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This announcement is not an offer of securities for sale in the United States. Securities may not be offered or sold in the United States absent registration or an exemption from registration. Any public offering of securities to be made in the United States will be made by means of a prospectus that may be obtained from the Company and will contain detailed information about the Company and management, as well as financial statements. The Company does not intend to register any part of the Notes Issue in the United States.



# ASIA ALUMINUM HOLDINGS LIMITED

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability) (Stock Code: 930)

# (1) ISSUANCE OF US\$450 MILLION 8% FIXED RATE SENIOR NOTES DUE 2011 (2) FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, VERY SUBSTANTIAL ACQUISITION AND CONNECTED TRANSACTION

#### The Notes Issue

On 16 December 2004, the Company entered into the Purchase Agreement with MSIL and HSBC in connection with the issue of US\$450 million fixed rate senior notes due 2011 with bullet repayment. In connection with the Notes Issue, the Company has provided certain institutional investors with published and unpublished information regarding the Group, including an overview of the business of the Group, certain risk factors relating to the Group, and management discussions and analysis of financial conditions and audited results of operations of the Group for the three years ended 30 June 2004. An extract of such information can be viewed at the Company's website www.asiaalum.com/recentinfo.

Pending receipt of the Independent Shareholders' approval for the Financial Assistance described below, the net proceeds of the Notes will be deposited in an interest-bearing escrow account held with Citibank, N.A. as the escrow agent. After receipt of the Independent Shareholders' approval, the Company intends to use the net proceeds of the Notes as follows: before the net proceeds are used for any other purpose, firstly approximately US\$75 million to fully repay principal, interest and other amounts outstanding under an existing syndicated loan; then (i) approximately US\$300 million for the Zhaoqing Project; (ii) approximately US\$12.5 million for general corporate purposes and (iii) the balance of approximately US\$50 million to be held in an escrow account. In the event that Independent Shareholders' approval is not obtained prior to 31 March 2005, the Company will be obligated to redeem the Notes at a price of 103% of their principal amount plus accrued and unpaid interest. Pending receipt of the Independent Shareholders' approval, the Company is only permitted to invest the net proceeds of the Notes that are held in the escrow account in direct obligations of the United States or any agency thereof or obligations fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the United States, or any agency thereof, in each case maturing within one year.

Approval in-principle has been received for the listing of the Notes on the SGX-ST. Admission of the Notes to the Official List of the SGX-ST is not to be taken as an indication of the merits of the Company or the Notes.

The Notes have received a rating of BB from Standard & Poor's and a rating of Ba3 from Moody's on 8 December 2004.

#### Financial Assistance, very substantial acquisition and connected transaction

CSD is 60% indirectly owned by the Company and is the sole owner of AAC. The Company intends to apply US\$300 million of the proceeds from the Notes Issue as a shareholder's loan to CSD, which will on-lend the same amount to AAC by entering into the Loan Agreement.

As at the date of this announcement, Mr. Kwong, a Director and the controlling shareholder of the Company, holds a 20% interest in the issued share capital of CSD. Accordingly, the Financial Assistance will when aggregated with the discloseable transaction referred to in the Company's circular dated 1 August 2003, constitute a very substantial acquisition and connected transaction for the Company under Rule 14.08 and Rule 14A.63 of the Listing Rules and will be subject to the reporting, announcement and Independent Shareholders' approval by poll requirements under Rule 14A.17 of the Listing Rules.

#### General

The Independent Board Committee comprising the independent non-executive Directors has been appointed to consider the terms of the Financial Assistance and the Independent Financial Adviser has been appointed to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders as to whether the terms of the Financial Assistance as set out in the Loan Agreement are fair and reasonable.

A circular containing, among other things, a notice convening the Special General Meeting for approving the Financial Assistance, further details relating to the Financial Assistance, a letter from the Independent Board Committee to the Independent Shareholders in relation to the Financial Assistance, and a letter from the Independent Financial Adviser to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders on the Financial Assistance and the information that can be viewed at the Company's website www.asiaalum.com/recentinfo will be despatched to the Shareholders as soon as practicable. Mr. Kwong and his associates will abstain from voting on the Financial Assistance.

