

11. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

- (a) At the balance sheet date, contingent liabilities not provided for the financial statements were as follows:

	30 September 2004 Unaudited HK\$'000	31 March 2004 Audited HK\$'000
Bank guarantees given in lieu of utility and property rental deposits	2,711	2,307
Guarantees given to banks in connection with facilities granted to associates	20,670	22,911
	23,381	25,218

As at 30 September 2004, the bank facilities guaranteed by the Group to associates were utilised to the extent of approximately HK\$20,670,000 (31 March 2004: HK\$22,911,000).

- (b) The Group has a contingent liability in respect of possible future long service payments to employees under the Hong Kong Employment Ordinance, with a maximum possible amount of HK\$12,280,000 as at 30 September 2004 (31 March 2004: HK\$12,461,000). The contingent liability has arisen because, at the balance sheet date, a number of current employees have achieved the required number of years of service to the Group in order to be eligible for long service payments under the Hong Kong Employment Ordinance if their employment is terminated under certain circumstances. A provision has not been recognised in respect of such possible payments, as it is not considered probable that the situation will result in a material future outflow of resources from the Group.

12. COMPARATIVE AMOUNTS

Exchange gains/losses of currency-link deposits and foreign currency deposits have been reclassified from cost of sales to other revenue and gains/losses, net, for the 2003 comparative amounts to conform with the presentation adopted for the current period.

13. APPROVAL OF THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INTERIM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These condensed consolidated interim financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors on 16 December 2004.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has declared an interim dividend of HK2.0 cents (2003: HK2.0 cents) per share for the period ended 30 September 2004, payable to shareholders whose names appear in the register of members of the Company on Thursday, 20 January 2005. The dividend will be payable on Friday, 28 January 2005.

CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

The Register of Members will be closed from Friday, 14 January 2005 to Thursday, 20 January 2005 (both days inclusive) during which period no transfers of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfer forms accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Share Registrar in Hong Kong, Tengis Limited, at G/F, Bank of East Asia Harbour View Centre, 56 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong not later than 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, 13 January 2005.