



# CONTINENTAL

HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Stock code: 00513)



## Environmental, Social and Governance Report

30 June 2020

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(In the event of inconsistency, the English version shall prevail over the Chinese version.)

## **Introduction**

### **About the Company**

Continental Holdings Limited (the “Company”) is an investment holding company. The principal activities of its subsidiaries (the Company and its subsidiaries are hereinafter referred to as the “Group”) are the designing, manufacturing, marketing and trading of fine jewellery and diamonds. Also, the Group maintains an investment portfolio including property investment and development, mining and other investment.

### **Scope of Report**

This Environmental, Social and Governance Report (the “ESG Report”) is prepared in accordance with reference to the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide provided in Appendix 27 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. The information stated in this report covers the period from 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020 (the “Reporting Period”), which aligns with the financial year as the 2020 annual report of the Company. The ESG Report focuses on the aspects that have been identified as material to the Group business and its key stakeholders, i.e. the core business of the Group, which is design, manufacturing, marketing and trading of fine jewellery and diamonds. The scope of this ESG Report mainly includes data and activities of the factory in Jiangmen, the People’s Republic of China (the “PRC”) (the “Jiangmen Factory”) and the office of the management headquarter in Hong Kong (the “Hong Kong Office”) for the Reporting Period.

The Group has aligned its business with sustainable development and environmental conservation as top priority. In the Reporting Period, the Group strengthened the management efforts on the quality management of products, management of supply chains and the administration of personnel.

## A. Environmental

### A1: Emissions

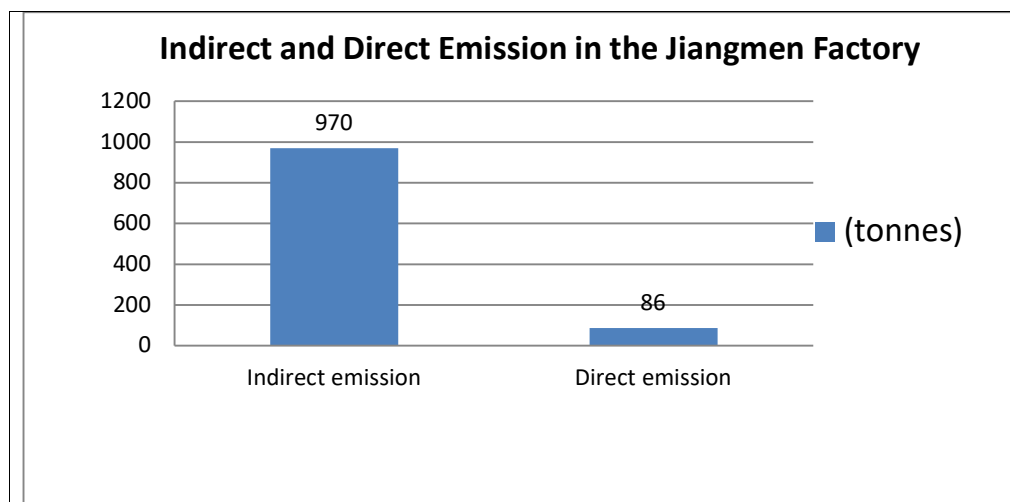
The Group is committed to energy saving and environmental protection. We try to keep the damage to the environment at a minimal level by reducing pollutants and hazardous wastes during manufacturing process. The main sources of emission of the Group's pollutants include consumption of liquefied petroleum gas ("LPG") and emission of the Group's self-used office vehicles. The Jiangmen Factory consumed LPG during manufacturing process and at the staff dormitory. During the Reporting Period, the units of LPG consumed by the Jiangmen Factory was 25,950 kg and the CO<sub>2</sub> emission amount was 76 tonnes. While for the office vehicles, the fuel consumption was 13,150 litre and the CO<sub>2</sub> emission amount was 10 tonnes.

The Group aims at reducing the energy and water consumption thereby reducing the greenhouse gas ("GHG") emission. The GHG emission is classified into direct and indirect emission. Direct emission includes: combustion of fuels in production process, generation of heat by LPG and combustion of fuels by motor vehicles owned by the Group. Indirect emission includes emissions due to electricity purchased from power companies and water consumption. During the Reporting Period, the total GHG emission of Hong Kong Office was approximately 140,000 kg (140 tonnes), which was indirect emissions resulting from generation of purchased electricity. The Jiangmen Factory had a total of 1,056 tonnes GHG emission of CO<sub>2</sub>. The direct and indirect emission of in the Jiangmen Factory were summarized as follows:

Indirect emission of CO<sub>2</sub>: 970 tonnes

Direct emission of CO<sub>2</sub>: 86 tonnes

The following charts set out the data of the indirect and direct emission in the Jiangmen Factory:



During the Reporting Period, the Jiangmen Factory produced 2 tonnes of hazardous wastes including waste mineral oil, oil residue, waste thinner etc. during machine maintenance and product cleaning; and 46.8 tonnes of non-hazardous wastes include office waste and domestic waste. The Jiangmen Factory arranged cleaning company to collect and transport domestic waste to the city “Refuse Collection Point” weekly.

