to be payable or recoverable on differences between the carrying amount of assets and liabilities in the financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit, and is accounted for using the balance sheet liability method. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences, and deferred tax assets are recognised to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from goodwill (or negative goodwill) or from the initial recognition (other than in a business combination) of other assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the tax profit nor the accounting profit.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences arising on investments in subsidiaries and associates, and interests in joint ventures, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at each balance sheet date and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profit will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

Deferred tax is calculated at the tax rates that are expected to apply in the period when the liability is settled or the asset is realised. Deferred tax is charged or credited in the income statement, except when it relates to items charged or credited directly to equity, in which case the deferred tax is also dealt with in equity.

4. Turnover

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Provision of estate agency services | 2,745 | 1,227 |
| Rental income | 18,263 | 2,740 |
| Sales of properties | 21,080 | _ |
| Sales of securities | 373,198 | 668,227 |
| | 415,286 | 672,194 |

An analysis of the Group's turnover and contribution to results from operations by principal business segment and geographical segment are set out in note 5.

5. Segmental information

Business segments

For management purposes, the Group is currently organised into two major operating divisions — property investment and securities investment.

These divisions are the basis on which the Group reports its primary segment information.

Principal activities are as follows:

Property investment — Sales and leasing of properties

Securities investment — Sales of investments in securities

Business segments (continued)

An analysis of the Group's turnover and contribution to operating results and segmental assets and liabilities by business segments is as follows:

| | Discontinuing operation | Continuing | operations | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| | Estate agency HK\$'000 (Note) | Property investment HK\$'000 | Securities investment HK\$'000 | Consolidated HK\$'000 |
| For the year ended 31st March, 2004 | | | | |
| TURNOVER External sales | 2,745 | 39,343 | 373,198 | 415,286 |
| RESULT Segment result | 2,089 | 22,206 | 36,978 | 61,273 |
| Unallocated corporate expenses Interest income Dividend income | | | | (26,942) 4,692 1,251 |
| Profit from operations Finance costs Amortisation of goodwill of interest | | | | 40,274 (1,911) |
| in associates Release of negative goodwill of interests in associates Share of results of associates | | | | (1,646) 274 (9,153) |
| Net gain on disposal of interest in a subsidiary Net gain on disposal of | | | | 6,171 |
| discontinuing operation Net loss on dilution/disposal of interests in associates | | | | 5,489 (3,439) |
| Profit before taxation Taxation | | | | 36,059 (5,011) |
| Profit before minority interests Minority interests | | | | 31,048 (405) |
| Net profit for the year | | | | 30,643 |

Business segments (continued)

| | Discontinuing operation | Conf | tinuing operat | ions | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Estate agency HK\$'000 (Note) | Property investment HK\$'000 | Securities investment HK\$'000 | Others HK\$'000 | Consolidated HK\$'000 |
| Assets and liabilities as at 31st March, 2004 | | | | | |
| ASSETS Segment assets Interest in associates Unallocated total assets | _ _ | 549,833 — | 285,097 — | 7,110 | 842,040 63,138 471 |
| Consolidated total assets | | | | | 905,649 |
| LIABILITIES Segment liabilities Unallocated corporate liabilities Consolidated total liabilities Other information for the year | - | 8,937 | 729 | _ | 9,666 182,728 192,394 |
| ended 31st March, 2004 | | | | | |
| Capital expenditure — Property, plant and equipment — Investment properties Depreciation | nt 67 — | 207,453 — | _ _ _ | 234 — 2,166 | 301 207,453 2,166 |
| Amortisation of goodwill of interests in associates Impairment loss of goodwill | _ | _ | _ | 1,372 | 1,372 |
| arising from acquisition of a subsidiary | _ | _ | 130 | _ | 130 |
| Loss on disposal of investment properties | _ | 1,449 | _ | _ | 1,449 |
| Unrealised holding loss on investments in securities | _ | _ | 3,000 | _ | 3,000 |

Business segments (continued)

| | Discontinuing operation | Continuing operations | | |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| | Estate agency HK\$'000 (Note) | Property investment HK\$'000 | Securities investment HK\$'000 | Consolidated HK\$'000 |
| For the year ended 31st March, 2003 | | | | |
| TURNOVER | | | | |
| External sales | 1,227 | 2,740 | 668,227 | 672,194 |
| RESULT | | | | |
| Segment result | (245) | (1,192) | 49,406 | 47,969 |
| Unallocated corporate expenses Interest income Dividend income | | | | (38,965) 7,264 496 |
| Profit from operations Finance costs Amortisation of goodwill | | | | 16,764 (718) |
| of interest in associates Share of results of associates Net gain on disposal of interest | | | | (2,718) (677) |
| in subsidiaries Net loss on dilution of associates | | | | 2,490 (4,809) |
| Net 1055 off dilution of associates | | | | (4,009) |
| Profit before taxation Taxation | | | | 10,332 (3,131) |
| Profit before minority interests Minority interests | | | | 7,201 (25) |
| Net profit for the year | | | | 7,176 |

Business segments (continued)

| | Discontinuing operation | Con | tinuing operat | ion | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| | Estate agency HK\$'000 (Note) | Property investment HK\$'000 | Securities investment HK\$'000 | Others HK\$'000 | Consolidated HK\$'000 |
| Assets and liabilities as at 31st March, 2003 | | | | | |
| ASSETS Segment assets Interest in associates Unallocated total assets | 3,616 — | 65,040 — | 345,280 — | 2,011 — | 415,947 86,378 2,118 |
| Consolidated total assets | | | | | 504,443 |
| LIABILITIES Segment liabilities Unallocated corporate liabilities Consolidated total liabilities | 2,937 | 719 | 1,167 | 15 | 4,838 31,367 36,205 |
| Other information for the year ende | ed | | | | |
| Capital expenditure — Property, plant and equipment — Deposits on acquisition of | : – | - | _ | 6,654 | 6,654 |
| investment properties Depreciation and amortisation Amortisation of goodwill of associa | | 5,000 — — | 408 — | 562 2,718 | 5,000 1,313 2,718 |
| Impairment loss in respect of good arising on acquisition of subsidia Other non-cash expenses | | _ | 1,365 | _ _ | 8,491 1,365 |

