

# Courage Investment Group Limited 勇利投資集團有限公司

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability) (Hong Kong Stock Code: 1145) (Singapore Stock Code: CIN)

2023
ANNUAL REPORT



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# **Abbreviations**

In this annual report, the following abbreviations have the following meanings unless otherwise specified:

"BDI" Baltic Dry Index

"Board" Board of Directors of the Company

"Bye-laws" Bye-laws of the Company

"Company" Courage Investment Group Limited

"Directors" directors of the Company

"dwt" dead weight tonnage

"Group" the Company and its subsidiaries

"Hong Kong Listing Rules" Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Hong Kong Stock

Exchange

"Hong Kong Stock Exchange" The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

"Model Code" Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers

set out in Appendix 10 (renamed as Appendix C3 since 31 December

2023) to the Hong Kong Listing Rules

"PRC" People's Republic of China

"SFO" Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong

Kong)

"SGX-ST" Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited

"HK\$" Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong

"US\$" and "US cent(s)" United States dollars and cent(s), the lawful currency of the United

States of America

"%" per cent.

The Chinese version of this annual report is a translation of the English version and is for reference only. In case of any discrepancies or inconsistencies between the English version and the Chinese version, the English version shall prevail.

# **Corporate Information**

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

#### **Executive Directors**

Mr. Sue Ka Lok (Chairman)
Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine
(Chief Executive Officer)
Ms. Wang Yu

### **Independent Non-executive Directors**

Mr. Zhou Qijin Mr. Pau Shiu Ming Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho *(Chairman)* Mr. Zhou Qijin Mr. Pau Shiu Ming

#### **REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

Mr. Pau Shiu Ming *(Chairman)* Mr. Zhou Qijin Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho

#### NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Zhou Qijin *(Chairman)* Mr. Pau Shiu Ming Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho Mr. Sue Ka Lok

### **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

Mr. Yuen Chee Lap, Carl

### **COMPANY SECRETARY**

Ms. Wang Yu

#### **DEPUTY COMPANY SECRETARY**

Ms. Lee Pih Peng

### **TRADING OF SHARES**

Hong Kong Stock Exchange (Stock Code: 1145) Singapore Exchange (Stock Code: CIN)

#### **REGISTERED OFFICE**

Clarendon House 2 Church Street Hamilton HM 11 Bermuda

#### PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

Room 1501, 15th Floor Great Eagle Centre 23 Harbour Road Wanchai Hong Kong

#### PRINCIPAL BANKERS AND FINANCIER

Bank of Communications Co., Ltd., Hong Kong Branch Bank of Communications (Hong Kong) Limited Hang Seng Bank Limited SinoPac Capital International (HK) Limited

#### **AUDITOR**

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu
Certified Public Accountants
Registered Public Interest Entity Auditors

# PRINCIPAL SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

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

# HONG KONG BRANCH SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

Tricor Investor Services Limited 17/F, Far East Finance Centre 16 Harcourt Road Hong Kong

# SINGAPORE SHARE TRANSFER AGENT

Unit Trust/Share Registration Boardroom Corporate & Advisory Services Pte. Ltd. 1 Harbourfront Avenue #14-07 Keppel Bay Tower Singapore 098632

# **WEBSITE**

www.courageinv.com

# Chairman's Statement

On behalf of the Board, I hereby present to the shareholders of the Company the results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 ("FY2023").

#### **RESULTS**

During FY2023, the Group continued to principally engage in the business of marine transportation, investment holding, property holding and investment, and merchandise trading. Overall speaking, in comparison to 2022, the Group's marine transportation operation was facing a weaker freight market primarily due to the general slowdown of China's economy, the strong headwinds arising from high inflation and interest rate hikes in advanced economies including the US, and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

For FY2023, the Group reported a decrease in revenue by 31% to US\$8,512,000 (2022: US\$12,372,000), mainly due to the decrease in revenue of the marine transportation business, and recorded a loss attributable to owners of the Company of US\$3,974,000 (2022: profit of US\$1,123,000). Basic loss per share was US0.36 cent (2022: basic earnings per share of US0.10 cent). The turnaround of the Group's results was mainly the combined effect of (i) the decrease in profit contribution from the Group's marine transportation operation to US\$2,227,000 (2022: US\$5,436,000); (ii) the loss on disposal of a subsidiary which indirectly held an interest in an industrial property in Shanghai, China of US\$2,100,000 (2022: nil); (iii) the decrease in allowance for credit losses on debt instruments at fair value through other comprehensive income to US\$1,146,000 (2022: US\$1,402,000) and (iv) the increase in impairment loss recognised on vessels to US\$1,008,000 (2022: US\$797,000).

### **PROSPECTS**

Following the full relaxation of anti-COVID measures in China and global trading activities have returned to their normality, the Group is prudently optimistic about the prospects of the marine transportation business in the medium to long term, although the current market conditions are rather volatile as a result of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, and the Red Sea and Gulf of Aden safety crises.

The Group has yet to acquire a second-hand Supramax or Panamax vessel as the prices of these vessel types have increased significantly since 2021. However, the second-hand dry bulk vessel market has softened recently and some buying opportunities have emerged. The Group will continue with its plan of acquiring a second-hand dry bulk vessel and will inform shareholders of any update of the vessel acquisition as and when appropriate. Looking ahead, the Group will continue to manage its businesses in a disciplined manner, as well as to explore potential investment and acquisition opportunities and business enhancement strategies which are expected to bring long-term benefits to the shareholders.

# **APPRECIATION**

I would like to express my gratitude to all our shareholders, investors, bankers, business associates and customers for their continuing support to the Group, my fellow directors for their valuable services, and all staff members for their dedicated efforts during FY2023.

Sue Ka Lok Chairman

Hong Kong, 28 March 2024

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

During the year ended 31 December 2023 ("**FY2023**"), the Group continued to principally engage in the business of marine transportation, investment holding, property holding and investment, and merchandise trading.

Overall speaking, in comparison to 2022, the Group's marine transportation operation was facing a weaker freight market primarily due to the general slowdown of China's economy, the strong headwinds arising from high inflation and interest rate hikes in advanced economies including the US, and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. For FY2023, the Group reported a decrease in revenue by 31% to US\$8,512,000 (2022: US\$12,372,000), mainly due to the decrease in revenue of the marine transportation business, and recorded a loss attributable to owners of the Company of US\$3,974,000 (2022: profit of US\$1,123,000). Basic loss per share was US0.36 cent (2022: basic earnings per share of US0.10 cent).

#### **Marine transportation**

For FY2023, the revenue of the Group's marine transportation business decreased by 30% to US\$8,449,000 (2022: US\$12,079,000), and with its profit decreased by 59% to US\$2,227,000 (2022: US\$5,436,000). The decreases in revenue and profit of the operation were mainly due to the general slowdown of China's economy, particularly its property sector, the strong headwinds arising from high inflation and interest rate hikes in advanced economies including the US, and the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war.

During FY2023, the freight rates charged by the Group's vessels were in general lower than last year, this is in line with the movement of the BDI, which is closely correlated to the market freight rate. During the year, the BDI remained volatile by hitting its low of about 500 points in February 2023, reaching its peak of about 3,300 points in December 2023, hovering between the 1,000 to 2,000 points level for most of 2023, and was considerably lower than the 1,500 to 2,500 points level in 2022. Although the market freight rates fluctuated considerably during the year, as global trading activities have returned to their normality following the containment of the pandemic, the Group remains prudently optimistic about the prospects of the marine transportation business in the medium to long term.

The carrying capacity of the Group's dry bulk fleet, which currently comprises three Supramax size vessels, is approximately 171,000 dwt. The Group has been considering to acquire a second-hand Supramax or Panamax size vessel but the prices of these vessel types have increased significantly since 2021. However, the second-hand dry bulk vessel market has softened recently when compared to its peak in around mid-2022 and some buying opportunities have emerged. The Group will inform shareholders of any update of the vessel acquisition as and when appropriate.

At 31 December 2023, with reference to the then prevailing market conditions (including second-hand prices of similar vessels in terms of country of built, tonnage and age and market freight rate), an impairment loss on vessels amounted to US\$1,008,000 (2022: US\$797,000) was recognised for the year.

### **Investment holding**

The Group's investment holding business posted a revenue of US\$63,000 (2022: US\$293,000) and recorded a loss of US\$1,186,000 (2022: US\$1,104,000) for FY2023. The revenue of the business represented interest income from corporate bonds and the loss incurred was mainly a result of the recognition of allowance for credit losses on debt instruments (i.e., corporate bonds) at fair value through other comprehensive income ("FVTOCI") of US\$1,146,000 (2022: US\$1,402,000). The recognition of credit losses represented the further deterioration of the financial position of the issuers of the corporate bonds held by the Group. These bond issuers are all property companies based in the Mainland with their credit ratings being withdrawn or downgraded by the credit rating agencies, and most of the bonds held by the Group at the year end were in default status due to non-payments of interest and/or principal.

As the Group expected the uncertainties of the financial position of these bond issuers would ultimately affect the collection of contractual cash flows from their bonds, an allowance for credit losses on debt instruments at FVTOCI of US\$1,146,000 (2022: US\$1,402,000), which mainly reflected the further increase in credit risks of these bonds, was recognised during the year. The Group had performed an impairment assessment on these debt instruments under the expected credit losses ("ECL") model. The measurement of ECL is a function of the probability of default and the loss given default (i.e., the magnitude of the loss if there is a default), and the assessment of the probability of default and loss given default is based on historical data and forward-looking information. In determining the ECL on the Group's debt instruments, the management had taken into account factors including the withdrawal or downgrading of credit rating of the bond issuers by the credit rating agencies, the defaults of the bond issuers in their payments of interest and/or principal, and forward-looking information including the future macroeconomic conditions affecting the operations of the bond issuers.

During FY2023, the Group had not made any new investments in corporate bonds and there were partial principal repayments of a debt instrument totalling US\$48,000. At the year end, the corporate bonds held by the Group were issued by seven property companies with a yield to maturity upon initial acquisition of these bonds ranging from approximately 5.37% to 12.33% per annum, the total carrying amount of these bonds amounted to US\$389,000 and was classified as non-current. For the current year, the decrease in fair value of the Group's debt instruments at FVTOCI of US\$1,219,000 (2022: US\$2,439,000) was recognised as other comprehensive expense.

### Property holding and investment

In February 2022, the Group entered into a conditional provisional sale and purchase agreement with an independent third party to dispose of the Group's investment property at a consideration of HK\$68,300,000 (equivalent to US\$8,756,000). The transaction was approved by the Company's shareholders in a special general meeting held on 28 April 2022 and was completed on 6 June 2022. Upon completion of the disposal, a loss on disposal of US\$183,000 representing the direct expenses related to the disposal was recognised, which largely accounted for the loss incurred by the business for the year ended 31 December 2022 of US\$196,000. For the year ended 31 December 2022, the Group's property holding and investment business had no revenue as the investment property, being an office unit at Shun Tak Centre, Sheung Wan, Hong Kong, was vacant before it was disposed of. The Group is not holding any investment property at present and will look for acquisition opportunities of investment properties with good rental yield and/or high appreciation potential.

#### Merchandise trading

During FY2023, mainly owing to the aftermath effect of the COVID pandemic, the Group's merchandise trading business, which focusing on trading of electronic components, remained in temporary halt and no revenue (2022: nil) nor profit or loss (2022: loss of US\$91,000) were booked. The Group intends to resume the business when market conditions improve.

#### Share of result of a joint venture

On 26 September 2023, the Group entered into an agreement to dispose of a subsidiary that held an indirect holding of 41.7% equity interest in a joint venture, which in turn held an industrial property in Shanghai, China. The loss of the joint venture shared by the Group before the disposal amounted to US\$788,000 (2022: US\$758,000) and was mainly related to the decrease in fair value of the aforementioned industrial property. The disposal of the subsidiary was completed in October 2023 and a loss on disposal of US\$2,100,000 was recognised, further details of the transaction were stated in the Company's announcement dated 26 September 2023. At 31 December 2022, the carrying value of the Group's investment in the joint venture was US\$4,015,000.

#### **OVERALL RESULTS**

For FY2023, the Group recorded a loss attributable to owners of the Company of US\$3,974,000 (2022: profit of US\$1,123,000) and a total comprehensive expense attributable to owners of the Company of US\$4,040,000 (2022: US\$314,000). Such turnaround of the Group's results was mainly the combined effect of (i) the decrease in profit contribution from the Group's marine transportation operation to US\$2,227,000 (2022: US\$5,436,000); (ii) the loss on disposal of a subsidiary aforementioned of US\$2,100,000 (2022: nil); (iii) the decrease in allowance for credit losses on debt instruments at FVTOCI to US\$1,146,000 (2022: US\$1,402,000); and (iv) the increase in impairment loss recognised on vessels to US\$1,008,000 (2022: US\$797,000).

### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

#### Liquidity, financial resources and capital structure

During FY2023, the Group financed its operation mainly by cash generated from operations, credit facilities provided by a financial institution as well as shareholders' funds. At 31 December 2023, the Group had current assets of US\$18,807,000 (2022: US\$18,277,000) and liquid assets comprising bank deposits and cash and cash equivalents totalling US\$17,849,000 (2022: US\$15,819,000). The Group's current ratio, calculated based on current assets over current liabilities of US\$1,927,000 (2022: US\$3,826,000), was at a strong ratio of about 9.76 (2022: 4.78) at the year end. The significant increase in current ratio was mainly attributed to the net proceeds from disposal of the subsidiary aforementioned of US\$1,803,000 which had been applied as working capital of the Group.

At 31 December 2023, the equity attributable to owners of the Company amounted to US\$57,098,000 (2022: US\$61,138,000), decreased by US\$4,040,000 when compared with the last year end and was mainly a result of the loss incurred by the Group of US\$3,974,000.

At the year end, the Group's borrowings represented loans from a financial institution mainly applied for financing the holdings of vessels. The borrowings were all due within one year (2022: current portion of US\$2,122,000 and non-current portion of US\$756,000, totalling US\$2,878,000), denominated in United States dollars, bore interests at floating rates, and were secured by two vessels owned by the Group. The following is an analysis of the Group's borrowings and its maturity profile:

	At	At
	31 December	31 December
	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Secured loans	756	2,878
The carrying amounts of the loans are repayable*: Within a period not exceeding one year Within a period of more than one year	756	2,122
but not exceeding two years		756
		2.070
	756	2,878

<sup>\*</sup> The amounts due are based on the scheduled repayment dates set out in the loan agreements.

For FY2023, the Group's finance costs of US\$187,000 (2022: US\$346,000) represented mainly interests for the borrowings, finance costs decreased by 46% was mainly a result of the decrease in the average amount of borrowings over last year.

The Group's gearing ratio, calculated on the basis of total borrowings of US\$756,000 (2022: US\$2,878,000) divided by total equity of US\$57,098,000 (2022: US\$61,138,000), was at a low ratio of about 1% (2022: 5%) at the year end.

The Group's interest income from banks increased by 153% to US\$612,000 (2022: US\$242,000) over last year, mainly resulted from additional surplus funds on hand and the general rise in bank deposit rates.

With the amount of liquid assets on hand as well as the credit facilities granted by a financial institution, the management is of the view that the Group has sufficient financial resources to meet its ongoing operational requirement.

### Use of proceeds from the Open Offer

In January 2021, the Company successfully raised US\$9,148,000 before expenses by way of an open offer of 548,851,784 offer shares (with aggregate nominal value of US\$548,851.784) at the subscription price of HK\$0.13 per offer share (the closing price of the Company's shares was HK\$0.193 on the day when the subscription price was fixed) on the basis of one offer share for every one share of the Company held on the record date (the "Open Offer"). The net proceeds from the Open Offer were US\$8,621,000 (equivalent to a net subscription price of approximately HK\$0.12 per offer share), of which a sum of US\$2,821,000 was utilised as intended to repay a bank revolving loan to achieve immediate saving in finance costs, whilst the remainder of the net proceeds of US\$5,800,000 was earmarked as working capital for the Group's marine transportation business. As opposed to the original intention to apply approximately 50% of the remainder of the proceeds to its marine transportation business, approximately 40% to its investment holding business and approximately 10% to its merchandise trading business as working capital, the net proceeds from the Open Offer were not applied as working capital for the Group's merchandise trading and investment holding businesses as the Group was not active in its merchandise trading and investment activities primarily owing to the adverse economic impact brought by the prolonged continuation of the COVID pandemic. The Company has therefore earmarked the remaining net proceeds of US\$5,800,000 as working capital for the Group's marine transportation business before any acquisition of a vessel is proceeded with. Such working capital would be continually be used and replenished in the course of operation on an ongoing basis.

The price range of the second-hand Supramax and Panamax vessels with varying specifications that are under consideration by the management has increased significantly since 2021 to around US\$7 million to US\$17 million currently, about 30% higher on average than the management's original budget of US\$7 million to US\$12 million back in 2021. The second-hand dry bulk vessel market has softened recently when compared to its peak in around mid-2022 and some buying opportunities have emerged. The management is in the course of evaluating certain vessel buying opportunities and it is still the Group's intention to reutilise the remaining net proceeds of the Open Offer of US\$5,800,000 to acquire a second-hand dry bulk vessel. The management will continue to closely monitor the market conditions and will inform shareholders of any update of the vessel acquisition as and when appropriate.

# Foreign currency management

The monetary assets and liabilities as well as business transactions of the Group are mainly denominated in United States dollars or Hong Kong dollars. During FY2023, the Group had not experienced any significant exposure to exchange rate fluctuations, as such, the Group had not entered into any financial arrangements for hedging purposes. Appropriate measures will be undertaken by the Group should exchange rate fluctuations become significant.

# **Pledge of assets**

At 31 December 2023, two vessels (2022: two vessels) with an aggregate carrying amount of US\$25,574,000 (2022: US\$27,404,000) (including dry-docking) were pledged to a financial institution as security for the loan facilities granted to the Group.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

At 31 December 2023, the Group had no significant contingent liability (2022: nil).

# **Capital commitments**

At 31 December 2023, the Group had no significant capital commitment (2022: nil).

#### **EMPLOYEES AND REMUNERATION POLICY**

At 31 December 2023, the Group had 17 (2022: 16) employees including directors of the Company. For FY2023, staff costs (including directors' emoluments) amounted to US\$802,000 (2022: US\$703,000). The remuneration packages for directors and staff are normally reviewed annually and are structured by reference to prevailing market terms and individual competence, performance and experience. The Group operates a Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme (the "MPF Scheme") for employees in Hong Kong. In addition, the Group provides other employee benefits including medical insurance, subsidised training programme as well as discretionary bonus.

The Group's contributions to the MPF Scheme for its employees are fully and immediately vested in the employees once the contributions are made. Accordingly, there are no forfeited contributions under the MPF Scheme that may be used by the Group to reduce the existing level of contributions.

During FY2023, the Group continued to engage a crew agency to provide crew services (about 42 crew members) for two of the Group's vessels, crew expenses for the year amounted to US\$2,381,000 (2022: US\$2,679,000).

#### **RISK FACTORS**

The Group has identified and is facing a number of significant risks during FY2023. Some of these risks are ongoing factors which the industry has to cope with in the medium to long term. Other risk factors are specific to the Group.

### **Economic Risk**

The heightened political and economic tensions between China and the US, the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war, the demand for chartering services and the supply of vessels were some of the major factors that contributed to the volatility of BDI during FY2023. The BDI, which has a close correlation to market freight rate, remained volatile during 2023 by hitting its low of about 500 points in February 2023, reaching its peak of about 3,300 points in December 2023, and hovering between the 1,000 to 2,000 points level for most of 2023. The movement of BDI is outside of the Group's control and would have a material effect on the financial performance of the Group's marine transportation business.

The global economic conditions and the state of international financial and investment markets, including the economy, financial and investment markets of the US, Mainland China and Hong Kong, of which the Group has no control, have significant influence on the financial performance of the Group's investment holding business.

### **Market Risk**

The Group's marine transportation business is operating in a rather volatile market. The business of dry bulk cargo carriers is subject to the demand for chartering services and the supply of vessels by cargo shippers in the regional as well as the worldwide market. The Group is therefore facing intense competition among shippers.

