

WAIVERS FROM STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH THE LISTING RULES

In preparation for the [REDACTED], we have sought the following waivers from strict compliance with the Listing Rules:

WAIVER IN RESPECT OF MANAGEMENT PRESENCE IN HONG KONG

Pursuant to Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules, our Company must have sufficient management presence in Hong Kong. This normally means that at least two of our executive Directors must be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong. Rule 19A.15 of the Listing Rules further provides that requirement in Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules may be waived by having regard to, among other considerations, our arrangements for maintaining regular communication with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

Our principal business operations are primarily located, managed, and conducted outside Hong Kong and will continue to be based outside Hong Kong, and our Company’s head office is located in Qingdao City, Shandong Province, the PRC. Our executive Directors and senior management members ordinarily reside outside Hong Kong and play important roles in our Company’s business operations, principally responsible for the overall management, corporate strategy, planning, business development and control of our Company’s business, it is important for them to remain in close proximity to our Company’s operations located outside Hong Kong. We consider that it would be practically difficult and commercially unreasonable for us to arrange for two executive Directors to be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong, either by relocation of our existing executive Directors or by appointment of additional executive Directors. For the above reasons, we do not have, and do not contemplate in the foreseeable future that we will have, sufficient management presence in Hong Kong for the purpose of satisfying the requirements under Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules.

Accordingly, pursuant to Rule 19A.15 of the Listing Rules, we have applied to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange [has granted us], a waiver from strict compliance with the requirements set out in Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules subject to the following conditions:

- (i) we have appointed Ms. SHI Hongxin (時紅新女士) and Mr. DING Shuangquan (丁雙全先生) as the authorized representatives of our Company (the “**Authorized Representatives**”) for purpose of Rule 3.05 of the Listing Rules. The Authorized Representatives will act as our Company’s principal channel of communication with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and will be readily contactable by phone, facsimile and email to deal promptly with enquiries from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Our Company will provide contact details of the Authorized Representatives to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and will inform the Hong Kong Stock Exchange as soon as practicable in respect of any changes in Authorized Representatives. Accordingly, our Authorized Representatives will be able to meet with the relevant members of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to discuss any matters in relation to our Company within a reasonable period of time. Please refer to the section headed “Directors and Senior Management” for further biographical details of our Authorized Representatives;
- (ii) to facilitate communication with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, we have provided our Authorized Representatives and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange with the contact details (including mobile phone number, office phone number and/or email address) of each of our Directors. When the Hong Kong Stock Exchange wishes to contact our Directors on any matter, each of the Authorized Representatives will have all necessary means to contact our Directors;
- (iii) to the best of our knowledge and information, each Director who is not ordinarily resident in Hong Kong possesses or can apply for valid travel documents to visit Hong Kong and can meet with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange within a reasonable period upon request by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange; and

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- (iv) our Company has appointed Maxa Capital Limited as our Compliance Advisor with effect from the [REDACTED] in accordance with Rule 3A.19 of the Listing Rules. The Compliance Advisor will, among other things and in addition to the Authorized Representatives, provide us with professional advice on continuing obligations under the Listing Rules and act as additional channel of communication of our Company with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange during the period from the [REDACTED] to the date on which our Company complies with Rule 13.46 of the Listing Rules in respect of our financial results for the first full financial year immediately after the [REDACTED]. The Compliance Advisor will act as the additional and alternative channel of communication with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange when the Authorized Representatives are not available and its representatives will be readily available to answer enquiries from the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

WAIVER IN RESPECT OF APPOINTMENT OF JOINT COMPANY SECRETARIES

Pursuant to Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Listing Rules, we must appoint a company secretary who, by virtue of his/her academic or professional qualifications or relevant experience, is, in the opinion of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, capable of discharging the functions of the company secretary.

Pursuant to Note 1 to Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules, the Hong Kong Stock Exchange considers the following academic or professional qualifications to be acceptable:

- (i) a member of The Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute;
- (ii) a solicitor or barrister (as defined in the Legal Practitioners Ordinance (Chapter 159 of the Laws of Hong Kong)); and
- (iii) a certified public accountant (as defined in the Professional Accountants Ordinance (Chapter 50 of the Laws of Hong Kong)).

