



# Dynasty Fine Wines Group Limited

## 王朝酒業集團有限公司

(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 828)

### PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2006

The board of directors (the “Directors”) of Dynasty Fine Wines Group Limited (the “Company”) is pleased to report the unaudited results of the Company and its subsidiaries (“the Group”) for the first half year of 2006. The interim results have been reviewed by the Company’s Audit Committee and the Company’s auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers. All of the Audit Committee members, including the chairman of the Audit Committee are independent non-executive directors.

#### CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

For the six months ended 30 June 2006

		<b>Unaudited</b>	
		<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
		<b>2006</b>	<b>2005</b>
	<i>Note</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Turnover	4	575,527	511,610
Cost of sales		<u>(283,699)</u>	<u>(248,090)</u>
Gross profit		291,828	263,520
Other gain	4	28,586	7,738
Distribution costs		<u>(186,110)</u>	<u>(81,369)</u>
General and administrative expenses		<u>(26,767)</u>	<u>(29,415)</u>
Operating profit	5	107,537	160,474
Finance costs		<u>–</u>	<u>(369)</u>
Profit before income tax		107,537	160,105
Income tax expense	6	<u>(25,613)</u>	<u>(42,578)</u>
Profit for the period		<u><b>81,924</b></u>	<u><b>117,527</b></u>
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the Company		82,302	116,936
Minority interest		<u>(378)</u>	<u>591</u>
		<u><b>81,924</b></u>	<u><b>117,527</b></u>
Dividends	7	<u><b>37,350</b></u>	<u><b>46,065</b></u>
		<i>HK cents</i>	<i>HK cents</i>
Earnings per share for profit attributable to the equity holders of the Company during the period			
– Basic earnings per share	8	<u><b>6.6</b></u>	<u><b>9.8</b></u>

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

As at 30 June 2006

		30 June 2006 Unaudited HK\$'000	As at 31 December 2005 Audited HK\$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Non-current assets			
Fixed assets		300,218	292,581
Land use rights		18,520	18,857
Goodwill		9,421	9,421
Deferred income tax assets		1,248	1,236
		<u>329,407</u>	<u>322,095</u>
Current assets			
Trade receivables	9	86,706	111,705
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments		44,226	40,449
Inventories		344,381	354,872
Cash and bank balances		785,975	763,251
		<u>1,261,288</u>	<u>1,270,277</u>
Total assets		<u>1,590,695</u>	<u>1,592,372</u>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Capital and reserves attributable to the Company's equity holders:			
Share capital		124,500	124,500
Reserves		1,251,240	1,181,644
		<u>1,375,740</u>	<u>1,306,144</u>
Minority interest		30,067	31,107
Total equity		<u>1,405,807</u>	<u>1,337,251</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Current liabilities			
Trade payables	10	33,126	51,019
Other payables and accruals		147,411	188,653
Amount due to a related company		–	10,104
Current income tax liabilities		4,351	5,345
Total liabilities		<u>184,888</u>	<u>255,121</u>
Total equity and liabilities		<u>1,590,695</u>	<u>1,592,372</u>
Net current assets		<u>1,076,400</u>	<u>1,015,156</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>1,405,807</u>	<u>1,337,251</u>

Notes:

### 1. Group reorganisation

The Company was incorporated in the Cayman Islands on 29 July 2004 as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Law of the Cayman Islands. Pursuant to the reorganisation, as disclosed in the Company's prospectus dated 17 January 2005, prepared for the purpose of listing its shares on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") ("the Reorganisation"), the Company became the holding company of Grand Spirit Holdings Limited ("Grand Spirit"), Sino-French Joint-Venture Dynasty Winery Ltd. ("Dynasty Winery") and Shandong Yu Huang Grape Wine Co., Ltd ("Yu Huang") on 13 January 2005. The Company together with its subsidiaries are hereafter collectively referred to as the Group. The address of the registered office of the Company is Century Yard, Cricket Square, Hutchins Drive, P.O. Box 2681GT, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands.

The Group manufactures and sells wine products through a network of distributors. The Group mainly operates in the PRC and Hong Kong.

The shares of the Company were listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange on 26 January 2005.

The condensed consolidated interim accounts were approved for issue on 13 September 2006 by the Board of Directors.

2. **Basis of preparation and accounting policies**

These unaudited condensed consolidated accounts are prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard (“HKAS”) 34, “Interim Financial Reporting”, issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Appendix 16 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (“Listing Rules”) on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Stock Exchange”).