#### **Financial Risk**

The Group is exposed to financial risks relating to foreign currency, interest rate, credit and liquidity in its ordinary course of business. Details of such risks and management policies are set out in note 35 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### **Environment Risk**

The Group is constantly exposed to inherent risks such as oil spills, pollution, collisions, mechanical breakdown of its vessels, adverse weather conditions, fire or other calamity. Any of these factors may cause disruptions to the Group's marine transportation business and result in loss or damage to its vessels or cargo. The Group may also be liable for damages or compensation payable and its existing insurance may not be able to cover all claims fully or its costs may increase significantly. This may adversely affect the financial performance of the Group's marine transportation business.

#### **Customer Risk**

The Group has been relied on a small number of customers in the last few years. This has been limiting the Group's bargaining power on freight rates and flexibility in freight contract options. The Group may not be able to expand its customer base in the short to medium term in light of the prevailing competitive market conditions which may adversely affect the financial performance of the Group's marine transportation business.

### **Supply Chain Risk**

The Group sources goods and products from a wide range of suppliers. The cooperation is based on well-entrenched relationship and fair terms of trade between the Group and its suppliers. However, the Group cannot warrant that the relationship with each supplier will remain unchanged, in the event the Group is unable to reach agreement upon reasonable terms with any suppliers and cannot find suitable substitute suppliers, the Group's marine transportation business may be affected.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS**

As far as the Board and the management are aware, the Group has complied in material respects with the relevant laws and regulations that have significant impact on the businesses and operations of the Group. During FY2023, there was no material breach of or non-compliance with the applicable laws and regulations by the Group.

### **RELATIONSHIP WITH EMPLOYEES, CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS**

The Group understands the importance of maintaining good relationships with its employees, customers and suppliers to meet its immediate and long-term business goals. During FY2023, there were no significant disputes between the Group and its employees, customers and suppliers.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES AND PERFORMANCE**

The Group is committed to the long-term sustainability of the environment and communities in which it operates. The Group is closely following the rules and regulations of the International Maritime Organization ("IMO"). The IMO sets out a number of regulations and guidelines for the shipping industry that include safety, environment, human, technical, legal and security elements. The Group has established internal control systems and procedures based on these IMO rules, especially the International Safety Management Code. The Group's internal control systems are subject to annual review and audit by the IMO compliance agents. The Group is working vigorously to improve its performance in order to follow and match the ever-changing requirements of the industry and the IMO in particular.

# **Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management**

The biographical details of Directors and senior management are set out below:

### **EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS**

Mr. Sue Ka Lok ("Mr. Sue"), Chairman

Aged 58, rejoined the Company as Executive Director in November 2021 and was re-appointed as the Chairman of the Board in January 2022. Mr. Sue is a member of the Nomination Committee and a director of various subsidiaries of the Company. Mr. Sue first joined the Company as Executive Director and the Chairman of the Board in October 2015, stepped down from the position as Chairman of the Board and re-designated as Non-executive Director in October 2017, re-appointed as the Chairman of the Board in February 2018, and subsequently resigned as Non-executive Director and the Chairman of the Board in January 2021.

Mr. Sue holds a Bachelor of Economics degree from The University of Sydney in Australia and a Master of Science in Finance degree from the City University of Hong Kong. Mr. Sue is a fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, a fellow certified practising accountant of the CPA Australia, a fellow of the Hong Kong Securities and Investment Institute, and a chartered secretary, chartered governance professional and fellow of both The Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute and The Chartered Governance Institute in the United Kingdom. He has extensive experience in corporate management, finance, accounting and company secretarial practice.

Mr. Sue is an executive director, the company secretary and chief executive officer of CSC Holdings Limited (stock code: 235), an executive director of EPI (Holdings) Limited (stock code: 689) and a non-executive director of ZO Future Group (formerly known as Birmingham Sports Holdings Limited) (stock code: 2309). All of the above-mentioned companies are listed on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

### Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine ("Ms. Lee"), Chief Executive Officer

Aged 55, joined the Group as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer in August 2023. She is a director of various subsidiaries of the Company. Ms. Lee holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Guangzhou Institute of Foreign Languages (now known as Guangdong University of Foreign Studies) and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of South Australia. She has extensive experience in international trading of metal minerals and commodities. Ms. Lee had worked as an economist in a major commercial bank and a senior executive in a state-owned trading group in the PRC.

### Ms. Wang Yu ("Ms. Wang"), Company Secretary

Aged 48, joined the Group as Executive Director in October 2017, appointed as Joint Company Secretary in February 2019 and subsequently appointed as Company Secretary in March 2019. She is a director of various subsidiaries of the Company. Ms. Wang holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Science and Technology of China, Bachelor of Laws degree from Manchester Metropolitan University, Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Birmingham in the United Kingdom, Master of Corporate Governance degree and Master of Professional Accounting degree from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Ms. Wang is a chartered secretary, chartered governance professional and fellow of both The Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute and The Chartered Governance Institute in the United Kingdom. She has experience in logistics industry, corporate administration and company secretarial practice.

# **Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management**

#### INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. Zhou Qijin ("Mr. Zhou")

Aged 63, joined the Group as Independent Non-executive Director in October 2015 and is the Chairman of the Nomination Committee and a member of the Audit Committee and the Remuneration Committee. Mr. Zhou holds a Bachelor's degree in law from the Southwest University of Political Science and Law, the PRC. He has extensive experience in property investments and automobile sales and marketing in the PRC.

### Mr. Pau Shiu Ming ("Mr. Pau")

Aged 74, joined the Group as Independent Non-executive Director in April 2018 and is the Chairman of the Remuneration Committee and a member of the Audit Committee and the Nomination Committee. Mr. Pau holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree from the University of Hong Kong. Mr. Pau had held senior roles in various international banks and has extensive experience in the banking and finance industry.

#### Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho ("Mr. Tsao")

Aged 59, joined the Group as Independent Non-executive Director in November 2019 and is the Chairman of the Audit Committee and a member of the Remuneration Committee and the Nomination Committee. Mr. Tsao holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Warwick in the United Kingdom. Mr. Tsao is a Certified Public Accountant (Practising) of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, an associate of The Chartered Governance Institute in the United Kingdom and an associate of the Financial Services Institute of Australasia (formerly known as Australasian Institute of Banking and Finance). Mr. Tsao has over 20 years' extensive experience in auditing, corporate finance and company secretarial practice.

# **SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

Mr. Yuen Chee Lap, Carl ("Mr. Yuen"), Chief Operating Officer and Financial Controller

Aged 50, joined the Company as Financial Manager in January 2004 and was appointed as Financial Controller in May 2006. Mr. Yuen took up the additional role as Chief Executive Officer in September 2019 and has been re-designated as Chief Operating Officer since August 2023 and is responsible for the Group's business operations, in particular, the marine transportation operation. He is a director of various subsidiaries of the Company. Mr. Yuen obtained a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Houston, United States in 1997 and 1998 respectively. He is a member of the Hong Kong Institute of Directors and the Association of Hong Kong Accountants. Mr. Yuen has rich experience in finance and accounting both in Hong Kong and the United States. He started his career in the United States when he joined a United States listed company in 2000 and served as its chief financial officer from 2000 to 2003. Mr. Yuen is an independent non-executive director of Qianhai Health Holdings Limited (stock code: 911), a company listed on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

The Directors are pleased to present their report and the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES AND BUSINESS REVIEW

The Company acts as an investment holding. The principal activities of its principal subsidiaries are set out in note 38 to the consolidated financial statements.

Further discussion and analysis of the Group's activities as required by Schedule 5 to the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 622 of the Laws of Hong Kong), including a discussion of the principal risks and uncertainties the Group facing, the particulars of important events affecting the Group that have occurred since the end of the financial year, an indication of likely future developments in the Group's businesses, the key relationships with employees, customers and suppliers, and the compliance with laws and regulations, can be found in the "Chairman's Statement" and "Management Discussion and Analysis" sections set out on pages 4 to 11 of this annual report and the "Corporate Governance Report" set out on pages 19 to 32 of this annual report. These discussions form part of this directors' report. In addition, discussions on the Group's environmental policies and performance are contained in the "Environmental, Social and Governance Report" on pages 33 to 52 of this annual report.

#### **RESULTS**

The results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 are set out in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income on page 58.

#### **FINAL DIVIDEND**

The Board has resolved not to declare the payment of a final dividend for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022: nil).

#### **FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

A summary of the published results and assets and liabilities of the Group for the last five financial years, as extracted from the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company, is set out on page 108. This summary does not form part of the audited consolidated financial statements.

### PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Details of movements in the Group's property, plant and equipment during the year are set out in note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### **SHARE CAPITAL**

Details of the Company's share capital are set out in note 27 to the consolidated financial statements.

### **DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVE OF THE COMPANY**

The Company has distributable reserve of US\$18,192,000 (2022: US\$24,995,000) as at 31 December 2023 available for distribution to its shareholders.

#### **MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS**

During the year, sales to the Group's two (2022: five) largest customers accounted for approximately 100.0% (2022: 100.0%) of the total revenue for the year and sales to the largest customer accounted for approximately 80.7% (2022: 44.4%). Purchases from the Group's five largest suppliers accounted for approximately 46.9% (2022: 50.5%) of the total purchases for the year and purchases from the largest supplier accounted for approximately 40.1% (2022: 43.3%).

None of the directors of the Company or any of their close associates or any shareholders (which, to the best knowledge of the directors, own more than 5% of the number of issued shares of the Company) had any beneficial interest in the Group's five largest customers or suppliers during the year.

#### **DIRECTORS**

The directors of the Company during the year and up to the date of this annual report were:

#### **Executive Directors:**

Mr. Sue Ka Lok

Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine (appointed on 18 August 2023)

Ms. Wang Yu

#### **Independent Non-executive Directors:**

Mr. Zhou Qijin Mr. Pau Shiu Ming Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho

In accordance with Bye-law 85(6) of the Bye-laws, any Director appointed by the Board shall retire at the next annual general meeting of the Company and shall then be eligible for re-election at that meeting. Accordingly, Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine shall retire at the forthcoming annual general meeting of the Company (the "2024 AGM"), and being eligible, offer herself for re-election.

In accordance with Bye-law 86 of the Bye-laws, each Director shall retire at least once every three years. Accordingly, Ms. Wang Yu, Mr. Zhou Qijin and Mr. Pau Shiu Ming will retire by rotation at the 2024 AGM, and being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

### **DIRECTORS' SERVICE CONTRACTS**

None of the directors being proposed for re-election at the 2024 AGM has a service contract with the Company or any of its subsidiaries which is not determinable by the Group within one year without payment of compensation, other than statutory compensation.

#### PERMITTED INDEMNITY PROVISIONS

Pursuant to the Bye-laws, every director or other officer of the Company for the time being acting in relation to any affairs of the Company shall be entitled to be indemnified and secured harmless out of the assets and profits of the Company from and against all actions, costs, charges, losses, damages and expenses which he/she shall or may incur or sustain in or about the execution of the duties of his/her office or otherwise in relation thereto, and no director or other officer shall be liable for any loss, misfortune or damage which may happen in the execution of his/her office or in relation thereto provided that this indemnity shall not extend to any matter in respect of any fraud or dishonesty which may attach to any of the directors or other officers. The Company has arranged appropriate directors' and officers' liability insurance coverage for the directors and other officers of the Company during the year.

#### **DIRECTORS' REMUNERATION**

Details of directors' remuneration are set out in note 11 to the consolidated financial statements.

#### DIRECTORS' MATERIAL INTERESTS IN CONTRACTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

No contract of significance to which the Company or any of its subsidiaries was a party and in which a director of the Company had a material interest, whether directly or indirectly, subsisted at the end of the year or at any time during the year.

# DIRECTORS' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES

As at 31 December 2023, none of the directors and chief executive of the Company had any interests in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of 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 Hong Kong Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code contained in the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

#### **SHARE OPTION SCHEME**

Details of the share option scheme of the Company are set out in note 28 to the consolidated financial statements.

### **DIRECTORS' RIGHTS TO ACQUIRE SHARES OR DEBENTURES**

Save as disclosed in the section headed "Share Option Scheme" above, at no time during the year was the Company or any of its subsidiaries a party to any arrangements to enable the directors of the Company to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debentures of, the Company or any other body corporate, and none of the directors of the Company or their spouse or minor children had any rights to subscribe for the securities of the Company, or had exercised any such rights during the year.

#### INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS OF SHAREHOLDERS DISCLOSEABLE UNDER THE SFO

As at 31 December 2023, the following interests of more than 5% of the total number of issued shares of the Company were recorded in the register of interests required to be kept by the Company pursuant to section 336 of the SFO:

Long positions in the shares of the Company:

			Approximate percentage of the
		Number of	Company's issued
Name of shareholder	Capacity and nature of interest	shares held	shares
Suen Cho Hung, Paul ("Mr. Suen")	Interest of controlled corporation	315,990,132 (Note)	28.79%
Brilliant Epic Asia Limited ("Brilliant Epic")	Interest of controlled corporation	315,990,132 (Note)	28.79%
Success United Development Limited	Beneficial owner	315,990,132 (Note)	28.79%
("Success United")			

Note:

Success United was a wholly-owned subsidiary of Brilliant Epic which was, in turn, wholly owned by Mr. Suen. Mr. Suen was the sole director of Brilliant Epic and Success United. Accordingly, Brilliant Epic and Mr. Suen were deemed to be interested in 315,990,132 shares of the Company held by Success United under the SFO.

The interests of Mr. Suen, Brilliant Epic and Success United in 315,990,132 shares of the Company referred to in the note above related to the same parcel of shares.

Save as disclosed above, the Company had not been notified of any other relevant interests or short positions in the shares and underlying shares of the Company as at 31 December 2023 as required pursuant to section 336 of the SFO.

#### **RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The related party disclosures in note 33 to the consolidated financial statements fall under the scope of "Connected Transactions" or "Continuing Connected Transactions" under Chapter 14A of the Hong Kong Listing Rules but are exempted from reporting, annual review, announcement or independent shareholders' approval requirements.

#### **REMUNERATION POLICY**

The Group remunerates its employees based on their competence, performance, experience and prevailing market terms. Other employee benefits included provident fund scheme, medical insurance, subsidised training programme as well as discretionary bonus.

#### **DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN COMPETING BUSINESS**

During the year and up to the date of this annual report, none of the directors, or any of their respective close associates (as defined in the Hong Kong Listing Rules) had any material interest in a business that competes or may compete with the businesses of the Group.

#### **PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS**

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights under the Bye-laws or the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda which would oblige the Company to offer new shares on a pro rata basis to existing shareholders.

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

During the year ended 31 December 2023, neither the Company, nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

### **EQUITY-LINKED AGREEMENTS**

Save for the share option scheme of the Company disclosed above, no equity-linked agreements were entered into by the Group, or existed during the year.

### **MANAGEMENT CONTRACTS**

No contract concerning the management and administration of the whole or any substantial part of any business of the Company was entered into or existed during the year.

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023 have been reviewed by the Audit Committee and are duly approved by the Board under the recommendation of the Audit Committee.

# **AUDITOR**

The consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023 have been audited by Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu. A resolution will be proposed at the 2024 AGM to re-appoint Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu as auditor of the Company.

On behalf of the Board

Sue Ka Lok

Chairman

Hong Kong, 28 March 2024

The Company has recognised the importance of transparency and accountability, and believes that shareholders can benefit from good corporate governance. The Company aims to achieve good standard of corporate governance.

#### **CULTURES AND VALUES**

The Board believes a healthy corporate culture is vital in attaining the Group's vision, values and strategy. It trusts that conducting business in an ethical and reliable way will maximise its long-term interests and those of its stakeholders. The structure of corporate governance adopted by the Company emphasises a quality board, sound internal controls and accountability to shareholders and these are based upon an ethical corporate culture. It is the Board's mission to establish and foster a healthy corporate culture with the following principles and to ensure that the Company's vision, values and business strategies are aligned to it.

# (i) Ethics and Integrity

The Group strives to maintain a high standard of business ethics and corporate governance across all business levels and operating activities. Directors, management and staff are all required to act lawfully, ethically and responsibly. Such required standards are set out in the Group's Code of Conduct, Anti-corruption Policy and Whistleblowing Policy (further discussions on the two policies are in the sections below). Trainings are conducted from time to time to reinforce the values across the Group and to uphold the standards with respect to ethics and integrity.

#### (ii) Commitment to Excellence

The Group believes commitment to excellence is the first step to continuous improvement and the driving force behind a business organisation. The Group implements a performance appraisal system and aims to reward and recognise performing staff members by providing them competitive remuneration packages, as well as the opportunities of career development and progression within the Group. Such values are articulated in policies, procedures and processes in day-to-day operations. Department heads are responsible to set expectations for staff members with respect to their roles and responsibilities. In addition, staff members are also encouraged to enroll in external training courses and seminars in order to update their technical skills and keep abreast of the market and regulatory developments.

#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Company had complied with all the applicable provisions of the Corporate Governance Code (the "**CG Code**") set out in Appendix 14 (renamed as Appendix C1 since 31 December 2023) to the Hong Kong Listing Rules for the year ended 31 December 2023.

# **DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS**

The Company has adopted the Model Code set out in Appendix 10 (renamed as Appendix C3 since 31 December 2023) to the Hong Kong Listing Rules as its own code of conduct regarding securities transactions by directors of the Company. Having made specific enquiry with the directors, all of them confirmed that they had complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code during the year ended 31 December 2023.

#### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board formulates the overall strategy of the Group, monitors its financial performance and maintains effective oversight over the management. The Board members are fully committed to their roles and have acted in good faith to maximise the shareholders' value in the long run, and have aligned the Group's goals and directions with the prevailing economic and market conditions. Daily operations and administration are delegated to the management.

The Board met regularly throughout the year to discuss the overall business strategy as well as the operational and financial performance of the Group. The directors are kept informed on timely basis of major changes that may affect the Group's businesses, including relevant rules and regulations. The directors can, upon reasonable request, seek independent professional advice in appropriate circumstances, at the Company's expenses. The Board shall resolve to provide separate appropriate independent professional advice to the directors to assist the relevant directors to discharge their duties.

As at 28 March 2024, the date of this annual report, the Board comprises six directors, three of which are Executive Directors, namely Mr. Sue Ka Lok (Chairman), Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine (Chief Executive Officer) and Ms. Wang Yu; and three are Independent Non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Zhou Qijin, Mr. Pau Shiu Ming and Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho. The directors are considered to have a balance of skills and experience appropriate for the requirements of the businesses of the Company. The Company has received from each of the independent non-executive directors an annual confirmation of his independence pursuant to Rule 3.13 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules.

The Company considers all the independent non-executive directors are independent in accordance with the independence guidelines set out in the Hong Kong Listing Rules. Biographical details of the directors are set out under the section headed "Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management" on pages 12 to 13 of this annual report.

Mr. Suen Cho Hung, Paul ("Mr. Suen"), the ultimate beneficial owner of the substantial shareholder of the Company, is the ultimate beneficial owner of the substantial shareholder of EPI (Holdings) Limited (stock code: 689) of which Mr. Sue Ka Lok is an executive director. Mr. Suen is the ultimate beneficial owner of the substantial shareholder of ZO Future Group (formerly known as Birmingham Sports Holdings Limited) (stock code: 2309) of which Mr. Sue Ka Lok is a non-executive director. Mr. Suen also indirectly holds approximately 8.24% of the issued shares in CSC Holdings Limited (stock code: 235) of which Mr. Sue Ka Lok is an executive director, the company secretary and chief executive officer. Save as disclosed above, there are no other financial, business, family or other material/relevant relationships between the substantial shareholders and the members of the Board.

The Company will provide a comprehensive, formal and tailored induction to each newly appointed director on his/her first appointment in order to enable him/her to have an appropriate understanding of the businesses and operations of the Group and that he/she is fully aware of his/her responsibilities and obligations under the Hong Kong Listing Rules and the relevant regulatory requirements. Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine, newly appointed as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer on 18 August 2023, obtained the legal advice referred to in Rule 3.09D of the Hong Kong Listing Rules and she has confirmed she understood her obligations as a director of the Company.