# NOTES ISSUE

#### Introduction

The Board refers to the announcement made by the Company dated 8 December 2004 relating to the Notes Issue and is pleased to announce that on 16 December 2004, the Company, together with certain subsidiaries of the Company including the Subsidiary Guarantors, entered into the Purchase Agreement with MSIL and HSBC in connection with the issue of the Notes in the aggregate principal amount of US\$450 million.

# Parties to the Purchase Agreement

- (a) the Company as the issuer;
- (b) certain subsidiaries of the Company including the Subsidiary Guarantors as guarantors of the Company's obligations under the Notes; and
- (c) MSIL and HSBC as the purchasers.

MSIL, the sole bookrunner and lead manager in respect of the offer and sale of the Notes, and HSBC, the co-manager in respect of the offer and sale of the Notes, are the initial purchasers of the Notes. To the best of the Directors' knowledge, information and belief having made all reasonable enquiry, each of MSIL and HSBC is an independent third party and not a connected person of the Company. Pursuant to the terms of the Purchase Agreement, MSIL and HSBC will purchase the Notes at the Offer Price. In connection with the Notes Issue, the Company has provided certain institutional investors with published and unpublished information regarding the Group, including an overview of the business of the Group, certain risk factors relating to the Group, and management discussions and analysis of financial conditions and audited results of operations of the Group for the three years ended 30 June 2004. An extract of such information can be viewed at the Company's website www.asiaalum.com/recentinfo.

The Notes will only be offered by MSIL and HSBC (i) in the United States, (a) to qualified institutional buyers in reliance on the exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act provided by Rule 144A, and (b) to a limited number of institutional accredited investors in transactions exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act and (ii) outside the United States, in compliance with Regulations S under the Securities Act. None of the Notes will be offered to the public in Hong Kong and none of the Notes will be placed to any connected persons of the Company.

#### **Principle terms of the Notes**

The Notes will be due in 2011 with bullet repayment, unless earlier redeemed pursuant to their terms. The Notes will bear interest at the rate of 8%, payable semi-annually in arrears on June and December of each year, commencing June 2005. The obligations of the Company under the Notes will be guaranteed by the Subsidiary Guarantors, including CSD, and will be further secured by (i) pledges of the Company's rights under the shareholder's loan provided to and to be provided to CSD; (ii) certain other inter-company loans which are (a) the intercompany loan of up to US\$100 million from the Company to Asia Aluminum Manufacturing Co. Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary of AAG; and (b) the intercompany loan of up to US\$100 million from the Company to AAG; and (iii) pledges of the shares of certain Subsidiary Guarantors.

The Notes are senior in right of payment to any existing and future obligations of the Company expressly subordinated in the right of payment to the Notes. For all other unsecured and unsubordinated indebtedness of the Company, the Notes will rank pari passu in right.

The events of default under the Notes include: (a) default in the payment of principal; (b) default in the payment of interest; (c) default in the performance or breach of certain covenants under the Notes; (d) default by the Company or certain of its subsidiaries in the repayment of indebtedness having an outstanding amount in excess of US\$5 million other than the Notes; (e) involuntary bankruptcy, insolvency proceedings against the Company or certain of its subsidiaries; and (f) default by the Subsidiary Guarantors in the performance of their obligations under the security provided under the Notes. If an event of default occurs and is continuing, the trustee for the Noteholders may, upon request of at least 25% in aggregate principal amount of outstanding Notes, foreclose on the security. In such an event, a change of control in the subsidiary, the shares in which are the subject to the security may occur.

Pursuant to the terms of the Notes, the Company is restricted from incurring further indebtedness (including loans and bonds), subject to certain exceptions, including: (i) indebtedness with a maturity of one year or less for working capital; (ii) letter of credit, bank drafts or similar instruments issued in the ordinary course of business; (iii) refinancing; and (iv) indemnity arising out of agreements providing for indemnification, adjustment of purchase price or similar obligations, or from guarantees or letter of credit, surety bonds or performance bonds securing any obligation of the Company or certain subsidiaries of the Company.

