The Directors present to shareholders their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Company and of the Group for the year ended 31st March, 2004.

# **Principal Activities**

The principal activity of the Company is investment holding while the principal activities of its principal subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities are shown on pages 82 to 88.

The Group's turnover and results for the year ended 31st March, 2004 analysed by business and geographical segments are set out in note 36 to the financial statements.

## **Results and Appropriations**

The results of the Group for the year ended 31st March, 2004 are set out in the consolidated income statement on page 34. An interim dividend of HK10 cents per share was paid on Tuesday, 24th February, 2004 in cash with an option to elect for shares of the Company. The Directors now recommend the payment of a final dividend of HK20 cents per share.

## Share Capital

Movements in the Company's share capital during the year are set out in note 33 to the financial statements.

### **Share Option Scheme**

Particulars of the share option scheme to subscribe for shares in the Company and the share options exercised during the year are set out in note 43 to the financial statements.

### Reserves

Movements in reserves during the year are set out in note 34 to the financial statements.

### **Investment Properties**

Movements in investment properties during the year are set out in note 14 to the financial statements.

### **Property, Plant and Equipment**

Movements in property, plant and equipment during the year are set out in note 15 to the financial statements.

# **Borrowings**

Details of bank loans and other borrowings of the Group as at 31st March, 2004 are set out in notes 30 and 31 to the financial statements on pages 64 to 65.

# **Financial Summary**

A financial summary of the Group is shown on page 2.

# **Major Customers and Suppliers**

The Group's turnover and purchases of the year attributable to the Group's five largest customers and suppliers respectively were less than 30%. None of the Directors, their associates or any shareholder (whom to the knowledge of the Directors owns more than 5% of the Company's issued share capital) has any interest in the Group's five largest suppliers or five largest customers.

# Properties

Particulars of the major properties of the Group as at 31st March, 2004 are set out on pages 17 to 19.

### **Employees and Remuneration Policies**

As at 31st March, 2004, the Group employed approximately 4,200 full time staff globally. Total staff costs amounted to approximately HK\$519 million for the year ended 31st March, 2004. The remuneration policies are reviewed periodically on the basis of the nature of job, market trend, company performance and individual performance. Other staff benefits include bonuses awarded on a discretionary basis, medical schemes, retirement schemes and employees' share option scheme.

### **Donations**

During the year, the Group made donations of HK\$12,423,000 to charitable bodies.

### **Principal Subsidiaries, Associates and Jointly Controlled Entities**

Particulars regarding the principal subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities of the Group are shown on pages 82 to 88.

# **Pre-emptive Rights**

There are no provision for pre-emptive rights under the Company's Bye-laws although there are no restriction against such rights under the laws in Bermuda where the Company is incorporated.

# Purchase, Sale or Redemption of Listed Securities

There was no purchase, sale or redemption of listed securities of the Company by the Company or any of its subsidiaries during the year.

## **Directors**

The Directors who held office during the year and up to the date of this report were:

### **Executive Directors**

Dr CHOW Yei Ching	(Chairman and Managing Director)
Mr KUOK Hoi Sang	(Managing Director)
Mr FUNG Pak Kwan	
Mr KAN Ka Hon	
Mr TAM Kwok Wing	
Mr Chow Vee Tsung, Oscar	(Appointed on 29th March, 2004)
Mr Ho Chung Leung	(Appointed on 29th March, 2004)
Mr WONG Kie Ngok, Alexander	(Resigned on 29th March, 2004)

### Independent Non-Executive Directors

Mr WONG Wang Fat, Andrew Dr Chow Ming Kuen, Joseph

In accordance with the Company's Bye-laws, Messrs Chow Vee Tsung, Oscar and Ho Chung Leung shall retire from office at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting and they, being eligible, will offer themselves for re-election. The Independent Non-Executive Directors are subject to the same retirement requirements as the Executive Directors.

# **Directors' Interests in Contracts**

Messrs CHOW Yei Ching, KUOK Hoi Sang, FUNG Pak Kwan, KAN Ka Hon and TAM Kwok Wing are interested in certain contracts in that they are the Directors and/or have beneficial interests in Chevalier iTech Holdings Limited ("CiTL"). Details of these contracts are more fully disclosed in the section "Connected Transactions" below.