All directors are encouraged to participate in continuous professional development to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills, and are continually updated on the developments of the statutory and regulatory regime and the business environment to facilitate the discharge of their responsibilities. The Company has provided timely technical updates, including briefings on the amendments on the Hong Kong Listing Rules and the news release published by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange to the directors. Continuing briefing and professional development for directors will be arranged where necessary.

The directors have participated in continuous professional development by attending seminars, in-house briefings and/or reading materials on the related areas to develop and refresh their knowledge and skills. During the year ended 31 December 2023, all the directors including Mr. Sue Ka Lok, Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine, Ms. Wang Yu, Mr. Zhou Qijin, Mr. Pau Shiu Ming and Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho had complied with Code Provision C.1.4 of the CG Code and had provided the Company with their respective training records pursuant to the CG Code.

The Board has established the mechanism to ensure independent views and input of independent non-executive directors are made available to the Board. The summary of the mechanism is set out below:

#### (a) Composition

The Board ensures the appointment of at least three independent non-executive directors and at least one-third of its members being independent non-executive directors, with at least one independent non-executive director possessing appropriate professional qualifications, or accounting or related financial management expertise. The current Board has a balanced composition of three executive directors and three independent non-executive directors so that there is a strong independent element on the Board, which allows the effective exercise of independent judgement.

### (b) Independence Assessment

The Board assesses the independence of independent non-executive directors annually with regards to, among others, (i) their character, integrity, expertise and experience; (ii) declaration of conflict of interest in their roles as independent non-executive directors; (iii) duration of appointment as independent non-executive directors; (iv) time commitments to the Company's affairs; (v) past and present financial or other interests in the business of the Company; and (vi) connection with other director(s), chief executive or substantial shareholder(s) of the Company.

### (c) Board Decision Making

Directors (including independent non-executive directors) are entitled to seek further information independently from the management on the matters to be discussed at Board meetings and, where necessary, independent advice from external professional advisers at the Company's expense. A director (including independent non-executive director) who has a material interest in a contract, transaction or arrangement shall not vote or be counted in the quorum on any Board resolution approving the same. The Chairman shall promote a culture of openness, encourages directors with different views to voice their concerns and allows sufficient time for discussion of matters.

The Board will review the above mechanism annually to ensure it is implemented effectively.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, four regular Board meetings and one general meeting were held and the attendance of each director is set out below:

	Number of attendance	
	Board	General
	Meetings	Meeting
Executive Directors		
Mr. Sue Ka Lok	4/4	1/1
Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine (appointed on 18 August 2023)	2/2	0/0
Ms. Wang Yu	4/4	1/1
Independent Non-executive Directors		
Mr. Zhou Qijin	4/4	1/1
Mr. Pau Shiu Ming	4/4	1/1
Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho	4/4	1/1

#### **CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

The Group adopts a dual leadership structure in which the role of the Chairman is separated from that of the Chief Executive Officer (the "**CEO**"). The Chairman is responsible for overseeing all Board functions, while the management is under the leadership of the CEO to oversee the day-to-day operations of the Group and implement the strategies and policies approved by the Board.

The position of the Chairman of the Board is currently held by Mr. Sue Ka Lok and the position of CEO is currently held by Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine.

### TERM OF APPOINTMENT OF NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Each of the Independent Non-executive Directors is appointed for a term of twelve-month period which automatically renews for successive twelve-month periods unless terminated by either party in writing prior to the expiry of the term. All the Independent Non-executive Directors are also subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at least once every three years at the annual general meetings of the Company in accordance with the Bye-laws.

#### **REMUNERATION COMMITTEE**

The Remuneration Committee has specific written terms of reference that is in compliance with the CG Code. As at the date of this annual report, the Remuneration Committee comprises three Independent Non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Pau Shiu Ming, Mr. Zhou Qijin and Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho. Mr. Pau Shiu Ming is the Chairman of the Remuneration Committee.

The Remuneration Committee is mainly responsible for formulating the remuneration policy, reviewing and recommending to the Board the annual remuneration policy and the remuneration of the directors and senior management. The overriding objective of the remuneration policy is to ensure that the Group is able to attract, retain and motivate a high-caliber team which is essential to the success of the Group. The full terms of reference are available on the Company's website and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's website.

The Remuneration Committee met three times during the year ended 31 December 2023 to assess the performance of the directors, and review and make recommendations to the Board on the remuneration packages for directors and senior management. The attendance of each member is set out below:

	Number of
Members	attendance
Mr. Pau Shiu Ming	3/3
Mr. Zhou Qijin	3/3
Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho	3/3

Details of the director remuneration are set out in note 11 to the consolidated financial statements. Pursuant to Code Provision E.1.5 of the CG Code, the details of the annual remuneration of the senior management by bands during the year are set out below:

	Number of
Remuneration band	individual

HK\$500,000 to HK\$1,000,000

# **NOMINATION COMMITTEE**

The Nomination Committee has specific written terms of reference that is in compliance with the CG Code. As at the date of this annual report, the Nomination Committee comprises four members, including three Independent Non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Zhou Qijin, Mr. Pau Shiu Ming and Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho; and one Executive Director, namely Mr. Sue Ka Lok. Mr. Zhou Qijin is the Chairman of the Nomination Committee.

The Nomination Committee is mainly responsible for reviewing the structure, size, and composition of the Board, assessing the independence of independent non-executive directors, identifying potential directors and making recommendations to the Board on the appointment or re-appointment of directors of the Company. Potential new directors are selected on the basis of their qualifications, skills and experience that he/she could add value to the management through his/her contributions in the relevant strategic business areas. It is also authorised to obtain independent professional advice, at the Company's expense, if it considers necessary. The full terms of reference are available on the Company's website and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's website.

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The Nomination Committee met two times during the year ended 31 December 2023 to review the board diversity policy (the "**Board Diversity Policy**") and the nomination policy (the "**Nomination Policy**") of the Company, the independence of the independent non-executive directors, and the structure, size and composition of the Board; and to make recommendation to the Board on the re-election of directors and the appointment of director. The attendance of each member is set out below:

	Number of
Members	attendance
Mr. Zhou Qijin	2/2
Mr. Pau Shiu Ming	2/2
Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho	2/2
Mr. Sue Ka Lok	2/2

#### **Board Diversity Policy**

The Company recognises the benefits of having a diverse Board to enhance the quality of its performance and adopted the Board Diversity Policy. The Board Diversity Policy sets out that in determining the optimum composition of the Board, differences in skills, regional and industry experience, background, race, gender and other qualities of directors shall be considered. All Board appointments are made on merits, in the context of skills and experience the Board as a whole requires, with due regard for the benefits of diversity of the Board. The Nomination Committee and the Board shall review and assess the Board composition and its effectiveness on an annual basis. When there is vacancy on Board, the Nomination Committee will recommend suitable candidates for appointment to the Board on merits, based on the terms of reference of the Nomination Committee, with due regard to the Company's own circumstances.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company maintained an effective Board comprising members of different genders, professional background and industry experience. The Board Diversity Policy has been consistently implemented. As at the date of this annual report, the Board consists of two female Directors and four male Directors. The Board considered gender diversity in respect of the Board is satisfactory.

The Group has taken, and will continue to take, steps to promote diversity at all levels of workforce (including senior management). Opportunities for employment, training and career development are equally opened to all eligible employees without discrimination so as to develop a pipeline of potential successors to the Board and the workforce. As at 31 December 2023, the male to female ratio in the workforce (including senior management) is approximately 1:1. The Board considered gender diversity in respect of workforce is achieved.

### **Nomination Policy**

The Board has adopted the Nomination Policy setting out the principles which guide the Nomination Committee to identify and evaluate a candidate for nomination to (i) the Board for appointment; and (ii) the shareholders for election as a director of the Company. According to the Nomination Policy, in assessing the suitability of a proposed candidate, the Board shall take into account, among others, the following factors: (i) qualifications, professional experience, skills and knowledge relevant to the businesses of the Group; (ii) commitment in respect of available time and relevant interest; (iii) diversity perspectives set out in the Board Diversity Policy; (iv) in case of independent non-executive directors, regulatory requirement for appointment of independent non-executive directors and the independence criteria set out in the Hong Kong Listing Rules; and (v) any other factors that the Board considers appropriate.

For filling a casual vacancy or as an addition to the existing Board, the Nomination Committee shall make recommendations for the Board's consideration and approval. For proposing candidates to stand for election at a general meeting, the Nomination Committee shall make nominations to the Board for its consideration and recommendation. On making recommendation, the Nomination Committee may submit to the Board for consideration a proposal comprising, inter alia, the personal profile of the proposed candidate, which contains at least the candidate's information required to be disclosed under Rule 13.51 of the Hong Kong Listing Rules. The Board shall be vested with power to make the final decision on all matters relating to the recommendation of candidates (i) for appointment and (ii) for standing for election at a general meeting as a director of the Company.

The Nomination Committee will review the Board Diversity Policy annually and the Nomination Policy from time to time to ensure that the policies will be implemented effectively.

# **AUDITOR AND AUDITOR'S REMUNERATION**

The statement of the external auditor of the Company about their responsibilities on the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 is set out in the "Independent Auditor's Report" on pages 53 to 57 of this annual report.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the remuneration payable to the Company's auditor, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu, for the provision of audit services amounted to HK\$1,130,000 and that for the provision of non-audit related services amounted to HK\$20,000.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee has specific written terms of reference that is in compliance with the CG Code. As at the date of this annual report, the Audit Committee comprises three Independent Non-executive Directors, namely Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho, Mr. Zhou Qijin and Mr. Pau Shiu Ming, who among themselves possess a wealth of management experience in the accounting profession and in commercial fields. Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho is the Chairman of the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee is mainly responsible for reviewing financial statements of the Company, reviewing the risk management and internal control systems of the Group and meeting with the auditor of the Company for audit matters. Any findings and recommendations of the Audit Committee will be submitted to the Board for consideration.

The Audit Committee is authorised by the Board to investigate any activity within its terms of reference. It is authorised to seek any information it requires from any employee. It is also authorised to obtain outside legal or other independent professional advice and to secure the attendance of outsiders with the relevant experience and expertise if it considers necessary. The full terms of reference are available on the Company's website and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's website.

The Audit Committee met three times during the year ended 31 December 2023 and the attendance of each member is set out below:

	Number of
Members	attendance
Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho	3/3
Mr. Zhou Qijin	3/3
Mr. Pau Shiu Ming	3/3

The following is a summary of work performed by the Audit Committee during the year:

- 1. reviewed and discussed the audited consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2022 and recommended the same to the Board for approval;
- reviewed and discussed the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements of the Company for the six months ended 30 June 2023 and recommended the same to the Board for approval;
- 3. reviewed and discussed with the management and the auditor of the Company the accounting policies and practices which might have significant impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company and the scope of the audit;
- 4. reviewed report from the auditor of the Company regarding their audit on the Company's consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2022;
- 5. reviewed the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems of the Group;
- 6. reviewed and approved the remuneration and the terms of engagement of the Company's auditor; and reviewed and made recommendations to the Board on the re-appointment of the Company's auditor; and
- 7. reviewed the Non-audit Services Policy, Anti-corruption Policy (as referred to below) and Whistleblowing Policy (as referred to below).

#### DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Directors acknowledge their responsibility for preparing the consolidated financial statements of the Company for the year ended 31 December 2023, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Company and of the Group at that date and of the Group's results and cash flows for the year then ended and are properly prepared on the going concern basis in accordance with the statutory requirements and applicable accounting standards.

### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE FUNCTIONS**

The Board is responsible for determining the policy for corporate governance of the Company and performing the corporate governance duties as set out below:

- 1. to develop and review the Group's policies and practices on corporate governance and make recommendations;
- 2. to review and monitor the training and continuous professional development of directors and senior management;
- 3. to review and monitor the Group's policies and practices on compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements;
- 4. to develop, review and monitor the code of conduct and compliance manual applicable to employees and directors of the Group; and
- 5. to review the Group's compliance with the CG Code and its disclosure requirements in the corporate governance report.

# **RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL**

The Board has ultimate responsibilities for evaluating and determining the Company's levels of risk tolerance, overseeing the management in the design, implementation and monitoring of the risk management and internal control systems on an ongoing basis and reviewing their effectiveness.

The Group's risk management and internal control systems aim to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatements or losses caused by judgment in decision making process, human error, fraud or other irregularities.

The Board is also committed to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems annually. The review covered material controls, including financial, operational and compliance controls at entity and operational levels. The Group does not have an internal audit function due to the size of the Group and consideration for cost effectiveness. Instead, such review is carried out with the assistance of Roma Risk Advisory Limited ("Roma"), an independent outsourced internal auditor. The review aims to ensure the adequacy of resources, staff qualifications and experience, training programmes and budget of the Group's accounting, internal audit and financial reporting functions. It also assists the Group to maintain the quality of the review in assessing its risk management and internal control systems.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group had reviewed the internal audit charter which defined the scope and objectives of the internal audit function and its reporting protocol. The Group had also conducted an annual risk assessment to identify, evaluate and manage the significant strategic risks, financial risks, operational risks, compliance risks and environmental, social and governance ("ESG") risks of its major business segments. Based on the risk assessment results following a risk based methodology audit approach, an annual review by Roma was performed with a view to assisting the Board and the Audit Committee to evaluate the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems. For conducting the annual review, Roma had reviewed the relevant policies and procedures of the Group, conducted collaborative interviews and document inspections, and performed walkthrough tests and samples testing procedures on the Group's risk management and internal control systems. After the review, Roma had presented to the Board and the Audit Committee the Enterprise Risk Management Report (the "ERM Report") and the Internal Control Report (the "IC Report") which contained certain findings and relevant recommendations and suggestions for improvement. The Board and the Audit Committee have reviewed and discussed the findings and recommendations with the management. In order to manage risks (including ESG risks) effectively and control risks within acceptable levels, the management will continue to monitor the identified risks (including ESG risks) and the respective control measures, and arrange adequate resources for the effective control measures undertaken. The ERM Report and the IC Report have been endorsed by the Audit Committee and the management is required to establish remedial plans and take actions to rectify those internal control deficiencies identified (if any) according to their respective risk level and priorities. Subsequent review, where applicable, will be performed by Roma to monitor the implementation of those agreed recommendations and to report the results of the follow-up review to the Audit Committee.

In connection with the controls on compliance aspect, the Company has established a policy on handling and dissemination of inside information that sets out the procedures in handling inside information in an accurate and secure manner so as to avoid possible mishandling of inside information within the Group.

The Board has also considered the adequacy of resources, staff qualifications and experience, training programmes and budget of the Group's accounting and financial reporting function as well as those relating to the Group's ESG performance and reporting. Based on the risk management and internal control systems established and maintained by the Group, the work performed by Roma and the external auditor, and the reviews performed by the management, the Audit Committee and the Board, the Audit Committee and the Board are not aware of any significant internal control and risk management weaknesses or inconsistencies with the Group's risk management and internal control policies, and are of the opinion that the Group has maintained adequate and effective risk management and internal control systems addressing strategic, financial, operational, compliance and ESG risks for the year ended 31 December 2023. The Company has complied with the relevant code provisions of the CG Code relating to risk management and internal control. Furthermore, the Board is of the opinion that the Group has adequate financial and human resources for its accounting and financial reporting function.

### **Anti-corruption Policy**

The Board has adopted an anti-fraud and counter-corruption policy (the "Anti-corruption Policy") which forms an important part of the Group's effective risk management and internal control systems. The Group is committed to achieving high standards of business ethics and corporate governance across all business levels and operating activities and has zero tolerance towards fraud and corruption. It strives to protect its reputation, assets and information from any attempt of fraud, corruption, deceit or improper conduct by employees or third parties. In line with this, the Anti-corruption Policy has outlined the Company's expectations and requirements relating to the prevention, detection, reporting and investigation of any suspected fraud, corruption and other similar irregularities. The Anti-corruption Policy applies to all Group employees and all business partners, including customers, suppliers and debtors. The Audit Committee has the overall responsibility for the implementation, monitoring and periodic review of the Anti-corruption Policy.

### **Whistleblowing Policy**

The Board has adopted a whistleblowing policy (the "Whistleblowing Policy") which forms an important part of the Group's effective risk management and internal control systems. In line with the Group's commitment to promote ethical standards and to uncover any fraud, malpractice and misconduct within the organisation, the purpose of the Whistleblowing Policy is to (i) encourage and assist any employee(s) of the Group or third parties (e.g. customers, suppliers etc.) to raise the concern and disclose related information confidentially; (ii) provide reporting channels and guidance on whistleblowing to employees or third parties to raise the concern rather than neglecting it; and (iii) reveal suspected fraud, malpractice or misconduct before these activities cause disruption or loss to the Group. The Audit Committee has the overall responsibility for implementing, monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the Whistleblowing Policy and the actions resulting from the investigation.

External parties who wish to obtain more information on the Anti-corruption Policy and Whistleblowing Policy could contact us by email to acchairman@courageinv.com or by mail to Room 1501, 15th Floor, Great Eagle Centre, 23 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

#### **COMPANY SECRETARY**

Ms. Wang Yu was appointed the Company Secretary in March 2019. She has taken no less than 15 hours of the relevant professional training during the year ended 31 December 2023. The biographical details of Ms. Wang Yu are set out under the section headed "Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management" on pages 12 to 13 of this annual report.

# **SHAREHOLDER RIGHTS**

The annual general meeting ("**AGM**") of the Company provides a forum for communication between the shareholders and the Board. The notice of the AGM is despatched to all shareholders at least twenty-one clear days prior to such AGM. The chairmen of all Board committees are invited to attend the AGM. The chairman of the Board and the chairmen of all the Board committees, or in their absence, other members of the respective committees, are available to answer questions at the AGM. The auditor of the Company is also invited to attend the AGM to answer questions about the conduct of the audit, the preparation and content of the auditors' report, the accounting policies and the auditor's independence.

### Procedures for shareholders to convene a special general meeting

Shareholders can submit a requisition to convene a special general meeting pursuant to the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (the "Companies Act"), shareholders holding at the date of deposit of the requisition not less than one-tenth of the paid up capital of the Company carrying the right of voting at general meetings of the Company shall at all times have the right, by written requisition to the Board or the Company Secretary of the Company, to require a special general meeting to be called by the Board for the transaction of any business specified in such requisition.

The written requisition must:

- state the purposes of the special general meeting;
- be signed by all the requisitionists (may consist of one or several documents in like form each signed by one or more requisitionists); and
- be deposited at the Company's office in Hong Kong for the attention of the Company Secretary.

If the Directors do not within twenty-one days from the date of the deposit of the requisition proceed duly to convene a special general meeting, the requisitionists, or any of them representing more than one-half of the total voting rights of all of them, may themselves convene a special general meeting, but any meeting so convened shall not be held after the expiration of three months from the said date.

# Procedures for shareholders to put forward proposals at general meetings

Pursuant to the Companies Act, any number of shareholders representing not less than one-twentieth of the total voting rights of all the shareholders having at the date of the requisition a right to vote at the meeting to which the requisition relates; or not less than one hundred shareholders, can request the Company in writing to:

- (a) give to shareholders of the Company entitled to receive notice of the next annual general meeting notice of any resolution which may properly be moved and is intended to be moved at that meeting; and
- (b) circulate to shareholders of the Company entitled to have notice of any general meeting send to them any statement of not more than one thousand words with respect to the matter referred to in any proposed resolution or the business to be dealt with at that meeting.

The requisition must be deposited to the Company not less than six weeks before the meeting in case of a requisition requiring notice of a resolution or not less than one week before the meeting in case of any other requisition.

