

致各位股東:

本人謹代表董事會向各位股東提呈 中國稀土控股有限公司截至二零零五年 十二月三十一日止之全年業績報告。

To Shareholders,

On behalf of the Board of Directors,
I would like to present the annual results of
China Rare Earth Holdings Limited for the year ended
31 December 2005.



二零零五年,稀土行業繼續呈現復甦,產品的需求及價格均有所提升,有助本集團的業務發展,營業額再創新高。雖然年內原輔材料價格持續高企及稅務優惠期的屆滿,影響了本集團的盈利增幅,但隨著整體經濟的改善及本集團各部門的努力,使業績能有所進展。

另一方面,本集團一向關注礦產資源的有限 供應。於二零零五年度末,本集團終於成功 收購了位於中國遼寧的海城市蘇海鎂礦有限 公司(「蘇海鎂礦」),使本集團的耐火材料業 務上一方面得到原材料供應的保障,另一方 面,亦使盈利基礎上得到新增長點。

財務業績

截至二零零五年十二月三十一日止財政年度,本集團營業額創出新高,錄得769,370,000港元,較二零零四年之665,320,000港元,增長16%。當中稀土產品(包括熒光材料)之銷售額佔45%,達345,243,000港元,較去年之300,984,000港元增長約15%。耐火材料產品(包括高溫陶瓷)的年度銷售額為424,127,000港元,佔營業額55%,較去年之364,336,000港元上升約16%。

本年度的除税前溢利達到171,646,000港元,與去年之139,283,000港元比較上升

In 2005, benefited from the rebounding rare earth industry, which saw increase in demand and prices, the Group reported growth with turnover reaching a new height. Although persistently high material cost and expiry of tax holiday affected its profit growth, the overall improving economy plus the relentless efforts of every department had seen the Group advanced in its results.

Aware of the limited supply of mineral resources, the Group acquired Haicheng City Suhai Magnesium Ore Co., Ltd. ("Suhai Magnesium") in Liaoning, the PRC at the end of 2005. The acquisition has assured the Group of raw material supply for refractory products, as well as provided the Group with a new source of profit.

FINANCIAL RESULTS

For the year ended 31 December 2005, the Group's turnover surged to the record high of HK\$769,370,000, 16% more than the HK\$665,320,000 in 2004. Sales of rare earth products (including fluorescent materials) was HK\$345,243,000, an increase of 15% from HK\$300,984,000 in the previous year, accounting for 45% of the Group's total turnover. Sales of refractory materials (including high temperature ceramics) accounted for 55% of the Group's total turnover, an increase of approximately 16% from HK\$364,336,000 last year to HK\$424,127,000.

Profit before taxation of the Group reached HK\$171,646,000, representing an increase of 23% as compared to



了23%。然而由於本集團旗下附屬公司 宜興新威利成稀土有限公司及宜興新威 利成耐火材料有限公司的「兩免三減半」 税務優惠期已屆滿,而於本年度開始需 要繳交全額之中國企業所得税,以改一 與去年之17,973,000港元比較上升接接 123%。因此,本年度的溢利較去年起 上升約9%至131,625,000港元。每股 盈利由去年之12.3港仙上升至13.2港 仙。毛利率及淨利率分別為27%及 17%。

股息

董事會建議派發二零零五年度之股息每股 4港仙。倘若股東於二零零六年六月十五 日舉行的股東週年大會中通過有關動議, 末期股息將於二零零六年六月二十三日登記 以前派發給於二零零六年六月十五日登記 冊上的股東。

業務回顧稀土業務

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HK\$139,283,000 in 2004. However, the two-year exemption from Enterprise Income Tax ("EIT") and 50% reduction for the three years thereafter (兩兔三減半) previously granted to its subsidiaries, Yixing Xinwei Leeshing Rare Earth Company Limited and Yixing Xinwei Leeshing Refractory Materials Company Limited, had expired. Starting from the year under review, these subsidiaries have to pay the full EIT amount. As a result, taxation for this year increased to HK\$40,021,000, nearly 123% higher than last year's HK\$17,973,000. Profit for the year slightly increased by 9% to HK\$131,625,000 as compared with 2004. Earnings per share increased to HK13.2 cents from last year's HK12.3 cents. Gross profit margin and net profit margin were 27% and 17% respectively.

