Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.

# CITIC 21CN 中信 21世紀

# **CITIC 21CN COMPANY LIMITED**

中信21世紀有限公司\*

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 0241)

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2012

The board of directors (the "Directors") of CITIC 21CN Company Limited (the "Company") is pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated interim results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the "Group") for the six months ended 30th September 2012 and the unaudited condensed consolidated statement of financial position of the Group as at 30th September 2012.

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME For the six months ended 30th September 2012

		Six months ended 30th September			
		2012 (Unaudited)	2011 (Unaudited)		
	Notes	HK\$'000	HK\$'000		
Turnover	3	245,657	211,483		
Cost of sales and services		(215,807)	(169,237)		
Gross profit		29,850	42,246		
Other income, gains and losses	4	(5)	(15,976)		
Administrative expenses		(47,182)	(59,040)		
Share of profit of an associate	5	3,585	2,840		
Interest expenses		(430)	(499)		
Loss before taxation		(14,182)	(30,429)		
Taxation	6	(479)	(471)		
Loss for the period	7	(14,661)	(30,900)		

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purposes only

# Six months ended 30th September

		Jun Schie	IIIDEI
	Notes	2012 (Unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000	2011 (Unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000
	ivotes	$IIK\phi$ $VUV$	ΠΚΦ 000
Other comprehensive income: Exchange differences arising on translation			2,671
Total comprehensive expense for the period		(14,661)	(28,229)
Loss for the period attributable to: Owners of the Company Non-controlling interests		(14,661)	(30,900)
		(14,661)	(30,900)
Total comprehensive expense attributable to: Owners of the Company Non-controlling interests		(14,661)	(28,229)
		(14,661)	(28,229)
		HK cents	HK cents
Loss per share Basic	8	(0.39)	(0.83)

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30th September 2012

		30th September	31st March
	Notes	2012 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	2012 (Audited) <i>HK\$</i> '000
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment Intangible assets Interest in an associate	9	67,858 40,420 96,755	72,031 42,622 93,170
Loans receivable Available-for-sale investments	10	46,863 9,150	45,465 9,150
		261,046	262,438
Current assets Amounts due from customers for			
contract work	11	1,790	2,940
Debtors and prepayments Investments held for trading	11	119,803 39,155	96,764 41,565
Bank balances and cash		124,035	133,813
		284,783	275,082
Current liabilities	10	144 507	100.065
Creditors and accruals Taxation payable	12	144,706 348	120,265 2,178
Short-term bank loans		11,956	11,956
		157,010	134,399
Net current assets		127,773	140,683
Total assets less current liabilities		388,819	403,121
Non-current liability		4 511	4 152
Deferred taxation		4,511	4,152
		384,308	398,969
Capital and reserves			
Share capital Reserves	13	37,179 347,120	37,179 361,781
Non-controlling interests		384,299 9	398,960 9
Total equity		384,308	398,969
Total equity			390,909

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the six months ended 30th September 2012

	Share Capital (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Share premium (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Capital reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Contributed surplus (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Translation reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Share options reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	General reserve (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Accumulated losses (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Attributable to Owners of the Company (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Non- controlling interests (Unaudited) HK\$'000	Total (Unaudited) HK\$'000
At 1st April 2012 Loss for the period and total comprehensive income	37,179	769,675	19,215	78,108	73,229	20,831	12,931	(612,208)	398,960	9	398,969
(expense) for the period								(14,661)	(14,661)		(14,661)
At 30th September 2012	37,179	769,675	19,215	78,108	73,229	20,831	12,931	(626,869)	384,299	9	384,308
At 1st April 2011	37,179	769,675	19,215	78,108	68,940	21,181	11,851	(603,743)	402,406	10	402,416
Exchange differences arising on translation Loss for the period			- -	- -	2,671	- -	-	(30,900)	2,671 (30,900)	- -	2,671 (30,900)
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the period					2,671			(30,900)	(28,229)		(28,229)
Lapse of share options						(350)		350			
At 30th September 2011	37,179	769,675	19,215	78,108	71,611	20,831	11,851	(634,293)	374,177	10	374,187

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW

For the six months ended 30th September 2012

	Six months	ended	
	30th September		
	2012	2011	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Net cash (used in) from operating activities	(647)	1,479	
Net cash used in investing activities	(8,700)	(12,428)	
Net cash used in financing activities	(431)	(12,357)	
Decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(9,778)	(23,306)	
Cash and cash equivalent at beginning of the period	133,813	160,335	
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		1,413	
Cash and cash equivalent at end of the period, representing bank balances and cash	124,035	138,442	

### NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

CITIC 21CN Company Limited (the "Company") is incorporated in Bermuda as an exempted company with limited liability and its shares are listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange"). The address of its registered office is at Canon's Court, 22 Victoria Street, Hamilton HM12, Bermuda.

The condensed consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars while the functional currency of the Company is Renminbi. The reason for selecting Hong Kong dollars as presentation currency is because the Company is a public company in Hong Kong with the shares listed on the Stock Exchange.