### Procedures for shareholders to propose a person for election as a director of the Company

According to Bye-law 87 of the Bye-laws, no person other than a director retiring at the general meeting of the Company shall, unless recommended by the directors for election, be eligible for election as a director at any general meeting of the Company unless a notice signed by a shareholder of the Company (other than the person to be proposed) duly qualified to attend and vote at the general meeting of the Company for which such notice is given of his/her intention to propose such person for election and also a notice signed by the person to be proposed of his/her willingness to be elected shall have been lodged at the Company's principal place of business in Hong Kong, at the Company's Hong Kong branch share registrar and transfer office, Tricor Investor Services Limited or at the Company's Singapore share transfer agent, Boardroom Corporate & Advisory Services Pte. Ltd. provided that the minimum length of the period, during which such notice(s) are given, shall be at least seven days, and that (if the notice(s) are submitted after the despatch of the notice of the general meeting convened for such election) the period for lodgement of such notice(s) shall commence on the day after the despatch of the notice of the general meeting convened for such election and end no later than seven days prior to the date of such general meeting.

### Procedures for directing shareholders' enquiries to the Board

Shareholders may at any time send their enquiries and concerns in writing to the Company Secretary at the Company's principal place of business in Hong Kong at Room 1501, 15th Floor, Great Eagle Centre, 23 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

## **Shareholders Communication Policy**

The Group has adopted a shareholders communication policy (the "Shareholders Communication Policy") which sets out the objective of ensuring that the Company's shareholders, both individual and institutional and, in appropriate circumstances, the investment community at large, are provided with ready, equal and timely access to balanced and understandable information about the Company (including its financial performance, strategic goals and plans, material developments, governance and risk profile), in order to enable the shareholders to exercise their rights in an informed manner, and to allow the shareholders and the investment community to engage actively with the Company. The Group has established a range of communication channels between itself and the shareholders, investors and other stakeholders. These include (i) contacting the Hong Kong branch share registrar, Tricor Investor Services Limited, or the Singapore share transfer agent, Boardroom Corporate & Advisory Services Pte. Ltd. regarding questions on shareholdings; (ii) publishing corporate communications such as announcements, circulars and the annual and interim reports; (iii) maintaining a corporate website at www.courageinv.com; and (iv) holding shareholders' meetings. The Board has the overall responsibility to maintain an ongoing dialogue with the shareholders and the investment community, and will regularly review the Shareholders Communication Policy to ensure its effectiveness.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Board has reviewed the implementation and effectiveness of the Shareholders Communication Policy including steps taken at the general meetings, the handling of queries received (if any) and the multiple channels of communication and engagement in place, and considered that the Shareholders Communication Policy has been properly implemented during the year under review and is effective.

# **DIVIDEND POLICY**

According to the dividend policy adopted by the Company, in deciding whether to propose a dividend and in determining the dividend amount, the Board shall take into account among others, the following factors: (i) the actual and expected financial performance of the Group; (ii) the retained earnings and distributable reserves of the Group; (iii) the expected working capital requirements and future expansion plans of the Group; (iv) the liquidity position of the Group and (v) any other factors that the Board deems appropriate. The declaration and payment of dividends by the Company shall be determined at the sole and absolute discretion of the Board and is also subject to compliance with all applicable laws and regulations including the laws of Bermuda and the Bye-laws.

#### **INVESTOR RELATIONS**

As a channel to further promote effective communication, the Group maintains a website at www.courageinv.com where the Company's annual and interim reports, notices, announcements and circulars are posted.

Amendments have been made to the Company's constitutional documents during the year ended 31 December 2023. The shareholders of the Company approved the amendments to the old Bye-laws and adopted an amended and restated Bye-laws (the "New Bye-laws") at the annual general meeting held on 30 June 2023 in order to (i) bring the old Bye-laws in line with the Core Shareholder Protection Standards set out in Appendix 3 (renamed as Appendix A1 since 31 December 2023) to the Hong Kong Listing Rules; (ii) reflect certain updates in relation to the applicable laws of Bermuda and the Hong Kong Listing Rules; and (iii) make some housekeeping amendments.

A copy of the New Bye-laws has been published on the websites of the Company and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange.

### SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

Based on information that is publicly available to the Company and within the knowledge of the Directors, at least 25% of the Company's total issued shares is held by the public at 17 April 2024, being the latest practicable date before printing of this annual report.

# **Environmental, Social and Governance Report**

#### **OVERVIEW**

The Board is pleased to present the Environmental, Social and Governance ("**ESG**") Report of the Group, which reviews the Group's ESG initiatives, plans and performance, as well as its sustainable development in respect of environmental protection, labour practices, business operations, supply chain management and other issues. As a responsible corporate citizen, the Group views ESG commitments as part of its social responsibilities and is committed to incorporating ESG considerations into its decision-making process.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The Group is principally engaged in the business of marine transportation, investment holding, property holding and investment, and merchandise trading. The marine transportation business comprises vessel chartering activities, and the merchandise trading business focuses on the trading of electronic components.

The Environmental, Social and Governance report ("**ESG Report**") summarises the ESG initiatives, plans, and performance of the Group in relation to environmental protection, labour practices, business operations, supply chain management and other issues. The Group focuses on the expectations and concerns of its stakeholders, and demonstrates its commitment to sustainable development.

#### The ESG Governance Structure

The Group conducts a top-down management approach with respect to ESG issues. The members of the Board possess the appropriate skills, experience, knowledge and perspectives necessary to oversee the Group's ESG matters. The Board must hold at least one meeting each year to establish the overall ESG approach, oversee and assess the potential impacts and risks of the ESG issues related to the Group's operation, review the Group's performance against the ESG-related targets and the materiality of the ESG issues, ensure the effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems and approve disclosures in the ESG Report.

The Group's designated personnel from the business and functional departments facilitate the Board's oversight of the ESG-related issues. Their duties include overseeing and reviewing the Group's ESG-related policies, performance, management approach, risks and opportunities, as well as reporting and recommending improvements on ESG-related matters to the Board. They report to the Board at least once a year for the evaluation and subsequent implementation or revision of the Group's ESG-related strategies and risk management and internal control systems, and propose and recommend the Group's ESG-related strategies, priorities, goals and targets to the Board. In addition, they prepare the ESG reports and present them to the Board for approval.

# **Reporting Period**

The ESG Report specifies the ESG activities, challenges, and measures taken by the Group during the year ended 31 December 2023 ("**FY2023**") as well as the comparative data for the year ended 31 December 2022 ("**FY2022**") where appropriate.

# **Environmental, Social and Governance Report**

#### REPORTING SCOPE

The senior management of the Group has discussed and identified the reporting scope of ESG-related matters based on the materiality principle and after having considered the Group's core business and main revenue source. The ESG Report covers all of the Group's business activities (except for the property holding and investment and merchandise trading activities, as explained below), and the Group's business operations are mainly office-based. The ESG Report serves to provide details of the Group's ESG policies and initiatives with respect to its businesses. The Group's merchandise trading operation had been in temporary halt since the year ended 31 December 2021 ("**FY2021**") and the Group had disposed of its investment property during FY2022, as both of these businesses did not generate any revenue during FY2022 and FY2023, they are not covered in the ESG Report for FY2023.

The ESG key performance indicator ("**KPI**") data was gathered from the companies and subsidiaries that are under the Group's direct operational control. The KPIs are shown in the ESG Report and are supplemented by explanatory notes to establish benchmarks. The Group will extend the scope of disclosures when and where applicable.

#### REPORTING FRAMEWORK

The ESG Report has been prepared in accordance with the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide (the "ESG Reporting Guide") set out in Appendix 27 (renamed as Appendix C2 with effect from 31 December 2023) to the Hong Kong Listing Rules. Information relating to the Group's corporate governance practices is set out in the "Corporate Governance Report" on pages 19 to 32 of this annual report.

During the preparation of the ESG Report, the Group has applied the following reporting principles, which are set out in the ESG Reporting Guide:

**Materiality**: A materiality assessment is conducted to identify material issues during FY2023, thereby adopting the confirmed material issues as the focus for the preparation of the ESG Report. The materiality of the issues is reviewed and confirmed by the Board and senior management. Further details are set out in the sections headed "Stakeholder Engagement" and "Materiality Assessment".

**Quantitative**: The standards and methodologies used in the calculation of relevant data in the ESG Report, as well as the applicable assumptions are disclosed. The KPIs are supplemented by explanatory notes to establish benchmarks where appropriate.

**Balance**: The ESG Report provides an unbiased picture of the Group's ESG-related matters by avoiding selection, omissions, or presentation formats that may inappropriately influence a reader's decision or judgment.

**Consistency**: The approach adopted in preparing the ESG Report is substantially consistent with the one adopted in FY2022. Explanations are provided for data with changes to the scope of disclosure or calculation methodologies.

The ESG Report has been internally reviewed by the Group's senior management and approved by the Board.

### **CONTACT US**

The Group welcomes all questions, feedback and suggestions from stakeholders. You can provide valuable advice in respect of the ESG Report or our performance in sustainable development by writing to Room 1501, 15th Floor, Great Eagle Centre, 23 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong or by email to courage@courageinv.com.

# **Environmental, Social and Governance Report**

### STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The Group values its stakeholders and their feedback regarding its businesses and ESG aspects. The Group maintains close communication with its key stakeholders, including but not limited to, government and regulatory authorities, shareholders and investors, employees, customers, suppliers, as well as the media and the public.

Stakeholders' expectations have been taken into consideration by utilising diversified engagement methods and communication channels, as shown below:

Stakeholders	Communication Channels	Expectations
Government and regulatory authorities	<ul> <li>Routine reports</li> <li>Written or electronic correspondences</li> <li>Supervision on relevant laws and regulations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Compliance with relevant laws and regulations</li> <li>Stability in business operations</li> </ul>
Shareholders and investors	<ul> <li>General meetings and other shareholders' meetings</li> <li>Annual and interim reports</li> <li>Announcements and circulars</li> <li>Investor meetings</li> <li>Company website</li> </ul>	<ul><li>Sustainable profitability</li><li>Shareholders' return</li><li>Corporate governance</li><li>Business compliance</li></ul>
Employees	<ul> <li>Training, seminars and briefing</li> <li>Performance reviews</li> <li>Intranet</li> <li>Regular staff meetings</li> <li>Electronic correspondences</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Remuneration, compensation and benefits</li> <li>Pleasant working environment</li> <li>Employee development and training</li> </ul>
Customers	<ul> <li>Company service hotline and email</li> <li>Face-to-face meetings</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>High-quality products and services</li> <li>Prompt response and customer satisfaction</li> </ul>
Suppliers	<ul> <li>Suppliers' satisfactory         assessment</li> <li>On-site visits</li> <li>Regular calls and meetings</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Fair and open procurement</li> <li>Win-win cooperation</li> <li>Compliance with relevant laws and regulations</li> <li>Risk management</li> </ul>
Media and the public	<ul><li>ESG reports</li><li>Company website</li><li>Regular reports and announcements</li></ul>	<ul> <li>Transparency of financial and ESG issues disclosure</li> <li>Compliance with relevant laws and regulations</li> </ul>

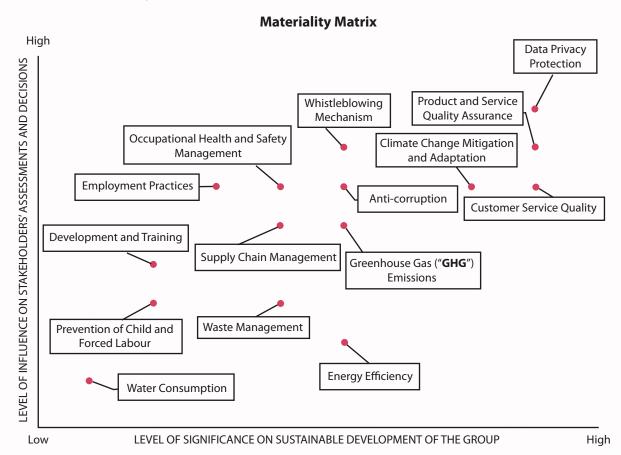
The Group aims to actively listen to and collaborate with its stakeholders to ensure that their opinions can be voiced out through the proper communication channels. In the long run, the stakeholders' contributions will aid the Group in improving potentially overlooked ESG aspects.

#### **MATERIALITY ASSESSMENT**

Materiality assessment is the process of identifying, refining and assessing ESG issues that could affect the Group's businesses and its stakeholders. The results of the materiality assessment are used to formulate strategy, set targets and determine the focus of the ESG Report. Materiality assessment enables the Group to analyse business risks and opportunities, which support the sustainable development of its businesses.

The Group values the feedback of stakeholders and their opinions on which ESG aspects they consider material. With the assistance of the Group's management, a list of material ESG issues has been identified based on the Group's businesses, the ESG Reporting Guide, and an analysis of industry peers. During FY2023, the Group conducted a materiality assessment survey to prioritise the identified material ESG issues. Management and employees of different business units and departments were invited to evaluate the significance of the identified ESG issues to the stakeholders and the Group's businesses. Based on the results of the survey, the Group compiled the materiality matrix below. The results of the materiality assessment were reviewed by the Group's management and approved by the Board.

As there were no substantial changes to the Group's businesses, the materiality of ESG issues this year remains the same as last year. The materiality matrix below summarises the Group's material ESG issues included in the ESG Report:



The Group confirmed that it has established appropriate and effective management policies and internal control systems to address the material ESG issues, and to ensure that the disclosed contents are in compliance with the requirements of the ESG Reporting Guide.

#### A. ENVIRONMENTAL

The Group is committed to mitigating its environmental impacts and incorporating sustainability into its business strategy. To enhance decarbonisation and address stakeholders' concerns, which are reflected in the identified material ESG issues, the Group has set environmental targets in regard to GHG emissions, waste management, energy consumption, and water use. By doing so, the Group further demonstrates its commitment to environmental protection. The Group regularly reviews the progress towards these targets and the effectiveness of its environmental protection measures, further details are set out in the below sections under Aspects A1 and A2.

#### A1. Emissions

The Group recognises the importance of operating its business in a sustainable manner. As such, the Group continuously improves existing policies and incorporates new policies with the intention of mitigating potential direct and indirect negative environmental impacts arising from the Group's business operations.

During FY2023, the Group was not aware of any material non-compliance with laws and regulations that would have a significant impact on the Group, including but not limited to the Air Pollution Control Ordinance, Waste Disposal Ordinance, and Water Pollution Control Ordinance of the Laws of Hong Kong.

#### **Air Emissions**

In respect of the Group's marine transportation operation, the three vessels owned by the Group were leased out on a time charter basis virtually throughout the whole of FY2023. The fuels used by the vessels were therefore not under the direct control of the Group but the charterers, although the Group understood that the use of fuels by the charterers were in all material respects complied with the relevant environmental rules and regulations. The Group considers that the air emissions directly produced by the Group during FY2023 were immaterial.

#### **GHG** Emissions

The principal GHG emissions produced by the Group were from purchased electricity (Scope 2), office paper disposal and business air travel (Scope 3). During FY2021, the Group had set a target to reduce the total GHG emissions intensity by 10% by the year ended 31 December 2026 ("**FY2026**"), using FY2021 as the baseline year. To achieve the set target, the Group has adopted the following measures to reduce direct GHG emissions, indirect GHG emissions and other indirect GHG emissions.

#### Scope 1- Direct GHG Emissions

During FY2023, the three vessels owned by the Group were virtually leased out throughout the whole of FY2023, and as the Group did not own any vehicles, the Group's operations did not produce any direct GHG emissions.

#### Scope 2 - Indirect GHG Emissions

Electricity consumption accounted for the indirect GHG emissions produced by the Group. The Group has implemented measures to reduce energy consumption, the measures are set out in the section headed "Energy Efficiency" under Aspect A2 below.

#### Scope 3 - Other Indirect GHG Emissions

Paper waste disposal and business air travel by employees accounted for the other indirect GHG emissions. The measures implemented to reduce paper waste disposal are set out in the section headed "Waste Management" below, while the Group prioritises utilising telecommunication channels for communication to avoid unnecessary business air travel.

During FY2023, the Group's total GHG emissions intensity increased by approximately 70.97% from approximately 0.31 tCO $_2$ e per employee in FY2022 to approximately 0.53 tCO $_2$ e per employee in FY2023. This was mainly due to an increase in electricity consumption owing to the relocation of the Group's office in Hong Kong to a new premises in February 2023 and the resumption of business air travel post pandemic. As the Group's total GHG emissions intensity in FY2021 was 0.26 tCO $_2$ e/employee, the Group is in the process of achieving the aforementioned target and will continue to promote measures to reduce GHG emissions in the future.

### Summary of GHG emission performance:

Indicator <sup>1</sup>	Unit <sup>2</sup>	FY2023	FY2022
Scope 2 – Indirect GHG emissions	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	6.93	4.27
<ul> <li>Purchased electricity</li> </ul>			
Scope 3 – Other indirect GHG emissions	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	2.01	0.72
<ul> <li>Paper waste disposed at landfills</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Business air travel</li> </ul>			
Total GHG emissions	tCO <sub>2</sub> e	8.94	4.99
Total GHG emissions intensity <sup>3</sup>	tCO <sub>2</sub> e/employee	0.53	0.31

#### Notes:

- 1. GHG emissions data is presented in terms of carbon dioxide equivalent and is based on, but not limited to, "The Greenhouse Gas Protocol: A Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard" issued by the World Resources Institute and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development, "How to prepare an ESG report Appendix 2: Reporting Guidance on Environmental KPIs" issued by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, the "Global Warming Potential Values" from the Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and the Sustainability Report 2022 published by HK Electric.
- 2. tCO<sub>2</sub>e is defined as tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent.
- As at 31 December 2023, the Group had 17 (2022: 16) employees including directors of the Company. This data is also used for calculating other intensity data in this ESG Report.

## **Waste Management**

Hazardous Waste Management

Owing to the Group's business nature, no material hazardous waste was produced by the Group during FY2023.

#### Non-hazardous Waste Management

Most of the non-hazardous waste produced by the Group was office paper. Although its operations do not generate a significant amount of non-hazardous waste, the Group endeavours to further reduce the waste produced by implementing "green office" initiatives. During FY2021, the Group had set a target to provide waste separation bins for collecting recyclables, including paper, plastic and glass in the Group's office from FY2022 onwards. Furthermore, the Group will continue to implement waste reduction measures, such as those listed below, with the goal of reducing waste from the sources. The green measures include but are not limited to the following:

- print electronic correspondences only when necessary;
- reuse single-sided office paper;
- encourage double-sided printing or photocopying;
- procure paper bearing the Forest Stewardship Council Recycled Label; and
- recycle outdated office supplies and electronic equipment after their life cycles.

During FY2023, the Group's total non-hazardous waste intensity increased by approximately 11.11% from approximately 0.009 tonne per employee in FY2022 to approximately 0.010 tonne per employee in FY2023. This was mainly due to the increase in business activities post pandemic. The Group continued to provide waste separation bins for collecting recyclables during FY2023 in order to achieve the aforementioned target. The Group will continue to promote measures to reduce paper consumption and provide waste separation bins for recyclables in the future.

Summary of non-hazardous waste discharge performance:

Category	Unit	FY2023	FY2022
Office paper	tonne	0.164	0.151
Total non-hazardous waste	tonne	0.164	0.151
Total non-hazardous waste intensity	tonne/employee	0.010	0.009

### Sewage Discharges into Water and Land

Owing to the Group's business nature, the Group's business activities do not consume a significant volume of water during its daily operations, and thus it does not generate a material portion of sewage. As wastewater from the Group will be discharged into a sewage pipe network connected to a regional water purification plant, the water consumed by the Group is considered sewage discharged. Further details of water consumption are set out in the section headed "Water Consumption" under Aspect A2 below.

#### A2. Use of Resources

The Group upholds and promotes effective use of resources and is committed to optimising their use across business operations. The Group keeps track of the ESG-related KPIs through its internal monitoring programme on procurement and use of resources and established relevant policies and procedures in resource management.

### **Energy Efficiency**

During FY2023, the energy consumed by the Group was mainly electricity used for daily office operations, which was an indirect energy consumption. As all of the Group's vessels were leased out virtually throughout the whole of FY2023, the Group had no direct energy consumption during the year. Nevertheless, to promote energy conservation and enhance energy efficiency in business operations, the Group has set a target in FY2021 to change all office lighting to LED bulbs by FY2026. The Group also adopts the following energy-saving measures:

- post eye-catching stickers on energy conservation as a reminder to employees;
- switch off unnecessary lighting and electrical appliances when not in use;
- purchase energy-efficient equipment to replace retired equipment;
- set all computer screens and printers to standby mode after a certain period of time;
   and
- participate in energy-saving campaigns, including the Earth Hour lights-out campaign.

