

# DICKSON CONCEPTS (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED 廸生創建(國際)有限公司

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

# INTERIM REPORT 2024-2025

Stock Code: 0113



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# CORPORATE INFORMATION

# **Board of Directors:**

# **Group Executive Chairman:**

Dickson Poon

### **Executive Directors:**

Poon Dickson Pearson Guanda (Chief Operating Officer) Chan Hon Chung, Johnny Pollux Lau Yu Hee, Gary

# **Independent Non-Executive Directors:**

Bhanusak Asvaintra Nicholas Peter Etches Fung Yue Ming, Eugene Michael Lam Sze Wan Patricia

# Company Secretary:

Or Suk Ying, Stella

# Audit Committee:

Nicholas Peter Etches (**Chairman**) Bhanusak Asvaintra Fung Yue Ming, Eugene Michael

#### Nomination Committee:

Dickson Poon (Chairman) Bhanusak Asvaintra Nicholas Peter Etches Lam Sze Wan Patricia

# Remuneration Committee:

Bhanusak Asvaintra (Chairman) Chan Hon Chung, Johnny Pollux Nicholas Peter Etches

# Investment Committee:

Dickson Poon (**Chairman**) Poon Dickson Pearson Guanda Chan Hon Chung, Johnny Pollux

# Independent Auditor:

KPMG

Certified Public Accountants
Public Interest Entity Auditor
registered in accordance with the
Financial Reporting Council Ordinance

# Head Office and Principal Place of Business:

4th Floor, East Ocean Centre, 98 Granville Road, Tsimshatsui East, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

# Registered Office:

Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda

# Principal Bankers:

**BNP Paribas** 

Crédit Agricole Corporate and Investment Bank Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

# Branch Share Registrar in Hong Kong:

Tricor Tengis Limited 17/F, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong.

# Share Registrar in Bermuda:

Conyers Corporate Services (Bermuda) Limited Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda.

# Place of Share Listing:

The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

#### Stock Code:

The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited: 0113

#### Website:

http://www.dickson.com.hk

## CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

## FINANCIAL RESULTS AND INTERIM DIVIDEND

For the six months ended 30th September, 2024, the Group's turnover was HK\$961.8 million, a decrease of 24.4 per cent. compared to HK\$1,272.4 million in the same period last year.

Net profit attributable to equity shareholders was HK\$131.6 million, a decrease of 40.1 per cent. compared to HK\$219.7 million in the same period last year.

In view of these results, the Board has resolved to declare an interim dividend of HK10 cents (2023 : HK10 cents) per ordinary share.

As a result of our very strong financial position, the Board has approved a share buy-back of up to HK\$100 million to be conducted over the next one year per the general mandate granted by the Shareholders of the Company. This share buy-back enhances shareholder returns while retaining the financial strength that allows the Group to continue to seek new investment opportunities to diversify and broaden its earnings base.

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

During the period under review, consumer sentiment in Hong Kong continued to be extremely weak, with consumers of all income levels increasingly travelling to Chinese cities like Shenzhen which offer significantly better value, service and variety for both entertainment and shopping, alongside local and Mainland Chinese consumers fervently visiting and spending in Japan given the weakness of the Japanese Yen. As a result, the Group recorded a decrease in sales turnover of about 25 per cent. for the six months ended 30th September, 2024.

In Taiwan, despite weak consumer sentiment there, the Group managed to achieve a 3.4 per cent. growth in sales turnover in local currency terms. The Group will continue to exercise aggressive control of operating cost and inventory.

In China, while the overall luxury market was very weak, sales of the Group's retail and e-commerce business grew by 2.3 per cent. in local currency terms, with the Group continuing its strategy of consolidating its wholesale network while growing its retail network.

The investment market remained volatile. The Group continued to manage its investment portfolio cautiously and achieved a profit of HK\$27.3 million.

#### **FUTURE PROSPECTS**

The Group expects the Hong Kong retail market to remain weak for the foreseeable future. This is due to the slow recovery of the property market, a volatile stock market, and weak local consumer sentiment with continued preference of all income levels to travel and spend abroad, either in Shenzhen where better value, service, and variety for entertainment and shopping are offered, or in Japan or Europe where retail prices for luxury goods are significantly cheaper due to weak currencies and tax rebates. Meanwhile, although there is an increase in the number of Mainland Chinese tourists visiting Hong Kong, the duration of their visits are typically short while they are no longer focused on shopping at they used to be. As a result, we consider any material improvement in consumer spending in Hong Kong in the foreseeable future to be unrealistic.

The Taiwan market will remain challenging as local consumers there have also been travelling to Japan and South Korea where retail prices of luxury goods are significantly cheaper due to its weak currency and tax rebates to tourists.

In China, although the consumer sentiment is soft, the Group remains optimistic on the longer-term outlook of China and will seek to continue expanding its presence in the region.

On the investment side, the Group will continue to cautiously manage its investment portfolio.

The Group will continue to employ the most conservative approach to manage its retail network and will continue to control costs rigorously at all levels of operation.

With net cash of HK\$2,873.2 million and its strong balance sheet, the Group is in a strong position to cope with the risk of a difficult retail climate, potential economic downturn, and to undertake new investment opportunities to diversify and broaden its earnings base.