DIVIDEND

The Board has recommended the payment of a final dividend of HK4 cents per share for 2005. Subject to the approval of shareholders at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting to be held on 15 June 2006, the final dividend will be paid on or before 23 June 2006 to registered shareholders as at 15 June 2006.

The Register of Members will be closed from 12 June to 15 June 2006, both days inclusive. During this period, no transfer of shares will be registered. To qualify for entitlement of the proposed final dividend and to attend the Annual General Meeting, all transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificate must be lodged with the Company's Share Registrar in Hong Kong, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, for registration not later than 4:00 p.m. on 9 June 2006.

BUSINESS REVIEW Rare Earth Business



In 2005, the magnetic materials and fluorescent materials industries developed rapidly. Despite that the Government stepped up regulation of mining and environmental protection, and export tax rebate for rare earth products has been cancelled since 1 May 2005, the rare earth industry still continued to



更超過15%。然而亦有部份輔料價格出現下調,如鹽酸的價格下降了約10%。稀土產品取消了出口退税的轉變亦增加了出口成本。故二零零五年度本集團稀土業務的毛利率只能維持在約15%,與去年相若。

develop. In 2005, the Group sold approximately 4,400 tonnes of rare earth products and downstream products, an increase of 7% from that in 2004. Turnover of its rare earth business increased by 15% to HK\$345,243,000, as compared to HK\$300,984,000 in the previous year. The performance of individual element markets however varied. In 2005, the average prices of neodymium oxide and dysprosium oxide, the major contributors of its rare earth business, increased more than 20% from that in 2004, while the prices of terbium oxide and mixture of yttrium and europium maintained at the 2004 level. The Group adjusted its sales mix taking into account the change in product prices, it sold less products such as yttrium oxide which prices had dropped markedly, while increasing the sales volume of products, such as dysprosium oxide, which prices had hiked.



As for the production cost, the prices of most raw and auxiliary materials rose as compared with 2004. The country tightened its control on rare earth resources and prices were pushed up more than 15%. The price of oxalic acid, its major auxiliary material, increased by 10%, and the price of liquid alkaline

surged even higher by over 15%. The prices of certain auxiliary materials, however, decreased. The price of hydrochloric acid, for instance, dropped around 10%. The cancellation of export tax rebate for rare earth products also created negative impact on export costs. Therefore, the gross profit margin of its rare earth business remained at around 15% in 2005, similar to last year.

Benefited from the tense power supply in China and the Government encouraging energy conservation in the community, its fluorescent material business recorded steady growth. Currently, the polishing powder material market is still developing with most customers still relying on products imported from overseas, hence the Group's products has yet to report meaningful sales. However, the Group is confident that, after establishing a renowned brand, this segment will become one of the major revenue contributors of its rare earth business.



市場分佈方面,中國經濟的急速增長帶動本土需求,加上中國的生產成本產了源優勢吸引大量外商於中國設立生產基地,令回顧年內中國市場佔本集團稀土產品銷售額的比例由去年的66%進一步上升至72%。海外市場所佔比例相對下調,日本地區佔銷售額的8%,歐洲則佔12%。

耐火材料業務

本集團的耐火材料業務繼續保持穩定發展。雖然近年中國政府對房地產、冶金、建材等行業的宏觀調控,使耐火材料的市場需求增長有所放緩。然而在高

穩,主要產品如電熔鎂鉻磚和鋁碳磚的 售價與二零零四年比較基本持平,而鋯 英石磚、鎂鋁尖晶石磚及AZS磚等的價格 升幅在3%至5%之間。於本年度末本集 團 更 積 極 推 銷 毛 利 較 高 的 不 定 形 澆 注 料。而近期開發的賽隆系列產品亦於本 年度售出約2,300噸。成本方面,原輔 材料的價格依然呈上升趨勢,如主要材 料如鋯英砂及電熔鎂鉻砂的價格比去年 上升了超過30%,而剛玉砂及棕剛玉的 價格則變化不多。電熔鎂砂的價格按不 同等位亦有介乎3%至5%之間的升幅。 燒結產品所需的重油的價格亦上升了超 過10%。然而本集團透過加強內部管理 及努力降低成本,使毛利率仍可保持在 30%以上。