The Group will investigate anomalies in electricity consumption to identify the root causes and carry out the corresponding preventive measures.

During FY2023, the Group's total energy consumption intensity increased by approximately 52.70% from approximately 392.50 kWh per employee in FY2022 to approximately 599.35 kWh per employee in FY2023. This was mainly due to an increase in electricity consumption owing to the relocation of the Group's office in Hong Kong to a new premises in February 2023. The Group is currently making progress in achieving the aforementioned target set in FY2021, and will continue to enhance its energy conservation measures in order to reduce energy consumption.

Summary of energy consumption performance:

Type of energy	Unit	FY2023	FY2022
Indirect energy consumption			
<ul> <li>Electricity</li> </ul>	kWh	10,189.00	6,280.00
Total energy consumption	kWh	10,189.00	6,280.00
Total energy consumption intensity	kWh/employee	599.35	392.50

In relation to the operations of the Group's vessels, the Group follows the rules of Energy Efficiency Existing Ship Index (EEXI) regulations, including the Engine Power Limitation (EPL) or Shaft Power Limitation (ShaPoLi) subclauses, issued by the International Maritime Organization.

#### **Water Consumption**

Owing to the Group's business nature, the usage of water is confined to water consumed by the employees in the office. Water consumption data was not available since water usage was covered in the office building management fees. The target for water efficiency is also not presented, as water consumption data is not available.

Although the water consumption of the Group is insignificant, the Group is dedicated to promoting the importance of water conservation to its employees. Apart from posting eye-catching stickers to promote water conservation, the Group also regularly inspects water taps to prevent leakage and encourages employees to cherish water usage, through ways including reducing unnecessary water consumption in washrooms and pantry. The Group did not encounter any problems in sourcing water that was fit for its purpose and was not aware of any abnormal water usage during FY2023.

In respect of the Group's marine transportation operation, all of the Group's vessels have installed the Ballast Water Treatment Systems in accordance with the regulations of the International Maritime Organization.

## **Use of Packaging Material**

Owing to the Group's business nature, the use of packaging material is not considered a material ESG aspect of the Group.

#### A3. The Environment and Natural Resources

Although the core business of the Group has a remote impact on the environment and natural resources, the Group realises its responsibility to minimise any negative environmental impacts from its business operations as an ongoing commitment to good corporate social responsibility. The Group regularly assesses the environmental risks of its businesses, adopts relevant policies and preventive measures to reduce the risks and ensures compliance with the relevant laws and regulations. During FY2023, the Group had placed "green" deposits with a bank as part of the pools of funds designated for financing green projects.

## **Indoor Air Quality**

To ensure that the Group's work environment is pleasant, the indoor air quality in its workplace is regularly monitored. During FY2023, the indoor air quality of the Group's office was satisfactory. To improve indoor air quality, air purifying equipment is used in the office when considered appropriate and the air conditioning system is cleaned periodically. These measures maintained the indoor air quality at a satisfactory level by filtering out pollutants, contaminants and dust particles.

The Group believes that running an environmentally sustainable business model could greatly lower operational risk and in turn generate a more stable return to the Group and its shareholders. The Group is endeavoured to achieve this goal in the long term.

### A4. Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation

The Group recognises the importance of identifying significant climate-related issues and mitigating of the related risks and is thus committed to managing the potential climate-related risks that may impact the Group's business activities. The Group has an established risk management policy to govern the identification and mitigation of different risks, including climate-related risks. During FY2023, the Group conducted a climate change assessment to identify and mitigate the potential risks that may arise from its business operations. These risks mainly stem from the following dimensions:

## **Physical Risks**

The increase in frequency and severity of extreme weather events such as typhoons, storms and heavy rains can disrupt the Group's operations by causing floods, damaging the power grid and communication infrastructures, and hindering and injuring its employees and seafarers hired through crew agencies when they are at work or in commute. These could result in temporary, permanent or partial halt of the Group's business operations, which exposes the Group to risks associated with non-performance and delayed performance.

Besides, the extreme weather conditions may cause damage to the Group's vessels, resulting in substantial maintenance, repair or replacement costs. Other risks posed by extreme weather conditions such as the risk of detention, sinking, collision and other marine disasters could also significantly hinder the operations of the Group's marine transportation business. Any damage to the vessels may cause environmental pollution, including but not limited to fuel leakage and disposal of vessel debris. In certain circumstances, severe weather conditions could cause loss or damage to cargo and property, which would affect the Group's financial performance and require significant resources for remedies if any accidents occurred.

To better manage the aforementioned physical risks, the Group has evaluated the possible extreme weather events that could influence the Group's business operations and has included the relevant risks in the Group's risk management system. Moreover, the Group has formulated a crisis response plan to reduce the negative impacts brought by extreme weather events. When extreme weather events occur or are expected to occur, senior management will respond as planned and communicate with employees about the work arrangement in a timely manner to ensure employee safety and operation continuity. The Group will also from time to time review its response plan, which sets out appropriate solutions for employees to follow, so the employees will know how to respond if any of the essential work arrangements become unavailable due to extreme weather events.

## **Transition Risks**

## Policy and Legal Risks

The Group anticipates that there will be more stringent climate legislation and regulations to support the global vision of carbon neutrality. From a listed company's perspective, the Group acknowledges the increasing requirements for climate-related information disclosures. In addition, climate change may lead to higher emissions standards and regulations on vessels. Failure to meet the compliance requirements for climate change may harm the Group's corporate reputation and expose it to higher risks of claims and lawsuits. The Group expects the related capital investment and compliance costs to increase accordingly.

In response to policy and legal risks, as well as reputation risks, the Group regularly monitors existing and emerging trends, policies and regulations relevant to climate change, and ensures the senior management is aware of any changes in policies or legislation in order to avoid unnecessary costs or non-compliance fines, and to reduce reputation risks resulting from delayed responses. The Group has also included the above-mentioned transition risks in its risk management system, which will be reviewed regularly.

#### Market Risk

Under the advocation of "Net Zero", which refers to an ambition to achieve net zero GHG emissions, and the global vision of decarbonisation, there are an increasing number of investors who advocate for combating climate change. If the Group fails to implement effective measures to manage climate risks, investors may disinvest. To cope with the potential risk of disinvestment, the Group intends to maintain a high level of transparency in ESG reporting and its related activities, which helps to establish trust and confidence between the Group and investors. The Group also sets targets for and endeavours to make commitments to ESG-related issues. The Group also reviews the progress in its ESG-related matters to ensure the Group's development is aligned with the global trend.

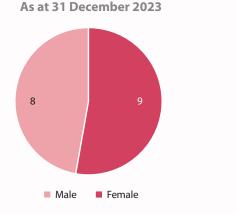
#### B. SOCIAL

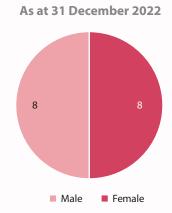
## **B1.** Employment Practices

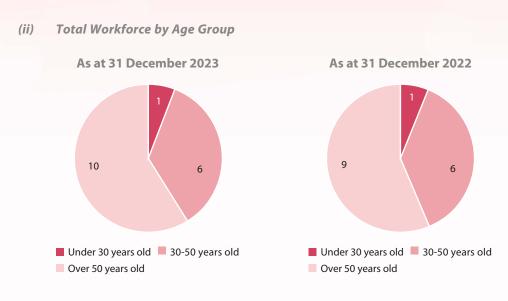
Human resources are the foundation of the Group. The Group recognises that sustainable growth relies on good recruitment and retention practices.

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had 17 (2022: 16) full-time employees in total. Seafarers and other crew ashore and aboard are employed and managed by the crew agencies and are therefore not included in the Group's workforce. The distribution of employees by gender, age group, geographical region and employee category are as follows:

#### (i) Total Workforce by Gender







## (iii) Total Workforce by Geographical Region







During FY2023, the total number of employees leaving employment was nil (FY2022: 2), and the total employee turnover rate<sup>4</sup> was nil (FY2022: 12.50%).

The overall employee turnover rate by gender, age group and geographical region are as follows:

	Turnover Rate⁵		
	FY2023	FY2022	
By Gender			
Male	_	12.50%	
Female	-	12.50%	
By Age Group			
Under 30 years old	_	_	
30 – 50 years old	-	16.67%	
Above 50 years old	-	11.11%	
By Geographical Region			
Hong Kong	_	13.33%	
Singapore	-	-	

#### Notes:

- 4. The total employee turnover rate is calculated by dividing the number of employees leaving employment during the reporting period by the number of employees at the end of the reporting period.
- 5. The turnover rate by category is calculated by dividing the number of employees in the specified category leaving employment during the reporting period by the number of employees in the specified category at the end of the reporting period.

During FY2023, the Group was not aware of any material non-compliance with employment-related laws and regulations that would have a significant impact on the Group, including but not limited to the Employment Ordinance, Sex Discrimination Ordinance, and Employees' Compensation Ordinance of the laws of Hong Kong.

Relevant employment policies are formally documented in the Employee Handbook, Code of Conduct and Ethics, and Management for Crew Employment/Manning. The policies cover topics such as recruitment and remuneration, compensation, working hours and rest periods, diversity and equal opportunity, etc. The Group periodically reviews its current employment practices and policies to ensure continuous improvement of its employment standards and competitiveness against companies in similar industries.

### Recruitment, Promotion and Remuneration

Talent acquisition is vital to the sustainable development of the Group's businesses. Employees are recruited via a robust, transparent, and non-discriminatory recruitment process based on their merits and their potential to fulfil the Group's current and future needs.

Remuneration and promotion are based on job-related skills, qualifications and performance. The Group conducts annual performance and salary reviews to determine salary adjustments and/or promotion opportunities.

The Group also ensures that all hired seafarers operating on its vessels possess the necessary credentials required by the International Safety Management ("ISM") Code.

#### **Working Hours and Rest Periods**

To facilitate employees' work-life balance, the Group has formulated policies for determining working hours and rest periods for employees, following local employment laws. The Group adopts a five-day workweek, and its employees are entitled to basic leaves such as sick leave, annual leave, vaccination leave, maternity leave, paternity leave, marriage leave and bereavement leave.

#### **Compensation and Dismissal**

All employees are covered under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance of the laws of Hong Kong upon joining the Group. The statute protects employees who are injured in the course of their employment due to an accident. Unreasonable dismissal under any circumstances is strictly prohibited, while dismissal would be based on reasonable and lawful grounds supported by internal policies of the Group.

## **Equal Opportunity, Diversity and Anti-discrimination**

The Group's sustainable growth is dependent on the diversity of its talents, and it is thus committed to creating and maintaining an inclusive and collaborative workplace culture. Furthermore, the Group is committed to providing equal opportunities in all aspects of employment and protecting its employees from discrimination, physical or verbal harassment, and other forms of harassment based on gender, age, religion, disability, ethnicity, political stance, marital status and other factors. The Group also strives to ensure that complaints, afflictions and concerns, including whistleblowing, are dealt with promptly and confidentially. The Group has zero tolerance for sexual harassment or abuse in the workplace in any form.

#### Other Benefits and Welfare

The Group understands that good benefits and welfare encourage staff retention and foster a sense of belonging, as such, the Group seeks to provide additional remuneration and benefits to employees where possible. Remuneration packages for employees usually include discretionary bonuses, annual leave, vaccination leave, maternity leave, paternity leave, marriage leave and bereavement leave. Except for the aforementioned entitlement to various leaves, employees are also entitled to benefits such as medical insurance and other clinical benefits. Other allowances are also available to employees, such as travel allowances and education subsidies.

#### **B2.** Health and Safety

## Occupational Health and Safety Management

During FY2023, the Group was not aware of any material non-compliance with health and safety-related laws and regulations that would have a significant impact on the Group, including but not limited to the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance of the laws of Hong Kong. There were no reported cases of work-related fatalities or lost days due to work injury during FY2023 (FY2022: nil). In the past three years, the Group had no cases of work-related fatalities.

Providing employees with a safe and healthy work environment is of utmost importance to the Group. Therefore, the Group has set out comprehensive policies to safeguard the interests and well-being of all employees. Health and safety measures that are applicable to an office-based business operation are limited. Nevertheless, the Group is committed to safeguarding the well-being of all employees. In the office, fire extinguishers are appropriately placed, fire exits are free from obstructions, and first aid boxes can be found around the premises. Relevant safety policies are reviewed annually, or soon after an incident arises, to ensure their relevancy.

For the marine transportation operation, the Group has established a sound safety management system with a comprehensive Safety Management Manual and Shipboard Emergency Plan to assist its crews and ashore staff in dealing with unexpected incidents and the subsequent approach to minimise damages, losses, or hazardous outputs. The Group understands that the potential impact of an incident on the marine transportation operation would be greater than that on an office-based operation. Therefore, the Group convenes a safety management system review meeting at least once every year to review the effectiveness of the safety management system, and reviews whether the latest ISM code has been properly dealt with. Relevant training sessions will be provided to staff where necessary.

## **B3.** Development and Training

Training and continuous development are essential for the Group's employees to keep up with the industry's ever-changing trends. As such, the Group takes a proactive approach to providing employees with opportunities to advance their careers by encouraging them to apply for internal and external training courses to refresh prior knowledge and acquire new knowledge. The Group has adopted relevant policies and measures to standardise the management of employees' training.

Regular training and drills are carried out to familiarise employees and vessel crews with the Group's policies and any newly updated guidelines. Trainings range from proper shipboard operation, to correct emergency procedures for awareness of marine pollution prevention. The Group believes that proper training lowers the risk of avoidable incidents and ensures compliance with the provisions set out by the International Maritime Organization. The content of internal training sessions is regularly updated to reflect industry standards and the Group's business nature in order to provide maximum benefits to employees.

During FY2023, approximately 76.47% (FY2022: 75.00%) of the Group's employees have received training, with an average of approximately 35.59 training hours (FY2022: 36.56 hours) per employee. The percentage of trained employees, breakdown of trained employees, and average training hours per employee, by gender and employee category, are as follows:

	Percentage of trained employees <sup>e</sup> (%)			Breakdown of trained employees <sup>9</sup> (%)		Average training hours per employee 10 (hours)	
	FY2023	FY2022	FY2023	FY2022	FY2023	FY2022	
By Gender							
Male	100.00	100.00	61.54	66.67	59.38	59.38	
Female	55.56	50.00	38.46	33.33	14.44	13.75	
By Employee Category							
Senior management	100.00	100.00	76.92	75.00	54.50	58.89	
Management	100.00	100.00	7.70	8.33	25.00	25.00	
General employees	33.33	33.33	15.38	16.67	5.83	5.00	

#### Notes:

- This percentage is calculated by dividing the total number of trained employees during the reporting period by the total number of employees at the end of the reporting period.
- The average training hours per employee is calculated by dividing the total number of training hours during the reporting period by the total number of employees at the end of the reporting period.
- 8. The percentage of trained employees by category is calculated by dividing the number of trained employees in the specified category during the reporting period by the number of employees in the specified category at the end of the reporting period.
- 9. The breakdown of trained employees by category is calculated by dividing the number of trained employees in the specified category during the reporting period by the total number of trained employees at the end of the reporting period.
- 10. The average training hours by category is calculated by dividing the number of training hours for employees in the specified category during the reporting period by the number of employees in the specified category at the end of the reporting period.

#### **B4.** Labour Standards

#### **Prevention of Child and Forced Labour**

Child and forced labour are strictly prohibited as defined by laws and regulations. The Group does not employ children before they reach the legal age to work as defined by the relevant laws and regulations. The Group guarantees that no employee will be forced or persuaded to work in the Group against their will, experience any form of threatening or abusive behaviour, or be subjected to any type of coercion or punishment in the workplace.

Personal data is collected during the recruitment process as detailed in the Group's New Employee Recruitment Procedures to assist in the selection of suitable candidates and the verification of the candidates' personal data. The human resources department will ensure that the identity documents are carefully checked and that the selected candidate has reached the legal age to work. If any employees suspect a violation is involved, they should report it to their supervisors or the human resources department. Once the Group discovers any case that fails to conform to the relevant labour laws, regulations, or standards, the relevant employment contract will be immediately terminated.

During FY2023, the Group was not aware of any material non-compliance with child and forced labour-related laws and regulations that would have a significant impact on the Group, including but not limited to the Employment Ordinance of the laws of Hong Kong.

### **B5.** Supply Chain Management

The Group selects suppliers based on their technical proposals, prevailing market prices, delivery times and reputations. To prevent jeopardising its own service provision, the Group strives to avoid over-reliance on a single supplier. An annual performance evaluation is performed to assess the suppliers' quality of products and services. Contracts with suppliers or subcontractors may be deactivated or terminated if the expectations of the Group are not met. Any discrimination against certain vendors without reasonable grounds and any types of business bribery are strictly prohibited. In addition, the Group's Ship Supply Procedures are in place to ensure quality and safety when purchasing ship supplies.

The Group follows the rules and regulations set down by the International Maritime Organization and the ship classification societies to manage the environmental and social risks in relation to its marine transportation operation. In addition, the Group undertakes onsite inspections regularly to monitor the suppliers' or subcontractors' business procedures to reduce its social and environmental risks along the supply chain. Any non-compliance with the relevant environmental and social rules and regulations discovered during the onsite inspection of a supplier or subcontractor will be promptly reported to the Group's management. A corrective action plan will be carried out by management to remediate the identified risk in a timely manner.

The Group encourages its business partners and suppliers to consider the risks posed to their operations from climate change and to mitigate the related environmental impacts on them during supplier management meetings and events. Suppliers with the ISO 14001: Environmental Management System (EMS) certificate will be prioritised in the Group's supplier engagement process.

## Fair and Open Tendering

The Group has developed a tendering procedure to engage suppliers in a fair and competitive manner, under which senior management is responsible for all the decision making during the tendering process. The Group strictly prohibits differentiation or discrimination against certain suppliers, and it monitors and prevents all kinds of business bribery in a serious manner. Employees or personnel having any direct or indirect interests associated with the suppliers would not be involved in any business negotiation process with the suppliers.

Apart from requiring its suppliers and subcontractors to comply with local regulations, the Group is also aware of the importance of enhancing their environmental and safety performance. The management team also regularly inspects the product quality and the environmental, health and safety conditions of its suppliers. During the selection process, to promote improvements in environmental performance, suppliers, subcontractors and vendors are encouraged to consider and manage their environmental and social issues in their operations for priority consideration. The Group maintains close communication with suppliers, understands their supply and services, resolves the related supply and service issues, and makes corresponding improvement measures. The Group also shares sustainable operating practices and disseminates environmental concepts, including the latest knowledge on quality, safety, and good employment and environmental practices.

During FY2023, the Group has 6 (FY2022: 6) major suppliers, and 2 (FY2022: 2) of them are covered by the supplier engagement practices mentioned above. The distribution of major suppliers by geographical region is as follows:

	Number of Majo	Number of Major Suppliers			
By Geographical Region	FY2023	FY2022			
Hong Kong	2	2			
PRC	2	2			
Singapore	2	2			

## **B6.** Product Responsibility

The Group's mission is to provide the best products and services to its customers. Therefore, the Group has systems and controls in place to monitor the status and progress of all its business activities carried out by different levels of staff to ensure high-quality products and services are delivered to its customers.

During FY2023, the Group was not aware of any incidents of non-compliance with laws and regulations in relation to privacy issues and any compensation regarding health and safety, advertisement, and labelling for products and services provided that would have a significant impact on the Group, including but not limited to the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance, the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, and the Food Safety Ordinance of the laws of Hong Kong and the Food and Drugs (Composition and Labelling) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulation 2014.