**Dickson Poon**Group Executive Chairman

Hong Kong, 28th November, 2024



# REVIEW REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF DICKSON CONCEPTS (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED (incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

#### INTRODUCTION

We have reviewed the interim financial report set out on pages 7 to 25 which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position of Dickson Concepts (International) Limited as of 30th September, 2024 and the related consolidated statement of profit or loss, consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and consolidated statement of changes in equity and condensed consolidated cash flow statement for the six month period then ended and explanatory notes. The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited require the preparation of an interim financial report to be in compliance with the relevant provisions thereof and Hong Kong Accounting Standard 34 ("HKAS 34") "Interim financial reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"). The directors are responsible for the preparation and presentation of the interim financial report in accordance with HKAS 34.

Our responsibility is to form a conclusion, based on our review, on the interim financial report and to report our conclusion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with our agreed terms of engagement, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

#### SCOPE OF REVIEW

We conducted our review in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, "Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity" issued by the HKICPA. A review of the interim financial report consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly we do not express an audit opinion.

#### CONCLUSION

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the interim financial report as at 30th September, 2024 is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with HKAS 34 "Interim financial reporting".

#### **KPMG**

Certified Public Accountants
8th Floor, Prince's Building
10 Chater Road
Central, Hong Kong

The board of Directors (the "Board") of Dickson Concepts (International) Limited (the "Company") announces that the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiary companies (together the "Group") for the six months ended 30th September, 2024 together with the comparative figures are as follows:-

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS

For the period ended 30th September, 2024

|  | Six months ended 30th September 2024 202 |                                   |                                   |
|--|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  | NOTE                                     | (unaudited)<br>HK\$'000           | 2023<br>(unaudited)<br>HK\$'000   |
| Revenue<br>Cost of sales   | 2  | 961,807<br>(535,710)              | 1,272,372<br>(706,132)            |
| Gross profit   |  | 426,097                           | 566,240                           |
| Other income   | 3  | 20,538                            | 35,110                            |
| Selling and distribution expenses<br>Administrative expenses<br>Other operating expenses |  | (212,332)<br>(59,333)<br>(14,448) | (261,323)<br>(67,905)<br>(15,612) |
| Operating profit   |  | 160,522                           | 256,510                           |
| Finance costs  |  | (22,778)                          | (34,803)                          |
| Profit before taxation Tax expense   | 4<br>5                                   | 137,744<br>(6,154)                | 221,707<br>(1,983)                |
| Profit for the period attributable to equity shareholders of the Company                 |  | 131,590                           | 219,724                           |
| Earnings per share (basic and diluted)   | 6  | 33.4 cents                        | 55.7 cents                        |

The notes on pages 13 to 25 form part of this interim financial report. Details of dividends payable to equity shareholders of the Company are set out in Note 7.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the period ended 30th September, 2024

| ;   | Six months ended 30t | th September, |
|---|----------------------|---------------|
|   | 2024                 | 2023          |
|   | (unaudited)          | (unaudited)   |
|   | HK\$'000             | HK\$'000      |
| Profit for the period   | 131,590              | 219,724       |
| Other comprehensive income for the period :   |                      |               |
| Item that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss:   |                      |               |
| Exchange differences on translation of financial statement of subsidiary companies outside Hong Kong (Note) | 3,325                | (23,698)      |
| Total comprehensive income for the period attributable  | 124.015              | 106.026       |
| to equity shareholders of the Company   | 134,915              | 196,026       |

Note :-

There is no tax effect relating to the above component of the comprehensive income.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

At 30th September, 2024

|                                       | NOTE | 30/9/2024<br>(unaudited)<br>HK\$'000 | 31/3/2024<br>(audited)<br>HK\$'000 |
|---------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Non-current assets                    |      |                                      |                                    |
| Property, plant and equipment         |      | 63,849                               | 63,083                             |
| Right-of-use assets                   | 0    | 184,851                              | 212,017                            |
| Deposits and prepayments              | 9    | 57,743                               | 60,969                             |
| Other financial assets                | 8    | 337,124                              | 476,751                            |
|                                       |      | 643,567                              | 812,820                            |
| Current assets                        |      |                                      |                                    |
| Inventories                           |      | 187,495                              | 199,716                            |
| Debtors, deposits and prepayments     | 9    | 176,770                              | 208,073                            |
| Tax recoverable                       |      | 13,608                               | 13,583                             |
| Other financial assets                | 8    | 499,377                              | 654,628                            |
| Cash and bank balances                |      | 3,448,661                            | 3,469,605                          |
|                                       |      | 4,325,911                            | 4,545,605                          |
| Current liabilities                   |      |                                      |                                    |
| Bank loans                            | 10   | 575,442                              | 799,093                            |
| Creditors, accruals and provisions    | 11   | 287,334                              | 369,121                            |
| Lease liabilities                     |      | 154,786                              | 163,647                            |
| Taxation                              |      | 48,966                               | 49,271                             |
|                                       |      | 1,066,528                            | 1,381,132                          |
| Net current assets                    |      | 3,259,383                            | 3,164,473                          |
| Total assets less current liabilities |      | 3,902,950                            | 3,977,293                          |
| Non-current liabilities               |      |                                      |                                    |
| Creditors and provisions              | 11   | 35,139                               | 37,156                             |
| Lease liabilities                     |      | 278,619                              | 347,993                            |
| Deferred tax liabilities              |      | 20,512                               | 20,408                             |
| Total non-current liabilities         |      | 334,270                              | 405,557                            |
| Net assets                            |      | 3,568,680                            | 3,571,736                          |
|                                       |      |                                      |                                    |
| Capital and reserves Share capital    | 12   | 118,261                              | 118,261                            |
| Reserves                              | 12   | 3,450,419                            | 3,453,475                          |
| reserves                              |      | 3,730,719                            |                                    |
| Total equity attributable to equity   |      | 2 = (2 / 2 2                         | 2.554.56.5                         |
| shareholders of the Company           |      | 3,568,680                            | 3,571,736                          |