The Group resulting from the Reorganisation referred to in Note 1 above is regarded as a continuity entity. Accordingly, the unaudited condensed consolidated accounts have been prepared on the merger basis as if the Company had been the holding company of the companies comprising the Group and as if the group structure as at 13 January 2005 had been in existence from 1 January 2005. In the opinion of the Directors, the unaudited condensed accounts prepared on the above basis present more fairly the results, cash flows and state of affairs of the Group as a whole.

These condensed accounts should be read in conjunction with the Company’s 2005 annual accounts.

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of these condensed accounts are consistent with those used in the annual accounts for the year ended 31 December 2005, except that the Group adopted HKAS 19 (Amendment) – Employee Benefits, HKAS 39 (Amendment) – The Fair Value Option, HKAS 39 & HKFRS 4 (Amendment) – Financial Guarantee Contracts and HKFRS – Int 4 – Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease, as at 1 January 2006. These changes in accounting policies did not have a significant impact on the Group’s results and financial position.

3. **Segment information**

Manufacturing and sale of wine products is the only business segment of the Group for the periods ended 30 June 2006 and 2005. No geographical analysis is provided as less than 10% of the consolidated turnover, consolidated results and operating assets of the Group are attributable to markets other than the PRC.

4. **Turnover and other gain**

The Group is principally engaged in the manufacturing and sale of wine products. Revenue and gain recognised during the period are as follows:

	Unaudited	
	Six months ended 30 June	
	2006	2005
	HK\$’000	HK\$’000
Turnover		
Manufacturing and sale of wine products	575,527	511,610
Other gain		
Interest income	14,093	7,738
Government grant (Note (i))	14,493	–
	28,586	7,738
Total revenue and gain	604,113	519,348

Note:

- (i) On 28 June 2006, Dynasty Winery was given a grant of RMB30 million by Tianjin Bei Chen District Finance Bureau in consideration of its significant development plan during the two years to 2007. There is no condition nor restriction on use attached to the grant. The Directors are of the view that recognition of the grant as income in equal proportion over the two years to 2007 is in line with the intention of the grant. Accordingly RMB15 million has been recognised as other gain in the current period and the balance will be recognised in 2007.

5. **Operating profit**

Operating profit is stated after charging:

	Unaudited	
	Six months ended 30 June	
	2006	2005
	HK\$’000	HK\$’000
Employee costs including directors’ emoluments	12,590	26,214
Depreciation	15,766	10,225
Amortisation	519	338
Operating lease rentals in respect of:		
– storage facilities and plant and machinery	–	1,698
– transformation station	1,043	1,020
– office premises	713	747

6. **Income tax expense**

	Unaudited	
	Six months ended 30 June	
	2006	2005
	HK\$’000	HK\$’000
Current taxation:		
– PRC income tax	25,613	42,578

No provision for Hong Kong profits tax has been made as the Group has no estimated assessable profit in Hong Kong.

Provision for PRC income tax has been made at the applicable rate on the estimated assessable profit for the period for each of Group’s subsidiaries. The applicable rate is principally 24% being the preferential rate for foreign investment production enterprises established in a coastal economic development zone (2005: 24%).

## 7. Dividends

	Unaudited	
	Six months ended 30 June	
	2006	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Interim dividend proposed of HK3.0 cents (2005: HK3.7 cents) per ordinary share	<b>37,350</b>	<b>46,065</b>

## 8. Earnings per share

The calculation of the basic earnings per share is based on the profit attributable to equity holders of the Company of HK\$82,302,000 (2005: HK\$116,936,000) and the weighted average number of 1,245,000,000 shares (2005: 1,195,856,354 shares) in issue during the period.

The exercise of share options would have no material dilutive effect of earnings per share for the periods ended 30 June 2005 and 2006.

## 9. Trade receivables

In general, the Group grants a credit period of 30 to 90 days to its customers. The aging analysis of trade receivables is as follows:

	Unaudited	Audited
	30 June	31 December
	2006	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Below 30 days	46,162	87,648
30 to 90 days	29,170	19,025
91 to 180 days	11,106	2,797
Over 180 days	268	2,235
	<b>86,706</b>	<b>111,705</b>

## 10. Trade payables

The aging analysis of the trade payables is as follows:

	Unaudited	Audited
	30 June	31 December
	2006	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Below 30 days	21,868	48,183
30 to 90 days	9,071	–
Over 180 days	2,187	2,836
	<b>33,126</b>	<b>51,019</b>

## MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

### Overview

During the period under review, our turnover was HK\$575.5 million (2005 – HK\$511.6 million), representing an increase of 12.5% compared with the corresponding period in 2005 and our profit attributable to equity holders of the Company was HK\$82.3 million (2005 – HK\$116.9 million), representing a decline of 29.6%.