Business segments (continued)

Note:

On 5th September, 2003, the Group entered into an agreement to dispose of its entire interest in Consecutive Profits Limited and its subsidiaries, which were mainly engaged in the provision of estate agency services. The disposal was completed on 31st January, 2004 and accordingly, the business segment of provision of estate agency services was regarded as discontinuing operation in 2004 and resulted in gain on disposal of discontinuing operation of approximately HK\$5,489,000.

The aggregate carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities of the discontinuing operation at the date of discontinuance during the year ended 31st March, 2004 are as follows:

Provision

| | of estate agency services HK\$'000 |
|---|--|
| Total assets | 8,504 |
| Total liabilities | (6,280) |
| Operating cash inflow | 105 |
| Cash outflow in respect of investing activities | (66) |
| Cash inflow in respect of financing activities | 51 |
| Net operating cash inflow | 90 |

Geographical segments

Turnover by geographical segment has not been prepared as all the Group's turnover was derived from Hong Kong.

The following is an analysis of the carrying amount of segment assets, and capital additions analysed by the geographical area in which the assets are located:

| Carrying amount | | | | |
|--|-------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
| | of segment assets | | Capital | additions |
| | 2004 2003 | | 2004 | 2003 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Hong Kong The People's Republic of China | 905,649 | 500,443 | 207,754 | 11,654 |
| ("PRC") | | 4,000 | | |
| | 905,649 | 504,443 | 207,754 | 11,654 |

6. Other operating income

| | 2004 | 2003 |
|---|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| | | |
| Interest income | 4,692 | 7,264 |
| Dividend income from investments in listed securities | 1,251 | 496 |
| Unrealised holding gain on investments in securities | 2,250 | _ |
| Revaluation increase of investment properties | 4,194 | _ |
| Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment | _ | 10 |
| Gain on disposal of property held for development | 530 | _ |
| Others | 953 | 1,376 |
| | 13,870 | 9,146 |
| | | |

7. Other expenses

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|
| Amortisation of goodwill arising from acquisition of subsidiaries | _ | 187 |
| Impairment loss of goodwill arising from acquisition of a subsidiary | 130 | 8,491 |
| Unrealised holding loss on investments in securities | 3,000 | 1,365 |
| Loss on disposal of investment properties | 1,449 | _ |
| Allowance for bad and doubtful debts | _ | 730 |
| Revaluation decrease of investment properties | | 2,300 |
| | 4,579 | 13,079 |
| Profit from operations | | |
| | 2004 | 2003 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Profit from operations has been arrived at after charging: | | |
| Directors' remuneration: | | |
| Fees | 400 | 350 |
| Other emoluments (note 9(a)) | 3,382 | 11,192 |
| Other staff costs (note 9(b)) | 7,577 | 6,26 |
| Retirement benefit scheme contributions | 254 | 310 |
| Total staff costs | 11,613 | 18,118 |
| | | |
| Auditors' remuneration | | |
| Auditors' remuneration Current year | 670 | 580 |
| | 670 — | |
| Current year | 670 — 2,166 | (10 |
| Current year Overprovision in prior years Depreciation of property, plant and equipment | _ | (10 |
| Current year Overprovision in prior years | _ | 586 (10 1,126 |

9. Directors' and employees' remuneration

(a) Directors' remuneration

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|---|---|---|
| Fees — Executive directors | _ | _ |
| Non-executive director Independent non-executive directors | 100 300 | 50 300 |
| | 400 | 350 |
| Other emoluments — Executive directors Salaries and other benefits Bonus Retirement benefit scheme contributions — Non-executive director — Independent non-executive directors | 1,730 1,550 102 — — — 3,382 | 5,400 5,500 292 — — — — 11,192 |
| | 3,782 | 11,542 |

The number of directors whose remuneration falls within the bands set out below is as follows:

| HK\$ | 2004 Number of directors | 2003 Number of directors |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Nil to 1,000,000 | 5 | 5 |
| 1,000,001 to 1,500,000 | _ | _ |
| 1,500,001 to 2,000,000 | _ | 1 |
| 2,000,001 to 2,500,000 | 1 | _ |
| 2,500,001 to 3,000,000 | _ | _ |
| 3,000,001 to 3,500,000 | _ | _ |
| 3,500,001 to 4,000,000 | _ | 1 |
| Over 4,000,000 | <u>-</u> | 1 |
| | 6 | 8 |

During the year, no emoluments were paid by the Group to any director as an inducement to join or upon joining the Group or as compensation for loss of office.