Save as aforementioned, no other contract of significance to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was a party and in which a director had a material interest subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

# **Directors' Interests in Competing Business**

During the year, none of the Directors have an interest in any business constituting a competing business to the Group.

# **Connected Transactions**

The Group has from time to time conducted transactions with CiTL which is a "connected person" for the purposes of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). The Stock Exchange had granted a waiver on 2nd April, 1997 to the Company from strict compliance with the requirements as stipulated in Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules on connected transactions. Pursuant to the waiver, details of the following connected transactions which have been entered into between certain subsidiaries of CiTL and the Group in the ordinary and usual course of business were not required to be disclosed by press notice and/or circular nor is the Company required to obtain prior independent shareholders' approval on each occasion when they arise.

The following properties were leased to CiTL Group by the wholly-owned subsidiaries of the Company at commercial rates:

Landlord	Renting of Property (usage)	<b>Rental for the year</b> <i>HK\$'000</i>
Union Pearl Development Limited	Portion of Chevalier Commercial Centre (office)	111
Peak Gain Limited	Portion of Chevalier Engineering Service Centre (office/warehouse)	3,255
Well Stamp Limited	Portion of Jin Du Mansion (office)	28
Well Stamp Limited	Portion of Dongshan Plaza (office)	94

# **Connected Transactions (continued)**

During the year, rentals amounting to approximately HK\$3.5 million was paid to the Group by CiTL Group.

The Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company confirm that the aforesaid connected transactions conducted by the Group during the year ended 31st March, 2004 were:

- (i) in the ordinary and usual course of the Group's business;
- (ii) on normal commercial terms or on terms no less favourable than terms available to/from independent third parties;
- (iii) fair and reasonable so far as the shareholders of the Company are concerned; and
- (iv) within the relevant amounts as stipulated under the relevant waiver.

On 31st October, 2003, the Board of Directors of the Company proposed to privatize Chevalier Construction Holdings Limited ("CCHL"), an associated company of the Company, by way of a scheme of arrangement under section 99 of the Bermuda Companies Act at the cancellation price of HK\$0.25 per scheme share (the "Proposal"). As Dr Chow Yei Ching is the controlling shareholder of the Company, a Director of the Company and a substantial shareholder of CCHL, the Proposal therefore constitutes a connected transaction for the Company under Rule 14.23 (1)(b) of the Listing Rules. The Proposal also involves acquisition by the Company of CCHL Shares from Dr Chow Yei Ching, Messrs Kuok Hoi Sang and Tam Kwok Wing who are the directors of the Company and therefore also falls under Rule 14.23 (1)(a) of the Listing Rules. An Independent Board Committee of the Company (the "IBC") was established to consider the Proposal and to give its recommendation to the Independent Shareholders of the Company as to whether the Proposal is fair and reasonable. An Independent Financial Adviser was appointed to the Board of the Company and, subsequently, acted as the Independent Financial Adviser to the IBC of the Company to advise the Board and IBC for the Proposal. The Privatisation was duly approved by the Company's independent shareholders at the special general meeting of the Company on 5th December, 2003. After the completion of the Privatisation on 20th February, 2004, all the Scheme Shares have been cancelled and CCHL was delisted from Hong Kong Stock Exchange. CCHL became a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company.

## **Directors' and Chief Executives' Interests in Securities**

As at 31st March, 2004, the interests and short positions of the Directors and the chief executives of the Company in the share, underlying shares and debentures of the Company and its associated corporations, within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance ("the SFO"), which have been notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Division 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions which they were taken or deemed to have taken under such provisions of the SFO), or which were required to be recorded in the register to be kept by the Company pursuant to S352 of the SFO or as otherwise required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies ("the Model Code") were as follows:

#### (a) Interests in the Company – Shares

	Number of ordinary shares					
Name of Directors	Capacity	Personal interests	Family interests	Total	Approximate percentage of interest (%)	
CHOW Yei Ching	Beneficial owner	140,669,359*	_	140,669,359	50.49	
KUOK Hoi Sang	Beneficial owner	98,216	_	98,216	0.04	
FUNG Pak Kwan	Beneficial owner	93,479	_	93,479	0.03	
KAN Ka Hon	Beneficial owner	29,040	-	29,040	0.01	
TAM Kwok Wing	Beneficial owner	169,015	32,473	201,488	0.07	
HO Chung Leung	Beneficial owner	40,000	-	40,000	0.01	

\* Dr CHOW Yei Ching beneficially owned 140,669,359 shares of the Company, representing approximately 50.49% of the issued share capital of the Company. These shares were same as those shares disclosed in the section "Substantial Shareholders' Interests in Securities" below.

#### (b) Interests in Associated Corporations – Shares

			Approximate				
Name of Directors	Associated corporations	Capacity	Personal interests	Corporate interests	Family interests	Total	percentage of interest (%)
CHOW Yei Ching	Citl	Beneficial owner and Interest of controlled corporation	6,815,854	86,994,933*	-	93,810,787	54.75
KUOK Hoi Sang	Citl	Beneficial owner	2,400,000	-	-	2,400,000	1.40
FUNG Pak Kwan	CiTL	Beneficial owner	2,580,000	-	-	2,580,000	1.50
KAN Ka Hon	CiTL	Beneficial owner	451,200	-	-	451,200	0.26
TAM Kwok Wing	CiTL	Beneficial owner	400,000	-	10,400	410,400	0.24

\* Dr CHOW Yei Ching had notified CiTL that under the SFO, he was deemed to be interested in 86,994,933 shares in CiTL which were all held by the Company as Dr Chow beneficially owned 140,669,359 shares of the Company, representing approximately 50.49% of the issued share capital of the Company.

## Directors' and Chief Executives' Interests in Securities (continued)

As at 31st March, 2004, certain Directors personally had interests in share options to subscribe for ordinary shares of the Company and its associated corporation as separately disclosed in the section "Share Option Schemes" below.

Save as disclosed above and in "Share Option Schemes" below, as at 31st March, 2004, so far as is known to the Directors and the chief executives of the Company, no other person has interest or short positions in the shares underlying shares and debentures of the Company and any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) which are required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions which he is taken or deemed to have taken under such provisions of the SFO); or are required, pursuant to S352 of the SFO, to be recorded in the register referred to therein, or are required, pursuant to the Model Code, to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange.

### **Share Option Schemes**

The Company and CiTL have adopted share option schemes on 30th September, 1991 (respectively "the Old CIHL Scheme and Old CiTL Scheme respectively"). These schemes have been expired on 29th September, 2001 and no further options may be granted under the Old CIHL Scheme and Old CiTL Scheme thereafter. Details of the outstanding options as at 31st March, 2004 which have been granted under the share option schemes of the Company and its associated corporation were as follows:

#### (a) Interests in the Company – Share Options

						Number	r of share o	options	
Name of	Date of	Period during which options are	Exercise price per	Balance as at 1st April,	Exercised during the	Cancelled during the	Lapsed during the	Disposed of during the	Outstanding as at 31st March,
Director	grant	exercisable	option (HK\$)	2003	year	year	year	year	2004
			(note)	(note)				(note)	
CHOW Yei Ching	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 – 29/06/2003	2.44	1,690,000	-	-	-	1,690,000	-
KUOK Hoi Sang	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 – 29/06/2003	2.44	1,070,000	-	-	-	1,070,000	-
FUNG Pak Kwan	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 – 29/06/2003	2.44	1,070,000	-	-	-	1,070,000	-
KAN Ka Hon	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 – 29/06/2003	2.44	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	-
TAM Kwok Wing	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 – 29/06/2003	2.44	1,000,000	-	-	-	1,000,000	-

As at 31st March, 2004, there is no share option outstanding under the Old CIHL Scheme.