The Company is an investment holding company. The Group is an integrated information and content service provider. The principal activities of the Group comprise telecommunication and information value-added services, the provision of Product Identification, Authentication and Tracking System ("PIATS"), system integration and software development.

#### 2. BASIS OF PREPARATION AND PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange and with Hong Kong Accounting Standard 34 ("HKAS 34") "Interim Financial Reporting".

The condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30th September 2012 are unaudited and have been reviewed by the audit committee of the Company.

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for certain interest free loans receivable which is adjusted to its fair value on initial recognition and certain financial instruments, which are measured at fair values, as appropriate.

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30th September 2012 are the same as those followed in the preparation of the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2012, except as described below.

In the current interim period, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following new and revised Hong Kong Accounting Standards ("HKAS"s), HKFRS, amendments and interpretations ("INT"s) (hereinafter collectively referred to as "new and revised HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"):

HKFRS 7 (Amendments) Disclosures – Transfers of financial assets
HKAS 12 (Amendments) Deferred tax: Recovery of underlying assets

The adoption of these new and revised HKFRSs has no material impact on the Group's financial performance and positions for the current and prior periods and/or on the disclosures set out in these consolidated condensed financial statements.

The Group has not early applied the following new and revised HKFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective:

HKAS 1 (Amendments) Presentation of Items of Other Comprehensive Income<sup>1</sup> HKAS 19 (as revised in 2011) Employee Benefits<sup>2</sup> HKAS 27 (as revised in 2011) Separate Financial Statements<sup>2</sup> HKAS 28 (as revised in 2011) Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures<sup>2</sup> HKAS 32 (Amendments) Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities<sup>3</sup> HKFRSs (Amendments) Annual Improvements to HKFRSs 2009-2011 Cycle<sup>2</sup> HKFRS 1 (Amendments) Government Loans<sup>2</sup> HKFRS 7 (Amendments) Disclosures – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities<sup>2</sup> HKFRS 7 and HKFRS 9 Mandatory Effective Date of HKFRS 9 and Transition Disclosures<sup>4</sup> (Amendments) HKFRS 9 Financial Instruments<sup>4</sup> HKFRS 10 Consolidated Financial Statements<sup>2</sup> Joint Arrangements<sup>2</sup> HKFRS 11 Disclosure of Interests in Other Entities<sup>2</sup> HKFRS 12 Consolidated Financial Statements, Joint Arrangements and HKFRS 10, HKFRS 11 and Disclosures of Interests in Other Entities: Transition Guidance<sup>2</sup> HKFRS 12 (Amendments) HKFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement<sup>2</sup> Stripping Costs in the Production Phase of a Surface Mine<sup>2</sup> HK(IFRIC) - INT 20

- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1st July 2012
- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1st January 2013
- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1st January 2014
- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1st January 2015

New and revised HKFRSs which may have potential impact on the Group's financial performance and financial position are described the Group's annual financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2012. The directors of the Company anticipate that the application of other new and revised HKFRSs will have no material impact on the results and financial position of the Group.

# 3 SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Group is an integrated information and content service provider. For management purposes, the Group is organised into three operating divisions namely telecommunications/information value-added services, the provision of Product Identification, Authentication, Tracking System ("PIATS"), and system integration and software development. These divisions are the basis on which the Group reports its segment information. For the telecommunications/information value-added services and PIATS business divisions, information reported to the Board of Directors of the Company includes the financial information of its joint ventures prepared on a proportionate consolidation basis.

Principal activities are as follows:

Telecommunications/information – provision of telecommunications/information value-added services value-added services

PIATS business – operation of an exclusive platform for PIATS

System integration and – provision of system integration and software development software development

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue and results by operating and reporting segments:

	Segment revenue		Segment pr	. ,
	Si	x months ended	30th September	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Telecommunication/information value-				
added services	237,884	207,064	4,516	(350)
PIATS business	6,520	4,419	(15,057)	(9,484)
System integration and software				
development	1,253		(151)	(198)
Total	245,657	211,483	(10,692)	(10,032)
Other income, gains and losses			(5)	(15,976)
Share of profit of an associate			3,585	2,840
Interest expenses			(430)	(499)
Unallocated expenses			(6,640)	(6,762)
Loss before taxation			(14,182)	(30,429)

# 4 OTHER INCOME, GAINS AND LOSSES

	Six months ended		
	30th September		
	2012	2011	
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
Interest income from bank deposits	675	300	
Imputed interest income on loans receivable	823	733	
Dividends from listed equity securities	772	690	
Change in fair value of investments held for trading	(2,410)	(17,928)	
Change in value of loans receivable resulting from extension of			
maturity and upon initial recognition (Note 10)	(35)	(290)	
Net exchange gain (loss)	99	(401)	
Others	71	920	
	(5)	(15,976)	

### 5 SHARE OF PROFIT OF AN ASSOCIATE

The Group recorded a share of net result from a 30%-owned associate, Dongfang Customs Technology Company Limited ("Dongfang Customs").