9. Directors' and employees' remuneration (continued)

(b) Employees' remuneration

The five highest paid individuals in the Group included two directors (2003: three directors) of the Company, details of whose remuneration are set out above. The aggregate remuneration of the remaining highest paid individuals, who are employees of the Group, is as follows:

| | 2004 | 2003 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Salaries and other benefits | 5,339 | 2,662 |
| Retirement benefit scheme contributions | 79 | 66 |
| | 5,418 | 2,728 |
| | 2004 | 2003 |
| | Number of | Number of |
| HK\$ | employees | employees |
| Nil to 1,000,000 | 1 | 1 |
| 1,000,001 to 1,500,000 | _ | _ |
| 1,500,001 to 2,000,000 | 1 | _ |
| 2,000,001 to 2,500,000 | _ | 1 |
| 2,500,001 to 3,000,000 | _ | _ |
| 3,000,001 to 3,500,000 | _ | _ |
| 3,500,001 to 4,000,000 | 1 | |

10. Finance Costs

| | 2004 | 2003 |
|--|----------|----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Interest on: | | |
| Bank borrowings wholly repayable within five years | _ | 41 |
| Bank borrowings with instalments repayable over five years | 1,911 | 677 |
| | 1,911 | 718 |

11. Taxation

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| The charge comprises: | | |
| Hong Kong Profits Tax — Current year — Underprovision in prior years | 2,201 98 | 190 14 |
| Deferred tax (note 21) | 2,299 2,712 | 204 2,927 |
| Taxation attributable to the Company and its subsidiaries | 5,011 | 3,131 |

Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at 17.5% (2003: 16%) of the estimated assessable profit for the year. Hong Kong Profits Tax rate was changed from 16% to 17.5% with effect from 2003/2004 year of assessment.

The tax charge for the year can be reconciled to the profit before taxation as per the consolidated income statement as follows:

| | 2004 | | 2003 | |
|---|----------|--------|----------|--------|
| | HK\$'000 | % | HK\$'000 | % |
| Profit before taxation | 36,059 | | 10,332 | |
| Taxation at Hong Kong Profits Tax | | | | |
| Rate of 17.5% (2003: 16%) | 6,310 | 17.5 | 1,653 | 16.0 |
| Tax effect of income not taxable | | | | |
| in determining taxable profit | (6,313) | (17.5) | (4,559) | (44.1) |
| Tax effect of expenses not deductible | | | | |
| for tax purpose | 5,147 | 14.2 | 5,386 | 52.1 |
| Underprovision in respect of prior year | 98 | 0.3 | 14 | 0.1 |
| Tax effect of tax losses not recognised | 969 | 2.7 | 655 | 6.3 |
| Utilisation of tax losses previously | | | | |
| not recognised | (1,032) | (2.9) | (33) | (0.3) |
| Increase in opening deferred tax | , , , | | | |
| resulting from an increase in | | | | |
| applicable tax rate | (198) | (0.5) | _ | _ |
| Others | 30 | 0.1 | 15 | 0.2 |
| - | | | | |
| Tax expense and effective tax rate | | | | |
| for the year | 5,011 | 13.9 | 3,131 | 30.3 |
| | | | | |

12. Earnings per share

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

| | 2004 | 2003 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Earnings for the purpose of calculating basic and diluted earnings per share: | | |
| Net profit for the year | 30,643 | 7,176 |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic earnings per share (in thousands) | 1,533,792 | 1,329,682 |
| Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares (in thousands): Share options | 5,560 | |
| Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating diluted earnings per share (in thousands) | 1,539,352 | 1,329,682 |

The computation of diluted earnings per share for the year ended 31st March, 2003 did not assume the exercise of the share options as the exercise price of the share options was greater than the average market price of the Company's share.

The adjustment to comparative basic and diluted earnings per share, arising from the changes in accounting policies shown in note 2 above, is as follows:

| | Basic HK cents | Diluted HK cents |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|
| Reconciliation of 2003 earnings per share: | | |
| Reported figures before adjustments Adjustments arising from the adoption of SSAP 12 (Revised) | 0.76 (0.22) | 0.76 (0.22) |
| Restated | 0.54 | 0.54 |

13. Investment properties

| | THE GROUP HK\$'000 |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| VALUATION | |
| At 1st April, 2003 | 60,400 |
| Additions | 207,453 |
| Disposal | (3,900) |
| Increase on revaluation | 218,697 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | 482,650 |

The Group's investments properties were revalued at its open market value at 31st March, 2004 by Skyland Surveyors Co., an independent firm of professional property valuers, on an open market value basis. This valuation gave rise to a revaluation increase of HK\$218,697,000, of which HK\$4,194,000 has been credited to the consolidated income statement to the extent of the decrease previously charged and the remaining balance of HK\$214,503,000 is credited to the investment property revaluation reserve.

The Group's investment properties are held for rental purpose under operating leases.

The Group's investment properties amounting to approximately HK\$482,650,000 (2003: HK\$56,500,000) have been pledged to secure general banking facilities granted to the Group.

The carrying value of the investment properties comprises:

| | THE GROUP | |
|---|----------------|----------|
| | 2004 20 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| | | |
| Properties held under long-term leases in Hong Kong | 438,000 | 27,500 |
| Properties held under medium-term leases in Hong Kong | 44,650 | 32,900 |
| | | |
| | 482,650 | 60,400 |
| | | |

Furniture

14. Property, plant and equipment

| Furniture, | | | |
|--------------|---|---|---|
| fixtures and | | | |
| office | Motor | | |
| equipment | vehicles | Vessel | Total |
| HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 1,813 | 1,654 | 6,000 | 9,467 |
| 301 | , — | _ | 301 |
| (211) | | | (211) |
| 1,903 | 1,654 | 6,000 | 9,557 |
| | | | |
| 566 | 1,125 | 100 | 1,791 |
| 437 | 529 | 1,200 | 2,166 |
| | | | |
| (140) | | | (140) |
| 863 | 1,654 | 1,300 | 3,817 |
| | | | |
| 1,040 | | 4,700 | 5,740 |
| 1,247 | 529 | 5,900 | 7,676 |
| | fixtures and office equipment HK\$'000 1,813 301 (211) 1,903 566 437 (140) 863 | fixtures and office Motor vehicles HK\$'000 HK\$'000 1,813 1,654 301 — (211) — 1,903 1,654 566 1,125 437 529 (140) — 863 1,654 | office equipment Webicles Vessel HK\$'000 HK\$'000 HK\$'000 1,813 1,654 6,000 301 — — (211) — — 1,903 1,654 6,000 566 1,125 100 437 529 1,200 (140) — — 863 1,654 1,300 1,040 — 4,700 |

14. Property, plant and equipment (continued)

| | Furniture, fixtures and office equipment HK\$'000 |
|--|--|
| THE COMPANY COST At 1st April, 2003 Additions | 1,865 38 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | 1,903 |
| DEPRECIATION At 1st April, 2003 Provided for the year | 485 378 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | 863 |
| NET BOOK VALUES At 31st March, 2004 | 1,040 |
| At 31st March, 2003 | 1,380 |
| | |

15. Property held for development

The property held for development was situated in the PRC under medium-term land use rights and was disposed of by the Group during the year.