#### **Reason for the Notes Issue**

The Group is the largest manufacturer of aluminum extrusion products in the PRC and one of largest aluminum extruders in Asia as measured by capacity, with an annual extrusion capacity of approximately 150,000 metric tons and output of approximately 123,000 metric tons for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2004. It designs, manufactures and sells customized aluminum extrusion products and processes aluminum panels and provides testing services for aluminum products.

In October 2003, the Group, through AAC, commenced construction of a large-scale expansion project in the "Asia Aluminum Industrial City" in Zhaoqing, Guangdong Province, designed to produce high-quality aluminum rolled products and to increase the Group's aluminum extrusion capacity. The Group currently operates five factories, primarily producing aluminum extrusion products in Nanhai, Guangdong Province. The total annual production capacity of these facilities amounted to approximately 150,000 metric tons. As part of the Group's expansion plan, the Group intends to consolidate its aluminum extrusion operations at the new Zhaoqing facility.

The Zhaoqing Project is the construction of a new purpose-built plant for the production of rolled aluminum products. It is to be constructed in an industrial park located in the Hi-Tech Development Zone in the city of Zhaoqing. When completed, the plant will include a melt shop, hot mill, cold mill, finishing plant, roll grinding, utilities and ancillary services.

The Zhaoqing Project is currently at an early implementation phase. Site work has begun with preparation of the ground and delivery of a small amount of plant equipment. Upon completion of the Zhaoqing Project which is expected to take place by the end of 2006, it is estimated that the annual capacity of the Group to produce aluminum rolled products and aluminum extrusion projects will be approximately 400,000 metric tons and 300,000 metric tons, respectively. The cost of establishing the Zhaoqing Project is currently estimated at approximately US\$471 million which is approximately US\$67 million more than the estimate made by the Company in August 2003. The Company could not have obtained a more accurate amount at that time until it started to obtain quotations for plant equipment from suppliers.

The Notes Issue is effected to enable the Company to satisfy certain funding requirements in the amount of approximately US\$300 million for the Group's implementation of the Zhaoqing Project and to take advantage of the favourable conditions in the international debt market and for long-term fixed rate bonds in an increasing interest rate environment and against the tightening of PRC domestic financing as a result of the austerity measures implemented in the PRC. The proposed structuring of the fixed-rate Notes is intended to improve and enhance the matching of the Group's expansion plan with its cashflow requirements and debt maturity profile. Moreover, the corporate governance and transparency of the Company will be improved as a result of the Notes Issue, and compliance with the stringent requirements in the offer of the Notes to qualified institutional buyers and institutional accredited investors in the United States, as these investors are generally sophisticated institutional investors which demand higher transparency and better corporate governance from the Company. In this connection, the Company will benefit as a result of the Notes Issue.

#### Use of proceeds

It is expected that the net proceeds arising from the Notes will amount to approximately US\$437.5 million. The Company intends to apply the net proceeds to fund the Group's operations as follows:

- (1) firstly before application for any other purposes, approximately US\$75 million to fully repay the principal, interest and other outstanding amounts under an existing syndicated loan previously disclosed in the Company's announcement dated 9 July 2003. Pursuant to the facility agreement dated 9 July 2003, the syndicated loan bears interest at LIBOR plus 0.9% per annum and is due 2006 and the Company has the right to prepay all or any part of the outstanding balance of the syndicated loan on any interest payment date. The syndicated loan was obtained to repay a term loan of US\$40 million. The term loan of 40 million was applied as to approximately 50% for the purchase of extrusion plant and machinery and as to approximately 50% for general working capital of the Company;
- (2) approximately US\$300 million for the Zhaoqing Project;
- (3) approximately US\$12.5 million for general corporate purposes; and
- (4) the balance of approximately US\$50 million to be held in an escrow account.

The Company may withdraw the US\$50 million if the Company is required to purchase the interest of the minority shareholder in a subsidiary of the Company upon the exercise by the minority shareholder of a put option as previously disclosed in the Company's announcement dated 2 May 2001. Under the shareholders' agreement for that subsidiary, the Company may be required to purchase the minority shareholder's interest in that subsidiary in the event: (i) when the parties failed to agree on certain matters or decisions relating to that subsidiary; (ii) Mr. Kwong is no longer interested in at least 35% of the Company; (iii) the Company is no longer interested in at least 60% of that subsidiary; or (iv) the Company commits and/or fails to remedy any material breach of the shareholders' agreement.