# **Share Option Schemes (continued)**

### (b) Interests in Associated Corporation – Share Options

							Number of share	e options	
Name of Director	Associated corporation	Date of grant	Period during which options are exercisable	Exercise price per option (HK\$)	Balance as at 1st April, 2003	Exercised during the year	Cancelled during the year	Lapsed during the year	Outstanding as at 31st March, 2004
				(note)	(note)			(note)	
CHOW Yei Ching	CiTL	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 - 29/06/2003	2.32	1,400,000	-	-	1,400,000	-
KUOK Hoi Sang	Citl	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 - 29/06/2003	2.32	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000	-
FUNG Pak Kwan	CiTL	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 - 29/06/2003	2.32	1,310,000	-	-	1,310,000	-
KAN Ka Hon	CiTL	17/12/1999	30/06/2000 - 29/06/2003	2.32	1,000,000	1	-	999,999	-

As at 31st March, 2004, all the outstanding options under the Old CiTL Scheme has been lapsed on 29th June, 2003.

Note: The exercise price per option and the numbers of share options of the Company and CiTL subject to the Old CIHL Scheme and the Old CiTL Scheme respectively have been adjusted for the five into one share consolidation which became effective on 6th June, 2003.

A share option scheme of the Company ("the CIHL Scheme") was approved by the shareholders of the Company at the 2002 Annual General Meeting of the Company held on 20th September, 2002. Another share option scheme of CiTL, the subsidiary of the Company ("the CiTL Scheme") was also approved by the shareholders of CiTL and the shareholders of the Company at their respective 2002 Annual General Meetings held on 20th September, 2002. The CIHL Scheme and the CiTL Scheme fully comply with Chapter 17 of the Listing Rules. During the year, no share option was granted, exercised, cancelled or lapsed under the CIHL Scheme and the CiTL Scheme. There was no outstanding option under the CIHL Scheme and the CiTL Scheme at the beginning and at the end of the year.

## **Directors' Service Contracts**

No Director offering for re-election at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting has a service contract with the Company which is not determinable by the Company within one year without payment of compensation (other than statutory compensation).

### **Management Contracts**

No contract of significance concerning the management and administration of the whole or any substantial part of the business of the Company or any of its subsidiaries was entered into or subsisted during the year.

## **Directors' Biographies**

#### **Executive Directors**

Dr CHOW Yei Ching, Chairman and Managing Director, aged 68, is the founder of Chevalier Group and the Chairman of CiTL, which is a public listed company in Hong Kong. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Van Shung Chong Holdings Limited, Television Broadcasts Limited and Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Limited. In 1995, Dr Chow was awarded with an Honorary Doctor Degree in Business Administration by The Hong Kong Polytechnic University and an Honorary University Fellow by The University of Hong Kong. In 1996 and 1997, he was appointed as an Honorary Member of the Board of Directors by Nanjing University and was conferred an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws by The University of Hong Kong respectively. Dr Chow also serves actively in a number of educational advisory committees and gives substantial support to the aforementioned two Universities in Hong Kong and The Hong Kong University of Science & Technology in areas of researches and developments. He is also a Consultative Professor of Zhejiang University and a Lecture Professor of Sichuan Union University in the PRC. Dr Chow's enthusiasm in public services is evidenced in his appointment in 2001 as the Vice Patron of The Community Chest in Hong Kong. He was also appointed as the Honorary Consul of The Kingdom of Bahrain in Hong Kong in 2001. He also actively participates in various professional bodies and associations on fraternal and Chinese affairs. To name a few, he is a Standing Committee Member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Shanghai, the President of The Japan Society of Hong Kong and the Permanent Honorary President of the National Taiwan University-HK Alumni Association, etc. In recognition of his contributions to local and overseas societies alike, Dr Chow was awarded honorable decorations from Britain, Belgium, France and Japan. Furthermore, Dr Chow was also awarded the Gold Bauhinia Star from the Government of the HKSAR in 2004. He is the father of Mr. Chow Vee Tsung, Oscar, the Executive Director of the Company.