16. Interests in subsidiaries

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|
| Investments in subsidiaries Unlisted shares, at cost | 82,252 | 82,252 |
| Receivables due from subsidiaries Amounts due from subsidiaries Less: Allowance | 904,402 (302,851) | 890,610 (322,851) |
| | 601,551 | 567,759 |
| Payables due to subsidiaries Amounts due to subsidiaries | 222,663 | 212,663 |

16. Interests in subsidiaries (continued)

The amounts due from/to subsidiaries are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are repayable on demand.

Particulars of the principal subsidiaries at 31st March, 2004 are as follows:

| Name of subsidiary | Place of incorporation and operation | Issued and fully paid nominal value of issued share capital held by the Company Directly 1 ndirectly 1 | | fully paid ordinary | Principal activities |
|---|--------------------------------------|--|-----|---------------------|---|
| Ascot Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | _ | 100 | Property holding |
| Bless Top Holdings Limited | British Virgin Islands/Hong Kong | US\$1 | 100 | _ | Investment holding |
| Gain Master Assets Limited | British Virgin Islands/Hong Kong | US\$1 | _ | 100 | Investment holding |
| Infast Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | _ | 100 | Property holding |
| Island Town Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | _ | 100 | Property holding |
| Mark Well Investment Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$100 | _ | 100 | Sale of securities and investment holding |
| Capital Strategic Investment (B.V.I.) Limited | British Virgin Islands/Hong Kong | US\$40,000 | 100 | _ | Investment holding and vessel holding |
| Ocean Information System (China) Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | _ | 100 | Investment holding |
| Ocean Manufacturing Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$10,000 | _ | 100 | Investment holding |
| Return On Profits Limited | British Virgin Islands/Hong Kong | US\$1 | 100 | - | Investment holding |
| Topsmart Investment Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$100 | _ | 100 | Sale of securities and investment holding |
| CSI Investment Limited | Hong Kong | HK\$2 | 100 | _ | Property holding and leasing of property |

None of the subsidiaries had any debt securities subsisting at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

The above table lists the subsidiaries of the Company which, in the opinion of the directors, principally affected the results for the year or formed a substantial portion of the net assets of the Group. To give details of other subsidiaries would, in the opinion of the directors, result in particulars of excessive length.

17. Interests in associates

| | THE GROUP | | |
|--|-----------|----------|--|
| | 2004 | 2003 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| Interests in associates | | | |
| Share of net assets | 20,176 | 33,029 | |
| Goodwill | | | |
| At 1st April | 53,349 | _ | |
| Arising from acquisition of associates | 26 | 58,004 | |
| Less: Amortisation | (1,646) | (2,718) | |
| Released upon dilution/disposal of interests in associates | (44,039) | (1,937) | |
| | 7,690 | 53,349 | |
| Negative goodwill | | | |
| At 1st April | _ | _ | |
| Arising from acquisition of associates | (5,199) | _ | |
| Released to the income statement | 274 | | |
| | (4,925) | | |
| | 22,941 | 86,378 | |
| Amounts due from associates | 40,197 | | |
| | 63,138 | 86,378 | |
| Market value of listed shares of associates | 13,043 | 23,860 | |

In July 2003, the Group acquired a further of approximately 0.14% interest in Capital Prosper Limited ("Capital Prosper"), a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, for a cash consideration of approximately HK\$84,000. The interest in Capital Prosper held by the Group was increased from 28.08% to 28.22% upon the completion of the acquisition.

17. Interests in associates (continued)

In November 2003, the Group disposed of its wholly owned subsidiary, namely Charm Management Limited ("Charm Management") for a consideration of approximately HK\$61,000,000. The major assets of Charm Management is 28.22% interest in Capital Prosper.

In July 2003, the Group also acquired a further of approximately 7.87% interest in Capital Estate Limited ("Capital Estate") for a cash consideration of approximately HK\$4,500,000. The interest in Capital Estate held by the Group was increased from 20.61% to 28.48% upon the completion of the acquisition.

Following the issue of new shares to third parties by Capital Estate, the Group's interest in Capital Estate was diluted to 21.71%.

The goodwill arising on acquisition of associates is amortised over 20 years.

The negative goodwill is released to the income statement over the useful life of the depreciable assets of that associates.

