
WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

In preparation for the [REDACTED], we have sought the following waivers from strict compliance with the Listing Rules and exemptions from the Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance.

MANAGEMENT PRESENCE IN HONG KONG

Pursuant to Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules, an issuer must have a sufficient management presence in Hong Kong. This will normally mean that at least two of its executive directors must be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong. We do not have sufficient management presence in Hong Kong for the purposes of Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules.

Our Group’s management headquarters, senior management, business operations and assets are primarily based outside Hong Kong, in Mainland China. The Directors consider that the appointment of executive director(s) who will be ordinarily resident in Hong Kong would not be beneficial to, or appropriate for, our Group and therefore would not be in the best interests of our Company or the Shareholders as a whole.

Accordingly, we have applied for, and the Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with Rule 8.12 of the Listing Rules. We will ensure that there is an effective channel of communication between us and the Stock Exchange by way of the following arrangements:

- (a) pursuant to Rule 3.05 of the Listing Rules, our Company has appointed and will continue to maintain two authorized representatives who shall act at all times as the principal channel of communication with the Stock Exchange. Each of our authorized representatives will be readily contactable by the Stock Exchange by telephone, facsimile and/or e-mail to deal promptly with enquiries from the Stock Exchange. Both of our authorized representatives are authorized to communicate on our behalf with the Stock Exchange. At present, our two authorized representatives are Ms. Aileen Wang, our executive Director and Chief Executive Officer, and Ms. Wing Nga Ho, our joint company secretary;
- (b) pursuant to Rule 3.20 of the Listing Rules, each Director has provided their contact information to the Stock Exchange and to the authorized representatives. This will ensure that the Stock Exchange and the authorized representatives should have means for contacting all Directors promptly at all times as and when required;
- (c) we will ensure that each Director who is not ordinarily resident in Hong Kong possesses or can apply for valid travel documents to visit Hong Kong and can meet with the Stock Exchange within a reasonable period;
- (d) pursuant to Rule 3A.19 of the Listing Rules, our Company has retained the services of Somerley Capital Limited as compliance advisor (the “**Compliance Advisor**”), who will act as an additional channel of communication with the Stock Exchange. The Compliance Advisor will provide our Company with professional advice on

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ongoing compliance with the Listing Rules. We will ensure that the Compliance Advisor has prompt access to our Company’s authorized representatives and Directors. In turn, they will provide the Compliance Advisor with such information and assistance as the Compliance Advisor may need or may reasonably request in connection with the performance of the Compliance Advisor’s duties. The Compliance Advisor will also provide advice to our Company when consulted by our Company in compliance with Rule 3A.23 of the Listing Rules; and

- (e) meetings between the Stock Exchange and the Directors can be arranged through the authorized representatives or the Compliance Advisor, or directly with the Directors within a reasonable time frame. We will inform the Stock Exchange as soon as practicable in respect of any change in the authorized representatives and/or the Compliance Advisor in accordance with the Listing Rules.

JOINT COMPANY SECRETARIES

Pursuant to Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Listing Rules, the company secretary must be an individual who, by virtue of their academic or professional qualifications or relevant experience, is, in the opinion of the Stock Exchange, capable of discharging the functions of company secretary.

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

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

Pursuant to Note 2 to Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules, in assessing “relevant experience”, the Stock Exchange will consider the individual’s:

- (a) length of employment with the issuer and other issuers and the roles they played;
- (b) familiarity with the Listing Rules and other relevant law and regulations including the Securities and Futures Ordinance, Companies Ordinance, Companies (Winding Up and Miscellaneous Provisions) Ordinance and the Takeovers Code;
- (c) relevant training taken and/or to be taken in addition to the minimum requirement under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules; and
- (d) professional qualifications in other jurisdictions.

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Our Company appointed Ms. Ting Wu, our Chief Financial Officer, and Ms. Wing Nga Ho as joint company secretaries of our Company on March 26, 2022 and November 11, 2022, respectively. Please refer to the section headed “Directors and senior management – Joint company secretaries” for their biographies.

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

Accordingly, while Ms. Wu does not possess the formal qualifications required of a company secretary under Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules, we have applied to the Stock Exchange for, and the Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with the requirements under Rules 3.28 and 8.17 of the Listing Rules such that Ms. Wu may be appointed as a joint company secretary of our Company.

The waiver was granted for a three-year period from the [REDACTED] on the conditions that: (i) Ms. Ho is appointed as a joint company secretary to assist Ms. Wu in discharging her functions as a company secretary and in gaining the relevant experience under Rule 3.28 of the Listing Rules; the waiver will be revoked immediately if Ms. Ho, during the three-year period, ceases to provide assistance to Ms. Wu as the joint company secretary; and (ii) the waiver can be revoked if there are material breaches of the Listing Rules by our Company. In addition, Ms. Wu will comply with the annual professional training requirement under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules and will enhance her knowledge of the Listing Rules during the three-year period from the [REDACTED]. Our Company will further ensure that Ms. Wu has access to the relevant training and support that would enhance his understanding of the Listing Rules and the duties of a company secretary of an issuer listed on the Stock Exchange. Before the end of the three-year period, the qualifications and experience of Ms. Wu and the need for on-going assistance of Ms. Ho will be further evaluated by our Company. We will liaise with the Stock Exchange to enable it to assess whether Ms. Wu, having benefited from the assistance of Ms. Ho for the preceding three years, will have acquired the skills necessary to carry out the duties of company secretary and the relevant experience within the meaning of Rule 3.28 Note 2 of the Listing Rules so that a further waiver will not be necessary.

CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

We have entered into certain transactions which will constitute continuing connected transactions of our Company under the Listing Rules following the completion of the [REDACTED]. We have applied to the Stock Exchange for, and the Stock Exchange has granted, a waiver from strict compliance with the announcement, circular and independent shareholders’ approval requirements set out in Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules for such continuing connected transactions. For further details in this respect, see the “Connected transactions”.