Earnings per share of the Company (“Share”) for the six months ended 30 June 2006 was HK6.6 cents (2005 – HK9.8 cents) per Share based on the weighted average number of 1,245,000,000 (2005 – 1,195,856,354) Shares issued during the period. As there was no material dilutive potential ordinary Share outstanding as at 30 June 2006, diluted earnings per Share are not presented.

The financial results in the first half year of 2006 were mainly attributable to the growth in sales volume for the consecutive period but offset by the significant increase in distribution costs. As a reflection of the strong financial position and generally positive outlook, the Directors have resolved to pay an interim dividend of HK3.0 cents (2005 – HK3.7 cents) per Share.

### Financial review

#### Turnover

For the six months ended 30 June 2006, we achieved satisfactory growth in turnover due to increase in sales volume. The Group’s turnover for the six months ended 30 June 2006 increased by 12.5% to HK\$576 million, comparing to HK\$512 million in the first half year of 2005. This increase was primarily attributable to the ongoing sales and marketing effort and the organic growth of the overall grape wine market in the PRC. The Group’s average ex-factory sales prices during the period under review for red and white wine products had increased from 2005 annual average price of HK\$20.6 per bottle (750ml) to HK\$22.0 per bottle (750ml) in 2006 due to refining of product mix. The average ex-factory sales prices of the Group’s red wine products are in general higher than the Group’s white wine products. Since consumers in the PRC have a prevalent preference for red wines, the Group is able to set higher prices for its red wine products.

### Cost of sales

The following table sets forth the major components of our cost of sales for the period under review:

	For the six months ended 30 June	
	2006	2005
	%	%
Cost of raw materials		
– Grapes and grape juice	39	38
– Yeast and additives	2	2
– Packaging materials	26	27
– Others	2	2
Total cost of raw materials	69	69
Manufacturing overheads	11	10
Consumption tax	20	21
Total cost of sales	100	100

The principal raw materials required by the Group in producing wine products are grapes, grape juice, yeast and additives as well as packaging materials comprising bottles, bottle caps, labels, corks and packing boxes. Due to the increase in average cost of grapes and grape juice, the cost of grapes and grape juice accounted for approximately 39% of the Group's total cost of sales, representing an increase of 1% from approximately 38% in the corresponding period in 2005. The total cost of packaging materials to turnover was relatively stable during the period under review as compared with the corresponding period in 2005.

Manufacturing overheads consist primarily of depreciation or rental of fixed assets, supplies, utilities, repair and maintenance expenses, salaries and related personnel expenses for the production and related departments and other incidental expenses for production. During the period, manufacturing overheads as a percentage of turnover did not fluctuate significantly.

### Gross profit margin

Calculated based on cost of sales inclusive of consumption tax over gross invoiced sales, our overall gross profit margin declined to 50.7% in the first half year of 2006 from 51.5% in the corresponding period in 2005, which was primarily due to higher purchase cost of grape juice as compared to the first half year of 2005. The gross profit margin of red wine products and white wine products in the first half year of 2006 were 51.0% and 44.2% respectively (2005 – 51.9% and 42.3% respectively). The higher gross profit margin of the red wine products was mainly due to higher sales prices.

### Other gain

Other gain for the six months ended 30 June 2006 rose by 271.4% to HK\$28.6 million (2005 – HK\$7.7 million), mainly attributable to:

- (1) a government subsidy of HK\$14.5 million for a subsidiary to encourage its technology development and winemaking improvement in the PRC; and
- (2) increase in interest income from higher bank deposit's interest rates.

### Distribution costs

Distribution costs include principally advertising and market promotion expenses, transportation and delivery charges in connection with the sales of grape wine products, salaries and related personnel expenses for the sales and marketing department and other incidental expenses.

During the period under review, distribution costs increased significantly and accounted for approximately 32.3% (2005 – 15.9%) of the Group's turnover. In particular, advertising and market promotion expenses accounted for approximately 20.5% (2005 – 8.6%) of the Group's turnover. The significant surge in distribution costs was primarily due to the increase in advertising and promotion fees incurred to boost market demand, to expand the market share outside Eastern region of the PRC and also to facilitate the launch of new products.