Proportion of

Particulars of the principal associates at 31st March, 2004 are as follows:

| Name of associate | Place of incorporation | Place of operation | nominal value of issued share capital held indirectly by the Company | Principal activities |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| Capital Estate Limited* | Hong Kong | Hong Kong | 21.71% | Property development, securities trading and provision of estate agency services |
| Concord Way Limited | Hong Kong | Hong Kong | 45% | Property development |
| Cherry Developments Limited | Hong Kong | Hong Kong | 50% | Property investment |
| Siu Wah Investments Limited | Hong Kong | Hong Kong | 50% | Property investment |

^{*} The shares of the associate are listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

18. Investments in securities

| | THE GROUP | | THE COMPANY | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|-------------|----------|--|
| | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 | |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | |
| Other investments | | | | | |
| Equity securities: | | | | | |
| Listed | 48,655 | 35,447 | _ | _ | |
| Unlisted | 6,505 | 5,005 | | | |
| | 55,160 | 40,452 | | | |
| Debt securities | | | | | |
| Listed | 48,764 | 173,800 | _ | _ | |
| Unlisted | 42,360 | 75,486 | 3,933 | 4,026 | |
| | 91,124 | 249,286 | 3,933 | 4,026 | |
| Club debenture | 1,450 | 1,450 | | | |
| Total and reported as: | | | | | |
| Listed | | | | | |
| Hong Kong | 48,655 | 25,679 | _ | _ | |
| Elsewhere | 48,764 | 183,568 | _ | _ | |
| Unlisted | 50,315 | 81,941 | 3,933 | 4,026 | |
| | 147,734 | 291,188 | 3,933 | 4,026 | |
| Classified under | | | | | |
| Current | 111,484 | 268,738 | 3,933 | 4,026 | |
| Non-current | 36,250 | 22,450 | | | |
| | 147,734 | 291,188 | 3,933 | 4,026 | |
| Market value of listed securities | 97,419 | 209,247 | | | |

19. Deposits paid for acquisition of investment properties

As at 31st March, 2003, the amount represented a deposit with a stakeholder for acquisition of investment properties. The transaction was completed during the year and the amount was transferred to investment properties as detailed in note 13.

20. Deposits paid for acquisition of property, plant and equipment

During the year, the Group entered into an agreement to acquire a motor yacht and deposit of HK\$2,596,000 has been paid by the Group as at 31st March, 2004. The transaction has not been completed up to the date of this report.

21. Deferred taxation

The following are the major deferred tax liability and (asset) recognised and movements during the current and prior accounting periods:

THE GROUP

| | Accelerated tax | | |
|---|--------------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| | depreciation HK\$'000 | Tax losses HK\$'000 | Total HK\$'000 |
| At 1st April, 2002 | | | |
| — As previously reported | _ | _ | _ |
| — Prior year adjustment | | (5,036) | (5,036) |
| — As restated | _ | (5,036) | (5,036) |
| Charge to the consolidated income statement | | 2,927 | 2,927 |
| At 31st March, 2003 | _ | (2,109) | (2,109) |
| Effect of a change in tax rate | _ | (198) | (198) |
| Charge to the consolidated income statement | 878 | 2,032 | 2,910 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | 878 | (275) | 603 |

As at 31st March, 2004, the Group had unused tax losses of approximately HK\$7,695,000 (2003: HK\$8,058,000) available for offset against future profits. No deferred tax assets had been recognised in respect of the unused tax losses due to unpredictability of future profits streams.

21. Deferred taxation (continued)

THE COMPANY

| | Tax losses HK\$'000 |
|---|------------------------|
| At 1st April, 2002 — As previously reported | _ |
| — Prior year adjustment | (1,000) |
| — As restated Charge to the income statement | (1,000) 424 |
| At 31st March, 2003 Charge to the income statement | (576) 301 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | (275) |

22. Goodwill

| | THE GROUP HK'000 |
|---|---------------------|
| COST At 1st April, 2003 Arising on acquisition of a subsidiary | 8,977 130 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | 9,107 |
| AMORTISATION AND IMPAIRMENT At 1st April, 2003 Impairment loss recognised | 8,977 130 |
| At 31st March, 2004 | 9,107 |
| NET BOOK VALUES At 31st March, 2004 | |
| At 31st March, 2003 | |

During the year ended 31st March, 2004, the directors reviewed the carrying amount of goodwill with reference to the business operated by the subsidiary. The subsidiary is mainly engaged in securities holding and in view of the current market condition in the operation, impairment loss of approximately HK\$130,000, being the entire goodwill relating to the subsidiary, has been identified and recognised in the consolidated income statement.

23. Trade and other receivables

The Group allows its trade customers with a credit period normally ranging from 30 days to 90 days. The aged analysis of the trade receivables at 31st March, 2004 is as follows:

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 000 days | 444 | 0.000 |
| 0 — 30 days | 144 | 2,086 |
| 31 — 60 days | _ | 194 |
| 61 — 90 days | _ | 276 |
| Over 90 days | | 713 |
| | 144 | 3,269 |
| Other receivables | 16,641 | 2,402 |
| | 16,785 | 5,671 |

24. Properties held for sale

| | HK'000 |
|---|----------|
| At 1st April, 2003 | _ |
| Additions | 59,792 |
| Disposal | (17,566) |
| | |
| At 31st March, 2004, at cost | 42,226 |
| | |
| The carrying value of properties held for sale comprises: | |
| | |
| Properties held under medium leases in Hong Kong | _ |
| Properties held under long leases in Hong Kong | 42,226 |
| | |
| | 42,226 |
| | |

25. Trade and other payables

Included in trade and other payable are trade payables with the following aged analysis:

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| | | 4.04.4 |
| 0 — 30 days | _ | 1,214 |
| 31 — 60 days | _ | 223 |
| 61 — 90 days | _ | 244 |
| Over 90 days | _ | 856 |
| | | |
| | _ | 2,537 |
| Other payables | 10,351 | 2,361 |
| other payables | | |
| | 10,351 | 4,898 |
| | 10,331 | 4,090 |

26. Bank borrowings

| | THE G | ROUP | THE CO | MPANY |
|--|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
| Bank loans Bank overdrafts | 174,060 4,998 | 27,430 3,690 | 20,000 | |
| | 179,058 | 31,120 | 20,000 | |
| Repayable as follows: | | | | |
| Within one year Between one to two years Between two to five years Over five years | 47,582 8,304 41,362 81,810 | 5,250 1,704 7,312 16,854 | 20,000 — — — | |
| | 179,058 | 31,120 | 20,000 | _ |
| Less: Amount due within one year included under current liabilities | (47,582) | (5,250) | (20,000) | |
| Amount due after one year | 131,476 | 25,870 | | |

Of the bank borrowings of the Group, HK\$154,060,000 (2003: HK\$27,430,000) are secured by investment properties of HK\$482,650,000 (2003: HK\$56,500,000) and bank deposits of HK\$5,219,000 (2003: HK\$5,178,000).