#### **Product and Service Quality Assurance**

The Group understands the necessity of further safeguarding the health and safety matters of its marine transportation business. In addition to strict compliance with the ISM code, the Group has established a number of policies to stipulate the responsibilities of each officer on board the vessels. In particular, the Group has a well-established shipboard emergency alert mechanism, under which a Safety Committee and Emergency Response Team has been set up to investigate and handle any shipboard hazardous occurrences or emergency incidents. In the case of damage, breakdown, malfunction and defects in the vessels' hull, equipment and machinery, the Group has established the Ship Management Procedure and the Deficiency Management Procedure to determine the appropriate corrective and preventive actions required to address the issue.

During FY2023, there was no product sold or shipped subjected to recall for safety and health reasons.

## **Data Privacy Protection**

The Group respects the value of its customers' information and protects their rights to data privacy by strictly enforcing the standards of the information security management systems. In addition, the Group has provisions regarding data privacy in its Code of Conduct and Ethics. Employees are trained to respect the confidentiality of customers' information. Any leakage of confidential information to third parties is strictly prohibited. The Group has also implemented firewall, anti-virus and anti-spam measures for its information technology ("IT") systems to safeguard customer confidential information, and such measures are routinely upgraded.

#### **Customer Service Quality**

The Group welcomes feedback from customers, as it is the key to enhancing the Group's services. The Group has set up procedures for handling feedbacks or complaints; any feedback or complaint will be recorded in detail, and appropriate follow-up actions will be taken. Should a feedback or complaint bears significant weight in the improvement of the Group's services, the feedback or complaint will be considered a case study to prevent future recurrence. During FY2023, the Group did not receive any product- or service-related complaints.

## Advertising and Labelling

Owing to the Group's business nature, it has an insignificant amount of business relating to advertising and labelling matters.

## Protection of Intellectual Property ("IP") Rights

IP rights are not considered a material ESG aspect of the Group owing to its business nature. Nevertheless, the Group has established relevant guidelines to govern IT management within the Group. In addition, the IT department is responsible for obtaining proper licences for the software, hardware and information used in the Group's daily business operations. Duplication or downloading of information, software and images from the internet must be approved by the relevant department head. Furthermore, the Group closely monitors the infringement actions in the market and prevents the emergence of any infringement behaviour among the employees. The Group regularly monitors its employees to ensure that IP rights are not being infringed upon.

## **B7.** Anti-Corruption and Whistleblowing

## **Anti-corruption**

Solid corporate governance and risk management are essential to the Group's long-term development and sustainable growth. The Group endeavours to continuously improve its corporate rules and regulations and ensure strict compliance with local laws and regulations. The Group values and upholds integrity, honesty and fairness in how the Group conducts business. The Group emphatically asserts its zero-tolerance stance regarding any behaviours that not only violate local laws and regulations but also severely damage the Group's reputation.

During FY2023, the Group was not aware of any material non-compliance with the relevant laws and regulations of bribery, extortion, fraud, and money laundering that would have a significant impact on the Group, including but not limited to the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance of the laws of Hong Kong. There were also no legal cases regarding corruption practices brought against the Group or its employees.

The Group affirms its zero-tolerance policy regarding corruption, fraud and all other behaviours that severely violate professionalism and work ethics. The Code of Conduct and Ethics and the Conflict of Interest and Transactions with Interested Persons Policy have been formulated by the Group to prevent misconduct and promote ethical and honest business behaviour. Moreover, board members and all staff are required to declare their interests, gifts or hospitality received in connection with their role within the Group.

To ensure that all employees can perform their duties with high ethical standards and professionalism, the Group has arranged internal and external anti-corruption and corporate governance training and encouraged employees to actively learn about the latest developments and future trends in global anti-money laundering. During FY2023, the Group's directors and employees had received a total of approximately 12 hours (FY2022: 9 hours) and approximately 12 hours (FY2022: 11 hours) of anti-corruption training respectively.

### **Whistleblowing Mechanism**

The Group has established the Whistleblowing Policy, which sets out the reporting and investigative procedures to facilitate the reporting of any fraudulent activities. The Group intends to protect the whistle-blower from common concerns such as confidentiality, reprisal and potential retaliation. A corporate email address has been set up for access by the Chairman of the Audit Committee and all independent non-executive directors for whistleblowing purposes. For any report received, the Audit Committee will consult with the Chairman of the Board and independent non-executive directors about any preventive measures to be put in place to prevent future breaches of a similar nature from taking place. The Audit Committee will coordinate with the relevant department(s) to implement such preventive measures and regularly review the efficacy of the said measures. The Group provides assurance to the whistle-blower reporting in good faith against unfair dismissal or victimisation, even if the reports are subsequently proved to be unsubstantiated.

## **B8.** Community Investment

## **Community Participation**

The Group realises the importance of giving back to society and is committed to supporting the community by various means of social participation and contribution as part of its strategic development. As a responsible corporation, the Group has established relevant guidelines on community investment to encourage its employees to engage in community services and voluntary activities. Since the Group's core business of marine transportation will result in unavoidable carbon emissions and other environmental footprint when its vessels are chartered for use, the Group has identified environmental concerns as its focus area of contribution for community investment, particularly in the area of marine conservation.

During FY2023, the Group participated in a beach clean-up activity organised by Green Hope to promote a cleaner and healthier natural environment. The Group endeavours to continuously expand community contributions in the future.

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#### TO THE SHAREHOLDERS OF COURAGE INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED

勇利投資集團有限公司 (Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

#### **OPINION**

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Courage Investment Group Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (collectively referred to as the "Group") set out on pages 58 to 107, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including material accounting policy information.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRSs") issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (the "IASB") and have been properly prepared in compliance with the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

#### **BASIS FOR OPINION**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing ("ISAs"). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants' Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the "Code"), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

## **KEY AUDIT MATTERS**

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgment, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

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## **KEY AUDIT MATTERS (continued)**

## Key audit matter

#### How our audit addressed the key audit matter

Impairment assessment of vessels

We identified the impairment assessment Our procedures in relation to the impairment of vessels as a key audit matter due to the assessment of vessels included: significance of the balance and management's judgement required in the assessment.

The carrying value of vessels was US\$37,721,000 as at 31 December 2023. As disclosed in note 4 to the consolidated financial statements, the management determines the recoverable amount of the vessels based on the higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal and compares such recoverable amount to the carrying amount to determine if any impairment loss or reversal of impairment loss should be recognised. At 31 December 2023, the recoverable amount of the vessels was determined based on the valuation carried out by an independent qualified professional valuer using market approach based on the direct comparison method by making reference to the recent sale transactions of similar vessels with similar age and condition. An impairment loss of US\$1,008,000 was recognised as set out in note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

- · Obtaining the valuation reports from the independent qualified professional valuer on the vessels to evaluate the relevance of key data inputs underpinning the valuation, including the recent transactions of vessels of similar age and condition from open sources;
- Checking, on a sample basis, the accuracy and relevance of the input data used in the value in use calculation by the management; and
- Assessing the reasonableness of the management's key assumptions used in the value in use calculation based on available market data of the vessel chartering industry.

#### **OTHER INFORMATION**

The directors of the Company are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRSs issued by the IASB and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process.

# AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion solely to you, as a body, in accordance with Section 90 of the Bermuda Companies Act, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

# AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

# AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

We also provide those charged with governance with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, actions taken to eliminate threats or safeguards applied.

From the matters communicated with those charged with governance, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

The engagement partner on the audit resulting in the independent auditor's report is Lam Shu Lung.

**Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu** *Certified Public Accountants*Hong Kong
28 March 2024

# **Consolidated Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	A	2023	2022
	Notes	US\$'000	US\$'000
Revenue			
Marine transportation income		8,449	12,079
Interest income		63	293
interest income			
Total revenue	5	8,512	12,372
Direct expenses		(6,219)	(7,000)
Other income		672	661
Other gains and losses, net	7	(147)	(272)
Administrative expenses		(1,563)	(1,335)
Impairment loss recognised on vessels	15	(1,008)	(797)
Allowance for credit losses on debt instruments			
at fair value through other comprehensive income, net	18	(1,146)	(1,402)
Loss on disposal of subsidiaries	29	(2,100)	-
Share of result of a joint venture		(788)	(758)
Finance costs	8	(187)	(346)
(1)		(2.274)	4.400
(Loss) profit before tax	9	(3,974)	1,123
Income tax expense	10		
(Loss) profit for the year attributable			
to owners of the Company		(3,974)	1,123
to owners or the company		(3/27 1)	1,123
Other comprehensive (expense) income			
Items that may be reclassified subsequently			
to profit or loss:			
Exchange difference arising on translation			
of financial statements of the foreign operation			
of a joint venture		(163)	(394)
Reclassification of cumulative exchange reserve			
upon disposal of the foreign operation			
of a joint venture	29	170	-
Net decrease in fair value of debt instruments			
at fair value through other comprehensive income		(1,219)	(2,439)
Reclassification upon redemption of debt instruments			(4)
at fair value through other comprehensive income		-	(6)
Allowance for credit losses on debt instruments	10	1 146	1 402
at fair value through other comprehensive income, net	18	1,146	1,402
Other comprehensive expense for the year,			
net of income tax		(66)	(1,437)
		(30)	(1,137)
Total comprehensive expense for the year attributable			
to owners of the Company		(4,040)	(314)
Basic (loss) earnings per share attributable			
to owners of the Company (US cent)	13	(0.36)	0.10

# **Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

At 31 December 2023

		2023	2022
	Notes	US\$'000	US\$'000
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	15	39,733	42,760
Right-of-use asset	16	105	11
Interest in a joint venture	17	-	4,015
Debt instruments at fair value			
through other comprehensive income	18	389	1,392
		40,227	48,178
			· · · · · ·
Current assets			
Trade receivables	19	323	_
Other receivables and prepayments	20	635	1,525
Amount due from a joint venture	21	033	669
Debt instruments at fair value	21	_	009
through other comprehensive income	18		264
Bank deposits	22	16,535	13,618
Cash and cash equivalents	22		
Cash and Cash equivalents	22	1,314	2,201
		18,807	18,277
Total assets		59,034	66,455
Current liabilities			
Deposits received, other payables and accruals	23	1,072	1,591
Contract liabilities	24	, _	101
Borrowings – due within one year	25	756	2,122
Lease liabilities	26	99	12
		1,927	3,826
		1,327	3,020
		14.000	1.4.51
Net current assets		16,880	14,451
Total assets less current liabilities		57,107	62,629

# **Consolidated Statement of Financial Position**

At 31 December 2023

Notes	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Capital and reserves		
Share capital 27	1,098	1,098
Reserves	56,000	60,040
Total equity	57,098	61,138
Non-current liabilities		
Borrowings – due more than one year 25	-	756
Deposit received 23	-	735
Lease liabilities 26	9	
	9	1,491
Total liabilities and equity	59,034	66,455

The consolidated financial statements on pages 58 to 107 have been approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Directors on 28 March 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:

Sue Ka Lok

DIRECTOR

**Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine** *DIRECTOR* 

# **Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Share	Share	Contributed	Investment revaluation	Other	Exchange	Retained	
	capital US\$'000	premium US\$'000	surplus US\$'000	reserve US\$'000	reserve US\$'000 (Note)	reserve US\$'000	profits US\$'000	Total <i>US\$</i> ′000
At 1 January 2022	1,098	8,072	41,029	1,116	1,531	387	8,219	61,452
Profit for the year Exchange difference arising on translation of financial statements of the foreign	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,123	1,123
operation of a joint venture  Net decrease in fair value  of debt instruments  at fair value through other	-	-	-	-	-	(394)	-	(394)
comprehensive income Reclassification upon redemption of debt instruments at fair value through other	-	-	-	(2,439)	-	-	-	(2,439)
comprehensive income Allowance for credit losses on debt instruments	-	-	-	(6)	-	-	-	(6)
at fair value through other comprehensive income, net				1,402				1,402
Total comprehensive (expense) income for the year				(1,043)		(394)	1,123	(314)
At 31 December 2022	1,098	8,072	41,029	73	1,531	(7)	9,342	61,138

# **Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Share capital US\$'000	Share premium US\$'000	Contributed surplus US\$'000	Investment revaluation reserve US\$'000	Other reserve US\$'000 (Note)	Exchange reserve US\$'000	Retained profits US\$'000	Total US\$'000
Loss for the year	_	_	_	_	_	_	(3,974)	(3,974)
Exchange difference arising								
on translation of financial								
statements of the foreign								
operation of a joint venture	-	-	-	-	-	(163)	-	(163)
Reclassification of cumulative								
exchange reserve upon								
disposal of the foreign								
operation of a joint venture	-	-	-	-	-	170	-	170
Reclassification of other reserve								
to retained profits upon								
disposal of subsidiaries								
(Note)	-	-	-	-	(1,531)	-	1,531	-
Net decrease in fair value								
of debt instruments								
at fair value through other								
comprehensive income	-	-	-	(1,219)	-	-	-	(1,219)
Allowance for credit losses								
on debt instruments								
at fair value through other								
comprehensive income, net	<del>-</del>	<del>-</del>		1,146	<del>-</del>		<del>-</del>	1,146
Total comprehensive (expense)								
income for the year	_	-	-	(73)	(1,531)	7	(2,443)	(4,040)
, , ,				(-0)	(-//		(=, : : •)	(-,)
At 31 December 2023	1,098	8,072	41,029				6,899	57,098

Note: At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022, other reserve of US\$1,531,000 represented the excess of the fair value of a property interest transferred to a joint venture of the Group attributable to the Group over the carrying amount of a deferred consideration receivable, which was settled by an independent third party in the prior year. Such other reserve was released and transferred to retained profits upon completion of the disposal of the joint venture during the year ended 31 December 2023.

# **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Operating activities		
(Loss) profit before tax	(3,974)	1,123
Adjustments for:	(3/37 1)	1,123
Interest income	(675)	(535)
Interest expenses	187	346
Loss on disposal of subsidiaries	2,100	_
Loss on disposal of an investment property	_	183
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	2,042	2,168
Depreciation of right-of-use asset	100	124
Impairment loss recognised on vessels	1,008	797
Written-off of property, plant and equipment	42	_
Reclassification upon redemption of debt instruments		
at fair value through other comprehensive income	-	(6)
Allowance for credit losses on debt instruments		
at fair value through other comprehensive income, net	1,146	1,402
Allowance for credit losses on other receivables	104	91
Share of result of a joint venture	788	758
Operating cash flows before movements in working capital	2,868	6,451
Increase in trade receivables	(323)	-
Decrease (increase) in other receivables and prepayments	684	(507)
(Decrease) increase in deposits received, other payables		
and accruals	(1,243)	1,287
(Decrease) increase in contract liabilities	(101)	86
Net cash from operations	1,885	7,317
Interest income received	776	425
Interest expenses paid	(190)	(351)
Net cash from operating activities	2,471	7,391

# **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Investing activities	(4=)	(2.405)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(65)	(3,185)
Net proceeds from disposal of subsidiaries	1,803	-
Net proceeds from disposal of an investment property	-	8,573
Proceeds from redemption of debt instruments		
at fair value through other comprehensive income	48	2,450
Placement of bank deposits	(58,089)	(32,162)
Withdrawal of bank deposits	55,172	18,544
Net cash used in investing activities	(1,131)	(5,780)
Financing activities		
Repayment of borrowings	(2,122)	(6,908)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(105)	(142)
• •		
Cash used in financing activities	(2,227)	(7,050)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(887)	(5,439)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	2,201	7,640
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	1,314	2,201

For the year ended 31 December 2023

#### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Company (Registration No. 36692) was incorporated in Bermuda on 5 April 2005 as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda. Its registered office is at Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM 11, Bermuda and its principal place of business is at Room 1501, 15th Floor, Great Eagle Centre, 23 Harbour Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong. The Company is primarily listed on the Main Board of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and secondarily listed on the Main Board of SGX-ST. The consolidated financial statements are presented in United States dollars, which is the functional currency of the Company, and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand (US\$'000) where appropriate or as indicated.

The Company acts as an investment holding company. The principal activities of its principal subsidiaries are set out in note 38.

# 2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND AMENDMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ("IFRSs")

## New and amendments to IFRSs that are mandatorily effective for the current year

In the current year, the Group has applied the following new and amendments to IFRSs issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (the "IASB") for the first time, which are mandatorily effective for the annual period beginning on 1 January 2023 for the preparation of the consolidated financial statements:

IFRS 17 (including the June 2020 Insurance Contracts and December 2021 Amendments

to IFRS 17)

Amendments to International Disclosure of Accounting Policies

Accounting Standard ("**IAS**") 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2

Amendments to IAS 8 Definition of Accounting Estimates

Amendments to IAS 12 Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising

from a Single Transaction

Amendments to IAS 12 International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules

The application of the new and amendments to IFRSs in the current year has had no material impact on the Group's financial positions and performance for the current and prior years.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 2. APPLICATION OF NEW AND AMENDMENTS TO INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS ("IFRSs") (continued)

## Amendments to IFRSs in issue but not yet effective

The Group has not early applied the following amendments to IFRSs that have been issued but are not yet effective:

Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28 Sale or Contribution of Assets between an

Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture<sup>1</sup>

Amendments to IFRS 16 Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback<sup>2</sup>

Amendments to IAS 1 Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current<sup>2</sup>

Amendments to IAS 1 Non-current Liabilities with Covenants<sup>2</sup>

Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7 Supplier Finance Arrangements<sup>2</sup>

Amendments to IAS 21 Lack of Exchangeability<sup>3</sup>

- 1 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date to be determined.
- 2 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024.
- 3 Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025.

The directors of the Company anticipate that the application of the amendments to IFRSs will have no material impact on the Group's consolidated financial statements in the foreseeable future.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRSs issued by the IASB. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures required by the Hong Kong Listing Rules and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for certain financial instruments that are measured at fair values at the end of the relevant reporting period, as explained in the accounting policies below. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for goods and services.

Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date, regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique. In estimating the fair value of an asset or a liability, the Group takes into account the characteristics of the asset or liability if market participants would take those characteristics into account when pricing the asset or liability at the measurement date. Fair value for measurement and/or disclosure purposes in these consolidated financial statements is determined on such a basis, except for value in use in IAS 36 Impairment of Assets.

#### **Basis of consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements incorporate the financial statements of the Company and entities controlled by the Group. Control is achieved when the Company:

- has power over the investee;
- is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee; and
- has the ability to use its power to affect its returns.

The Group reassesses whether or not it controls an investee if facts and circumstances indicate that there are changes to one or more of the three elements of control listed above.

Consolidation of a subsidiary begins when the Group obtains control over the subsidiary and ceases when the Group loses control of the subsidiary. Specifically, income and expenses of a subsidiary acquired or disposed of during the year are included in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income from the date the Group gains control until the date when the Group ceases to control the subsidiary.

All intra-group assets, liabilities, equity, income, expenses and cash flows relating to transactions between members of the Group are eliminated in full on consolidation.

When the Group loses control of a subsidiary, the assets and liabilities of that subsidiary are derecognised. A gain or loss is recognised in profit or loss and is calculated as the difference between (i) the aggregate of the fair value of the consideration received and (ii) the carrying amount of the assets and liabilities of the subsidiary. All amounts previously recognised in other comprehensive income in relation to that subsidiary are accounted for as if the Group had directly disposed of the related assets or liabilities of the subsidiary (i.e., reclassified to profit or loss or transferred to another category of equity as specified/permitted by applicable IFRSs).

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

#### Interest in a joint venture

A joint venture is a joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement have rights to the net assets of the joint arrangement. Joint control is the contractually agreed sharing of control of an arrangement, which exists only when decisions about the relevant activities require unanimous consent of the parties sharing control.

The results and assets and liabilities of joint ventures are incorporated in these consolidated financial statements using the equity method of accounting. The financial statements of joint venture used for equity accounting purposes are prepared using uniform accounting policies as those of the Group for like transactions and events in similar circumstances. Under the equity method, an investment in a joint venture is initially recognised in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost and adjusted thereafter to recognise the Group's share of the profit or loss and other comprehensive income of the joint venture.

#### Revenue from contracts with customers

The Group recognises revenue when (or as) a performance obligation is satisfied, i.e., when "control" of the goods or services underlying the particular performance obligation is transferred to the customer. A performance obligation represents a good or service (or a bundle of goods or services) that is distinct or a series of distinct goods or services that are substantially the same.