The Group sets out policies on reducing emissions. The Jiangmen Factory uses solar energy heating system for heating purpose and use lighting system or electric appliances with high energy efficiency and set up timer for power saving. The staff are encouraged to turn off computer, air-conditioner and lighting when the electronic appliances are idle. During the reporting period, the Hong Kong Office has replaced the central air conditioning system by ceiling mounted split type air-conditioners to save electricity and reduce cost. The Group follows the relevant legislation to process hazardous waste and there are measures to reduce wasteful resources. All hazardous wastes are collected and disposed of by licensed contractors and non-hazardous wastes are processed by local government.

During the Reporting Period, the Jiangmen Factory has complied with the relevant environmental laws in the PRC and there was no incidence of non-compliance with the relevant environmental laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the Group.

## **A2. Use of Resources**

The Group promotes environmental protection by raising the employees’ awareness of resources saving and efficient use of energy. In recent years, the Group has implemented several policies to encourage employees for energy conservation and paper saving. We have the following mechanism to promote the effective use of paper:

1. receive incoming faxes through e-fax system, and make copies only when necessary;
2. promote use of electronic communications such as disseminating notices through the intranet;
3. encourage employees to print on both sides; and
4. use metal or plastic reusable containers to carry the manufactured goods during production and delivery process and reduces disposable materials in packaging.

The Hong Kong Office is installed with the lighting system by LED lighting, which has high light-quality output and low energy usage. The Group also encourages staff to keep electronic copies of documents, which greatly reduces storage space and also reduces paper consumption in the office.

The main type of energy consumption of the Group includes electricity and LPG.

The Hong Kong Office

Indirect energy consumption: electricity 275,039 kWh

The Jiangmen Factory

Direct energy consumption: LPG 25,950 kg, 0.17 kg per production unit

Indirect energy consumption: electricity 1,158,928 kWh, 7.76 kWh per production unit

During the Reporting Period, the Jiangmen Factory consumed 42,778 m<sup>3</sup> of water and the volume per unit of production was 0.29 m<sup>3</sup>. In the Hong Kong office, the water consumption was 121 m<sup>3</sup>.

We ensure the operation and facilities are in accordance with the environmental policy and reduce the environmental impact. The Hong Kong Office uses LED lighting and maintains the air-conditioned room temperature of offices at 25 degree Celsius for saving energy. In addition, we have installed video-conference system to reduce business travels and increase communication efficiency.

The main businesses of the Group are manufacturing and trading of jewellery, which do not rely heavily on energy consumption nor water resources and do not have any issue in sourcing water.

The Group minimizes the use of packaging materials for its jewellery products. For example, using lighter and recycled materials for jewellery pouches, simpler design of jewellery box to save resources and delivery cost. A total of 1.35 tonnes of plastic bags were used as packaging material by the Jiangmen Factory during the Reporting Period.

### **A3: The Environmental and Natural Resources**

The Group values environmental friendly operation and minimizes the impact on the environment and natural resources. The Group sets out the environment and resources management procedures, which list out the environment protection measures during the production process. The Group adopts the “reduce, reuse and recycle” policy to reduce paper consumption.

**Reduce:** encourages staff to read electronic file instead of print out documents or print on both side to create a paperless office.

**Reuse:** In addition to recycling envelopes, trays are placed beside photocopiers for collecting single-sided used paper for reuse before recycling.

**Recycle:** used ink and toner cartridge of printers and photocopiers and electronic wastes are collected for recycling. Other than saving paper measures, we also uses PEFC certified paper, which is from sustainably managed forests, recycled and controlled sources. In the Hong Kong Office, there are boxes for collection of plastic bottles and aluminum cans for recycling.

The Jiangmen Factory collected waste paper which will be passed to recyclers for recycling. It also sets up measures to control the waste water discharge and chemical waste disposal. Waste water is produced during manufacturing process and includes domestic waste water from the canteen. There are sewage treatment facilities at the canteen and toilets, where waste water are processed, filtered and emitted through the outlet regulated by the local environmental protection department in the PRC. During manufacturing process, it produces hazardous waste including oil, organic and non-organic chemical (e.g. acid, thinner), and residual in waste water. The Jiangmen Factory has regulation on dangerous goods, waste disposal and prevention of environmental pollution by keeping the use of hazardous chemicals under record and supervision. There is a storage room specialized for storing hazardous waste that prevent chemical leakage and the waste materials are then collected by qualified treatment company.