27. Share capital

| | Number | |
|--|----------------|-----------|
| | of shares | Amount |
| | | HK\$'000 |
| Authorised: | | |
| Ordinary share of HK\$0.10 each at 1st April, 2002 | 1,800,000,000 | 180,000 |
| Adjustment of nominal value | | (162,000) |
| Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each | 1,800,000,000 | 18,000 |
| Increase | 16,200,000,000 | 162,000 |
| Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each 31st March, 2003 | | |
| and 31st March, 2004 | 18,000,000,000 | 180,000 |
| Issued and fully paid: | | |
| Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each at 1st April, 2002 | 1,283,791,800 | 128,379 |
| Adjustment of nominal value | _ | (115,541) |
| Issue of shares | 250,000,000 | 2,500 |
| Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each at 31st March, 2003 | | |
| and 31st March, 2004 | 1,533,791,800 | 15,338 |
| | | |

28. Share options

1992 Scheme

The Company's share option scheme ("1992 Scheme"), was adopted pursuant to a resolution passed on 23rd March, 1992 for the primary purpose of providing incentives to directors and eligible employees, and was terminated on 13th June, 2001. Under the 1992 Scheme, the board of directors of the Company may grant options to eligible employees, including an executive director of the Company or any subsidiaries, to subscribe for shares in the Company.

The total number of shares in respect of which options may be granted under the 1992 Scheme is not permitted to exceed 10% of the issued share capital of the Company excluding any shares issued pursuant to the 1992 Scheme. The number of shares in respect of which options may be granted to any individual is not permitted to exceed 25% of the number of shares issued and issuable under the 1992 Scheme.

Options granted must be taken up within 28 days of the date of grant, upon payment of HK\$1 per grant. Options may be exercised within one year on the expiry of 6 months after the date of grant. The exercise price is determined by the directors of the Company, and will not be less than the higher of the 80% of average closing price of the Company's shares for the five business days immediately preceding the date of grant, and the nominal value of the Company's shares.

The 1992 Scheme was terminated on 13th June, 2001.

2001 Scheme

On 13th June, 2001, the Company adopted a new share option scheme ("2001 Scheme"), for the primary purpose of providing incentives to directors and eligible employees. The 2001 Scheme will expire on 12th June, 2011. Under the 2001 Scheme, the board of directors of the Company may grant options to eligible employees, including executive directors of the Company and its subsidiaries, to subscribe for shares in the Company.

2001 Scheme (continued)

The total number of shares in respect of which options may be granted under the 2001 Scheme is not permitted to exceed the higher of 10% of the shares of the Company in issue at any point in time excluding any shares issued pursuant to the 2001 Scheme or such other limit as may be permitted under Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange ("Listing Rules"). The number of shares in respect of which options may be granted to any individual is not permitted to exceed the higher of 25% of the number of shares issued and issuable under the 2001 Scheme or any other limit as may be permitted under the Listing Rules.

Options granted must be taken up within 60 days of the date of grant, upon payment of HK\$1 per grant. Options may be exercised at any time from the date of grant to the 10th anniversary of the date of grant. In each grant of options, the board of directors may at their discretion determine the specific exercise period. The exercise price is determined by the directors of the Company, and will not be less than the higher of the 80% of average closing price of the Company's shares for the five business days immediately preceding the date of grant, and the nominal value of the Company's shares.

The 2001 Scheme was terminated on 26th August, 2002.

2002 Scheme

On 26th August, 2002 (the "Adoption Date"), the Company adopted a new share option scheme ("2002 Scheme"), for the primary purpose of providing incentives to directors and eligible employees. The 2002 Scheme will expire on 25th August, 2012. Under the 2002 Scheme, the board of directors of the Company may grant options to eligible employees, including executive directors of the Company and its subsidiaries, to subscribe for shares in the Company.

The total number of shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the 2002 Scheme (excluding those options that have already been granted by the Company prior to the date of approval of the 2002 Scheme) must not in aggregate exceed 10% of the shares in issue at the Adoption Date unless the Company obtains a fresh approval from its shareholders.

2002 Scheme (continued)

Options granted must be taken up within 60 days of the date of grant, upon payment of HK\$1 per grant. Options may be exercised at any time from the date of grant to the 10th anniversary of the date of grant. In each grant of options, the board of directors may at their discretion determine the specific exercise period. The exercise price is determined by the directors of the Company, and will not be less than the higher (i) the closing price, (ii) the average closing price of the Company's shares of the five business days immediately preceding the date of grant, and (iii) the nominal value of the Company's shares.

At 31st March, 2004, the number of shares in respect of which options had been granted and remained outstanding under the, 2001 Scheme and 2002 Scheme were 104,625,000 and 131,000,000, representing 6.8% and 8.5% of the issued share capital of the Company at that date respectively.