Regarding market distribution, rapid development of the PRC economy has pushed up domestic needs. That plus the growing number of foreign companies attracted to set up base in the country to benefit from the low cost yet resources rich environment, the proportion of sales of rare earth products from the PRC market increased from 66% in 2004 to 72% during the year. The percentage of sales from overseas markets dropped slightly. Currently, the Japan market and the European market accounted for 8% and 12% of the Group's total sales respectively.

Refractory Materials Business

The refractory materials business maintained stable growth. Although the Chinese Government's macroeconomic control measures on the property, metallurgy, construction materials sectors dragged down demand for refractory materials during the year,

the Group managed to increase sales of the material by stepping up development of its high temperature ceramics business. In 2005, total sales volume of refractory materials reached 79,400 tonnes, 12% more than that in the previous year. Sales amount increased by 16% to HK\$424,127,000 and product prices were stable. The prices of major products, such as fused

magnesia-chrome bricks and alumina-graphite bricks, stayed at the 2004 level, but the prices of zircon bricks, magnesia-alumina spinel bricks and AZS bricks increased by 3% to 5%. The Group intends to actively promote its various high margin unshaped casting material at the end of this year. About 2,300 tonnes of products of the recently launched Sialon series were also sold. Regarding production costs, both raw and auxiliary materials costs continued to rise with the prices of major materials, including zircon sand and fused magnesia-chrome grains, 30% more expensive than last year. The prices of emery and brown corundum remained steady, while the prices of different grades of fused magnesia grains increased by 3% to 5%. The price of heavy crude oil, a necessary material for producing sintering products, also rose over 10%. However, at the Group's strengthened internal management and cost control, gross profit margin was kept at above 30%.





本火作業益月礦礦之料本應成底集材機鏈。,全為主供集及本完直料務造零團本團料,火耐於故極應組佳五了。耐鎂有原品收的於故種生電收產火此有極應組度在新蘇火砂助料之購財與的向本十海海產之穩之銷於務與的向本,與新華

獻將於二零零六年的合併財務業績內才 開始反映。



展望

稀土業務



The Group has been actively seeking opportunities to co-operate with raw material suppliers of refractory materials to create a vertical industrial chain, and in turn enhance production efficiency. In December 2005, the Group acquired entire equity interest in its supplier Suhai Magnesium, which has been providing it with fused magnesium grains, a major raw material of refractory products. Guaranteeing a stable supply of materials for producing refractory products, the acquisition helps to reduce the cost of sales of the Group's refractory products. As the acquisition was completed at the end of last year, the financial

contribution of Suhai Magnesium will commence be reflected in the 2006 consolidated financial statements.

The PRC is still its principal market for refractory materials. Export value accounted for approximately 18% of the total turnover from refractory materials.

PROSPECTS

Rare Earth Business

As the global economy revives, the rare earth market also shows signs of growth. The continuous development of rare earth technology and application has bred a growing demand for the downstream rare earth oxide products and in turn sent product prices on the up trend. The Group will continue to develop valued-added rare earth products, in particular fluorescent materials, in which it is seen brilliant prospects. Currently, the PRC consumes much power for lighting. With the Chinese Government planning to push the use of energy-saving lights in the advent of the 2008 Beijing Olympics, the Group's fluorescent material business is presented with immense opportunities.