#### 6 TAXATION

	Six months ended 30th September		
	2012 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	2011 (Unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000	
The charge comprises:			
PRC Enterprise Income Tax – Jointly controlled entities Withholding tax on dividends	120 359	471 	
	479	471	

No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been made for both periods as the Group's income neither arises in, nor is derived from, Hong Kong.

Under the Law of the People's Republic of China on Enterprise Income Tax (the "EIT Law") and Implementation Regulation of the EIT Law, the tax rate of the PRC subsidiaries and jointly controlled entities are 25%.

Pursuant to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, one of the Group's jointly controlled entity and a subsidiary are entitled to exemption from PRC Enterprise Income Tax for the two years starting from the year ended 31st March 2006 and a 50% relief for the subsequent three years. They would continue to enjoy such tax benefits until the exemption and reduction period expire, but not beyond 2012. The jointly controlled entity and the subsidiary incurred tax loss in both periods. Another jointly controlled entity of the Group operating in the PRC was awarded the Advanced-technology Enterprise Certificate and is eligible for the concession rate of 15% for three years commenced from 14th December 2009.

# 7 LOSS FOR THE PERIOD

	Six months ended			
	30th Septe	30th September		
	2012	2011		
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)		
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000		
Loss for the period has been arrived at after charging (crediting):				
Staff costs	23,694	38,710		
Depreciation	12,211	11,717		
Operating lease rentals in respect of buildings	7,393	6,870		
Reversal of impairment losses on trade receivables	(167)	(5)		

#### 8 LOSS PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic and diluted loss per share attributable to the owners of the Company for the period is based on the loss for the purposes of basic and diluted loss per share of HK\$14,661,000 (2011: HK\$30,900,000) and the weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of basic and diluted loss per share of 3,717,870,000 (2011: 3,717,870,000).

The diluted loss per share for the six months period ended 30th September 2012 and 2011 are not presented as the exercise of the outstanding share options would result in a decrease in loss per share for both periods.

### 9 INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Intangible assets represented the Group's license rights acquired from third parties. Such licenses are amortised over an estimated useful life of 20 years on a straight-line basis.

License rights represented the amounts paid for obtaining the unlimited deployment right of Oracle database management software and middleware for use in PIATS business.

# 10 LOANS RECEIVABLE

	30th September 2012 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$</i> '000	31st March 2012 (Audited) <i>HK</i> \$'000
Loans receivable comprises:		
Non-current assets:		
Loan to CCIT on 23rd November 2010 (note a)	9,889	9,170
Loan to CCIT on 21st July 2009 (note b)	11,533	11,321
Loan to CCIT on 3rd March 2006 (note c)	25,441	24,974
	46,863	45,465

(a) On 23rd November 2010, CITIC 21CN (China) Technology Company Limited ("CITIC 21CN Technology") (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Group), entered into a second loan agreement with China Credit Information Technology Company Limited ("CCIT") (a 50% owned jointly controlled entity of the Group) in which CITIC 21CN Technology granted a loan facility of RMB30,000,000 (equivalent to HK\$36,600,000) to CCIT for the development of the PIATS business. The loan is non-interest bearing and unsecured, with a term up to 15th April 2014.

As at 30th September 2012, CCIT has drawn up to RMB17,000,000 (equivalent to HK\$20,740,000) (31st March 2012: RMB16,000,000 equivalent to HK\$19,520,000) from the loan facility, and the carrying amount of the loan receivable from CCIT not eliminated on proportionate consolidation was HK\$9,889,000 (31st March 2012: HK\$9,170,000) with effective interest rate of 3.73% per annum.

(b) On 21st July 2009, CITIC 21CN Technology entered into a loan agreement with CCIT in which CITIC 21CN Technology granted a non-interest bearing and unsecured three-year loan of RMB20,000,000 (equivalent to HK\$24,400,000) (31st March 2012: equivalent to HK\$24,400,000) to CCIT for the development of the PIATS business. During the year ended 31st March 2011, the maturity date of the loan was extended to 15th April 2014 with terms and conditions remain unchanged.

As at 30th September 2012, the carrying amount of the loan receivable from CCIT not eliminated on proportionate consolidation was HK\$11,533,000 (31st March 2012: HK\$11,321,000) with effective interest rate of 3.73% per annum.

(c) On 3rd March 2006, CITIC 21CN Telecom Company Limited ("Telecom") (a wholly owned subsidiary of the Group), entered into a loan agreement with CCIT in which Telecom granted a non-interest bearing and unsecured two-year loan of US\$6,900,000 (equivalent to HK\$53,820,000) (31st March 2012: equivalent to HK\$53,820,000) to CCIT for the development of the PIATS business. During the year ended 31st March 2008 and 31st March 2011, the maturity dates of the loan were extended to 23rd March 2011 and 15th April 2014 respectively with terms and conditions remain unchanged.