Control is transferred over time and revenue is recognised over time by reference to the progress towards complete satisfaction of the relevant performance obligation if the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefits provided by the Group's performance as the Group performs.

A contract liability represents the Group's obligation to transfer goods or services to a customer for which the Group has received consideration (or an amount of consideration is due) from the customer.

### **Taxation**

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from (loss) profit before tax because of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of the reporting period. Current tax is recognised in profit or loss.

## Foreign currencies

Exchange differences arising on the settlement of monetary items, and on the retranslation of monetary items, are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

## Foreign currencies (continued)

For the purposes of presenting the consolidated financial statements, the assets and liabilities of the Group's foreign operations are translated into the presentation currency of the Group (i.e., US\$) at the rate of exchange prevailing at the end of the reporting period, and their income and expenses are translated at the average exchange rates for the year, unless exchange rates fluctuate significantly during the period, in which case the exchange rates prevailing at the dates of transactions are used. Exchange differences arising, if any, are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in equity under the heading of exchange reserve. On the disposal of a foreign operation, all of the exchange differences accumulated in equity in respect of that operation are reclassified to profit or loss.

## Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment are tangible assets that are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes. Property, plant and equipment are stated in the consolidated statement of financial position at cost less subsequent accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment losses, if any.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of items of property, plant and equipment (other than vessels) over their estimated useful lives and after taking into account of their estimated residual value, using the straight-line method. When parts of an item of property, plant and equipment have different useful lives, the cost of each part is depreciated separately.

Depreciation of vessels is charged so as to write off the cost of vessels over their remaining estimated useful lives from the date of initial delivery from the shipyard (second-hand vessels are depreciated from the date of their acquisition over their remaining estimated useful lives), after allowing for residual values estimated by the directors of the Company, using the straight-line method. The residual value of vessels is estimated at the product of its lightweight tonnage and estimated scrap rate.

Upon acquisition of a vessel, the components of the vessel which are required to be replaced at the next dry-docking are identified and their costs are depreciated over the period to the next estimated dry-docking date, usually ranging from 2.5 to 5 years. Costs incurred on subsequent dry-docking of vessels are capitalised and depreciated over the period to the next estimated dry-docking date. When significant dry-docking costs are incurred prior to the expiry of the depreciation period, the remaining costs of the previous dry-docking are written off immediately.

Expenditure incurred after items of property, plant and equipment have been put into operations, such as repairs and maintenance, is normally charged to profit or loss in the period in which it is incurred. In situations where the recognition criteria are satisfied, the expenditure for a major inspection is capitalised in the carrying amount of the asset as a replacement.

The estimated useful lives, residual values and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

## Property, plant and equipment (continued)

An item of property, plant and equipment is derecognised upon disposal or when no future economic benefits are expected to arise from the continued use of the asset. Any gain or loss arising on disposal or retirement of an item of property, plant and equipment is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is recognised in profit or loss.

#### Impairment on property, plant and equipment

At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of its property, plant and equipment to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss or an impairment loss recognised in prior years may no longer exist or may have decreased. If any such indication exists, the recoverable amount of the relevant asset is estimated in order to determine the extent of the impairment loss or reversal of impairment loss (if any).

Recoverable amount is the higher of fair value less costs of disposal and value in use. In assessing value in use, the estimated future cash flows are discounted to their present value using a pretax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset for which the estimates of future cash flows have not been adjusted.

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised immediately in profit or loss.

## Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents presented on the consolidated statement of financial position and consolidated statement of cash flows include cash, which comprises of cash on hand and demand deposits; and cash equivalents, which comprise of short-term (generally with original maturity of three months or less), highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of changes in value. Cash equivalents are held for the purpose of meeting short-term cash commitments rather than for investment or other purposes.

#### **Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Group will be required to settle that obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation.

The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the end of the reporting period, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. When a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows (where the effect of the time value of money is material).

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

#### **Provisions (continued)**

When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, a receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

#### Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when a group entity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. All regular way purchases or sales of financial assets are recognised and derecognised on a trade date basis.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are initially measured at fair value except for trade receivables arising from contract with customers which are initially measured in accordance with IFRS 15. The effective interest method is a method of calculating the amortised cost of a financial asset or financial liability and of allocating interest income and interest expense over the relevant period. The effective interest rate is the rate that exactly discounts estimated future cash receipts and payments (including all fees and points paid or received that form an integral part of the effective interest rate, transaction costs and other premiums or discounts) through the expected life of the financial asset or financial liability, or, where appropriate, a shorter period, to the net carrying amount on initial recognition. For purchased or originated credit-impaired financial assets, a credit-adjusted effective interest rate is calculated by discounting the estimated future cash flows, including expected credit losses ("**ECL**"), to the amortised cost on initial recognition.

Interest income which is derived from the Group's ordinary course of business is presented as revenue.

### Financial assets

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets

Financial assets that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at amortised cost:

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is to collect contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

Financial assets that meet the following conditions are subsequently measured at fair value through other comprehensive income ("**FVTOCI**"):

- the financial asset is held within a business model whose objective is achieved by both selling and collecting contractual cash flows; and
- the contractual terms give rise on specified dates to cash flows that are solely payments of principal and interest on the principal amount outstanding.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

### Financial instruments (continued)

### Financial assets (continued)

Classification and subsequent measurement of financial assets (continued)

All other financial assets are subsequently measured at fair value through profit or loss.

Interest income is recognised using the effective interest method for financial assets measured subsequently at amortised cost and debt instruments subsequently measured at FVTOCI.

Subsequent changes in the carrying amounts for debt instruments classified as at FVTOCI as a result of interest income calculated using the effective interest method, and foreign exchange gains and losses are recognised in profit or loss. All other changes in the carrying amount of these debt instruments are recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated under the heading of investment revaluation reserve. Impairment allowances are recognised in profit or loss with corresponding adjustment to other comprehensive income without reducing the carrying amounts of these debt instruments. When these debt instruments are derecognised, the cumulative gains or losses previously recognised in other comprehensive income are reclassified to profit or loss.

### Impairment of financial assets

The Group performs impairment assessment under ECL model on financial assets (including debt instruments at FVTOCI, trade receivables, other receivables, amount due from a joint venture, bank deposits and cash and cash equivalents), which are subject to impairment assessment. The amount of ECL is updated at each reporting date to reflect changes in credit risk since initial recognition.

Lifetime ECL represents the ECL that will result from all possible default events over the expected life of the relevant instrument. In contrast, 12-month ECL ("12m ECL") represents the portion of lifetime ECL that is expected to result from default events that are possible within 12 months after the reporting date. Assessments are done based on the Group's historical credit loss experience, adjusted for factors that are specific to the debtors, general economic conditions and an assessment of both the current conditions at the reporting date as well as the forecast of future conditions.

The Group always recognises lifetime ECL for trade receivables. For all other instruments, the Group measures the loss allowance equal to 12m ECL, unless when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, in which case the Group recognises lifetime ECL. The assessment of whether lifetime ECL should be recognised is based on significant increases in the likelihood or risk of a default occurring since initial recognition.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

### Financial instruments (continued)

### Financial assets (continued)

Impairment of financial assets (continued)

In assessing whether the credit risk has increased significantly since initial recognition, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the reporting date with the risk of a default occurring on the financial instrument as at the date of initial recognition. In making this assessment, the Group considers both quantitative and qualitative information that is reasonable and supportable, including historical experience and forward-looking information that is available without undue cost or effort.

For internal credit risk management, the Group considers an event occurs when information developed internally or obtained from external sources indicates that the debtor is unlikely to pay its creditors, including the Group, in full (without taking into account any collaterals held by the Group).

A financial asset is credit-impaired when one or more events that have a detrimental impact on the estimated future cash flows of that financial asset have occurred. Evidence that a financial asset is credit-impaired includes observable data about the following events:

- (a) significant financial difficulty of the issuer or the borrower;
- (b) a breach of contract, such as a default or past due event;
- (c) the lender(s) of the borrower, for economic or contractual reasons relating to the borrower's financial difficulty, having granted to the borrower a concession(s) that the lender(s) would not otherwise consider;
- (d) it is becoming probable that the borrower will enter bankruptcy or other financial reorganisation; or
- (e) the disappearance of an active market for that financial asset because of financial difficulties.

The Group writes off a financial asset when there is information indicating that the counterparty is in severe financial difficulty and there is no realistic prospect of recovery, for example, when the counterparty has been placed under liquidation or has entered into bankruptcy proceedings, or when the amounts are over two years past due, whichever occurs sooner. Financial assets written off may still be subject to enforcement activities under the Group's recovery procedures, taking into account legal advice where appropriate. A write-off constitutes a derecognition event. Any subsequent recoveries are recognised in profit or loss.

The measurement of ECL is a function of the probability of default, loss given default (i.e., the magnitude of the loss if there is a default) and the exposure at default. The assessment of the probability of default and loss given default is based on historical data and forward-looking information. Estimation of ECL reflects an unbiased and probability-weighted amount that is determined with the respective risks of default occurring as the weights.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

### Financial instruments (continued)

### Financial assets (continued)

Impairment of financial assets (continued)

Generally, the ECL is the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Group in accordance with the contract and the cash flows that the Group expects to receive, discounted at the effective interest rate determined at initial recognition.

Except for investments in debt instruments that are measured at FVTOCI, the Group recognises an impairment gain or loss in profit or loss for all financial instruments by adjusting their carrying amount with the exception of trade receivables, where the corresponding adjustment is recognised through a loss allowance account. For investments in debt instruments that are measured at FVTOCI, the loss allowance is recognised in other comprehensive income and accumulated in the investment revaluation reserve without reducing the carrying amount of these debt instruments. Such amount represents the changes in the FVTOCI reserve in relation to accumulated loss allowance.

### Derecognition of financial assets

The Group derecognises a financial asset only when the contractual rights to the cash flows from the asset expire, or when it transfers the financial asset and substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the asset to another entity.

On derecognition of a financial asset measured at amortised cost, the difference between the asset's carrying amount and the sum of the consideration received and receivable is recognised in profit or loss.

### Financial liabilities and equity instruments

### Classification as debt or equity

Debt and equity instruments are classified as either financial liabilities or as equity in accordance with the substance of the contractual arrangements and the definitions of a financial liability and an equity instrument.

### **Equity instruments**

An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Group after deducting all of its liabilities. Equity instruments issued by the Company are recorded at the proceeds received, net of direct issue costs.

### Financial liabilities at amortised cost

Financial liabilities (including borrowings and other payables) are subsequently measured at amortised cost, using the effective interest method.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

# 3. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICY INFORMATION (continued)

### Financial instruments (continued)

### Financial liabilities and equity instruments (continued)

Derecognition of financial liabilities

The Group derecognises financial liabilities when, and only when, the Group's obligations are discharged, cancelled or have expired. The difference between the carrying amount of the financial liability derecognised and the consideration paid and payable is recognised in profit or loss.

### **Employee benefits**

### Retirement benefit costs

Payments to defined contribution retirement benefit plan are recognised as an expense when employees have rendered service entitling them to the contributions.

### Short-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are recognised at the undiscounted amount of the benefits expected to be paid as and when employees rendered the services. All short-term employee benefits are recognised as an expense unless another IFRS requires or permits the inclusion of the benefit in the cost of an asset.

### 4. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 3, the directors of the Company are required to make judgments, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The followings are the key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting date, that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

### Impairment assessment on vessels

The Group assesses regularly whether the vessels have any indications of impairment or indication of impairment reversals in accordance with its accounting policy. The Group determines the recoverable amount of the vessels based on the higher of value in use and fair value less costs of disposal, which is subject to estimates. The aggregate carrying amount of the Group's vessels at the end of the reporting period was US\$37,721,000 (2022: US\$40,167,000). By comparing the recoverable amount of the vessels with their respective carrying amounts, impairment loss on vessels amounted to US\$1,008,000 (2022: US\$797,000) was recognised in profit or loss.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 5. REVENUE

### (i) Disaggregation of revenue from contracts with customers

Set out below is the reconciliation of the revenue from contracts with customers with the amounts disclosed in the segment information:

2023

	Marine transportation <i>US\$'000</i>	Investment holding US\$'000	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
Type of services:			
Marine transportation	6,819		6,819
Revenue from contracts			
with customers	6,819	_	6,819
Leases	1,630	_	1,630
Interest income from debt instruments			
at FVTOCI		63	63
Total revenue	8,449	63	8,512
2022			
	Marine transportation	Investment holding	Total
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
Type of services:			
Marine transportation	10,449		10,449
Revenue from contracts			
with customers	10,449	-	10,449
Leases	1,630	-	1,630
Interest income from debt instruments			
at FVTOCI		293	293
Total revenue	12,079	293	12,372

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 5. REVENUE (continued)

### (ii) Performance obligations for contracts with customers

The Group provides marine transportation services to customers. Such service income is recognised over time as a performance obligation when the customer simultaneously receives and consumes the benefit provided by the Group. Revenue is recognised for these marine transportation services based on the stage of completion of the contract using output method.

The Group normally requires the customers to pay 15 days in advance for the marine transportation service. If upfront payments are received for the services to be provided, such receipts are recognised as contract liabilities until the services have been performed for the customers.

# (iii) Transaction price allocated to the remaining performance obligation for contracts with customers

The marine transportation services are for periods of one year or less. As permitted under IFRS 15, the transaction price allocated to these unsatisfied contracts is not disclosed.

#### (iv) Leases

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Operating lease income –		
vessel with fixed payment	1,630	1,630

### 6. **SEGMENT INFORMATION**

The following is an analysis of the Group's revenue and results by operating segments, based on information provided to the executive directors and chief executive of the Company, being the chief operating decision makers ("CODM"), for the purposes of resources allocation and assessment of segment performance. This is also the current basis of organisation in the Group, whereby the management organises the Group based on different operating activities.

The accounting policies of the reportable and operating segments are the same as the Group's accounting policies described in note 3.

Specifically, the Group's reportable and operating segments are as follows:

- 1. Marine transportation
- 2. Investment holding
- 3. Property holding and investment
- 4. Merchandise trading

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 6. SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)

Segment results represent the profit/loss from each segment without allocation of corporate income, corporate expenses, impairment loss recognised on vessels, loss on disposal of subsidiaries, share of result of a joint venture and finance costs. The allowance for credit losses on debt instruments at FVTOCI, net is included in the result of the investment holding segment. The CODM has allocated vessels and investment in a joint venture to the measurement of segment assets while the impairment loss recognised on vessels, share of result of a joint venture and loss on disposal of subsidiaries are not allocated in the measurement of segment results.

### Segment revenue and results

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

	Marine transportation US\$'000	Investment holding US\$'000	Property holding and investment US\$'000	Merchandise trading US\$'000	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
Segment revenue	8,449	63			8,512
Segment results	2,227	(1,186)	(7)		1,034
Unallocated:					
Corporate income					636
Corporate expenses					(1,561)
Impairment loss recognised on vessels					(1,008)
Loss on disposal of subsidiaries					(2,100)
Share of result of a joint venture					(788)
Finance costs					(187)
Loss before tax					(3,974)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 6. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

### Segment revenue and results (continued)

	Marine transportation US\$'000	Investment holding US\$'000	Property holding and investment US\$'000	Merchandise trading US\$'000	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
Segment revenue	12,079	293			12,372
Segment results	5,436	(1,104)	(196)	(91)	4,045
Unallocated: Corporate income Corporate expenses					289 (1,310)
Impairment loss recognised on vessels Share of result of a joint venture Finance costs					(797) (758) (346)
Profit before tax					1,123

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 6. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

## Segment assets and liabilities

The following is an analysis of the Group's assets and liabilities by reportable and operating segments:

	Marine transportation US\$'000	Investment holding US\$'000	Property holding and investment US\$'000	Merchandise trading US\$'000	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
Segment assets	41,227	417	21		41,665
Unallocated corporate assets					17,369
Total assets					59,034
Segment liabilities	1,626		10		1,636
Unallocated corporate liabilities					300
Total liabilities					1,936
2022					
	Marine transportation US\$'000	Investment holding US\$'000	Property holding and investment US\$'000	Merchandise trading US\$'000	Total <i>US\$</i> '000
Segment assets	44,067	1,897	4,693		50,657
Unallocated corporate assets					15,798
Total assets					66,455
Segment liabilities	5,158		19		5,177
Unallocated corporate liabilities					140
Total liabilities					5,317

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 6. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

### Segment assets and liabilities (continued)

For the purposes of monitoring segment performance and allocating resources between segments:

- all assets are allocated to operating segments other than certain property, plant and equipment, right-of-use asset, other receivables and prepayments, bank deposits and cash and cash equivalents; and
- all liabilities are allocated to operating segments other than certain other payables and accruals and lease liabilities.

### **Geographical information**

The Group's operations are principally located in Hong Kong and other Asian countries. The directors of the Company consider that the nature of the Group's marine transportation business precludes a meaningful allocation of the Group's revenue and non-current assets relating to such business to specific geographical segments as these revenue and non-current assets mainly derive from and include vessels which are utilised across different geographical markets.

Information about the Group's revenue from external customers/sources (other than marine transportation business) is presented based on the geographical location of the operations. Information about the Group's non-current assets (other than marine transportation business) is presented based on the geographical location of the assets.

Revenue from				
	external custo	mers/sources	Non-curre	ent assets
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
Hong Kong	63	293	127	61
The PRC (excluding Hong Kong)				4,015
	63	293	127	4,076

*Note:* Revenue excluded the revenue from marine transportation business. Non-current assets excluded debt instruments at FVTOCI and the carrying amounts of vessels and dry-docking.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 6. **SEGMENT INFORMATION (continued)**

### Information about major customers

Revenue arising from customers individually contributing over 10% of the total revenue of the Group are related to marine transportation segment and are disclosed as follows:

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Customer A	-	5,360
Customer B	-	3,040
Customer C	6,819	1,983
Customer D	1,630	1,630

### 7. OTHER GAINS AND LOSSES, NET

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Allowance for credit losses on other receivables Written-off of property, plant and equipment	(104) (42)	(91) -
Loss on disposal of an investment property Reclassification upon redemption	-	(183)
of debt instruments at FVTOCI	-	6
Net foreign exchange loss	<u>(1)</u>	(4)
	(147)	(272)

### 8. FINANCE COSTS

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Interest expenses from borrowings	180	344
Interest on lease liabilities	7	2
	187	346

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### 9. (LOSS) PROFIT BEFORE TAX

(Loss) profit before tax has been arrived at after charging (crediting) the following items:

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Auditor's remuneration	147	147
Employee benefits expenses		
(including directors' emoluments):		
<ul> <li>Salaries and other benefits</li> </ul>	773	681
- Contributions to retirement benefits scheme	29	22
Total employee benefits expenses	802	703
Marine crew expenses	2,381	2,679
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	2,042	2,168
Depreciation of right-of-use asset	100	124
Interest income from banks	(612)	(242)

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 10. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

There was no assessable profit arising in Hong Kong for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022. In the opinion of the directors of the Company, there is no taxation arising in other jurisdictions.

Income tax expense for the year is reconciled to (loss) profit before tax per the Group's consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as follows:

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
(Loss) profit before tax	(3,974)	1,123
Tax at the applicable income tax rate of 16.5% (Note)	656	(185)
Tax effect of income not taxable for tax purpose	1,500	2,065
Tax effect of expenses not deductible for tax purpose	(1,911)	(1,741)
Tax effect of tax losses not recognised	(245)	(152)
Effect of utilisation of tax losses previously		
not recognised		13
Income tax expense for the year		_

*Note:* Hong Kong Profits Tax rate is used for the tax reconciliation as the Group is considered to be principally managed in Hong Kong.