Mr KUOK Hoi Sang, Managing Director, aged 54, joined Chevalier Group in 1972 and is a Director of CiTL, which is a public listed company in Hong Kong. He is also the President of The Lift and Escalator Contractors Association in Hong Kong, the Vice-Chairman of the Hong Kong - China Branch of The International Association of Elevator Engineers and a Registered Lift and Escalator Engineer in Hong Kong. He was appointed as member of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, Guangzhou. Mr Kuok has extensive experience in business development and is responsible for the strategic planning and management of the operations of lifts and escalators, building construction, building materials and supplies, aluminium works, electrical and mechanical services, civil engineering, property development as well as investment projects of the Group.

# **Directors' Biographies (continued)**

### **Executive Directors (continued)**

Mr FUNG Pak Kwan, Director, aged 52, joined Chevalier Group in 1974 and is the Managing Director of CiTL, which is a public listed company in Hong Kong. He was appointed as executive member of the Guangdong Federation of Industry & Commerce and Guangdong Chamber of Commerce. Mr Fung is responsible for Chevalier Group's strategic planning and management of operations of subsidiaries which focus on a wide range of voice and data communication equipment and services as well as system integrated IT solutions, business machines, computer systems and equipment, telephone systems and relevant after-sales services. He also actively involves in the planning of investment and development projects, environmental engineering, automobile and hotel business in North America of the Group.

Mr KAN Ka Hon, Director and Company Secretary, aged 53, joined Chevalier Group in 1986 and is a Director and Company Secretary of CiTL, which is a public listed company in Hong Kong. He is also a Non-Executive Director of Victory City International Holdings Limited and Asia Alliance Holdings Limited (formerly known as "i100 Limited"). He is responsible for management of Chevalier Group's accounting and treasury, corporate finance, investment, pension fund and company secretarial activities. Mr Kan holds a Bachelor Degree in Science from The University of Hong Kong and is a fellow member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants in the U.K. and a member of Hong Kong Society of Accountants.

Mr TAM Kwok Wing, Director, aged 43, joined Chevalier Group in 1986. Apart from his participation in running the insurance underwriting business together with property development, property management and cold storage warehousing divisions, he is also responsible for legal affairs, general administration, human resources management, public relations and travel agency business of Chevalier Group. Mr Tam holds a Bachelor Degree in Laws from the Beijing University of the PRC, a Master of Arts Degree from City University of Hong Kong and a Postgraduate Diploma in Corporate Administration from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He is also fellow members of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators in the U.K. and the Hong Kong Institute of Company Secretaries. Presently, he also serves as an Honorary Secretary of the Insurance Claims Complaints Bureau.

Mr. CHOW Vee Tsung, Oscar, Director, aged 30, joined Chevalier in 2000. He is responsible for the pipe technologies business and business development of Chevalier Group. Mr. Chow holds a degree in Master of Engineering from the University of Oxford, U.K. He is currently the Chairman of the Industry and Technology Committee of the Hong Kong General Chamber of Commerce, a council member of Internet Professionals Association, and a registered manager of Yan Chai Hospital No.2 Secondary School. He is the son of Dr Chow Yei Ching, the Chairman and Managing Director of the Company.

Mr. HO Chung Leung, Director, aged 54, joined Chevalier Group in 1985 and is also the Financial Controller of Chevalier Group. He is responsible for management of Chevalier Group's accounting and treasury activities. Mr Ho is a fellow member of The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants in the U.K. and a member of the Hong Kong Society of Accountants.

# **Directors' Biographies (continued)**

### Independent Non-Executive Directors

Mr WONG Wang Fat, Andrew, aged 60, was appointed to the Board in 1999. Mr Wong has been an elected member of the Legislative Council since 1985. He has been lecturing at The Chinese University of Hong Kong since 1970 and is now retired. He is also a Non-Executive Director of New Island Printing Holdings Limited and the Honorary President of the Hong Kong Corrugated Paper Manufacturers Association. Mr Wong holds a Bachelor of Arts (Honours) degree in literature from The University of Hong Kong and a Master of Public Administration degree from the Syracuse University, U.S.A.