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the period ended 30th September, 2024

|  | Attributable to equity shareholders of the Company |   |  |  |                                  |
|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
|  | Share<br>capital<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited)        | Share<br>premium<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) | Exchange<br>reserve<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) | Retained<br>profits<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) | Total<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) |
| Balance at 1st April, 2024   | 118,261  | 502,561                                     | 79,287   | 2,871,627                                      | 3,571,736                        |
| Dividends approved and paid<br>in respect of prior year<br>(Note 7(b)) |  |   |  |  |                                  |
| — by means of cash   | _  | _   | _  | (137,971)                                      | (137,971)                        |
| Profit for the period  | _  | _   | _  | 131,590  | 131,590                          |
| Other comprehensive income for the period                              |  |   | 3,325  |  | 3,325                            |
| Ralance at 30th Sentember 2024   | 118 261  | 502 561                                     | 82 612   | 2 865 246                                      | 3 568 680                        |

The comparative figures for 2023 are set out as follows:-

|  | Attributable to equity shareholders of the Company |   |  |  |                                  |
|--|--|---|--|--|----------------------------------|
|  | Share<br>capital<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited)        | Share<br>premium<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) | Exchange<br>reserve<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) | Retained<br>profits<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) | Total<br>HK\$'000<br>(unaudited) |
| Balance at 1st April, 2023   | 118,261  | 502,561                                     | 101,537  | 2,666,735                                      | 3,389,094                        |
| Dividends approved and paid<br>in respect of prior year<br>(Note 7(b)) |  |   |  |  |                                  |
| — by means of cash   | _  | _   | _  | (106,435)                                      | (106,435)                        |
| Profit for the period  | _  | _   | _  | 219,724  | 219,724                          |
| Other comprehensive income for the period                              |  |   | (23,698)                                       |  | (23,698)                         |
| Balance at 30th September, 2023  | 118,261  | 502,561                                     | <u>77,839</u>                                  | 2,780,024                                      | 3,478,685                        |

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

For the period ended 30th September, 2024

| •  | Six months ended 30th   | September,              |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
|  | (unaudited)<br>HK\$'000 | (unaudited)<br>HK\$'000 |
| Cash generated from operations before changes in workin capital (Note a) | ng<br>172,847           | 279,262                 |
| Decrease / (increase) in inventories                                     | 12,996                  | (26,649)                |
| Decrease / (increase) in debtors, deposits and prepayments               | 34,501                  | (47,284)                |
| Increase in other financial assets held for trading                      | _                       | (63,227)                |
| (Decrease) / increase in creditors, accruals and provisions              | (83,804)                | 20,494                  |
| Other changes in working capital   | 670                     | (2,406)                 |
| Cash generated from operations   | 137,210                 | 160,190                 |
| Tax paid (net)   | (6,518)                 | (16,130)                |
| Net cash generated from operating activities                             | 130,692                 | 144,060                 |
| Payment for purchase of property, plant and equipment                    | (15,719)                | (7,070)                 |
| Payment for purchase of other financial assets                           | (93,353)                | (47,100)                |
| Net proceeds from sales / redemption of other financial assets           | s <b>384,020</b>        | 150,610                 |
| Decrease in bank deposits with original maturity over three months       | _                       | 109,900                 |
| Other cash flows arising from investing activities                       | 45,721                  | 46,350                  |
| Net cash generated from investing activities                             | 320,669                 | 252,690                 |
| Net repayment of bank loans  | (223,651)               | (49,130)                |
| Capital element of lease rentals paid                                    | (89,452)                | (126,149)               |
| Interest element of lease rentals paid                                   | (7,041)                 | (8,531)                 |
| Dividends paid   | (137,971)               | (106,435)               |
| Other cash flows arising from financing activities                       | (15,871)                | (24,657)                |
| Net cash used in financing activities                                    | (473,986)               | (314,902)               |
| Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents                   | (22,625)                | 81,848                  |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1st April                                   | 3,469,605               | 3,157,983               |
| Effect of foreign exchange rate changes                                  | 1,681                   | (14,177)                |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 30th September (Note b)                     | 3,448,661               | 3,225,654               |

# Notes :-

- a. Cash generated from operations before changes in working capital is arrived at after adjusting for depreciation (Note 4), net realised and unrealised loss on unlisted equity and non-equity securities (Note 3), interest income (Note 3) and other non-cash items.
- b. Cash and cash equivalents represent cash and bank balances at the end of the period.

## NOTES ON THE UNAUDITED INTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT

# 1. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

# (a) Basis of preparation

This interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with the applicable disclosure provisions of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"), including compliance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard ("HKAS") 34, *Interim financial reporting*, issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"). It was authorised for issue on 28th November, 2024.

This interim financial report has been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies adopted in the 2024 annual financial statements, except for the accounting policy changes that are expected to be reflected in the 2025 annual financial statements. Details of any changes in accounting policies are set out in Note 1(b).

The preparation of an interim financial report in conformity with HKAS 34 requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses on a year to date basis. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

This interim financial report contains condensed consolidated financial statements and selected explanatory notes. The notes include an explanation of events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance of the Group since the 2024 annual financial statements. The condensed consolidated interim financial statements and notes thereon do not include all of the information required for a full set of financial statements prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs").