As at 30th September 2012, the carrying amount of the loan receivable from CCIT not eliminated on proportionate consolidation was HK\$25,441,000 (2011: HK\$24,974,000) with effective interest rate of 3.73% per annum.

In the opinion of the directors, the above loans are not expected to repay within twelve months after the reporting period. Accordingly, it is classified as non-current.

# 11 DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

12

	30th September	31st March
	2012	2012
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Trade receivables	127,284	90,110
Less: Allowance for doubtful debts	(26,303)	(26,470)
	100,981	63,640
Other receivables	2,199	2,200
Deposits and prepayments	16,623	12,624
Dividend receivable from an associate		18,300
	119,803	96,764

The Group provides a credit period of 90 days to its trade customers. The following is an aged analysis of trade receivables, net of allowance for doubtful debts, presented based on invoice date at the end of the reporting period:

	30th September 2012 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	31st March 2012 (Audited) HK\$'000
0-90 days	90,564	44,975
91-180 days	1,425	8,689
181-360 days	1,976	1,729
Over 360 days	7,016	8,247
	100,981	63,640
CREDITORS AND ACCRUALS		
	30th September	31st March
	2012	2012
	(Unaudited)	(Audited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Trade payables	38,403	32,446
Receipt in advance from customers	8,909	12,014
Other payables and accruals	97,394	75,805
	144,706	120,265

The following is an aged analysis of trade payables presented based on the invoice date at the end of the reporting period:

		30th September 2012 (Unaudited)	31st March 2012 (Audited)
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	0-90 days 91-180 days 181-360 days Over 360 days	16,368 1,976 2,429 17,630	12,548 1,792 720 17,386
		38,403	32,446
13	SHARE CAPITAL		
		Number of ordinary shares	HK\$'000
	Authorised:		
	Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each At 1st April, 2011, 31st March 2012 and 30th September 2012	10,000,000,000	100,000
	Issued and fully paid:		
	Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each At 1st April 2011, 31st March 2012 and 30th September 2012	3,717,869,631	37,179
14	COMMITMENTS		
	(a) Capital commitment		
		30th September 2012 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	31st March 2012 (Audited) <i>HK\$</i> '000
	Capital expenditure in respect of the acquisition of property, plant and equipment contracted for but not provided in the condensed consolidated financial statements	786	1,048

# (b) Operating leases

At the end of reporting period, the Group had commitments for future minimum lease payments in respect of buildings under non-cancellable operating leases which fall due as follows:

	30th September 2012 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	31st March 2012 (Audited) <i>HK</i> \$'000
Within one year In the second to fifth year inclusive	9,006 12,626	10,758 16,715
	21,632	27,473

Leases are negotiated for a term of one to five years.

# 15 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The following is a summary of the significant related party transactions carried out in the normal course of the business activities of the Group during the period:

	Six months ended 30th September	
	2012	2011
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Telecommunications/information value-added services agency fee		
(note a)	1,230	1,583

(a) The Group pays agency fee to China Telecommunications Corporation ("China Telecom"), a joint venture partner of the Group, for providing telecommunications/information value-added services through the network of China Telecom and receiving service charges from customers through China Telecom.

### 16 ARBITRATION AND LITIGATION

On 29th October 2009, the Company received the Arbitration Notice issued by China International Economic and Trade Arbitration Commission ("CIETAC"). According to the Arbitration Notice, Oracle (China) Software Systems Co., Ltd. (formerly known as Beijing Oracle Software Systems Co., Ltd.) ("Oracle Beijing"), an independent third party, submitted an application in relation to an arbitration (the "Arbitration") on the dispute arising from a payment agreement signed by Oracle Beijing, CITIC 21CN Technology, the Company and Oracle Systems Hong Kong Limited, an independent third party, on 30th May 2006 (the "Payment Agreement"). The Payment Agreement provided, among others, the settlement arrangement of licence fee and service fee in relation to the Oracle Licence and Services Agreement in an aggregate amount of approximately RMB116 million against which approximately US\$11 million (approximately RMB88 million) deposit has been paid by the Group. The reason for the dispute over the Payment Agreement was that the parties to the agreements could not reach a consensus on the execution of the agreements.

On 23rd June 2010, the Company received the Arbitral Award handed down by CIETAC. Details of the Arbitral Award were set out in the Company's announcement dated 24th June 2010. On 27th October 2010, pursuant to the provision of Article 95 of the Basic Law on the arrangement concerning mutual enforcement of Arbitral Award between the PRC and the Hong Kong Special Administration Region ("HKSAR"), the Company received a court order (the "Order") from the High Court of the HKSAR that leave be granted to Beijing Oracle to enforce the Arbitral Award, subject to the right of application by the Company and CITIC 21CN Technology to set aside the Order within 14 days after service of the Order. By a judgement made by Beijing First Intermediate People's Court dated 25th October 2011, the Arbitral Award was set aside. As a result, the Company received another court order dated 7th December 2011 from the High Court of the HKSAR that the legal action of the Order was discontinued. Accordingly, the interest expenses with other legal and related costs of RMB21,534,000 (equivalent to HK\$26,271,000) arising from the Arbitral Award previously recognised were reversed at the end of last financial year.