The Group adopts the following environmental protection policies:

- Preventing waste of resources and improve efficiency on resources allocation;
- Staff education on resources reduction, put up posters regarding save energy, increase awareness on saving water, electricity reduce water and energy consumption;
- Setting up solar energy system for heating purpose;
- Using LED lighting system and electrical appliance with energy efficiency label, and set timer for air-conditioning system; and
- Conducting regular check up of water pipe and water system so as to prevent leakage and conduct regular maintenance, if necessary.



*Jiangmen Factory – solar heating system*

## **B. Social**

### **B1: Employment**

We believe that every employee is a valuable asset of the Group. In order to retain talents and foster a good working environment for the employees and increase their sense of belongings to the Group, we provide professional development opportunities, healthy and safe working environment for all employees. The Group's remuneration to its employees is largely based on common industrial practice.

With regards to terms of employment, the Group complies with the existing laws and regulations. For the Hong Kong Office, full-time employees are entitled to the following:

- annual leave, marriage leave, maternity or paternity leave and compassionate leave;
- a maximum of 120 days sick leave and 6 days full paid sick leave per year; and
- medical benefits, travel insurance and employee compensation.

The employees are enrolled in Mandatory Provident Fund schemes or Occupational Retirement Schemes. The Hong Kong Office organizes lunch gathering and annual dinner, which increase the interaction among different departments and the sense of belonging of the employees.



*Lunch Gathering*



*Farwell Party for Retired Staff*

Whereas in the Jiangmen Factory, it also provides pension scheme to the PRC employees in accordance with the national labour and social security regulation, and contributes to the social security fund payable to the retired employees. The employees who reached the retirement age are entitled to the pension and benefits granted to the retired group. The Jiangmen Factory contributes to the township medical insurance scheme in accordance with the government labour and social security system and provides regular health-check programme to staff and especially to the staff engaged with high risk job duties. The Group promotes a sense of team spirit and foster work-life balance by organizing leisure activities for the staff. The Jiangmen Factory organizes annual festival gathering and recreational activities on a regular basis.

In addition to the medical insurance, the Group also provided travel insurance to employees who required overseas business travel which covers the compensation to the employees who are injured due to accident during business trip.

The Group prohibits child and forced labour in any workplace and protects both job applicants and regular staff from any form of discrimination. The Group abides by equal employment ordinance and prohibit discrimination against a person on the grounds of race, colour, sex, religion, age, national origin or disability. Female staff are entitled to leave for maternity check-ups and pregnancy leave, and return to her pre-leave position.

As at 30 June 2020, the Group employs a total of approximately 664 employees with the majority in the PRC. The Hong Kong Office and the Jiangmen Factory have approximately 504 staff in total, and the combination of the gender, employment type and age group of the staff are as follows:

Category	Number of Employee (Approximately)	Hong Kong Office (HK) and Jiangmen Factory (JM)
Gender	Male: 247	HK: 36
		JM: 211
	Female: 257	HK: 40
		JM: 217
Employment Type	Full-time: 502	HK: 74
		JM: 428
	Part-time: 2	HK: 2
		JM: 0
Age Group	Below 30: 95	HK: 1
		JM: 94
	31 to 50: 354	HK: 41
		JM: 313
	51 to 70: 53	HK: 32
		JM: 21
	71 or above: 2	HK: 2
		JM: 0

In the Reporting Period, the number of turnover employees were 10 persons and 123 persons in the Hong Kong Office and Jiangmen Factory respectively. The following table shows the employee turnover rate by gender and age group: (Number of turnover employees by gender and age group per total number of employees in that location)

Category	Turnover Rate of Employee Hong Kong Office (HK) and Jiangmen Factory (JM) (Approximately)
Gender	<p>Male: HK: 12% JM: 15%</p> <p>Female: HK: 1% JM: 14%</p>
Age Group	<p>Below 30: HK: 0 JM: 11%</p> <p>31 to 50: HK: 5% JM: 13%</p> <p>51 to 70: HK: 8% JM: 5%</p> <p>Above 71: HK: 0 JM: 0</p>

## **B2: Health and Safety**

During the Reporting Period, the Group has encountered the most challenging times as the Coronavirus pandemic ("COVID-19") affected the Group's business operation and production. While the Hong Kong Office has remained normal business operation, the production in the Jiangmen Factory has been disrupted and suspended for a few months due to the COVID-19.