This interim financial report is unaudited, but has been reviewed by KPMG in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410, *Review of interim financial information performed by the independent auditor of the entity*, issued by the HKICPA. KPMG's independent review report to the Board is included on page 6. In addition, this interim financial report has been reviewed by the Company's Audit Committee.

The financial information relating to the financial year ended 31st March, 2024 that is included in the interim financial report as comparative information does not constitute the Company's statutory annual consolidated financial statements for that financial year but is derived from those financial statements. The Company's auditor has reported on those financial statements. The auditor's report was unqualified and did not include a reference to any matters to which the auditor drew attention by way of emphasis without qualifying its report.

# (b) Changes in accounting policies

The HKICPA has issued several amendments to HKFRSs that are first effective for the current accounting period of the Group. None of these developments have had a material effect on how the Group's results and financial position for the current or prior periods have been prepared or presented in this financial report.

The Group has not applied any new standard or interpretation that is not yet effective for the current accounting period.

# 2. REVENUE AND SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

# (a) Revenue

The principal activities of the Group are the Sale of Luxury Goods and Securities Investment

Revenue represents the invoiced value of goods sold less discounts and returns, net income from concession and consignment sales, fair value change on securities held for trading, dividend income, and interest income from debt securities and short-term bank deposits under Securities Investment segment.

The amount of each significant category of revenue is as follows:-

|  | Six months ended 30th September, |                  |
|--|----------------------------------|------------------|
|  | 2024<br>HK\$'000                 | 2023<br>HK\$'000 |
| Revenue from Sale of Luxury Goods<br>and net income from concession<br>and consignment sales |                                  |                  |
| Watches and jewellery  | 462,185                          | 465,430          |
| Cosmetics and beauty products  | 196,691                          | 467,953          |
| Fashion and accessories  | 243,980                          | 285,295          |
|  | 902,856                          | 1,218,678        |
| Revenue from Securities Investment<br>Dividend income  | _                                | 143              |
| Fair value change on securities held for trading   | (1,479)                          | (1,729)          |
| Interest income from debt securities and short-term bank deposits under                      |                                  |                  |
| Securities Investment segment  | 60,430                           | 55,280           |
|  | 58,951                           | 53,694           |
|  | 961,807                          | 1,272,372        |

Information about major customers

The Group sells goods to numerous individual customers without concentration of reliance. There is no discloseable information of major customers under HKFRS 8, *Operating segments*.

# (b) Segment reporting

The Group manages its businesses by divisions. In a manner consistent with the way in which information is reported internally to the Group's most senior executive management for the purpose of resource allocation and performance assessment, the Group has presented the following two reportable segments:-

Sale of Luxury Goods business: The sale of luxury goods to retail and wholesale

customers and net income from concession and

consignment sales.

Securities Investment business: The investment in listed and unlisted securities.

# (i) Segment results

Information regarding the Group's reportable segments for the six months ended 30th September, 2024 and 30th September, 2023 respectively is set out below.

|                             | Sale of<br>Luxury Goods |  | Securities<br>Investment Total |          |          |           |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|
|                             |                         | Six months ended Six months ended Six months e 30th September, 30th September, 30th September, |                                |          |          |           |
|                             | <b>2024</b> 2023        |  | 2024                           | 2023     | 2024     | 2023      |
|                             | HK\$'000                | HK\$'000   | HK\$'000                       | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000 | HK\$'000  |
| Revenue<br>from<br>external |                         |  |                                |          |          |           |
| customers                   | 902,856                 | 1,218,678  | 58,951                         | 53,694   | 961,807  | 1,272,372 |
| Reportable segment          |                         |  |                                |          |          |           |
| revenue                     | 902,856                 | 1,218,678  | <u>58,951</u>                  | 53,694   | 961,807  | 1,272,372 |
| Reportable segment          |                         |  |                                |          |          |           |
| profit                      | 104,272                 | 199,278  | 27,318                         | 20,446   | 131,590  | 219,724   |

Revenue and expenses are allocated to the reportable segments with reference to the sales generated and expenses incurred by those segments. The measure used for reporting segment profit is profit after taxation.

# (ii) Reconciliations of reportable segment revenue and profit or loss

#### Revenue and profit

No reconciliation of revenue and profit after taxation is required as the total reportable segments' figures are equal to the Group's consolidated figures.

# (iii) Geographical information

The following table sets out information about the geographical location of (i) the Group's revenue from external customers; and (ii) the Group's property, plant and equipment and right-of-use assets. The geographical location of customers is based on the location at which the goods are delivered. The geographical location of the specified non-current assets is based on the physical location of the assets

|  | Revenues from external customers |                       |                       | cified<br>ent assets  |
|--|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|  |                                  | ths ended<br>otember, |                       |                       |
|  | 2024<br>HK\$'000                 | 2023<br>HK\$'000      | 30/9/2024<br>HK\$'000 | 31/3/2024<br>HK\$'000 |
| Hong Kong<br>(place of domicile)   | 574,286                          | 890,985               | 177,531               | 213,361               |
| Taiwan<br>Other territories  | 270,168<br>58,402                | 270,706<br>56,987     | 59,067<br>12,102      | 54,306<br>7,433       |
|  | 328,570                          | 327,693               | 71,169                | 61,739                |
| Revenue from sales of luxury<br>goods and net income from<br>concession and consignment<br>sales | 902,856                          | 1,218,678             | _                     | _                     |
| Revenue from securities investment   | 58,951                           | 53,694                |                       |                       |
| Total  | 961,807                          | 1,272,372             | 248,700               | 275,100               |