### General and administrative expenses

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries and related personnel expenses for administrative, finance and human resources departments, provision for doubtful debts and write off for obsolete inventories, depreciation and amortisation expense and other incidental administrative expenses.

During the period under review, general and administrative expenses remained relatively stable and accounted for approximately 4.7% (2005 – 5.7%) of the Group's turnover. The decrease in general and administrative expenses was mainly attributable to no share-based payment (2005: HK\$6.6 million) regarding share option granted to the directors and employees made during the period under review under the requirements of Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standard 2 – Share-based Payment.

### Taxation expense

Under the current laws of the Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands ("BVI"), neither the Company nor its subsidiaries incorporated in BVI is subject to tax on its income or capital gains. In addition, any payment of dividends is not subject to withholding tax in those jurisdictions.

Pursuant to the relevant income tax rules and regulations of the PRC, the applicable tax rate for Sino-French Joint-Venture Dynasty Winery Limited, our major operating subsidiary and Tianjin Tianyang Grape Extracting Co. Ltd, another subsidiary of the Group, is 24%, being the preferential income tax rate for foreign investment production enterprises established in a coastal zone. The applicable rate for Shandong Yu Huang Grape Wine Co., Ltd., another subsidiary of the Group, is 30%. During the period under review, the effective tax rate of the Group was slightly lowered to approximately 23.8% (2005 – 26.6%).

#### *Cash flow*

In the first half year of 2006, the Group's source of cash flow was mainly from its operating activities. The Group's cash has principally been used to pay for the acquisition of fixed assets and 2005 final dividends to shareholders. The increase in cash inflow from operating activities from HK\$52.4 million in the first half year of 2005 to HK\$59.7 million in the first half year of 2006 was primarily attributable to the effects of the changes in working capital, mainly decrease in trade receivables.

Net cash used in investing activities was primarily attributable to the acquisition of fixed assets pursuant to our expansion plan less of interest income and amounting to approximately HK\$12.1 million (2005 – HK\$47.0 million acquisition of subsidiaries).

Net cash outflow in financing activities was primarily attributable to the payment of dividends to shareholders of approximately HK\$24.9 million (2005 – HK\$78.7 million).

#### *Financial management and treasury policy*

As at 30 June 2006, except for the net proceeds from the placing and public offer, the Group's revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities were substantially denominated in Renminbi ("RMB").

Accordingly, the Group does not anticipate significant exposure to foreign currency fluctuation and no hedging or other alternatives have been implemented. The Group has maintained sufficient financial resources and is in a net cash position, thus we are exposed to minimal financial risk from interest rate fluctuation.

As at the date of this announcement, almost all of our cash and bank balances were denominated either in RMB, Hong Kong dollars or United States dollars. The net proceeds from the placing and public offer in 2005 that were not used for the intended purposes have been placed on short-term deposits with authorised financial institutions in Hong Kong. The Group has established an investment policy with the objective of monitoring the investments of the Group's uncommitted funds to ensure the achievement of the highest practicable returns with capital preservation and liquidity as priority focus.

### **Business review**

#### *Sales analysis*

During the period under review, the Group recorded satisfactory growth in sales volume. The number of bottles of wine sold increased from approximately 24.9 million in the first half year of 2005 to approximately 26.2 million in the first half year of 2006, together with increase in the average ex-factory sales price. The primary revenue source of the Group continued to be red wine product sale which accounted for approximately 94.1% of the Group's turnover for the period (2005 – 95.1%). The Group's best selling wine product remained as Dynasty Dry Red, the prototype of our mass market product, accounting for approximately 45.9% of the Group's turnover for the six months ended 30 June 2006 (2005 – 49.6%).

During the period under review, our products were sold in all provinces and autonomous regions and four directly-administered municipalities under the central government of the PRC. Huadong region, or Eastern region of the PRC, comprising Shanghai, Zhejiang and Jiangsu provinces still remained as the Group's primary markets. In addition to these primary markets, sales of our products in other markets, such as Guangdong, Jiangxi, Hunan and Hubei provinces etc., in the PRC, are expanding and we are enhancing our marketing and promotion efforts in other coastal provinces in order to increase our market share. In respect of the export of the Group's products to overseas, sales remained insignificant at 0.2% (2005 – 0.2%) of the Group's turnover during the period as the domestic market was our primary focus.