On 24th January 2011, CITIC 21CN Technology, being the plaintiff, made an appeal to the Beijing First Intermediate People's Court against Oracle Beijing, being the defendant, for termination of Oracle Licence and Services Agreement and Payment Agreement and compensation from Oracle Beijing. The legal proceedings of the claim were still in progress at the end of the reporting period.

On 18th January 2012, Oracle Beijing, being the plaintiff, commenced a new legal action in the High Court of the HKSAR against the Company, CITIC 21CN Technology and Oracle Systems Hong Kong Limited, an independent third party, for an alleged breach of the Oracle Licence and Services Agreement and Payment Agreement and claimed for payment in relation to the agreements of approximately RMB88 million together with it costs. On 5th April 2012, the Company and CITIC 21CN Technology took out a Summons to apply for the legal action to be stayed and the hearing for the application be fixed for 31st January 2013 in Hong Kong. The aforesaid amounts of licence fee and other related costs, net of deposits paid, has been properly accounted for in the condensed consolidated financial statements as at 30th September 2012.

As the above application and litigation are still at the further fact finding stage, the result and timing cannot be reasonably estimated at this stage. In the opinion of the directors of the Company, adequate provision has been made in the condensed consolidated financial statements.

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

The key financial figures of the Group for the six months ended 30th September 2012 and the comparative figures for the six months ended 30th September 2011 were summarised as follows:

	2012 HK\$'000	2011 HK\$'000	Change %
Turnover	245,657	211,483	16.2
Gross profit	29,850	42,246	(29.3)
Gross profit percentage	12.2%	20.0%	(39.0)
Other income, gains and losses	(5)	(15,976)	(100.0)
Administrative expenses	(47,182)	(59,040)	(20.1)
Share of profit of an associate	3,585	2,840	26.2
Loss attributable to owners	14,661	30,900	(52.6)
Loss per share Basic	0.39 cents	0.83 cents	(53.0)

# **Results**

#### Turnover

Turnover of the Group for the six months ended 30th September 2012 was HK\$245,657,000, an increase of 16.2% as compared with the turnover of HK\$211,483,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2011. The increase was mainly due to the following reasons:

(a) 北京鴻聯九五信息產業有限公司 (Beijing Honglian 95 Information Industries Company Limited ("HL95")), a 49%-owned jointly controlled entity of the Group, is engaged in telecommunications/information value-added services. The Group's share of the turnover of HL95 for the six months ended 30th September 2012 increased by 14.9% to HK\$237,884,000 from HK\$207,064,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2011. The Group's share of the turnover of HL95 comprised HK\$139,091,000 (2011: HK\$106,015,000) from call centres, HK\$83,492,000 (2011: HK\$83,936,000) from short messaging services ("SMS"), HK\$5,808,000 (2011: HK\$3,556,000) from mobile interactive voice response system ("IVRS"), HK\$4,317,000 (2011: HK\$5,796,000) from fixed-line IVRS, HK\$4,560,000 (2011: HK\$5,140,000) from Internet-protocol ("IP") phone and HK\$616,000 (2011: HK\$2,621,000) from other value-added services. The increase in turnover was basically attributable to the increase in call centre revenue, while SMS, IVRS

and IP phone revenues maintained at similar levels. Call centre revenue grew at a healthy trend of 31.1%, which was mainly due to the continuous expansion of call centre capacity and the procurement of various new outsourcing contracts across China. HL95's call centre customer base has been extended to various industries of bank, telecom, insurance and utility. Call centre industry is still fast growing in China and HL95 has successfully become one of the largest reputable operators in the industry. There were no substantial fluctuations in the normal markets for SMS, IVRS and IP Phone businesses even though the competition remained keen. SMS revenue during the period maintained at the same level when compared with that of last corresponding period. The decrease in fixed-line IVRS revenue during the period was compensated by the increase in mobile IVRS revenue. IP phone revenue decreased by HK\$580,000 under the tight competition from other IP phone providers. Decrease in other value-added service revenue was mainly due to the decrease in revenue generated from technical support services to customers.

- (b) 中信國檢信息技術有限公司 (China Credit Information Technology Company Limited ("CCIT")) (a 50%-owned jointly controlled entity of the Group) and 中信21世紀(中國)科技有限公司 (CITIC 21CN (China) Technology Company Limited ("CITIC 21CN Technology")) (a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group), are engaged in the Product Identification, Authentication and Tracking System ("PIATS") business. The Group's share of the revenue of PIATS business for the six months ended 30th September 2012 increased by 47.5% to HK\$6,520,000 from HK\$4,419,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2011. The growth in revenue during the period was due to an increased service fee income following the intensive promotion of PIATS in drug industry.
- (c) 廣東天圖科技有限公司 (Guangdong Grand Cycle Technology Company Limited ("Grand Cycle")), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group, is engaged in software development and system integration services and its turnover for the six months ended 30th September 2012 was HK\$1,253,000 as compared with the turnover of nil for the six months ended 30th September 2011. The operations of Grand Cycle had already been scaled down and the turnover for the period represented those revenue generated from the outstanding system integration service contracts to the telecom industry.