The Group commenced export of fluorescent materials to Japan and Korea in 2006. In March 2006, the Group signed an agreement with a large fluorescent materials user in Korea, marking the beginning of a long-term cooperative relationship. The Korean user will order large quantities of fluorescent materials from the Group, and help to promote the Group's products in Korea. This customer will be the largest customer of the Group's fluorescent material



熒光材料業務的最大客戶。此舉標誌本 集團熒光材料出口海外市場正式啓動。 有助提升本集團的熒光材料產品的國際 知名度及市場佔有份額。

另外,於二零零六年二月,本集團與全 球最大綜合企業集團之一的美國通用電

器集。一,,給購產器,團頭用是通電集不用。一,,給購產器,下點,不到用。與關門,不到,所以與國際,所以與國際,所以與國際,所以與國際,所以與國際,所以與國際,一一,與國際,一一,與國際,一一,與國際,一一,

具及汽車等。此外,通用電器更會為本 集團提供技術支援,有助本集團拓展產 品的應用範疇及規模。本集團日後將尋 求更多類似的合作及建立策略聯盟機 會,務求提升技術水平及取得協同效 益。

另一方面,本集團預期稀土資源的供應將隨著中國政府對資源保護的政策而漸趨緊張。本集團將努力爭取得到原材料

segment. The partnership signified entry of the Group's fluorescent materials into overseas markets, and is expected to help enhance awareness of the Group's brand and the share of its fluorescent materials in the international market.

In February 2006, the Group forged strategic alliance with General Electric Company, one of the largest integrated business

国际资本金融高峰论

corporations in the world. General Electric has been a customer of the Group for the past several years. Pursuant to the terms of the alliance, General Electric will increase order for various rare earth products from the Group to be used by its different subsidiaries in the manufacturing of products including medical equipment, lighting

equipment and automobiles, etc. General Electric will also provide technical support to the Group to help it extend the applications and production scale of rare earth products. The Group will continue to seek similar cooperation and strategic alliance opportunities in its bid to enhance technological capability and reap synergistic benefits.

On the technology front, the rare earth industrialized technology for nano-grade rare earth oxide materials developed by the Group passed the appraisal of the Jiangsu Science and Technology Department in February 2006, earning high acclaims from experts. This achievement represents a great leap made by the Group in advancing rare earth product technology. The Group not only boasts top-notch technology in producing rare earth products of high purity, but also stands out in its ability to control the size of rare earth products. This enables the Group to match the increasingly stringent specifications of new products with rare earth materials as components. Apart from helping to reduce production cost, with enhanced technology, the Group will be able to provide products that meet the requirement of quality conscious customers and assure higher profit.

The Group expects the supply of rare earth resources to tighten as the Chinese Government pushes ahead with its resources protection policy. In that light, the Group will continue to look for



供應的保障。一方面繼續尋找合適的礦山資源投資機會,另一方面繼續尋求地繼續與一眾供應商保持緊密關係。另外,本集團將繼續致力研究生產更多高附加值深加工產品,從而擴寬市場領域及開拓產品種類,務求早日形成縱向產業鏈。

耐火材料業務

耐火材料業務一直保持穩定的增長及為本集團帶來穩定的盈利貢獻。本集團帶來穩定的盈利貢獻水平,並借別國外先進技術,繼續增加中高檔量,對產品的生產比重及提高產品質量,對產品的生產比重及提高產品質量,對強力和保持在行業中的領導地位。

本集團將繼續高溫陶瓷的業務發展,賽 隆生產線的第二階段擴能改造工程已籌 備展開,以配合未來業務增長所需六年開 場方面,本集團計劃將於二零零六年開 始出口高溫陶瓷到俄羅斯,為業務打開 海外市場。

而纖密生初完配準前廣主維鋯產步成套備,部度產、的成項技入售正用設緻組,生術生及銷門在備密裝現產調產市一坡的鉻已即設試。場步璃緻磚經將備,目推向

客戶推廣此產品,相信這將為本集團耐 火材料的業務帶來新增長動力。

於二零零五年末收購蘇海鎂礦標誌著本集團建立縱向產業鏈的重要一步,此舉不但可保障部份原料的供應和降低成本,將蘇海鎂礦部份產品銷售給其他廠家亦為本集團提供額外的收入來源。現

opportunities to invest in rare earth mine resources with the aim of securing stable supply of raw materials. At the same time, it will also seek to maintain optimum relationship with its suppliers. Moreover, the Group will continue to develop and produce more high value-added products, which will allow it to expand market coverage, diversify product offerings and speed up creation of a vertical industrial chain.