The US\$50 million in the escrow account referred to in (4) will be held until the earlier of (a) the date on which commercial production begins at the Zhaoqing Project and the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio is not less than 5 to 1; and (b) the date on which the minority shareholder in the subsidiary of the Company ceases to have and will not have the right to exercise the put option, which is the date the minority shareholder exercises the put option or it no longer holds shares in the subsidiary. If (a) and (b) are met, the Company may use the US\$50 million, or the remaining balance thereof, for general corporate purposes.

The net proceeds of the Notes Issue will be deposited in an interest-bearing escrow account held with Citibank, N.A. as the escrow agent, from which the Company will be entitled to withdraw funds after the satisfaction of the following conditions: (a) the obtaining of Independent Shareholders' approval for the Financial Assistance; and (b) all security required to be provided under the Notes as stated in the paragraph headed "Principle terms of the Notes" has been provided in accordance with the terms of the Notes. After the satisfaction of these conditions, the Company may withdraw funds from the escrow account in the following stages for the purposes stated above:

- (a) US\$75 million will be withdrawn immediately after the satisfaction of the above conditions to repay the syndicated loan of the Company;
- (b) not more than an additional US\$100 million may be withdrawn prior to 30 June 2005 for the Zhaoqing Project;
- (c) not more than an additional US\$100 million may be withdrawn prior to 31 December 2005 for the Zhaoqing Project; and
- (d) the remaining funds may be withdrawn after 30 June 2006 for the Zhaoqing Project subject to the maintenance of a minimum balance of US\$50 million in the escrow account as referred to in (4), as described above.

Pending receipt of the Independent Shareholders' approval, the net proceeds of the Notes will be deposited in the escrow account held with Citibank, N.A. as the escrow agent and the Company may not withdraw or invest the net proceeds except in direct obligations of the United States or any agency thereof or obligations fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the United States, or any agency thereof, in each case maturing within one year.

#### Redemption

In the event that the Independent Shareholders' approval of the Financial Assistance is not obtained prior to 31 March 2005, the Company will be obligated to redeem the Notes at a price of 103% of their principal amount. The Notes may also be redeemed in the following circumstances:

- (a) the Company has the option to redeem up to 35% of the Notes before December 2007 using proceeds from the issue of the Company's ordinary shares;
- (b) the Company may redeem the Notes if the Company or any Subsidiary Guarantor would be obligated to pay additional amounts of tax as a result of certain changes in specified tax laws; and
- (c) the Company will be obligated to repurchase all Notes outstanding at a purchase price of 101% of their principal amount in the occurrence of a change of control triggering event, which are (i) the merger, amalgamation or consolidation of the Company with another entity or the sale of all or substantially all the assets of the Company; (ii) Mr. Kwong no longer beneficial owns more than 30% interest in the Company; (iii) any "person" or "group" (as defined in the US Securities and Exchange Act of 1934) becomes beneficial owner of the total voting rights of the Company; (iv) the liquidation or dissolution of the Company; and (v) a rating decline.

#### Listing and rating

Approval in-principle has been received for the listing of the Notes on the SGX-ST. Admission of the Notes to the Official List of the SGX-ST is not to be taken as an indication of the merits of the Company or the Notes. No listing of the Notes has been sought in Hong Kong or any other securities exchanges.

The Notes have received a rating of BB from Standard & Poor's and a rating of Ba3 from Moody's on 8 December 2004.

## FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

#### Background

As announced by the Company on 11 July 2003, Sino Advance, Mr. Kwong, Record Break and Think Success entered into the Joint Venture Agreement pursuant to which the parties agreed to form CSD for the purpose of establishing AAC. On 4 September 2003, AAC was established as a wholly foreign owned enterprise in the PRC held by CSD for the production of aluminum rolled products, plates and panels.