# Gross profit percentage

The Group reported a gross profit percentage of 12.2% during the six months ended 30th September 2012 as compared with the gross profit percentage of 20.0% during the six months ended 30th September 2011. The decline was mainly caused by the decrease in gross profit margin of HL95 business even though the gross loss of PIATS business was narrowed.

The decrease in HL95's gross profit percentage was principally due to the substantial growth in call centre revenue which were of lower average margin when compared with the traditional telecommunication service provider ("SP") businesses. The completion of new call centre facilities also demanded high labour costs included.

With the increase in service fee income, the gross loss of PIATS business was narrowed when compared with that of last corresponding period as most of its direct operating costs such as depreciation were fixed in nature.

# Other income, gains and losses

During the six months ended 30th September 2012, other income, gains and losses recorded a loss of HK\$5,000 as compared with the loss of HK\$15,976,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2011. Such obvious decrease was due to the reduction in the loss on change in fair value of held for trading investments of HK\$2,410,000 for the current period as contrasted with the same item loss of HK\$17,928,000 for the last corresponding period. The investment market was rather quiet but less volatile during the current period.

# Administrative expenses

Administrative expenses for the six months ended 30th September 2012 was HK\$47,182,000, representing a decrease of 20.1% over HK\$59,040,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2011. Such decrease was principally due to the stricter administrative cost control measures implemented by the management.

# Share of profit of an associate

Share of profit of an associate represented the share of profit of a 30%-owned associate, 東方口岸科技有限公司 (Dongfang Customs Technology Company Limited ("Dongfang Customs")), which was engaged in electronic customs processing and other electronic government services. The share of profit of Dongfang Customs was HK\$3,585,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2012, representing an increase of 26.2% when compared with HK\$2,840,000 for the six months ended 30th September 2011. Dongfang Customs has been upgrading its existing system by introducing more new and enhanced features to attract users using their services.

# - Loss attributable to owners

Loss attributable to owners for the six months ended 30th September 2012 was HK\$14,661,000, representing a decrease of 52.6% over HK\$30,900,000 for the same period last year, mainly because of the obvious decrease in the loss of other income, gains and losses as explained above.

# Loss per share

Basic loss per share was HK0.39 cents for the six months ended 30th September 2012, representing a decrease of 53.0% over HK0.83 cents for the six months ended 30th September 2011.

# FINANCIAL RESOURCES, LIQUIDITY AND FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPOSURES

The financial positions of the Group as at 30th September 2012 and the corresponding comparative figures as at 31st March 2012 are summarised as follows:

	30th September 2012	31st March 2012
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Current assets Including - bank balances and cash (mainly denominated in Hong	284,783	275,082
Kong dollar, United States dollar and Renminbi)	124,035	133,813
- debtors	103,180	65,840
Current liabilities	157,010	134,399
- including short-term bank loans	11,956	11,956
Current ratio (current asset/current liabilities)	1.81	2.05
Quick ratio (bank balances and cash and debtors/current liabilities)	1.45	1.49
Shareholders' equity	384,299	398,960
Gearing ratio (bank loans/shareholders' equity)	3.11%	3.00%

Bank balances and cash decreased by 7.3% from HK\$133,813,000 as at 31st March 2012 to HK\$124,035,000 as at 30th September 2012. The decrease in bank balances and cash was the result of the net cash used in operating activities arising from the net loss of the Group incurred during the six months ended 30th September 2012.

As at 30th September 2012, trade debtors aged over 12 months were HK\$7,016,000 (31st March 2012: HK\$8,247,000), most of which were related to system integration and software development business.

Bank loans on the consolidated statement of financial positions as at 30th September 2012 and 31st March 2012 were the Group's share of HL95's bank loans, which were short-term in nature, denominated in Renminbi and repayable within one year, and carried interest at prevailing market rates.

As at 30th September 2012, the Group reported relatively steady current and quick ratios. The current ratio was 1.81 (31st March 2012: 2.05), and the quick ratio was 1.45 (31st March 2012: 1.49).

Shareholders' equity decreased from HK\$398,960,000 as at 31st March 2012 to HK\$384,299,000 as at 30th September 2012, mainly because of the net loss of the Group incurred during the six months ended 30th September 2012.

The Group's gearing ratio decreased from 3.00% as at 31st March 2012 to 3.11% as at 30th September 2012, mainly because of the reduction in the shareholders' equity resulting from the net loss of the Group incurred during the six months ended 30th September 2012.