Refractory Materials Business

Refractory materials business has been growing steadily and contributing stable earnings to the Group. To boost the competitiveness and leadership of its refractory material products, the Group will continue to upgrade existing production facilities and increase the proportion and quality of the middle to high end refractory material products by bringing in advanced technology from overseas.

The Group will continue to develop its high temperature ceramics business. Second phase capacity expansion work of the Sialon production line is ready to commence to meet the requirement of the Group's growing operation. The Group also plans to begin exporting high temperature ceramics to Russia in 2006 to tap the overseas market.



The preliminary stage of installation of production lines for highly densed zircon and highly densed chrome bricks, which are used mainly in glass fibre production facilities, is completed. Fine-tuning of the entire set of production facilities and techniques is in the final stage and production will commence soon. The sales and marketing department is actively promoting this product to

customers. The Group believes the new product line will emerge as a new growth driver for its refractory materials business.

The acquisition of Suhai Magnesium in late 2005 was a major strategic move in the Group's bid to establish a vertical industrial chain. This move will enable the Group to secure supply of certain raw materials and reduce costs. The sales of certain products of Suhai Magnesium to other manufacturers will also present to the



時養計增濟之經濟人。 東國軍等生種外,他的設立, 東國軍等生種外,他的設立, 大人之。 東國大人之。 東國等生種外,他的供 東國大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人。 東京大人之。 東京大人。 東京大人之。 東京大人。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人之。 東京大人。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東京大之。 東



Group an additional income stream. The Group recognizes the local advantages Suhai Magnesium enjoys in Liaoning Province, hence it intends to expand its production facilities to broaden its product offerings and maximize economies of scale. It will also seek cooperation opportunities with other refractory material suppliers to guarantee

stable raw material supply and better control cost.

兼併收購

本集團於二零零五年十二月二十三日訂立股權轉讓協議,收購了蘇海海議,將 部股本權益,總代價折合為 115,385,000港元,由本集團之內資產 源撥付。經審核後,蘇海鎂礦的資產生 值約為52,210,000港元。合併後確於 叠值63,175,000港元。蘇海鎂礦於 零五年的溢利淨額約為18,184,000港 元。由於收購於年末完成,故該帳上反 並未於本集團二零零五年的合併帳上反 映。

蘇海鎂礦為本集團生產耐火產品之主要原料電熔鎂砂之供應商。是項收購將能夠保證日後電熔鎂砂之穩定供應,並透過整合本集團所生產之下游及上游產品以降低耐火產品之銷售成本,為本集團的營運帶來顯著的協同效益。

董事會

隨著范亞軍先生於二零零五年八月十九日的退任,本公司提升了許盤鳳女士及蔣才南先生為執行董事,令董事會執行董事總人數增至四位。由於許、蔣兩人分別在稀土及耐火材料行業內擁有豐富經驗,他們的加入將能加強董事會的實力,使本集團業務有更良好的發展。

MERGER AND ACQUISITION

The Group signed an equity transfer agreement on 23 December 2005 to acquire entire equity interest in Suhai Magnesium at a total consideration of approximately HK\$115,385,000. The consideration was funded by internal resources of the Group. The audited net assets value of Suhai Magnesium amounted to approximately HK\$52,210,000. Goodwill resulted from the merger amounted to HK\$63,175,000. The net profit of Suhai Magnesium amounted to approximately HK\$18,184,000 in 2005. As the acquisition was completed at the end of the year, related revenue was not shown in the consolidated accounts of the Group in 2005.

Suhai Magnesium is the Group's materials provider, supplying fused magnesium grains, a major kind of raw material for the production of refractory products. This acquisition presents clear synergistic benefits to the Group's operations, promising a secure supply of fused magnesium grains and lower cost of sales for refractory products. It brings to the Group marked operational synergies.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After the resignation of Mr Fan Yajun on 19 August 2005, the Company promoted Ms Xu Panfeng and Mr Jiang Cainan as executive directors, increasing the total number of executive directors to four. Both Ms Xu and Mr Jiang have extensive experience in the rare earth and refractory materials industries. Their appointments will definitely improve the strength of the Board and facilitate business development of the Group.