Dr CHOW Ming Kuen, Joseph, aged 62, was appointed to the Board in 2002. He is the Chairman of Joseph Chow & Partners Ltd. He has 40 years of experience in the planning, design and construction of many major engineering projects in the U.K., Middle East, the PRC and Hong Kong. He is a Member of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference of Shanghai as well as Hon. Senior Superintendent of the Hong Kong Auxiliary Police Force. He was previously the President of The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, Chairman of Hong Kong Engineers' Registration Board, Hong Kong Examinations and Assessment Authority and Pamela Youde Nethersole Eastern Hospital Governing Committee as well as a Member of the Hong Kong Housing Authority and Hospital Authority.

# **Retirement Schemes**

The Company and its Hong Kong subsidiaries were participating companies in the Chevalier Group Staff Provident Fund Scheme ("the Scheme") as defined in the Occupational Retirement Schemes Ordinance which is a defined contribution retirement scheme. The Scheme was granted exemption from Mandatory Provident Fund regulations by the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme Authority and shall not open to new members starting from 1st December, 2000. Certain of the Company's overseas subsidiaries contribute to their local government's central pension plans for their employees. Contributions to these schemes are made by both the employers and the employees at the rate of 3.5% to 16% on the employees' salaries.

Pursuant to Government legislation, Bank Consortium Trust Company Limited was selected by the Group as an alternative Mandatory Provident Fund ("MPF") service provider for employees of the Group who join the Group from 1st December, 2000. The MPF is available to the employees aged 18 to 65 and with at least 60 days of service under the employment of the Group in Hong Kong. Contributions are made by the Group at 5% based on the staff's relevant income at a maximum of HK\$20,000 per month. The benefits are required by law to be preserved until the retirement age of 65.

# **Retirement Schemes (continued)**

The Group's total contributions to these schemes charged to the consolidated income statement during the year amounted to HK\$22,436,000 against which the forfeited contributions amounting to HK\$1,993,000 have been deducted. There were forfeited contributions amounting to HK\$59,000 available at the year end date for the reduction of future employer's contributions.

## **Substantial Shareholders' Interests in Securities**

As at 31st March, 2004, so far as is known to the Directors and the chief executives of the Company, the interests and short positions of the persons or corporations in the shares or underlying shares of the Company which have been disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Divisions 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO and as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under S 336 of the SFO were as follows:

Substantial Shareholder	Number of shares held	Approximate percentage of interest
		(%)
CHOW Yei Ching	140,669,359	50.49
MIYAKAWA Michiko (Note)	140,669,359	50.49

Note: These shares were beneficially held by Dr. Chow. Ms. Miyakawa Michiko, the spouse of Dr. Chow, is deemed to be interested in the same parcel of 140,669,359 shares under Part XV of the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, as at 31st March, 2004, so far as is known to the Directors and the chief executives of the Company, no other person has interests or short positions in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations which were required to be disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Divisions 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO and as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under S 336 of the SFO, or, were directly or indirectly, interested in 5% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital carrying rights to vote in all circumstances at general meetings of the Company.

### **Arrangement for Acquisition of Shares or Debentures**

Except for the share option schemes adopted by the Company and CiTL and the share options granted to certain Directors, at no time during the year was the Company or any of its subsidiaries a party to any arrangement to enable the Directors of the Company to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in or debentures of the Company or any other body corporate.

## **Audit Committee**

The Audit Committee, which was established pursuant to the requirements of the Listing Rules, comprising Messrs WONG Wang Fat, Andrew and CHOW Ming Kuen, Joseph, both the Independent Non-Executive Directors of the Company, met twice in the year. During the meetings, the Audit Committee has reviewed with the Management the Connected Transactions, interim and annual reports of the Group, the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group, the auditing, internal controls and financial reporting matters.

### **Corporate Governance**

In the opinion of the Directors, the Company has complied throughout the year with the guidelines for the Code of Best Practice as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules. The Company has adopted the Model Code as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules.

# **Sufficiency of public float**

According to the information that is publicly available to the company and within the knowledge of the Board, the percentage of the Company's share which are in the hands of the public exceeds 25% of the Company's total number of issued shares.

# **Auditors**

The financial statements for the year have been audited by Messrs Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu who will retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-appointment.

On behalf of the Board

**CHOW Yei Ching** *Chairman and Managing Director* 

Hong Kong, 15th July, 2004