The Group is committed to providing employees with a healthy and safe working environment. During the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Group has taken measures to safeguard the health of its employees. In the Hong Kong Office, we arranged employees to work remotely from home and allowed employees to work on “Flexitime” to minimise the human contact in congested public transports when commuting to work. The Hong Kong Office installed infrared temperature sensors in the lobby to check the body temperatures of all staff and visitors before entering into the office, and also distributed the COVID-19 test kit to all staff members for self-sample test when necessary, so as to reduce the chance of infected persons entering the workplace. The Group also further strengthened the disinfection and cleaning of the workplace, including arrange anti-virus spray coating service in the office area.

There were no work-related fatalities during the Reporting Period in any of our operations. During the Reporting Period, the number of lost days due to work injuries in the Jiangmen Factory and Hong Kong Office were 8 days (involved two employees) and 112 days (involved one employee) respectively.

The Group follows the guideline from the Hong Kong Labour’s Department to set up the occupational health and safety measures of the Hong Kong Office. The Jiangmen Factory also publishes a manual on Health and Safety, which lists out the health and safety related issues at the workplace, these includes:

**Workplace safety:** remove obsolete and discarded materials from the workplace regularly, avoid overloading electric sockets and install electric wirings properly

**Fire safety:** install fire safety system and emergency alarm and periodic check up and maintenance of the fire-fighting system

**Special equipment:** check-up of the pressure, fuel and escalator regularly

**Protection facilities:** install facilities to prevent poisonous gas and dust

**Occupational safety:** check-up and detect for the dangerous substances in the factory, assessment of occupational disease once in every three year

**Emergency measures:** equip workplace with first aid kit including first aid medicine and equipments

The Jiangmen Factory compiles a “workplace risk assessment” checklist, which describes the protective equipment required for specific job duties and sets out the safety standard for the labour protection. The Jiangmen Factory supervises and ensures all workers put on protective devices when they carry out high risk job duties.

### **B3: Development and Training**

The Group believes that developing its employees by improving their knowledge and skills can enhance their personal growth both intellectually and professionally. To encourage and assist employees in developing their potential, training resources is planned, and training programs are developed and implemented to ensure employees received the relevant trainings and professional development, so that the employee are better equipped and increase efficiency which are favourable to the long-term development of the Group. Training programmes are classified into two types according to the target and purpose: internal training and external training. The Group supports staff training programmes by granting time and reimbursement.

The Jiangmen Factory provides training regarding to fire safety, ISO system and safety measures to apprentice and new staff. Upon passing examination, the apprentices are employed under probation terms. During probation, the apprentices continue to take lessons to enhance their skills. Job will be offered to the apprentice and new staff once they pass the examination. The Jiangmen Factory also provides on job trainings, including safety measures for the current staff. For the staff who perform special duties, they are trained regularly; other staff who worked in finance, human resources or technical skill, will receive specific training in relation to their job duties.

In the Reporting Period, the number of trained employees were 34 persons in the Hong Kong Office and 428 persons in the Jiangmen Factory. The following table shows the percentage of trained employees by gender and employee category: (The percentage refers to number of trained employees by gender and employee category per the total number of employees of the corresponding locations.)

Category	Percentage of Trained Employees (Approximately) Hong Kong Office (HK) and Jiangmen Factory (JM)
Gender	Male: HK: 20% JM: 49%  Female: HK: 25% JM: 51%
Employee Category	General staff: HK: 39% JM: 85%  Middle management: HK: 3% JM: 12%  Senior management: HK: 3% JM: 3%

The following table shows the average number of training hours per trained employee by gender and employee category:

Category	Average Number of Training Hours per Trained Employees (Approximately) Hong Kong Office (HK) and Jiangmen Factory (JM)
Gender	Male: HK: 1.2 hours JM: 1.1 hour  Female: HK: 1.1 hours JM: 1 hour
Employee Category	General staff: HK: 1 hour JM: 1.1 hour  Middle management: HK: 2 hours JM: 1.2 hour  Senior management: HK: 2 hours JM: 1.8 hour

## **B4: Labour Standards**

We value staff as important assets of the Group. The Group wants to build a healthy working environment with equal opportunity to protect employee's right and their benefits. The laws and regulations that are directly related to the Group included, but may not be limited to, the following:

### **Hong Kong:**

- Employment Ordinance

### **China:**

- Underage Workers Special Protection Provisions
- Prohibition of Child Labour Provisions
- Labour Law of People's Republic of China

During the Reporting Period, the Group has not violated any of the above ordinance or regulations which lead to investigation.