# 3. OTHER INCOME

|  | Six months ended 30th September, |          |  |
|--|----------------------------------|----------|--|
|  | 2024                             | 2023     |  |
|  | HK\$'000                         | HK\$'000 |  |
| Net realised and unrealised loss on unlisted       |                                  |          |  |
| equity and non-equity securities                   | (240)                            | (2,063)  |  |
| Loss on disposal of property, plant and equipment  | (11)                             |          |  |
| Impairment loss on listed debt securities measured |                                  |          |  |
| at amortised cost written back / (recognised)      | 1,543                            | (477)    |  |
| Interest income                                    | 45,721                           | 46,350   |  |
| Net foreign exchange loss                          | (26,475)                         | (8,700)  |  |
|  | 20,538                           | 35,110   |  |

# PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

|  | Six months ended 30t<br>2024<br>HK\$'000 | h September,<br>2023<br>HK\$'000 |
|--|--|----------------------------------|
| Profit before taxation is arrived at after charging :- |  |                                  |
| Depreciation   |  |                                  |
| <ul> <li>property, plant and equipment</li> </ul>      | 15,232                                   | 13,871                           |
| <ul><li>right-of-use assets</li></ul>                  | 38,579                                   | 49,776                           |
| Interest on bank loans                                 | 15,871                                   | 24,657                           |
| Interest on lease liabilities                          | <u>6,907</u>                             | 10,146                           |
| TAXATION   |  |                                  |

# 5.

|   | Six months ended 30th September, |          |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|
|   | 2024                             | 2023     |
|   | HK\$'000                         | HK\$'000 |
| Current tax — Hong Kong Profits Tax       |                                  |          |
| Provision for the period                  | _                                | 98       |
| Under-provision in respect of prior years | <del></del>                      | 107      |
|   | <del>-</del>                     | 205      |
| Current tax — Outside Hong Kong           |                                  |          |
| Provision for the period                  | 5,782                            | 1,718    |
| Under-provision in respect of prior years | 372                              | 60       |
|   | 6,154                            | 1,778    |
| Total income tax expense                  | 6,154                            | 1,983    |

Taxation in the consolidated statement of profit or loss includes provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax at 16.5 per cent. (2023: 16.5 per cent.) on the estimated assessable profits for the period after deducting tax losses brought forward from previous years.

Taxation for subsidiary companies outside Hong Kong is charged at the appropriate current rates of taxation ruling in the relevant jurisdictions outside Hong Kong.

# 6. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity shareholders of the Company of HK\$131,590,000 (2023: HK\$219,724,000) and the weighted average number of 394,202,808 ordinary shares (2023: 394,202,808 ordinary shares) in issue during the period.

# 7. DIVIDENDS

|     |  | Six months ended 30th September<br>2024 2023 |                  |
|-----|--|--|------------------|
|     |  | HK\$'000                                     | 2023<br>HK\$'000 |
| (a) | Interim dividend declared after the interim period end: HK10 cents (2023: HK10 cents)  |  |                  |
|     | per ordinary share   | <u>39,420</u>                                | 39,420           |
| (b) | Final dividend in respect of the previous financial year, approved and paid during the interim period, of HK35 cents (for the year ended 31st Marc | ch,  |                  |
|     | 2023 : HK27 cents) per ordinary share  | 137,971                                      | 106,435          |

# 8. OTHER FINANCIAL ASSETS

|  | 30/9/2024<br>HK\$'000 | 31/3/2024<br>HK\$'000 |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Non-current assets   |                       |                       |
| Unlisted equity securities designated at fair value  | 460                   |                       |
| through profit or loss   | 57,460                | 57,926                |
| Listed debt securities measured at amortised cost net of loss allowance  | 279,664               | 418,825               |
|  | 337,124               | 476,751               |
| Current assets   |                       |                       |
| Unlisted non-equity securities designated at fair value through profit or loss Listed debt securities measured at amortised cost | _                     | 13,200                |
| net of loss allowance  | 499,377               | 641,428               |
|  | 499,377               | 654,628               |
|  | 836,501               | 1,131,379             |

# 9. DEBTORS, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS

Included in debtors, deposits and prepayments are trade debtors (net of loss allowance) with the following ageing analysis based on due date as at the end of the reporting period:-

|                      | 30/9/2024<br>HK\$'000 | 31/3/2024<br>HK\$'000 |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Current              | 64,129                | 92,090                |
| 1 to 30 days overdue | 684                   | 108                   |
|                      | 64,813                | 92,198                |

Trade debtors are due within 30 to 90 days from the date of billing.

All debtors, deposits and prepayments of the Group, apart from certain deposits and prepayments totalling HK\$57,743,000 (as at 31st March, 2024: HK\$60,969,000), are expected to be recovered or recognised as an expense within one year.

# 10. BANK LOANS

At the end of the reporting period, the bank loans were repayable within one year and secured as follows:-

|         | 30/9/2024<br>HK\$'000 | 31/3/2024<br>HK\$'000 |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Secured | 575,442               | 799,093               |

At 30th September, 2024, the banking facilities of subsidiary companies were secured by charges over certain debt securities with total carrying value of HK\$779,041,000 (as at 31st March, 2024: HK\$1,060,253,000).

The effective borrowing interest rate at 30th September, 2024 for the Group was 4.74 per cent. (as at 31st March, 2024 : 5.63 per cent.) per annum.

