

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION

1 Basis of preparation and accounting policies

These unaudited condensed consolidated financial information has been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard (“HKAS”) 34 “Interim Financial Reporting” issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

These condensed consolidated financial information should be read in conjunction with the 2004 annual financial statements.

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of these condensed consolidated financial information are consistent with those used in the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2004 except that the Group has changed certain of its accounting policies following its adoption of new/revised Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards and Hong Kong Accounting Standards (“new HKFRS”) which are effective for accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2005.

These condensed consolidated financial information has been prepared in accordance with those HKFRS standards and interpretations issued and effective as at the time of preparing these information. The HKFRS standards and interpretations that will be applicable at 31 December 2005, including those that will be applicable on an optional basis, are not known with certainty at the time of preparing these condensed consolidated financial information.

The changes to the Group’s accounting policies and the effect of adopting these new policies are set out in note 2 below.

2 Changes in accounting policies

(a) Effect of adopting new HKFRS

In 2005, the Group adopted the new/revised standards of HKFRS below, which are relevant to its operations. The 2004 comparatives have been amended as required, in accordance with the relevant requirements.

| | |
|---------|---|
| HKAS 1 | Presentation of Financial Statements |
| HKAS 2 | Inventories |
| HKAS 7 | Cash Flow Statements |
| HKAS 8 | Accounting Policies, Changes in Accounting Estimates and Errors |
| HKAS 10 | Events after the Balance Sheet Date |
| HKAS 16 | Property, Plant and Equipment |
| HKAS 17 | Leases |
| HKAS 21 | The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates |
| HKAS 23 | Borrowing Costs |
| HKAS 24 | Related Party Disclosures |
| HKAS 27 | Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements |
| HKAS 28 | Investments in Associates |
| HKAS 31 | Investments in Joint Ventures |
| HKAS 32 | Financial Instruments: Disclosures and Presentation |
| HKAS 33 | Earnings per Share |
| HKAS 36 | Impairment of Assets |
| HKAS 38 | Intangible Assets |
| HKAS 39 | Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement |
| HKFRS 3 | Business Combinations |

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

2 Changes in accounting policies (Continued)

(a) Effect of adopting new HKFRS (Continued)

The adoption of new/revised HKASs 1, 2, 7, 8, 10, 16, 21, 23, 24, 27, 28, 31 and 33 did not result in substantial changes to the Group's accounting policies. In summary:

- HKAS 1 has affected the presentation of minority interest, share of net after-tax results of associates and other disclosures.
- HKASs 2, 7, 8, 10, 16, 23, 27, 28, 31 and 33 had no material effect on the Group's policies.
- HKAS 21 had no material effect on the Group's policy. The functional currency of each of the consolidated entities has been re-evaluated based on the guidance to the revised standard. All the Group entities have the same functional currency as the presentation currency for respective entity financial statements.
- HKAS 24 has affected the identification of related parties and some other related-party disclosures.

The adoption of revised HKAS 17 has resulted in a change in the accounting policy relating to the reclassification of leasehold land from property, plant and equipment to operating leases. The up-front prepayments made for the leasehold land are expensed in the income statement on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease or where there is impairment, the impairment is expensed in the income statement. In prior years, the leasehold land was accounted for at cost less accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment.

The adoption of HKASs 32 and 39 has resulted in a change in the accounting policy relating to the classification of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss.

The adoption of HKFRS 3, HKAS 36 and HKAS 38 has resulted in a change in the accounting policy for goodwill. Until 31 December 2004, goodwill was:

- amortised on a straight-line basis over a period ranging from 5 to 10 years; and
- assessed for an indication of impairment at each balance sheet date.

In accordance with the provisions of HKFRS 3 (note 2.4):

- the Group ceased amortisation of goodwill from 1 January 2005;
- accumulated amortisation as at 31 December 2004 has been eliminated with a corresponding decrease in the cost of goodwill; and
- from the year ending 31 December 2005 onwards, goodwill is tested annually for impairment, as well as when there is indication of impairment.

All changes in the accounting policies have been made in accordance with the transitional provisions in the respective standards. All standards adopted by the Group require retrospective application other than:

- HKAS 21 - prospective accounting for goodwill and fair value adjustments as part of foreign operations;
- HKAS 39 - does not permit to recognise, derecognise and measure financial assets and liabilities in accordance with this standard on a retrospective basis. The Group applied the previous Hong Kong Statement of Standard Accounting Practice ("SSAP") 24 "Accounting for investments in securities" to investments in securities for the 2004 comparative information. The adjustments required for the accounting differences between SSAP 24 and HKAS 39 are determined and recognised at 1 January 2005; and
- HKFRS 3 - prospectively after the adoption date.