We produce a wide spectrum of over 50 products under the "Dynasty" brand to meet different consumer demands in the PRC grape wine market and focus on medium to high end segments. With a high quality and diversified product portfolio, we believe we will be able to attract high-end consumers by introducing premium products. During the period under review, sales of premium wine products, such as Dynasty Dry Red Wine-Aged in Oak Barrels and Dynasty Cabernet Sauvignon Reserve 2003 and Dynasty Chardonnay Reserve 2002, recorded encouraging growth. Although the contribution from the sales of these products to our turnover was insignificant during the first half year of 2006, we believe these premium product sales will become an increasingly significant source of income and a growth driver for the future.

We will also explore appropriate acquisition opportunities of grape wine producers in the PRC and overseas to realise our vision of enlarging our market share and range of high quality products.

#### *Supplies of grapes or grape juice*

Production for quality wine products is highly dependent on sufficient supply of quality grapes or grape juice. We currently have over 10 major grape juice suppliers, mainly located in Tianjin, Shandong, Hebei and Ningxia, with whom we have established good, long term and stable relationships. To ensure we have reliable and solid supplies of quality grapes and grape juice to meet the production needs of our growing business and resultant demand of production capacity expansion plan added, we are working with our grape growing partners to enlarge their existing vineyards and increase harvests and also identify new suppliers who can meet our quality requirements. For new suppliers, the quality of their products will be fully tested before orders are placed. Such measures will enable us to secure grape supplies and lower the risk of our production being interrupted by effects of weather, thus affecting the quality of grapes or grape juice. In addition, after completion of quality control testing, the Group commenced to import high quality grape juice from Australian suppliers in the second quarter of 2006 since the unit purchase cost in Australia is lower than that in the domestic market. We will continue to explore opportunities of acquiring grape juice suppliers in the PRC or overseas.

### *Production capacity*

The production capacity expanded from 30,000 tonnes (equivalent to approximately 40.0 million bottles) to 50,000 tonnes (equivalent to approximately 66.7 million bottles) per annum was on schedule and completed in June 2006. During the period under review, we identified an appropriate site in Tianjin for further enhancing the production capacity. The new production facility, expected to be completed by the end of 2008, will further increase our production capacity to 70,000 tonnes (equivalent to approximately 93.3 million bottles) per annum. The enlarged production capacity will enable us to promptly respond to the booming market.

### **Outlook**

In the second half of 2006, the Group will continue to take the following measures to alleviate the pressure from challenges that may be likely to erode margins:

- (i) selecting our suppliers through quotations from tenders to drive down the purchasing costs;
- (ii) increasing production volume to enhance the bargaining power of the Group on bulk purchase; and
- (iii) continuing to import grape juice from Australia in order to lower the average cost of grape juice of the Group.

Looking ahead, despite the intensifying market competition, the Group is confident to capitalise on the increasingly strong market demand of grape wine products in the PRC boosted by rising economy and stimulated by the 11th Five-Year Plan of the PRC government. Leveraging on the advantages of the Group, such as our reputable brand name, medium to high end segment portfolio and market knowledge, extensive distribution network and consistently expanding and refining product mix, we will enable the Group to maintain its leading position in the grape wine market.

To stay in line with our future organic growth in the market, we will continue to seek acquisition opportunities that bring synergies to our business strategies to help us generate greater value for our shareholders.

To support the Group's long term development and crystallise our business plans, we are planning to build a new production facility in Tianjin which will boost our production capacity.

### **Employees**

The Group employed a work force of 405 staff (including Directors) in Hong Kong and the PRC. The total salaries and related costs incurred for the six months ended 30 June 2006 amounted to HK\$12.6 million. The Group offers competitive remuneration packages commensurate with the industry level and provides various fringe benefits, including trainings, medical, insurance coverage as well as retirement benefits to all employees in Hong Kong and in the PRC. The Group review its human resource and remuneration policies regularly in the light of local legislation, market conditions, industry practice and the performance of both the Group and individuals.

The Company also adopted a share option scheme on 6 December 2004 for the purpose of providing incentives and rewards to eligible participants who have contributed to the success of our operations. As at 30 June 2006, 18,200,000 share options were granted and outstanding under the scheme.

### **Liquidity and financial resources**

The Group's cash and bank balances as at 30 June 2006 amounted to HK\$786 million and net cash inflow from operating activities are ample to satisfy the working capital requirement for the business operations and capital expenditures. New investment will be funded by the Group's internal resources.

### **Capital structure**

As at 30 June 2006, the Group had no borrowing and the significant net cash position, reflects the Group's sound capital structure. The net proceeds raised from the placing and public offer in 2005 had further strengthened our capital structure and we expect our cash to be sufficient to support our operating and capital expenditure requirements in the foreseeable future.