As at the date of this announcement, the shareholding structure of CSD and AAC is as follows:



#### **Provision of the Financial Assistance**

The Company intends to apply approximately US\$300 million out of the net proceeds from the Notes Issue as an interest-bearing shareholder's loan to CSD which will be on-lent to AAC to partially fund the Zhaoqing Project as stated in the section headed "Use of proceeds" of this announcement by entering into the Loan Agreement with CSD. The other shareholders of CSD will not contribute shareholder loans on a pro-rata basis.

The Financial Assistance will be provided on the following restrictive terms and conditions as set out in the Loan Agreement: (1) the Financial Assistance will be repayable on demand and will bear interest at a rate which is equivalent to the cost of funds to the Company under the Notes, plus 1%; (2) CSD may be required to repay from time to time principal amounts of the Financial Assistance in amounts equal to the aggregate principal amount of any Notes which the Company is required to repurchase, redeem or repay under the terms of the Notes; (3) the other shareholders in CSD will undertake not to sell and transfer or otherwise dispose of their shares in CSD for a certain period (2 years for Mr. Kwong and 1 year for each of Think Success and Record Break) after completion of the Zhaoqing Project; (4) CSD will not distribute dividends to its shareholders until and unless the Financial Assistance has been repaid in full; and (5) each of the other shareholders in CSD in favour of the Company.

CSD will be entitled to drawdown from the shareholder's loan in the following stages:

- not more than US\$100 million may be withdrawn prior to 30 June 2005;
- not more than an additional US\$100 million may be withdrawn prior to 31 December 2005; and
- the balance may be withdrawn after 30 June 2006.

#### Listing Rules implication

As Mr. Kwong is a Director and is interested in approximately 36.05% of the existing issued share capital of the Company as at the date of this announcement, the provision of Financial Assistance by the Company to CSD will when aggregated with the discloseable transaction referred to in the Company's circular dated 1 August 2003, constitute a very substantial acquisition and connected transaction for the Company under Rule 14.08 and Rule 14A.63 of the Listing Rules and will therefore be subject to the reporting, announcement and Independent Shareholders' approval by poll requirements under Rule 14A.17 of the Listing Rules.

#### **Reason for the Financial Assistance**

As stated in the paragraph headed "Reason for the Notes Issue", the Group, through AAC, has embarked on the construction of a large-scale expansion project in the "Asia Aluminum Industrial City" in Zhaoqing, Guangdong Province, to produce high-quality aluminum rolled products and increase the Group's aluminum extrusion capacity. The Financial Assistance is to satisfy the funding requirements of AAC in the Zhaoqing Project.

## GENERAL

Notwithstanding the other shareholders in CSD will not provide a shareholder loan on a pro-rata basis, the Directors consider the terms of the Loan Agreement and Financial Assistance are sufficiently restrictive in that (1) the Financial Assistance will be repayable on demand and will bear interest; (2) the other shareholders in CSD will undertake not to sell and transfer or otherwise dispose of their shares in CSD for a certain period (3) CSD will not distribute dividends to its shareholders until and unless the Financial Assistance has been repaid in full; and (4) each of the other shareholders in CSD will pledge its/his shares in CSD in favour of the Company. The Directors therefore consider the terms of the Financial Assistance have been made on normal commercial terms and are fair and reasonable and are in the interest of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole.

The Independent Board Committee has been established to advise the Independent Shareholders on the Financial Assistance. The Independent Financial Adviser has been appointed to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders as to whether the terms on the Financial Assistance are fair and reasonable.

A circular containing, among other things, a notice convening the Special General Meeting for approving the Financial Assistance, further details relating to the Financial Assistance, a letter from the Independent Board Committee to the Independent Shareholders in relation to the Financial Assistance and a letter from the Independent Financial Adviser to advise the Independent Board Committee and the Independent Shareholders on the Financial Assistance and the information that can be viewed at the Company's website www.asiaalum.com/recentinfo will be despatched to the Shareholders as soon as practicable.