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

2 Changes in accounting policies (Continued)

(a) Effect of adopting new HKFRS (Continued)

(i) The effects of the adoption of revised HKAS 17 are summarised as follows:

| | 30 June 2005 | 31 December 2004 |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------|
| | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 |
| Decrease in property, plant and equipment | (190,700) | (192,984) |
| Increase in leasehold land | 190,700 | 192,984 |

(ii) The effects of the adoption of revised HKFRS 3 and HKAS 38 are summarised as follows:

| | Six months ended 30 June 2005 |
|--|--|
| | HK\$'000 |
| Decrease in other operating expenses arising from the cessation of amortisation of goodwill | (2,799) |

(b) New accounting policies

The accounting policies used for the condensed consolidated financial information for the six months ended 30 June 2005 are the same as those set out in note 1 to the 2004 annual financial statements except for the following:

2.1 Acquisition of subsidiaries and associates

The purchase method of accounting is used to account for the acquisition of subsidiaries by the Group. The cost of an acquisition is measured as the fair value of the assets given, equity instruments issued and liabilities incurred or assumed at the date of exchange, plus costs directly attributable to the acquisition. Identifiable assets acquired and liabilities and contingent liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured initially at their fair values at the acquisition date, irrespective of the extent of any minority interest. The excess of the cost of acquisition over the fair value of the Group's share of the identifiable net assets acquired is recorded as goodwill. If the cost of acquisition is less than the fair value of the net assets of the subsidiary acquired, the difference is recognised directly in the income statement.

An investment in an associate is accounted for using the equity method from the date on which it becomes an associate. On acquisition of the investment, the measurement and recognition of goodwill is the same as that of goodwill arising from the acquisition of subsidiaries. Goodwill relating to an associate is included in the carrying amount of the investment. Appropriate adjustments to the investor's share of the profits or losses after acquisition are made to account based on their fair values at the date of acquisition.

2.2 Foreign currency translation

(a) Functional and presentation currency

Items included in the financial statements of each of the Group's entities are measured using the currency of the primary economic environment in which the entity operates ("the functional currency"). The consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars, which is the Company's functional and presentation currency.

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

2 Changes in accounting policies (Continued)

(b) New accounting policies (Continued)

2.2 Foreign currency translation (Continued)

(b) Transactions and balances

Foreign currency transactions are translated into the functional currency using the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses resulting from the settlement of such transactions and from the translation at year-end exchange rates of monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recognised in the income statement, except when deferred in equity as qualifying cash flow hedges or qualifying net investment hedges.

Translation differences on non-monetary items, such as equity instruments held at fair value through profit or loss, are reported as part of the fair value gain or loss. Translation difference on non-monetary items, such as equities classified as available-for-sale financial assets, are included in the fair value reserve in equity.

(c) Group companies

The results and financial position of all the group entities (none of which has the currency of a hyperinflationary economy) that have a functional currency different from the presentation currency are translated into the presentation currency as follows:

- (i) assets and liabilities for each balance sheet presented are translated at the closing rate at the date of that balance sheet;
- (ii) income and expenses for each income statement are translated at average exchange rates (unless this average is not a reasonable approximation of the cumulative effect of the rates prevailing on the transaction dates, in which case income and expenses are translated at the dates of the transactions); and
- (iii) all resulting exchange differences are recognised as a separate component of equity.

On consolidation, exchange differences arising from the translation of the net investment in foreign entities, and of borrowings and other currency instruments designated as hedges of such investments, are taken to shareholder's equity. When a foreign operation is sold, such exchange differences are recognised in the income statement as part of the gain or loss on sale.

Goodwill and fair value adjustments arising on the acquisition of a foreign entity are treated as assets and liabilities of the foreign entity and translated at the closing rate.

2.3 Property, plant and equipment

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed, and adjusted if appropriate, at each balance sheet date.

2.4 Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of the cost of an acquisition over the fair value of the Group's share of the net identifiable assets of the acquired subsidiary/associate/jointly controlled entity at the date of acquisition. Goodwill on acquisitions of subsidiaries is included in intangible assets. Goodwill on acquisitions of associates and jointly controlled entities is included in investments in associates and jointly controlled entities. Goodwill is tested annually for impairment and carried at cost less accumulated impairment losses. Gains and losses on the disposal of an entity include the carrying amount of goodwill relating to the entity sold.