The market capitalisation of the Company as at 30 June 2006 was approximately HK\$3,517 million.

### **Gearing ratio**

As at 30 June 2006, the Group had no long-term debts and the shareholders' fund of the Group was approximately HK\$1,376 million. The Group's gearing ratio, expressed as a ratio of total long-term debts to shareholders' fund, as at 30 June 2006 was nil (2005 – nil).

### **Capital commitments, contingencies and charges on assets**

The Group made capital expenditure commitments mainly for machineries of approximately HK\$76.3 million which were authorised but not contracted for and approximately HK\$38.1 million which were contracted but not provided for in the accounts as at 30 June 2006. These commitments were mainly related to the expansion of the Group's production capacity. The funding of such capital commitments will be paid out of the proceeds of the new issue as stated in the prospectus dated 17 January 2005.

As at 30 June 2006, the Group had no material contingent liabilities and the Group's assets were free from any charge.

### **Material acquisitions and disposals of subsidiaries and associated companies**

The Group signed a sale and purchase agreement to acquire 25% equity interest of Ning Xia Heavenly Palace Yuma Winery Co., Ltd.\* (寧夏天宮御馬葡萄釀酒有限公司) at a consideration of HK\$11.49 million on 21 April 2006. The acquisition helps to secure stable and high quality supply of grape juice. The transaction was not yet completed as at 30 June 2006. Except for as disclosed above, the Group had no material acquisition or disposal of subsidiaries and associated companies during the six months ended 30 June 2006.

### **INTERIM DIVIDEND**

The Directors are pleased to declare an interim dividend of HK3.0 cents per Share. The interim dividend will be paid to shareholders whose names appear on the Register of Members on Thursday, 19 October 2006. The interim dividend will be paid on Thursday, 2 November 2006.

### **CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

The Register of Members of the Company will be closed from Tuesday, 17 October 2006 to Thursday, 19 October 2006, both days inclusive, during which period no share transfer will be effected. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfers accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's branch share registrar in Hong Kong, Tricor Investor Services Limited, at 26th Floor, Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong, for registration by not later than 4:30 pm on Monday, 16 October 2006.

### **PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF SHARES OF THE COMPANY**

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's Shares during the financial period under review.

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Company recognises its responsibilities to shareholders and aims to protect and enhance shareholder value through solid corporate governance. Considerable efforts are devoted to identify and formalise best practices. The Group is committed to ensuring greater transparency and quality of disclosures. The Board has been and will continue to uphold the appropriate standards of corporate governance within the Group, thereby ensuring all business is conducted in an honest, ethical and responsible manner.

During the financial period under review, basically as previously mentioned in our 2005 annual report, none of the Directors is aware of information that would reasonably indicate that the Company is not in compliance with the Code on Corporate Governance Practices contained in Appendix 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") except for the code provision A.2.1. This code stipulates that the roles of chairman and chief executive officer should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. Mr. Bai Zhisheng is the chairman and general manager (which is equivalent to the chief executive officer) of the Company since the retirement of Mr. He Xiuheng, ex-chairman and Mr. Gao Xiaode, ex-general manager on 1 January 2006. In order to ensure the compliance with code A.2.1, the Directors is in the process of recruiting a potential candidate for the position of general manager. Mr. Bai will continue to assume the general manager's duties during this transitional period until a suitable candidate is identified.

### **COMPLIANCE WITH THE MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS**

The Company has adopted procedures governing Directors' securities transactions in compliance with the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules. Upon enquiry by the Company, all Directors had confirmed that they had complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code throughout the six months ended 30 June 2006.

### **PUBLICATION OF INTERIM RESULTS ON THE WEBSITE OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE**

All the financial and other related information required by Appendix 16 of the Listing Rules will be published on the website of the Stock Exchange in due course.

By order of the Board  
**Mr. Bai Zhisheng**  
Chairman

Hong Kong, 13 September 2006

*As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors comprises 3 executive directors, namely, Mr. Bai Zhisheng, Mr. Nie Jiansheng and Mr. Chen Naiming, 6 non-executive directors, namely, Mr. Heriard-Dubreuil Francois, Mr. Wang Guanghao, Mr. Cheung Wai Ying, Benny, Mr. Zhang Wenlin, Mr. Wong Ching Chung and Mr. Robert Luc, and 3 independent non-executive directors, namely, Mr. Lai Ming, Joseph, Mr. Hui Ho Ming, Herbert and Mr. Chau Ka Wah, Arthur.*

\* *for identification purpose only*

"Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in The Standard."