In addition, pursuant to Note 2 to Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules, the Hong Kong Stock Exchange will consider the following factors in assessing the individual’s “relevant experience”:

- (i) length of employment with the issuer and other issuers and the roles he/she played;
- (ii) familiarity with the Listing Rules and other relevant law and regulations including the Securities and Futures Ordinance, the Companies Ordinance, the CWUMPO and the Takeovers Code;
- (iii) relevant training taken and/or to be taken in addition to the minimum requirement under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules; and
- (iv) professional qualifications in other jurisdictions.

Pursuant to Chapter 3.10 of the Guide for New Listing Applicants, the waiver under Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules will be granted for a fixed period of time but in any event not exceeding three years from the date of [REDACTED] and on the following conditions: (i) the relevant company secretary must be assisted by a person who possesses the qualifications or experience as required under Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules and is appointed as joint company secretary throughout the waiver period; and (ii) the waiver can be revoked in the event of a material breach of the Listing Rules by the Company.

We have appointed Mr. DING Shuangquan (丁雙全先生) and Ms. WONG Ka Chi (王嘉慈女士) as the joint company secretaries of our Company. Please refer to the section headed “Directors and Senior Management” for further biographical details of Mr. Ding and Ms. Wong.

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Ms. Wong is a member of the Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute, and therefore meets the qualification requirements under Note 1 to Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules and is in compliance with Rule 8.17 of the Listing Rules.

Our Company believes that it would be in the best interests of our Company and the corporate governance of our Company to have as its joint company secretary a person such as Mr. Ding, who is an employee of our Company based in the PRC and who has day-to-day knowledge of our Company’s affairs. Mr. Ding has the necessary nexus to the Board and close working relationship with management of our Company in order to perform the function of a joint company secretary and to take the necessary actions in the most effective and efficient manner.

Accordingly, we have applied for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange [has] granted, a waiver from strict compliance with the requirements under Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Listing Rules for a three-year period from the [REDACTED], in accordance with paragraphs 9 to 15 of Chapter 3.10 of the Guide for New Listing Applicants, on the conditions that: (i) Ms. Wong is appointed as a joint company secretary to assist Mr. Ding in discharging his functions as a company secretary and in gaining the relevant experience under Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules; (ii) the waiver will be revoked immediately if Ms. Wong, during the three-year period, ceases to provide assistance to Mr. Ding as the joint company secretary; and (iii) the waiver can be revoked if there are material breaches of the Listing Rules by our Company. In addition, Mr. Ding will comply with the annual professional training requirement under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules and will enhance his knowledge of the Listing Rules during the three-year period from the [REDACTED]. Our Company will further ensure that Mr. Ding has access to the relevant training and support that would enhance his understanding of the Listing Rules and the duties of a company secretary of an issuer listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. Before the end of the three-year period, the qualifications and experience of Mr. Ding and the need for on-going assistance of Ms. Wong will be further evaluated by our Company. We will demonstrate Mr. Ding, having benefited from the assistance of Ms. Wong for the preceding three years, will have acquired the skills necessary to carry out the duties of company secretary and the relevant experience within the meaning of Note 2 to Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules so that a further waiver will not be necessary.

CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

We have entered into and are expected to continue after the [REDACTED], certain transactions with connected persons which will constitute continuing connected transactions under the Listing Rules upon the [REDACTED]. Our Company has applied to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange for, and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange [has] granted us, waivers from strict compliance (i) with the announcement, circular and independent Shareholders’ approval requirements under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules in respect of the continuing connected transactions as disclosed in the section headed “Connected Transactions — Non-Exempt Continuing Connected Transactions”, pursuant to Rule 14A.105 of the Listing Rules, (ii) with the announcement requirement under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules in respect of the continuing connected transactions as disclosed in the section headed “Connected Transactions — Partially-Exempt Continuing Connected Transactions”, pursuant to Rule 14A.105 of the Listing Rules, (iii) the requirement of setting a fixed term not exceeding three years under Rule 14A.52 of the Listing Rules in respect of the written agreement for the continuing connected transaction as disclosed in the section headed “Connected Transactions — Partially-Exempt Continuing Connected Transactions — 6. Trademark License Agreement”, and (iv) the requirement of setting monetary annual caps under Rule 14A.53 of the Listing Rules in respect of the continuing connected transaction as disclosed in the section headed “Connected Transactions — Partially-Exempt Continuing Connected Transactions — 6. Trademark License Agreement”. For further details of such continuing connected transactions and the waivers applied for in connection therewith, please see “Connected Transactions” and “Connected Transactions — Application for Waiver”.