Goodwill is allocated to cash-generating units for the purpose of impairment testing.

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

2 Changes in accounting policies (Continued)

(b) New accounting policies (Continued)

2.5 Impairment of assets

Assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortisation, which are at least tested annually for impairment and are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicated that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less costs to sell and value in use. For the purposes of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash-generating units).

2.6 Investments

From 1 January 2004 to 31 December 2004:

The Group classified its investments in securities, other than subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities, as investment securities and other investments.

(a) Investment securities

Investment securities are stated at cost less any provision for impairment losses. The carrying amounts of individual investments are reviewed at each balance sheet date to assess whether the fair values have declined below the carrying amounts. When a decline other than temporary has occurred, the carrying amount of such securities will be reduced to its fair value. The impairment loss is recognised as an expense in the income statement. This impairment loss is written back to the income statement when the circumstances and events that led to the write-downs or write-offs cease to exist and there is persuasive evidence that the new circumstances and events will persist for the foreseeable future.

(b) Other investments

Other investments are carried at fair value. At each balance sheet date, the net unrealised gains or losses arising from the changes in fair value of other investments are recognised in the income statement. Profits or losses on disposal of other investments, representing the difference between the net sales proceeds and the carrying amounts, are recognised in the income statement as they arise.

From 1 January 2005 onwards:

The Group classifies its investments in the following categories: financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, loans and receivables and available-for-sale financial assets. The classification depends on the purpose for which the investments were acquired. Management determines the classification of its investments at initial recognition and re-evaluates this designation at every reporting date.

(a) Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss

This category has two sub-categories: financial assets held for trading, and those designated at fair value through profit or loss at inception. A financial asset is classified in this category if acquired principally for the purpose of selling in the short term or if so designated by management. Derivatives are also categorised as held for trading unless they are designated as hedges. Assets in this category are classified as current assets if they are either held for trading or are expected to be realised within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL INFORMATION (Continued)

2 Changes in accounting policies (Continued)

(b) New accounting policies (Continued)

2.6 Investments (Continued)

(b) Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market. They arise when the Group provides money, goods or services directly to a debtor with no intention of trading the receivable. They are included in current assets, except for maturities greater than 12 months after the balance sheet date. These are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are included in trade and other receivables in the balance sheet (note 2.7).

(c) Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets are non-derivatives that are either designated in this category or not classified in any of the other categories. They are included in non-current assets unless management intends to dispose of the investment within 12 months of the balance sheet date.

Purchases and sales of investments are recognised on trade-date – the date on which the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset. Investments are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs for all financial assets not carried at fair value through profit or loss. Investments are derecognised when the rights to receive cash flows from the investments have expired or have been transferred and the Group has transferred substantially all risks and rewards of ownership. Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss are subsequently carried at fair value whereas available-for-sale financial assets are carried at cost less accumulated impairment. Loans and receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. Realised and unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of the “financial assets at fair value through profit or loss” category are included in the income statement in the period in which they arise. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in the fair value of non-monetary securities classified as available-for-sale are recognised in equity. When securities classified as available-for-sale are sold or impaired, the accumulated fair value adjustments are included in the income statement as gains or losses from investment securities.

The fair values of quoted investments are based on current bid prices. Available-for-sale financial assets that do not have a quoted market price in an active market and whose fair value cannot be reliably measured, are carried at cost less accumulated impairment.

The Group assesses at each balance sheet date whether there is objective evidence that a financial asset or a group of financial assets is impaired. In the case of equity securities classified as available for sale, a significant or prolonged decline in the fair value of the security below its cost is considered in determining whether the securities are impaired. If any such evidence exists for available-for-sale financial assets, the cumulative loss – measured as the difference between the acquisition cost and the current fair value, less any impairment loss on that financial asset previously recognised in the income statement – is removed from equity and recognised in the income statement. Impairment losses recognised in the income statement on equity instruments are not reversed through the income statement.

2.7 Trade and other receivables

Trade and other receivables are recognised initially at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for impairment of trade and other receivables is established when there is objective evidence that the Group will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of receivables. The amount of the provision is the difference between the asset’s carrying amount and the present value of estimated future cash flows, discounted at the effective interest rate. The amount of the provision is recognised in the income statement.