公共關係

股份配售

本公司於二零零六年進行了一項資金籌集活動。於二零零六年三至四月,本公司以每股售價1.38港元配售了197,390,000股新增股份。交易完成後,本集團已發行股本增加至1,184,343,059股,公眾流通量由原來的39.59%增加至49.66%。扣除費用後本集團共籌集了約264,390,000港元,所得款項淨額將會撥作一般營運資金。

財務回顧

流動資金及財務資源

本集團以現金收購蘇海鎂礦後,於二零零五年十二月三十一日,本集團持有現金及銀行存款約值153,442,000港元而無銀行貸款。

本集團於年末的流動資產淨額約為 666,933,000港元。總負債對總資產的 比率約為9%。

匯率風險

本集團大部份之資產、負債及交易均以 人民幣、美元及港元列值。鑑於美元及 港元之匯率於年內相對穩定及人民幣的 升值幅度有限,故本集團並無面臨重大 的外匯風險。

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The Group understands the importance in maintaining a highly transparent operation, hence values communications with institutional investors and analysts. It dispatches interim and annual reports to shareholders, analysts and interested parties, detailing information about the Group's operations. It maintains close contact with the media. Press releases, announcements and public information in relation to the Group's latest business development and marketing plans are released in a timely manner. The Group also meets with fund managers and analysts regularly to update them on the Group's financial and other information. These initiatives have helped to deepen public understanding of the Group and its business and facilitate communication.

PLACING OF SHARES

The Company conducted a fund raising activity in 2006. In March to April 2006, the Company placed 197,390,000 new shares at HK\$1.38 per share. Upon the completion of the placing, the issued share capital of the Group increased to 1,184,343,059 shares and the public float increased from 39.59% to 49.66%. The net proceeds from the placing amounted to approximately HK\$264,390,000. The Company intends to use the fund raised as general working capital.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Liquidity and Financial Resources

Subsequent to the settlement of consideration for the Suhai Magnesium acquisition by cash, the Group had cash and bank balances of approximately HK\$153,442,000 as at 31 December 2005. There was no bank borrowings.

The Group had net current assets of approximately HK\$666,933,000 as at the end of the year. Total liabilities to total assets ratio was 9%.

Exchange Exposure

Most of the Group's assets, liabilities and transactions are denominated either in Renminbi, US dollars or Hong Kong dollars. As the exchange rate between US dollars and Hong Kong dollars remained stable during the year and the appreciation of Renminbi was moderate during the year, the Group was not exposed to material foreign exchange risk.



資產抵押

於二零零五年十二月三十一日,本集團的資產中有約值327,000港元的銀行存款已作抵押擔保以獲得短期貿易融資。

或然負債

於二零零五年十二月三十一日,本集團 並無重大或然負債。

僱員及薪酬

致謝

本集團能有今天的成績,實有賴全體員工多年來努力不懈,以及得到各股東、投資者、客戶、供應商及業務夥伴一直以來對本集團的信賴與支持。在此,本人謹代表董事會及管理層向彼等致以最衷心的謝意。

主席

蔣泉龍

香港,二零零六年四月二十日

Pledge of Assets

As at 31 December 2005, bank deposit valued at HK\$327,000 in the Group's assets was pledged as guarantee for the short term trading facilities.

Contingent Liabilities

As at 31 December 2005, the Group had no material contingent liability.

STAFF AND REMUNERATION

As at 31 December 2005, the Group had a workforce of approximately 1,650 staff including young graduates and experienced professionals. The Group has in place a comprehensive staff remuneration and welfare system. During the year, approximately HK\$21,046,000 was incurred in staff costs including directors' emoluments. The Group implements a share option scheme granting options as appropriate to outstanding staff to encourage contribution to the Group. Recognizing that its people is its most valuable asset, the Group will continue to seek and train high calibre staff and provide them with on-the-job trainings to enhance their competitiveness.

APPRECIATION

The Group owes its success to the hard work and dedication of its staff over the years and the continuous trust and support from shareholders, investors, customers, suppliers and business partners. On behalf of the Board and the management, I would like to extend my gratitude to all of them.

Jiang Quanlong

Chairman

Hong Kong, 20 April 2006