The Group's operations and transactions are principally located in the PRC. Other than the bank balances and cash most of which are placed in fixed deposits and liquid investments denominated in US dollars or Hong Kong dollars, other assets and liabilities are mainly denominated in either Hong Kong dollars or Renminbi. The Directors believe that there will not be material fluctuation in the exchange rate of US dollars against Hong Kong dollars, the reporting currency, in the foreseeable future, and the gradual and slight increase in the exchange rate of Renmimbi against Hong Kong dollars would result in exchange gain for the Group as the net assets of the Group's operating subsidiaries and jointly controlled entities in PRC are denominated in Renmimbi. Therefore, the operations of the Group are not subject to significant exchange rate risk.

### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

The Group is an integrated information and content service provider, emphasising on innovation as well as seeking ways to apply the latest information technology to provide unique information service to the PRC governmental departments, manufacturers, the pharmaceutical industry and consumers. The Group's major clients are sizable and prestigious PRC manufacturers. Our information service will also expedite the development of small to medium sized manufacturers. As a result, the Group has received strong support from the PRC government.

# PIATS Business

CCIT and CITIC 21CN Technology, a jointly-controlled entity and a subsidiary of the Group respectively, are principally engaged in the provision of product tracking, recall and enforcement information services to relevant authorities in the PRC through the operation of PIATS; the provision of product tracking and logistics information services to manufacturers; and the provision of services to consumers for verifying product information and origins. With the innovative concepts since its launch, the application of PIATS has been broadly extended countrywide to various products such as drugs, food and beverage, agricultural resources and household appliances, through which staging

achievement has been reached, enterprise product brand name and orderly market has been effectively maintained, and helping the market set up a product credit system that has been recognized by consumers, government and enterprises.

As to the area of electronic monitoring of drugs, the coverage scope has been further enlarging. During the period, those national-declared basic drugs of all types, as manufactured by all production enterprises, have basically been finished with the bar code use work. It signified that those national-declared basic drugs of all types have been put into practice for the full inclusion under electronic monitoring. The Group has also further reinforced on the infrastructure facilities of the PIATS system, so as to ensure the practicability, user-friendliness and manageability of the system. During the period, the company has continued to undertake the relevant technical support services, enterprises' corporate training and corporate implementation guidance work etc.

During the last year, the company also made plentiful attempts on the electronic monitoring of other products, such as agricultural resources and food, and gained certain achievements and experience. However, the company is unable to carry out full promotion in these areas as the relevant authorities in the PRC have not further issued supplemental work rules.

# Future prospect

The gradual advancement of electronic monitoring has already evidenced that the government will make electronic monitoring an important tool for increasing management. Recently, the relevant authorities in the PRC has commenced planning, under the existing implemented electronic monitoring basis of anaesthetics drugs, mental disorder drugs, blood products, Chinese medicine injections, vaccines, national-declared basic drugs of all types etc., to continue to further apply the electronic monitoring to other areas of drugs through stages. On the other hands, the relevant authorities in the PRC has commenced preparing to promote gradually the working trainings to those institutions other than drug production and distribution enterprises. Pinpointing the various issues of dairy products under food category, the relevant authorities in the PRC is attempting to establish an information tracking system through the application of similar informationalized measures. The company will leverage on the successful and accumulated experience on PIATS and promote to further its cooperation with the relevant authorities in the PRC, so as to strive for the expansion of the scope and coverage of the application of PIATS. The management has confidence that PIATS can combat counterfeit and poor-quality commodities, improve commodity safety, and protect the interests of consumers and enterprises. Given that there are no other companies that can provide service similar to PIATS at the moment, the directors believe that is great potential for PIATS.

# HL95

HL95 is a nationwide telecommunications/information value-added services ("VAS") company in the PRC and is licensed by the Ministry of Industries and Information on the provision of SMS, IVRS and other telecom services in the PRC. HL95 provides IVRS services through both fixed telephone line network and mobile phone network, and SMS services through the mobile phone network (both in collaboration with the telecom operators) which covers the whole country. HL95 offers governmental, commercial and entertainment information through its SMS and IVRS services. HL95 also provides other telecommunication/information VAS such as IP phone service and customer care call centres services.

# Future prospect

The rapid development of 3G, the development of 4G and mobile internet will continuously create immense business opportunities for HL95. With many years of good long-term relationship with telecom operators and content providers, HL95 will work closely with them so as to provide the latest 3G contents. The traditional mobile IVRS and fixed line IVRS services will continue to be under challenge, with regulatory measures from time to time imposed by the telecom operators or the relevant authorities, and with fierce competition arisen from inherent competitive advantages possessed by telecom operators. In the coming year, HL95 will continue to focus its resources on the expansion of call centre business, for which HL95 has accumulated successful experience and has earned good reputation in the PRC. Since late 2009, HL95 has received several industry awards for its good achievement in call centre management and outsourcing contract. During the last year, HL95 completed the construction of a major 780 seats call centre in Beijing. Presently, the management is working on gaining new call centre business opportunities countrywide. The management considers that the call centre revenue will continue to grow healthily. HL95 is an important platform for the Group since it enables the Group to promote the information services of PIATS. For example, CCIT and CITIC 21CN Technology, in providing the PIATS service, uses HL95's platform to enable consumers anywhere in the PRC to enquire product information by HL95's IVRS and SMS systems and call centres. In the same time, HL95 is also intended to achieve to combine the PIATS business for transformation of services and expansion of new business. The Directors believe that HL95 has good potential in the call centre industry and at the same time can provide valuable support to PIATS.