# 11. CREDITORS, ACCRUALS AND PROVISIONS

|   | 30/9/2024 | 31/3/2024 |
|---|-----------|-----------|
|   | HK\$'000  | HK\$'000  |
| Trade creditors                                       | 127,652   | 150,790   |
| Contract liabilities                                  | 12,505    | 31,413    |
| Other creditors, accruals and provisions              | 182,316   | 224,074   |
|   | 322,473   | 406,277   |
| Less: non-current portion of creditors and provisions | (35,139)  | (37,156)  |
|   | 287,334   | 369,121   |
|   |           |           |

Included in creditors, accruals and provisions are trade creditors with the following ageing analysis based on due date as at the end of the reporting period:-

|         | 30/9/2024<br>HK\$'000 | 31/3/2024<br>HK\$'000 |
|---------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Current | <u>127,652</u>        | 150,790               |

# 12. SHARE CAPITAL

|   | 30/9/2024                        |                              | 31/3/2024                        |                              |
|---|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
|   | Number<br>of shares<br>Thousands | Nominal<br>value<br>HK\$'000 | Number<br>of shares<br>Thousands | Nominal<br>value<br>HK\$'000 |
| Authorised :-<br>Ordinary shares of HK\$0.30 each   | 518,000                          | 155,400                      | 518,000                          | 155,400                      |
| Issued and fully paid :-<br>Ordinary shares of HK\$0.30 each<br>Balance brought forward and |                                  |                              |                                  |                              |
| carried forward   | 394,203                          | 118,261                      | 394,203                          | 118,261                      |

#### 13. MATERIAL RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following material transactions with related parties were in the opinion of the directors carried out in the ordinary and usual course of business and on normal commercial terms:

Transactions with companies in which a director of the Company has beneficial interests:-

|   | Six months ended 30th September, |          |
|---|----------------------------------|----------|
|   | 2024                             | 2023     |
|   | HK\$'000                         | HK\$'000 |
| Sales of goods                              | 39                               | 194      |
| Purchases of goods                          | 20,933                           | 26,550   |
| Income from the provision of management and |                                  |          |
| supporting service                          | 5,352                            | 4,801    |
| Rental income                               | 4,106                            | 3,000    |
| Advertising and promotion service expenses  | 2,686                            | 3,020    |
| Commission expenses                         | 3,370                            | 2,241    |
| Net proceeds from e-Commerce                | _                                | 2,139    |
|   |                                  |          |

The amounts due from these companies at 30th September, 2024 amounted to HK\$1,200,000 (at 31st March, 2024: HK\$775,000) and the amounts due to these companies at 30th September, 2024 amounted to HK\$9,105,000 (at 31st March, 2024: HK\$9,341,000), which are interest free, unsecured and have repayment terms ranging from 20 days to 90 days. The amounts due from these companies are included in debtors, deposits and prepayments (Note 9) and the amounts due to these companies are included in creditors, accruals and provisions (Note 11).

# 14. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

Capital commitments outstanding at 30th September, 2024 not provided for in the consolidated financial statements were as follows:-

**30/9/2024** 31/3/2024 **HK\$'000** HK\$'000

Contracted for **7,599** 7,698

# 15. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

At 30th September, 2024, the Company had the following contingent liabilities in respect of:-

Guarantees of HK\$728,306,000 (at 31st March, 2024 : HK\$727,730,000) given to banks to secure facilities granted to certain subsidiary companies. The facilities were utilised to the extent of HK\$71,942,000 (at 31st March, 2024 : HK\$72,210,000) at the end of the reporting period.

As at the end of the reporting period, the directors do not consider it probable that a claim will be made against the Company under any of the guarantees. No provision was therefore made in this respect at 30th September, 2024 and 31st March, 2024.

# 16. FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENT

- (a) Other financial assets carried at fair value
  - (i) Fair value hierarchy

The following table presents the fair value of the Group's financial instruments measured at the end of the reporting period on a recurring basis, categorised into the three-level fair value hierarchy as defined in HKFRS 13, *Fair value measurement*. The level into which a fair value measurement is classified is determined with reference to the observability and significance of the inputs used in the valuation technique as follows:-

- Level 1 valuations: Fair value measured using only Level 1 inputs i.e. unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities at the measurement date
- Level 2 valuations: Fair value measured using Level 2 inputs i.e. observable inputs which fail to meet Level 1, and not using significant unobservable inputs. Unobservable inputs are inputs for which market data are not available
- Level 3 valuations: Fair value measured using significant unobservable inputs

Level 3

|   | HK\$'000      | HK\$'000 |
|---|---------------|----------|
| At 30th September, 2024   |               |          |
| Recurring fair value measurements   |               |          |
| Other financial assets Unlisted equity securities designated at fair value through profit or loss | 57,460        | 57,460   |
| At 31st March, 2024   |               |          |
| Recurring fair value measurements   |               |          |
| Other financial assets  |               |          |
| Unlisted equity and non-equity securities designated at fair value                                |               |          |
| through profit or loss  | <u>71,126</u> | 71,126   |

During the six months ended 30th September, 2024, there were no transfers among different levels of fair value hierarchy.

# (ii) Information about Level 3 fair value measurements

The Group's Level 3 financial instruments represent unlisted equity and non-equity securities which their fair values are based on unobservable inputs. The directors of the Group perform the valuation on Level 3 financial instruments for financial reporting purposes. Their fair values have been determined using adjusted recent financing approach, with reference to the pricing of the recent transactions, or valuation supplied by fund managers. These valuations are measured by the percentage of ownership of the net asset value, which is an unobservable input. The fund managers apply appropriate valuation techniques such as latest transaction price, discounted cash flow, or comparison with publicly-traded comparable companies and after applying a liquidity discount.