The following table discloses movements in the Company's share option schemes during the year ended 31st March, 2004:

| | Option scheme type | Exercise price | Outstanding at 1.4.2003 | Granted during year (Note 3) | Exercised during year | Surrendered/ lapsed during year | Outstanding at 31.3.2004 |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Director | | | | | | | |
| Ma Wai Man, Catherine | 2001 (Note 1) | 0.168 | 31,500,000 | _ | _ | - | 31,500,000 |
| | 2002 (Note 2) | 0.14 | 12,500,000 | | | | 12,500,000 |
| Total for director | | | 44,000,000 | | | | 44,000,000 |
| Employees and consultants | | | | | | | |
| | 2001 (Note 1) | 0.168 | 73,650,000 | _ | _ | (525,000) | 73,125,000 |
| | 2002 (Note 2) | 0.14 | 73,500,000 | 30,000,000 | _ | _ | 103,500,000 |
| | 2002 (Note 2) | 0.15 | | 15,000,000 | | | 15,000,000 |
| Total for employees and consultants | | | 147,150,000 | 45,000,000 | | (525,000) | 191,625,000 |
| Grand Total | | | 191,150,000 | 45,000,000 | | (525,000) | 235,625,000 |

2002 Scheme (continued)

The following table discloses movements in the Company's share option schemes during the year 31st March, 2003:

| | Option scheme type | Exercise price | Outstanding at 1.4.2002 | Granted during year | Exercised during year | Surrendered/ lapsed during year | Outstanding at 31.3.2003 |
|-------------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Director/ex-director* | | | | | | | |
| Ma Wai Man, Catherine | 1992 1992 2001 (Note 1) 2002 (Note 2) | 0.2267 0.2533 0.168 0.14 | 15,000,000 3,000,000 31,500,000 | | - - - - | (15,000,000) (3,000,000) — — | 31,500,000 12,500,000 |
| Kan Sze Man* | 1992 1992 2001 (Note 1) 2002 (Note 2) | 0.2267 0.2533 0.168 0.14 | 10,500,000 4,500,000 31,500,000 | 12,500,000 | | (10,500,000) (4,500,000) ———————————————————————————————— | 31,500,000 12,500,000 |
| Total for director/ex-director | | | 96,000,000 | 25,000,000 | | (33,000,000) | 88,000,000 |
| Employees and consultants | | | | | | | |
| | 1992 2001 (Note 1) | 0.2267 0.168 | 8,025,000 42,150,000 | _ _ | _ _ | (8,025,000) | <u> </u> |
| | 2002 (Note 2) | 0.14 | | 73,500,000 | | (12,500,000) | 61,000,000 |
| Total for employees and consultants | | | 50,175,000 | 73,500,000 | | (20,525,000) | 103,150,000 |
| Grand Total | | | 146,175,000 | 98,500,000 | | (53,525,000) | 191,150,000 |

2002 Scheme (continued)

Notes:

- 1. There is a limit on the number of share options under the 2001 Scheme that may be exercised by each grantee during each period of 12 months commencing from 30th August, 2001 (until 29th August, 2005), namely, the aggregate of (a) 20% of the total number of such share options granted and (b) any unused limits accumulated during previous period(s), subject to the written consent of the executive chairman of the Company to the exercise of share options exceeding such limit.
- 2. There is a limit on the number of share options under the 2002 Scheme that may be exercised by each grantee during each period of 12 months commencing from 23rd September, 2002 (until 22nd September, 2006), namely, the aggregate of (a) 20% of the total number of such share options granted and (b) any unused limits accumulated during previous period(s), subject to the written consent of the executive chairman of the Company to the exercise of share options exceeding such limit.
- 3. The closing price of the shares of the Company on 8th and 9th January, 2004 immediately before the date on which the options were granted were HK\$0.14 and HK\$0.15 respectively.

29. Reserves

| Share premium HK\$'000 | Contributed surplus HK\$'000 | Accumulated (losses) profits HK\$'000 | Total HK\$'000 |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | |
| | | | |
| 464,823 | 62,352 | (304,306) | 222,869 |
| | | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| 464,823 | 62,352 | (303,306) | 223,869 |
| (464.823) | 580.364 | _ | 115,541 |
| (· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | ' | 304.306 | _ |
| 23.225 | (55 t,555) | _ | 23.225 |
| | | 82,692 | 82,692 |
| 23,225 | 338,410 | 83,692 | 445,327 |
| | | 17,416 | 17,416 |
| 23,225 | 338,410 | 101,108 | 462,743 |
| | ## Premium HK\$'000 464,823 | premium surplus HK\$'000 HK\$'000 464,823 62,352 — — 464,823 62,352 (464,823) 580,364 — (304,306) 23,225 — — — 23,225 338,410 — — | premium surplus (losses) profits HK\$'000 HK\$'000 464,823 62,352 (304,306) — 1,000 464,823 62,352 (303,306) (464,823) 580,364 — — (304,306) 304,306 23,225 — — — 82,692 23,225 — 83,692 — 17,416 |

29. Reserves (continued)

Under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (as amended), the contributed surplus account of the Company is available for distribution. However, the Company cannot declare or pay a dividend, or make a distribution out of contributed surplus if:

- (i) it is, or would the payment be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due; or
- (ii) the realisable value of its assets would thereby be less than the aggregate of its liabilities and its issued share capital and share premium.

At 31st March, 2004, the reserves of the Company available for distribution to shareholders amounted to approximately HK\$439,518,000 (2003: HK\$422,102,000).

30. Disposal of subsidiaries

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|--|------------------|------------------|
| Net assets disposed of: | | |
| Investment properties | _ | 2,850 |
| Interests in an associate | 54,540 | _ |
| Property, plant and equipment | 71 | 25 |
| Trade and other receivables | 7,910 | 30 |
| Bank balances and cash | 116 | |
| Trade and other payables | (6,266) | (45) |
| Bank overdraft | (14) | _ |
| Minority interest | (534) | |
| | EE 022 | 2 960 |
| Gain on disposal of a subsidiary | 55,823 6,171 | 2,860 2,490 |
| Gain on disposal of discontinuing operation | 5,489 | 2,430 |
| out of disposar of discontinuing operation | | |
| | 67,483 | 5,350 |
| Satisfied by: | | |
| Cash | 67 000 | 5 250 |
| Interests in associates | 67,000 483 | 5,350 |
| micresis in associates | | |
| | 67,483 | 5,350 |
| Analysis of the net inflow of cash and cash equivalents in connection with the disposal of subsidiaries: | | |
| Cash consideration received | 67,000 | 5,350 |
| Bank balances and cash disposed of | (116) | J,330 |
| Bank overdraft disposed of | 14 | _ |
| | | |
| Net inflow of cash and cash equivalents | 66,898 | 5,350 |
| · | | |

The subsidiaries disposed of during the year did not make any significant contribution to the results and cash flows of the Group during the year.