# Dongfang Customs

Dongfang Customs, a joint venture with the PRC Customs Department and China Telecom, is engaged in electronic customs processing and other electronic government services. Dongfang Customs provides customs filing and declaration, identity authentication, online payments, electronic customs tax and foreign exchange filings, billing and other customs related services. Dongfang Customs' users principally included manufacturers and import/export corporations for customs declaration and clearance services, and banks for foreign exchange monitoring and online payments to be processed electronically under the same network platform.

# Future prospect

The PRC government has been encouraging manufacturers and import/export corporations to perform the customs declaration processing electronically as it not only speeds up the customs declaration procedures but also helps minimise the handling costs involved in the declaration. Given that China is the manufacturing base for the world and the network platform of Dongfang Customs has been upgrading with more new and enhanced features to attract its established user base, such as technical support and database management services. The management considers that the business of Dongfang Customs under the Group's investment will provide us with good return.

# Grand Cycle

Grand Cycle is engaged in system integration and software development.

# Future prospect

Grand Cycle will focus on the system integration and software development support for the rapid and continuing expansion of the businesses of HL95 and PIATS.

# EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION POLICIES

The numbers of full-time employees of the Group as at 30th September 2012 are detailed as follows:

Location	Celecommuni- cations/ Information value-added services	PIATS business	System integration and software development	Corporate	Associate
- Hong Kong	_	_	_	6	_
- The PRC	5,966	89	3		270
Total	5,966	89	3	6	270

Total staff costs of the Group included in the administrative expenses for the six months ended 30th September 2012 were HK\$23,694,000. All the staff in Hong Kong participated in the Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme.

The Group's policy is to maintain a competitive pay structure and employees are rewarded on a performance related basis.

The Group has also set up share option schemes pursuant to which employees of the Group may be granted options to subscribe for the Company's shares at their absolute discretion. The subscription price, exercise period and the number of options to be granted are determined in accordance with the prescribed terms of the schemes. During the six months ended 30th September 2012, no share options were granted to employees of the Group.

# INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board of Directors resolved that no interim dividend be declared for the six months period ended 30th September 2012 (2011:Nil).

# PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES

The Company has not redeemed any of its listed securities of the Company during the period under review. Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased or sold any of listed securities of the Company during the period under review.

### COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES

For the period ended 30th September 2012, the Company has complied with the code provisions ("Code Provisions") set out in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices (the "CG Code") under Appendix 14 of the Rules (the "Listing Rules") Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange") except for the following deviations:

- 1. The Chairman of the Board of Company is not subject to retirement by rotation pursuant to Clause 99 of the Company's Bye-Laws. Since the Chairman is responsible for the formulation and implementation of the Company's strategies, which is essential to the stability of the Company's business and thus the Board considers that the deviation acceptable.
- 2. The Chairman of the Board of Company did not attend the annual general meeting of the Company held on 30th August 2012. However, Ms. Chen Xiao (Executive Vice Chairman), Mr. Zhang Lianyang (Executive Director) and Dr. Hui Ho Ming, Herbert, JP (Independent Non-Executive Director) attended the meeting. The meeting was conducted in a good and proper manner.

# ADOPTION OF CODE OF CONDUCT REGARDING DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the model code as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules (the "Model Code") as the code of conduct regarding directors' securities transactions. The Company has made specific enquiry to all directors regarding any non-compliance with the Model Code during the period and they all confirmed that they have fully complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code.

# **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

For the period from 1st April 2012 to 30th September 2012, the Audit Committee comprises three independent non-executive directors, namely Dr. Hui Ho Ming, Herbert, JP, Mr. Zhang JianMing and Dr. Long Junsheng and Dr. Hui was the Chairman of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee has reviewed the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30th September 2012.

# PUBLICATION OF INTERIM RESULT ON THE WEBSITE OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED AND IRASIA.COM

An interim result containing all the information required by Appendix 16 of the Listing Rules will be published in due course on the website of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (www.hkex.com.hk) and on the website of irasia.com Limited (www.irasia.com/listco/hk/citic21cn/).

By Order of the Board
CITIC 21CN COMPANY LIMITED
CHEN XIAO YING

Vice Executive Chairman

22nd November 2012

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises Mr. Wang Jun, Ms. Chen Xiao Ying, Mr. Luo Ning, Mr. Sun Yalei, Mr. Zhang Lianyang, Ms. Xia Guilan, Dr. Hui Ho Ming, Herbert, JP (Independent Non-executive Director), Mr. Zhang Jianming (Independent Non-executive Director) and Dr. Long Junsheng (Independent Non-executive Director).