The Group provides equal opportunity to all employees. The staff are assessed by their performance and working experience regardless of age, marital status, race, religious, nationality or gender etc.

The Group prohibits forced labour and restricts the employment of child labour. The Jiangmen Factory sets out "Labour Rights and Working Condition Management Rules", which lists out the following: checking candidates identification during interview process to prevent employing child labour; all labour must voluntarily complete job application form to prevent forced labour. The employees can early terminate employment contract in accordance with the service contract and can apply for sick leave with doctor's certificate. In case the Group discovers forced labour or child labour, the Group would terminate such practices and put forward the following remedies: report to local authorities and record the situation.

**B5: Supply Chain Management**

The Group has set standard procedures for the selection of suppliers of raw materials in accordance with the ISO9001/UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) standards. They also have a standard approval form for selection of suppliers and a list of approved suppliers were available from the ISO documents for reference. There is also an assessment for the management to review the supplier's standards. The largest supplier and the five largest suppliers accounted for 26.1% and 61.5%, respectively, of the Group's total purchases for the Reporting Period. The suppliers were from Asia, Europe and the USA, which account for 63%, 9% and 28% respectively.

**B6: Product Responsibility**

The Group is committed to design and manufacture of fine jewellery with high quality and provides excellent customer services. We clearly list out all the material contents, such as metal type, stone type and average weight of our products on our invoices. We are also required to disclose if the materials are genuine or treated and purchased from legitimate sources.

To guarantee the quality of our products, one of the subsidiaries of the Group is awarded ISO9001/UKAS Quality Management System and is a certified member of Responsible Jewellery Council ("RJC"), which is a standard setting and certification organization. As member of RJC, the Group is committed to the RJC Code of Practices, which is an international standard on responsible business practices for diamonds, gold and platinum group metals. The Code of Practices addresses human rights, labour rights, environmental impact, mining practices, product disclosure and other important topics in the jewellery supply chain. The Group provides guarantee period for normally 3 months after shipment. If manufacturing defects are discovered afterwards, we will take back the products for repairing. The marketing administration and support department is responsible to deal with customer's queries and provide customer services. During the Reporting Period, no products were recalled for safety and health reasons.

The Group applies for copyright or design patent for some special designs to protect the intellectual property rights. The quality assurance process for each production stage is strictly adhered to the standards under ISO9001. Final products are quality assured before shipping but there is no recall procedure for our products. We comply with relevant legislation regarding customer data privacy.

## **B7: Anti-corruption**

The Group is aware of the importance of honesty, integrity and fairness in its operation and any practices which are against law e.g. corruption, bribery, money laundry are strictly forbidden. Bribery and facilitation payment are prohibited within the Group. The Group required employees to declare any conflict of interests and encourages all employees to discharge their duties with integrity and comply with the relevant laws and regulations. Transactions involving money requires authorized signatories of the appropriate levels depending on the amount involved. Checks and balances have been installed in the Group for money transaction activities and are considered effective and adequate.

The Group's code of conduct requires its directors and employees to avoid the conflict between personal and financial interest and their professional official duties in the Group. Communications were made to the employees, so they understand that using their positions in the Group or using the Group's resources, properties and information to pursue opportunities by exercising positioning power to influence decisions or gain access to valuable information when dealing with third parties with his profession to achieve financial and personal gain is strictly prohibited.

During the Reporting Period, there is no legal cases regarding corrupt practices brought against the Group or its employees.

The Jiangmen Factory has formulated a "Prevention of Corruption Procedures", internal control, to prevent corruption, bribery or fraud. The Group also provides training and newsletter regarding legislation against bribery and corruption. The Group encourages staff to report to their supervisor or directly to the management if they discover any practices that violate or are against the law. The Jiangmen Factory sets up comment box and hotline to facilitate the staff to report any malpractices. Once it is confirmed that the employee has violated the regulations of the factory, they will be punished by disciplinary action. If the employee has serious malpractices, they will be reported to the law enforcement agencies to take necessary action.

## **Community**

### **B8: Community Investment**

The Group is a responsible corporation, and is involved in social project and keen on promoting local economic and cultural development. During the reporting period, the Group has actively participated in the charitable event such as donation to the needy and subsidize local education in Jiangmen. The Group has donated to The Community Chest of Hong Kong, Seeds Foundation Limited and other charitable organization. The Jiangmen Factory has worked with local institution to provide internship programme and organize guided tour in the Factory for the students. During the Reporting Period, the Group has charitable contributions totaling approximately HK\$64,000.