As at the date of this announcement, Mr. Kwong Wui Chun, Dr. Chan Yiu Tsuan, Benby and Mr. Zhong Jianqiu are executive Directors and Mr. Ma Tsz Chun, Mr. Yau Wing Keung, Frankie and Mr. Chou Shun, Alan are independent non-executive Directors.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

In this announcement, the following expressions shall have the meanings set out below unless the context requires otherwise:

requires other wise.	
"AAC"	Asia Aluminum (China) Company Limited, a wholly foreign-owned enterprise incorporated in the PRC and is wholly owned by CSD
"AAG"	Asia Aluminum Group Limited, a company established in the British Virgin Island which is 69.05% owned by the Company
"associate"	has the meaning ascribed to it under the Listing Rules
"Board"	the board of Directors
"Company"	Asia Aluminum Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability, the shares of which are listed on the Stock Exchange
"connected person"	has the meaning ascribed to it under the Listing Rules
"CSD"	China Steel Development Company Limited, a company incorporated in Samoa, and is 60% owned by the Company
"Directors"	the directors of the Company
"Financial Assistance"	the application of up to an amount of US\$300 million from the net proceeds of the Notes Issue as a shareholder's loan by the Company to CSD
"Group"	the Company and its subsidiaries
"Hong Kong"	the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the PRC
"HK\$"	Hong Kong dollar, the lawful currency of Hong Kong
"HSBC"	The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, the co-manager in respect of the offer and sale of the Notes
"Independent Board Committee"	the committee of Directors, consisting of the independent non-executive Directors, formed to advise the Independent Shareholders in respect of the Financial Assistance
"Independent Financial Adviser"	Commerzbank AG, a deemed licensed corporation under the SFO and engaged in Types 1, 4 and 6 regulated activities
"Independent Shareholders"	in respect of the Financial Assistance, the shareholders of the Company other than Mr. Kwong and his associates
"Joint Venture Agreement"	the agreement dated 11 July 2003 entered into between Sino Advance, CSD, Record Break and Think Success in relation to CSD
"Loan Agreement"	the loan agreement in relation to the Financial Assistance to be entered into between the Company and CSD
"Listing Rules"	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange
"Mr. Kwong"	Mr. Kwong Wui Chun, a Director and the controlling shareholder of the Company who, together with his associates, is interested in approximately 36.05% in the Company
"MSIL"	Morgan Stanley & Co. International Limited, the sole bookrunner and lead manager in respect of the offer and sale of the Notes
"Notes"	the 8% fixed rate senior notes due 2011 in the principal amount of US\$450 million to be issued by the Company
"Notes Issue"	the issue of the Notes by the Company
"Offer Price"	100% of the principal amount of the Notes, the price at which the Notes will be sold
"PRC"	the People's Republic of China
"Purchase Agreement"	the agreement dated 16 December 2004 entered into among others, the Company, MSIL and HSBC in relation to the Notes Issue, pursuant to which MSIL and HSBC will be the initial purchasers of the Notes
"Record Break"	Record Break Investments Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands, and a 10% shareholder of CSD
"Securities Act"	the United States Securities Act of 1933, as amended
"SGX-ST"	Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited
"Shareholders"	holders of the Shares

"Share(s)"	ordinary share(s) of HK\$0.10 each in the share capital of the Company
"Sino Advance"	Sino Advance Investments Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company
"Special General Meeting"	the special general meeting of the Company to be convened to approve the Financial Assistance
"Stock Exchange"	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
"Subsidiary Guarantors"	mean the subsidiaries of the Company consisting of Topmost Precision Ltd., Sino Advance, Asia Cybertech Ltd., Asia Advanced Metal Products Co. Ltd., CSD and Asia Aluminum Management Ltd. which at the original issue date of the Notes will provide guarantee to secure obligations of the Notes
"Think Success"	Think Success Industries Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands wholly-owned by one of the Group's distributors for the Group's aluminum products, and a 10% shareholder of CSD
"Zhaoqing Project"	the purchase, upgrade and installation of aluminum rolled products equipment for the new aluminum rolled products manufacturing facilities in the "Asia Aluminum Industrial City" in Zhaoqing, Guangdong Province and the construction of those facilities
"United States"	United States of America
"US\$"	US dollar, the lawful currency of the United States
"%"	per cent
	By order of the Board Asia Aluminum Holdings Limited Chan Yiu Tsuan, Benby Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
U V 16D 1 000	

Hong Kong, 16 December 2004

"Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in South China Morning Post."