31. Purchase of a subsidiary

| | 2004 HK\$'000 | 2003 HK\$'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| Net assets acquired: | | |
| Investments in securities | 4,870 | |
| Goodwill arising on acquisition | 4,870 130 | |
| | 5,000 | |
| Satisfied by: | | |
| Cash | 5,000 | |
| Analysis of the net outflow of cash and cash equivalents in connection with the purchase of subsidiary: | | |
| Cash consideration paid | 5,000 | |
| Outflow of cash and cash equivalents in connection with the purchase of a subsidiary | 5,000 | |

The subsidiary acquired of during the year did not make any significant contribution to the results and cash flow of the Group during the year.

32. Non-cash transaction

During the year ended 31st March, 2004, addition of investment properties was partially satisfied by the deposit of HK\$5,000,000 paid for acquisition of investment properties in the previous year.

33. Operation lease commitments

The Group has made approximately HK\$802,000 (2003: HK\$2,381,000) minimum lease payments under operating leases during the year in respect of office premises and vessels.

The Group as lessee

At the balance sheet date, the Group had commitments for future minimum lease payments under noncancellable operating leases in respect of land and buildings which fall due as follows:

| | THE GROUP | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| | 2004 | 2003 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Within one year | 1,061 | 1,620 |
| In the second to fifth years inclusive | | 1,211 |
| | 1,061 | 2,831 |

Lease are negotiated for one year and rentals are fixed for one of year.

The Company had no operating lease commitments at the balance sheet date.

The Group as lessor

Property rental income earned during the year was HK\$18,263,000 (2003: HK\$2,740,000). These properties are expected to generate rental yield of 3.78% on an ongoing basis, which calculated based on the valuation amount of the investment properties. Certain of the properties have committed tenants for next two to three years.

At the balance sheet date, the Group had contracted with tenants for the following future minimum lease payments:

| | THE GROUP | |
|--|-----------|----------|
| | 2004 | 2003 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Within one year | 22,097 | 2,610 |
| In the second to fifth years inclusive | 42,422 | 1,380 |
| | 64,519 | 3,990 |

The Company did not have any lease contract.

34. Contingent liabilities

| | THE GROUP | | THE COMPANY | |
|---|-----------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | 2004 | 2003 | 2004 | 2003 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Corporate guarantee given by the Company for banking facilities granted to subsidiaries Corporate guarantee given by the Group for banking facilities | _ | _ | 142,815 | 29,625 |
| granted to an associate | 101,000 | | 101,000 | |
| | 101,000 | | 243,815 | 29,625 |

As at 31st March, 2004, the banking facilities utilised by the associate were amounted to approximately HK\$77,000,000.

35. Pledge of assets

At 31st March, 2004, the following assets were pledged to secure banking facilities granted to the Group:

- (a) Investment properties with a carrying value of HK\$482,650,000 (2003: HK\$56,500,000).
- (b) Bank deposits of HK\$5,219,000 (2003: HK\$5,178,000).

36. Capital commitments

| | THE GROUP | |
|---|-----------|----------|
| | 2004 | 2003 |
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Capital expenditure in respect of the acquisition | | |
| of property, plant and equipment contracted for | | |
| but not provided in the financial statements | 10,430 | _ |
| | | |

37. Retirement benefit scheme

With effect from 1st December, 2000, the Group has joined a mandatory provident fund scheme ("MPF Scheme"). The MPF Scheme is registered with the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme Authority under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance. The assets of the MPF Scheme are held separately from those of the Group in funds under the control of an independent trustee. Under the rules of the MPF Scheme, the employer and its employees are each required to make contributions to the scheme at rates specified in the rules. The only obligation of the Group with respect to the MPF Scheme is to make the required contributions under the scheme. No forfeited contributions are available to reduce the contributions payables in the future years.

The retirement benefit scheme contributions relating to the MPF Scheme charged to the income statement represent contributions payable to the scheme by the Group at rates specified in the rules of the schemes.

38. Related party transactions

During the year, the Group has disposed of its entire 80% interest in Consecutive Profits Limited and its subsidiaries ("CPL") to a wholly-owned subsidiary of Capital Estate Limited, for a consideration of HK\$6,000,000.

The above transactions were carried out at terms agreed between the relevant parties.

39. Post balance sheet events

- (1) In April, 2004, the Group disposed of its entire 100% interest in Ascot Limited with the net asset value of approximately HK\$13,648,000, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company for a consideration of HK\$31,650,000. The transaction was completed at the date of this report.
- (2) In May, 2004, King's Land Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into agreement to dispose of the property held for sale with a carrying value of HK\$5,871,000 for a consideration of HK\$6,194,000. The transaction has not yet been completed up to the date of this report.
- (3) In May, 2004, Sennor Holdings Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into agreement to acquire the property which was located in Hong Kong at a consideration of approximately HK\$233,000,000. Details of these are set out in the circular issued by the Company dated 25th June, 2004.
- (4) In June 2004, Suna Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into agreement to dispose of the property held for sale with a carrying value of HK\$12,536,400 for a consideration of HK\$13,480,000. The transaction has not yet been completed up to the date of this report.