The movement during the period in the balance of these Level 3 fair value measurements is as follows:-

| Unlisted equity and non-equity securities :-                    | 2024<br>HK\$'000 | 2023<br>HK\$'000 |
|---|------------------|------------------|
| At 1st April  | 71,126           | 365,984          |
| Payment for purchases   | · <u> </u>       | 47,100           |
| Net realised and unrealised losses recognised in profit or loss | (465)            | (2,094)          |
| Disposals   | (13,201)         | (150,578)        |
| At 30th September   | 57,460           | 260,412          |

(b) Fair value of other financial assets carried at other than fair value

For other financial instruments carried at amortised cost as at 30th September, 2024 and 31st March, 2024, their carrying amounts and fair value and level of fair value hierarchy are disclosed below:

|   | Carrying amount<br>as at<br>30th September,<br>2024<br>HK\$'000 | Fair value<br>as at<br>30th September,<br>2024<br>HK\$'000 | Fair value<br>measurements<br>as at<br>30th September,<br>2024<br>categorised into<br>Level 1<br>HK\$'000 |
|---|---|--|---|
| Listed debt securities<br>measured at<br>amortised cost | 779,041   | 733,480  | 733,480   |
|   | Carrying amount<br>as at<br>31st March,<br>2024<br>HK\$'000     | Fair value<br>as at<br>31st March,<br>2024<br>HK\$'000     | Fair value<br>measurements<br>as at<br>31st March,<br>2024<br>categorised into<br>Level 1<br>HK\$'000     |
| Listed debt securities<br>measured at<br>amortised cost | 1,060,253   | 1,008,113  | 1,008,113   |

# 17. EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Save as disclosed in the Company's announcements dated 15th October, 2024 and 6th November, 2024 regarding the proceedings commenced by the Securities and Futures Commission against, inter alia, the Company and two of the Directors of the Company, there are no other material subsequent events which have occurred since the end of the reporting period and up to the date of this interim financial report. In the meantime, these proceedings will not affect the business or operations of the Company.

# DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS**

As at 30th September, 2024, the interests and short positions of the directors in the shares, 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")) as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Directors' Model Code") as set out in Appendix C3 of the Listing Rules were as follows:-

# **Dickson Concepts (International) Limited**

|                                |   | Ordinary shares of HK\$0.30 each |                     |                        |                            |             |                            |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Name of Director               | Capacity  | Personal<br>Interests            | Family<br>Interests | Corporate<br>Interests | Other<br>Interests         | Total       | Percentage <sup>(ii)</sup> |
| Dickson Poon                   | Beneficial owner and trust founder                              | 17,361                           | _                   | _                      | 233,464,065 <sup>(i)</sup> | 233,481,426 | 59.23                      |
| Poon Dickson<br>Pearson Guanda | Beneficial owner<br>and beneficiary of<br>a discretionary trust | 83,000                           | _                   | _                      | 233,464,065 <sup>(i)</sup> | 233,547,065 | 59.25                      |

#### Notes :-

- (i) These shares are held through two trusts.
- (ii) Percentage which the aggregate long position in shares represents to the issued share capital of the Company.

In addition, Sir Dickson Poon and Mr. Poon Dickson Pearson Guanda are deemed to be interested in the share capital of all the subsidiary and associated companies of the Company by virtue of their interests in the Company.

Save as referred to above, as at 30th September, 2024, none of the directors had any interest or short position in the shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company or any associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) which are recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 352 of the SFO or which are notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Directors' Model Code.

#### SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS' AND OTHER PERSONS' INTERESTS

As at 30th September, 2024, the interests and short positions of the persons (other than the directors) in the shares and underlying shares of the Company as recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 336 of the SFO were as follows:-

# **Dickson Concepts (International) Limited**

| Name of shareholder                                     | Ordinary shares of HK\$0.30 each | Percentage <sup>(iii)</sup> | Capacity           |
|---|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Yu Kwai Chu, Pearl                                      | 233,481,426 <sup>(i)</sup>       | 59.23                       | Interest of spouse |
| Dickson Investment Holding (PTC) Corporation ("DIHPTC") | 233,464,065 <sup>(ii)</sup>      | 59.22                       | Trustee            |
| Paicolex Trust Company (BVI) Limited ("Paicolex BVI")   | 233,464,065 <sup>(ii)</sup>      | 59.22                       | Trustee            |
| Paicolex Trust Management AG ("Paicolex AG")            | 233,464,065 <sup>(ii)</sup>      | 59.22                       | Trustee            |

Notes :-

- These shares refer to the family interest attributable to Sir Dickson Poon, the spouse of Ms. Yu Kwai Chu, Pearl.
- (ii) These shares refer to the same block of shares. DIHPTC, Paicolex BVI and Paicolex AG are trustees of two trusts. These shares are also included in the 233,464,065 shares which were disclosed as "Other Interests" of Sir Dickson Poon and Mr. Poon Dickson Pearson Guanda in the "Directors' Interests" section of this report. Sir Dickson Poon is a director of DIHPTC.
- (iii) Percentage which the aggregate long position in shares represents to the issued share capital of the Company.

Save as disclosed above and in the "Directors' Interests" section of this report, the Company has not been notified by any person who had an interest or short position in the shares or underlying shares of the Company as at 30th September, 2024 which is required to be notified to the Company pursuant to Part XV of the SFO or which is recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company under Section 336 of the SFO.

## OTHER INFORMATION

#### EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION POLICIE

As at 30th September, 2024, the Group had 618 (2023: 754) employees. Total staff costs (including directors' emoluments) amounted to HK\$114.9 million (2023: HK\$129.7 million). Remuneration policies are reviewed regularly by the Board and by the Remuneration Committee in respect of directors and senior management. Remuneration packages are structured to take into account the level and composition of pay and the general market conditions in the respective countries and businesses in which the Group operates.

### LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Group's net liquid financial resources as at 30th September, 2024 stood at HK\$2,873.2 million (as at 31st March, 2024: HK\$2,670.5 million), represented by cash and bank balances of HK\$3,448.6 million (as at 31st March, 2024: HK\$3,469.6 million) less short-term bank borrowings of HK\$575.4 million (as at 31st March, 2024: HK\$799.1 million).

The Group also maintains substantial uncommitted short-term loan facilities with selected international banks for day-to-day requirements and funding flexibility. Utilisation of these facilities over and above prevailing levels during the second half of the current financial year is not anticipated given the Group's net cash position.

## FOREIGN CURRENCY EXPOSURE AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Merchandise purchased by the Group is mainly denominated in United States Dollars, Euros, Pounds Sterling and Swiss Francs. Where appropriate, forward foreign exchange contracts are utilised to purchase the relevant currency to settle amounts due and it is the Group's policy that such foreign exchange contracts or foreign currency purchases are strictly limited to approved purchase budget amounts or actual purchase commitments.

Exposure to fluctuations in the exchange rate of regional currencies in respect of the Group's overseas operations is minimised by utilising local currency borrowings, where necessary, to fund working capital and capital expenditure requirements with repayment from funds generated from local sales

Financial risk management for the Group is the responsibility of the treasury department based in Hong Kong which implements the policies and guidelines issued by the Board. Surplus cash is held mainly in United States Dollars, New Taiwan Dollars, Hong Kong Dollars and Renminbi with the majority placed on short-term deposits with established international banks.

As at 30th September, 2024, the Group's current ratio, being current assets divided by current liabilities, was 4.1 times (as at 31st March, 2024: 3.3 times). The Group has maintained a net surplus cash position throughout the period under review and its gearing ratio, being total bank borrowings net of cash balances as a percentage of consolidated capital and reserves is Nil (as at 31st March, 2024: Nil).

#### INTERIM DIVIDEND

In view of the results, the Board has resolved to declare an interim dividend of HK10 cents (2023: HK10 cents) per ordinary share, the same as last year. The interim dividend represents a dividend payout ratio of 29.96 per cent. (2023: 17.94 per cent.) and will absorb a total of about HK\$39.42 million (2023: HK\$39.42 million). Shareholders whose names appear in the Register of Members of the Company on Tuesday, 7th January, 2025 will be entitled to the interim dividend which will be paid on Tuesday, 21st January, 2025.

#### CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

For the purpose of ascertaining shareholders' entitlement to the interim dividend, the Register of Members of the Company will be closed from Monday, 6th January, 2025 to Tuesday, 7th January, 2025, both days inclusive, during which period no transfer of shares will be effected. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all transfers accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Hong Kong Branch Share Registrar, Tricor Tengis Limited, at 17/F, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong not later than 4:30 p.m. on Friday, 3rd January, 2025.

# SHARE PURCHASE, SALE AND REDEMPTION

At no time during the period under review was there any purchase, sale or redemption by the Company, or any of its subsidiary companies, of the Company's ordinary shares. There is no treasury shares held by the Company.

#### CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

The Company is committed to maintaining high standards of corporate governance including promotion of the Company's sustainable development. It believes that high standards of corporate governance provide a framework and solid foundation for the Group to manage business risks, enhance transparency, maintain high standards of accountability and protect shareholders' interest in general. The Company recognises that corporate governance practices are fundamental to the smooth, effective and transparent operation of a company and its ability to attract investment, protect the rights of shareholders and enhance shareholder value.

The Company has applied the principles and complied with all the code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code (the "CG Code") as set out in Appendix C1 to the Listing Rules throughout the period under review except code provision C.2.1 of the CG Code as the functions of the Chief Executive Officer are now performed by Sir Dickson Poon, the Group Executive Chairman. Furthermore, the Company has complied with all applicable requirements and provisions of the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide as set out in Appendix C2 to the Listing Rules.

Detailed information on the Company's other corporate governance practices was set out in the Corporate Governance Report included in the 2024 Annual Report.

#### DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the Directors' Model Code as set out in Appendix C3 to the Listing Rules as the code for securities transactions by the directors. Having made specific enquiries of all directors, all directors confirmed that they have complied with the required standard as set out in the Directors' Model Code throughout the period under review.

#### REVIEW OF GROUP INTERIM RESULTS

The Audit Committee has reviewed the unaudited consolidated interim results of the Group for the six months ended 30th September, 2024 with the Board.

As at the date of this report, the Board comprises :-

#### **Executive Directors:**

Dickson Poon (Group Executive Chairman)
Poon Dickson Pearson Guanda
(Chief Operating Officer)
Chan Hon Chung, Johnny Pollux
Lau Yu Hee, Gary

# Independent Non-Executive Directors:

Bhanusak Asvaintra Nicholas Peter Etches Fung Yue Ming, Eugene Michael Lam Sze Wan Patricia

> By Order of the Board Or Suk Ying, Stella Company Secretary

Hong Kong, 28th November, 2024