At the end of the reporting period, the Group had unused tax losses of US\$6,255,000 (2022: US\$6,758,000). No deferred tax asset had been recognised in respect of such losses due to the unpredictability of future profit streams. The losses may be carried forward indefinitely.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 11. DIRECTORS' AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S EMOLUMENTS

The emoluments paid or payable to each of the seven (2022: seven) directors or chief executive are as follows:

		Basic salaries	Contributions to retirement benefits	
	Directors' fees US\$'000	and allowance US\$'000	scheme <i>US\$'000</i>	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
	034 000	054 000	034 000	
Executive Directors/Chief Executive				
Mr. Sue Ka Lok	-	167	7	174
Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine				
(Note a)	-	56	4	60
Ms. Wang Yu	-	54	3	57
Mr. Yuen Chee Lap, Carl (Note b)		78	1	79
		255	4.5	270
		355	15	370
Independent Non-executive Directors				
Mr. Zhou Qijin	19	-	-	19
Mr. Pau Shiu Ming	19	-	-	19
Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho	19			19
	57			57
Total	57	355	15	427

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### 11. DIRECTORS' AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S EMOLUMENTS (continued)

2022

	Directors' fees	Basic salaries and allowance	Contributions to retirement benefits scheme	Total
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
Executive Directors/Chief Executive				
Mr. Sue Ka Lok	-	167	7	174
Ms. Wang Yu	_	33	2	35
Mr. Yuen Chee Lap, Carl		122	2	124
		322	11	333
Non-executive Director				
Dr. Feng Xiaogang (Note c)	31			31
Independent Non-executive Directors				
Mr. Zhou Qijin	19	-	-	19
Mr. Pau Shiu Ming	19	_	_	19
Mr. Tsao Hoi Ho	19			19
	57			57
Total	88	322	11	421

#### Notes:

- a. Ms. Lee Chun Yeung, Catherine was appointed as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer on 18 August 2023. Her emoluments disclosed above included those for services rendered by her as the chief executive officer.
- b. Mr. Yuen Chee Lap, Carl ceased to be Chief Executive Officer on 18 August 2023 and has been re-designated as Chief Operating Officer, the basic salaries and allowance he received and the contributions to retirement benefits scheme made by the Group during the period from 19 August 2023 to 31 December 2023 amounted to US\$43,000 and US\$1,000 respectively.
- c. Dr. Feng Xiaogang was re-designated as Non-executive Director on 1 January 2022 and resigned on 31 December 2022.

The executive directors' emoluments shown above were for their services in connection with the management of the affairs of the Group. The non-executive director's emoluments shown above were for his service as a director of the Company. The independent non-executive directors' emoluments shown above were for their services as directors of the Company.

There was no arrangement under which a director or the chief executive officer of the Company waived or agreed to waive any remuneration during the year.

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### 12. EMPLOYEES' EMOLUMENTS

Of the five individuals with the highest emoluments in the Group, the emoluments of three (2022: two) individuals are included in note 11 above, the emoluments of the remaining two (2022: three) individuals are as follows:

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Salaries and allowance	135	147
Contributions to retirement benefits scheme	5	6
	140	153

The emoluments of the remaining two (2022: three) highest paid individuals were within the band of nil to HK\$1,000,000.

No emolument was paid by the Group to any of the directors and the five individuals with the highest emoluments in the Group as an inducement to join or upon joining the Group or as compensation for loss of office for both years.

### 13. (LOSS) EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic (loss) earnings per share attributable to owners of the Company are based on the following data:

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
(Loss) earnings (Loss) profit for the year attributable		
to owners of the Company	(3,974)	1,123
	2023	2022
	′000	′000
Number of shares Weighted average number of ordinary shares	1 007 704	1 007 704
in issue during the year	1,097,704	1,097,704

For the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022, no diluted (loss) earnings per share are presented as there were no dilutive potential ordinary shares outstanding during both years.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 14. DIVIDEND

During the year ended 31 December 2023, no dividend was paid, declared or proposed (2022: nil), nor has any dividend been proposed by the directors of the Company since the end of the reporting period.

### 15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

			Furniture,		
	., .		fixtures and	Leasehold	
		Dry-docking		improvement	Total
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
COST					
At 1 January 2022	64,098	1,890	20	76	66,084
Additions	435	2,945			3,380
At 31 December 2022	64,533	4,835	20	76	69,464
Additions	_	45	-	20	65
Written off				(76)	(76)
At 31 December 2023	64,533	4,880	20	20	69,453
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION AND IMPAIRMENT					
At 1 January 2022	22,098	1,611	10	20	23,739
Depreciation	1,471	681	2	14	2,168
Impairment loss recognised					
in profit or loss	797				797
At 31 December 2022	24,366	2,292	12	34	26,704
Depreciation	1,438	598	3	3	2,042
Written off	-	-	-	(34)	(34)
Impairment loss recognised					
in profit or loss	1,008				1,008
At 31 December 2023	26,812	2,890	15	3	29,720
CARRYING VALUES					
At 31 December 2023	37,721	1,990	5	17	39,733
	22,220	-,,			3.7,2.20
At 31 December 2022	40,167	2,543	8	42	42,760

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### 15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (continued)

The estimated useful lives of the assets are summarised as follows:

Vessels Shorter of 30 years or the estimated remaining

useful life of the second-hand vessels

Dry-docking 2.5 to 5 years

Furniture, fixtures and equipment 5 years Leasehold improvement 5 years

The directors of the Company conduct a review of the carrying amount of the Group's vessels at the end of every reporting period to determine whether there is any indication that the vessels have suffered an impairment loss. An impairment loss is recognised when the carrying amount of a vessel exceeds its recoverable amount, which in turn is the higher of its value in use and its fair value less costs of disposal.

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the BDI, an index that was closely correlated to market freight rate, continued to be volatile and gave an indication that conducting an impairment assessment on the carrying amounts of the Group's vessels was warranted.

The fair value of the Group's vessels were determined based on the valuation carried out by JP Assets Consultancy Limited, an independent qualified professional valuer not connected to the Group, and the market approach was principally adopted for the valuation as there was a known market for used vessels. The fair value of the vessels were primarily determined based on the direct comparison method by making reference to the recent sale transactions of similar vessels with similar age and condition (Level 2 fair value hierarchy).

At 31 December 2023, the fair value less costs of disposal of two vessels were determined with reference to prevailing market conditions (including second-hand prices and freight rate of similar vessels) and amounted to US\$28,919,000 (2022: US\$30,225,000) in aggregate, as such fair values were higher than the respective values in use of the vessels, the fair values represented the recoverable amounts of the two vessels. Furthermore, as the recoverable amounts of these vessels were lower than their individual carrying amount before impairment, an impairment loss on vessels of US\$1,008,000 (2022: US\$797,000) was recognised in profit or loss during the year.

Details of the pledge of property, plant and equipment are set out in note 31.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 16. RIGHT-OF-USE ASSET

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
At 31 December		
Carrying amount	105	11
For the year ended 31 December		
Depreciation	100	124
Total cash outflow for leases	105	142
Additions to right-of-use asset	194	_

The Group leases office premises for its operations. Lease contract is entered into for a fixed term of two years (2022: three years). During the current year, lease liabilities of US\$194,000 (2022: nil) were recognised together with the related right-of-use assets attributable to the new leases entered into. The lease agreements do not impose any covenants other than the security interests in the leased assets that are held by the lessor and the relevant leased assets may not be used as security for borrowing purposes. These are the major non-cash transactions of the current year.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 17. INTEREST IN A JOINT VENTURE

				2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Cost of investment in a joint ven Share of post-acquisition losses	ture			-	5,330
and other comprehensive expe	enses			<u>-</u>	(1,315)
			_	<u>-</u>	4,015
	Place of	Dron	oution o	ć	
Name of entity	establishment/ operation	inter	est and	of ownership voting rights he Group	Principal activity
Name of entity	establishment/	inter	est and	voting rights	Principal activity

During the year, the Group disposed of its interest in a joint venture through the disposal of a subsidiary. Details of such disposal are set out in note 29.

For the period from 1 January 2023 to 4 October 2023 (the date of completion of disposal), the loss and other comprehensive expense incurred by the joint venture amounted to US\$1,891,000 and US\$390,000 (for the year ended 31 December 2022: US\$1,817,000 and US\$946,000) respectively.

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#### 18. DEBT INSTRUMENTS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

These debt instruments are listed on either the Hong Kong Stock Exchange or SGX-ST. At 31 December 2023, debt instruments at FVTOCI were stated at fair values which were determined based on quoted market closing prices. These debt instruments carried coupon from 5.25% to 11.95% (2022: 5.25% to 11.95%) per annum and their contractual maturity dates were from 22 March 2022 to 28 June 2025.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, a net allowance for credit losses on debt instruments at FVTOCI of US\$1,146,000 (2022: US\$1,402,000) was recognised in profit or loss with a corresponding adjustment to other comprehensive income. Details of impairment assessment are set out in note 35.

### 19. TRADE RECEIVABLES

Trade receivables arose from the marine transportation business and aged within 30 days from the invoice date. The credit periods for customers of time charter are from 0 day to 30 days. At 31 December 2023, none of the Group's trade receivables were past due nor impaired and all were subsequently settled.

For the year ended 31 December 2023

### 20. OTHER RECEIVABLES AND PREPAYMENTS

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Other receivables Reimbursement asset	481	472
from an insurance company (Note 23) Account balances with brokers	- 10	821 10
Prepayments and other deposits for operating expenses	144	222
	635	1,525

#### 21. AMOUNT DUE FROM A JOINT VENTURE

At 31 December 2022, the amount was unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand. During the year, the Group disposed of the amount due from a joint venture together with its interest in the joint venture, details of such disposal are set out in note 29.

### 22. BANK DEPOSITS AND CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

Bank deposits represented time deposits denominated in Hong Kong dollars or United States dollars which were placed with banks in Hong Kong for treasury purpose, and carried fixed interest from 4.77% to 5.48% (2022: 4.19% to 5.94%) per annum.

Cash and cash equivalents included cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term deposits placed for the purpose of meeting the Group's short-term cash commitments from time to time, which carried interest at prevailing market rates.

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### 23. DEPOSITS RECEIVED, OTHER PAYABLES AND ACCRUALS

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Accrued expenses and other payables for operations	337	770
Deposits received from lessee of vessel	735	735
Provision (Note)		821
	1,072	2,326
Presented as:		
Current	1,072	1,591
Non-current	- 1,072	735
Non editent		
	1.072	2 226
	1,072	2,326

#### Note:

During the year ended 31 December 2022, one of the Group's vessels was involved in a collision with another vessel owned by an independent third party that occurred in the seas of Singapore (the "Collision Event"). The owner of the other vessel (the "Claimant") had filed a claim against the loss caused by the negligence of the Group. The directors of the Company had made the best estimate of the claim to be approximately US\$821,000 after consultation with the lawyers. The claim could be fully covered by an insurance policy took out by the Group and thus a corresponding amount was recognised as a reimbursement asset (note 20).

In January 2023, the Group paid a security deposit of US\$1,006,000 (the "Security Deposit") to the Supreme Court of Singapore pending resolution of the Collision Event. In late 2023, a settlement agreement in relation to the Collision Event was reached between the Group, the Group's insurer, the Claimant and the other parties and the Security Deposit was subsequently refunded to the Group. In January 2024, the Claimant filed a notice to discontinue its claim against the Group.

The provision of US\$821,000 and the corresponding reimbursement asset (note 20) previously recognised were reversed in the current year.

### 24. CONTRACT LIABILITIES

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Marine transportation income to be recognised		
in next year	_	101

As at 1 January 2022, contract liabilities amounted to US\$15,000.

The contract liability balance at the beginning of the year of US\$101,000 (2022: US\$15,000) was recognised as revenue during the year ended 31 December 2023.

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### 25. BORROWINGS

	2023 US\$'000	2022 US\$'000
Secured loans	756	2,878
The carrying amounts of the loans are repayable*: Within a period not exceeding one year	756	2,122
Within a period of more than one year but not exceeding two years		756
Total Less: Amounts due within one year shown	756	2,878
under current liabilities	(756)	(2,122)
Amounts shown under non-current liabilities		756
Effective interest rate (%) per annum	8.65 - 9.46	2.95 – 7.17

<sup>\*</sup> The amounts due are based on the scheduled repayment dates set out in the loan agreements.

The Group's borrowings were denominated in United States dollars (2022: United States dollars) which were also the functional currencies of the respective entities of the Group.

At 31 December 2023, the loans were carrying interest at Secured Overnight Financing Rate ("SOFR") (2022: London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR")) plus certain basis points. The outstanding loans at 31 December 2023 were repayable within one year (2022: within one to two years).

The borrowings at 31 December 2023 and 31 December 2022 were secured by the following:

- (i) corporate guarantee from the Company;
- (ii) first preferred mortgage over the vessels held by Heroic Marine Corp. and Polyworld Marine Corp., named MV Heroic and MV Polyworld respectively; and
- (iii) assignment of insurance proceeds in respect of vessels MV Heroic and MV Polyworld.

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### **26. LEASE LIABILITIES**

	2023 US\$′000	2022 US\$'000
Lease liabilities are payable:		
Within a period not exceeding one year	99	12
Within a period of more than one year		
but not exceeding two years	9	<u> </u>
Total	108	12
Less: Amounts due for settlement within one year		
shown under current liabilities	(99)	(12)
Amounts due for settlement after one year		
shown under non-current liabilities	9	

### 27. SHARE CAPITAL

Number of shares	Amount
′000	US\$'000
180,000,000	180,000
1,097,704	1,098
	180,000,000

At 31 December 2023, all issued ordinary shares have a par value of US\$0.001 each (2022: US\$0.001 each), carry one vote per share and carry the rights to dividends as and when declared by the Company.

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### 28. SHARE-BASED PAYMENT TRANSACTIONS

### **Equity-settled share option scheme of the Company**

The share option scheme of the Company (the "**Share Option Scheme**") was adopted by the Company at the annual general meeting of the Company held on 28 June 2017. Unless otherwise cancelled or amended, the Share Option Scheme will be valid and effective for a period of ten years commencing on the date of adoption.

The purpose of the Share Option Scheme is to provide participants with the opportunity to acquire proprietary interests in the Company and to encourage participants to work towards enhancing the value of the Company and its shares for the benefit of the Company and its shareholders as a whole. Participants of the Share Option Scheme comprising (a) directors (including executive directors, non-executive directors and independent non-executive directors); (b) employees of the Group; and (c) any advisors, consultants, business partners, agents, customers, suppliers, service providers, contractors of any member of the Group or any company or other entity in which the Group or any member of it has a shareholding interest, who, in the sole discretion of the Board, has contributed or may contribute to the Group or any member of it. The offer of a grant of options may be accepted for a period of 30 days from the date of grant, provided that no such offer shall be open for acceptance after the expiry of the period of ten years commencing on the adoption date of the Share Option Scheme or after the Share Option Scheme has been terminated. The amount payable by each grantee of options to the Company on acceptance of the offer for the grant of options is HK\$1.00.

The subscription price for the shares on the exercise of options under the Share Option Scheme shall be a price as determined by the Board in its absolute discretion at the time of the grant of the relevant option (and shall be stated in the letter containing the offer of the grant of the option) but in any case the subscription price shall not be less than the higher of (i) the closing price of the Company's shares as stated in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheet on the date of grant, which must be a trading day; (ii) the average closing price of the Company's shares as stated in the Hong Kong Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheets for the five trading days immediately preceding the date of grant; or (iii) the nominal value of a Company's share (if any) on the date of grant.

The total number of the Company's shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of the options granted to each participant, together with all options granted and to be granted to him/her/it under any other share option scheme(s) of the Company within the 12-month period immediately preceding the proposed date of grant (including exercised, cancelled and outstanding options) shall not exceed 1% of the total number of the Company's shares in issue as at the proposed date of grant. Any further grant of options to a participant in excess of the 1% limit shall be subject to the shareholders' approval of the Company with such participant and his/her/its associates abstaining from voting.

The limit on the total number of the Company's shares which may be issued upon exercise of all outstanding options granted and yet to be exercised under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option scheme(s) of the Company must not exceed 30% of the total number of the Company's shares in issue from time to time. In addition, the total number of the Company's shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme, together with all options to be granted under any other share option scheme(s) of the Company (excluding lapsed options), must not represent more than 10% of the total number of the Company's shares in issue as at the date of adoption of the Share Option Scheme (the "Scheme Mandate Limit") or as at the date of approval of the refreshed Scheme Mandate Limit as the case may be.

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### 28. SHARE-BASED PAYMENT TRANSACTIONS (continued)

### Equity-settled share option scheme of the Company (continued)

At the special general meeting of the Company held on 20 October 2021, the shareholders of the Company approved the refreshment of mandate limit in respect of the grant of options to subscribe for shares of the Company under the Share Option Scheme (the "Scheme Mandate Limit Refreshment"). Accordingly, the total number of shares of the Company available for issue under the Share Option Scheme was 109,770,356 shares as refreshed, representing approximately 10% of the issued shares of the Company as at the date of approval of the Scheme Mandate Limit Refreshment.

No share options has been granted under the Share Option Scheme since its adoption. The total number of shares of the Company available for issue under the Share Option Scheme is 109,770,356 shares representing approximately 10% of the issued shares of the Company as at the date of this annual report.

#### 29. DISPOSAL OF SUBSIDIARIES

During the current year, the Group disposed of its interest in a joint venture through the disposal of a subsidiary to an independent third party at a cash consideration of Renminbi 13,500,000 (approximately US\$1,861,000 at the date of transaction).

The consolidated net assets of the aforementioned subsidiary at the date of disposal were as follows:

	US\$'000
Interest in a joint venture	3,064
Amount due from a joint venture	669
	3,733
Cash consideration received, net	1,803
Reclassification of cumulative exchange reserve	(170)
Net assets disposed of	(3,733)
Loss on disposal of subsidiaries	(2,100)
Net cash inflow arising on disposal of subsidiaries:	
Net cash consideration received and net cash inflow on disposal	1,803

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#### 30. OPERATING LEASES

### The Group as lessor

At the end of the reporting period, the Group had contracted with a charterer for the following future undiscounted lease payments:

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Within one year	417	1,671
One to two years		417
	417	2,088

#### 31. PLEDGE OF ASSETS

At 31 December 2023, two vessels (2022: two vessels) with an aggregate carrying amount of US\$25,574,000 (2022: US\$27,404,000) (including dry-docking) were pledged to a financial institution as security for the loan facilities granted to the Group.

#### 32. RETIREMENT BENEFITS SCHEME

The Group operates a Mandatory Provident Fund Scheme (the "MPF Scheme") for all qualifying employees in Hong Kong. The assets of the schemes are held separately from those of the Group in funds under the control of trustees. Both the Group and employees contribute a fixed percentage to the MPF Scheme based on their monthly salary in accordance with government regulations. The Group's contributions to the MPF Scheme for its employees are fully and immediately vested in the employees once the contributions are made. Accordingly, there are no forfeited contributions under the MPF Scheme that may be used by the Group to reduce the existing level of contributions.

Pursuant to the Hong Kong Employment Ordinance, Chapter 57, the Group has the obligation to pay long service payment ("**LSP**") to qualifying employees in Hong Kong upon retirement, subject to a minimum of 5 years employment period, based on this formula: last monthly wages (before termination of employment)  $\times$  2/3  $\times$  years of service. Last monthly wages are capped at HK\$22,500 while the amount of LSP shall not exceed HK\$390,000. This obligation is accounted for as a post-employment defined benefit plan.

In June 2022, the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region enacted the Employment and Retirement Schemes Legislation (Offsetting Arrangement) (Amendment) Ordinance 2022 (the "Amendment Ordinance") which will be effective from 1 May 2025 (the "Transition Date"). Under the Amendment Ordinance, any accrued benefits attributable to the employer's mandatory contributions under the MPF scheme of an entity would no longer be eligible to offset against its obligations on LSP for the portion of the LSP accrued on or after the Transition Date. The unfunded LSP obligation at 31 December 2023 and 2022 and the current service cost during the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022 is insignificant.

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### 33. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

- (a) During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group paid office lease expenses of US\$44,000 (2022: nil) to a related company. Such related company and the Company had a common substantial shareholder.
- **(b)** During the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022, the remuneration of the Group's key management personnel comprising directors and chief executive officer of the Company is disclosed in note 11.

#### 34. CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Group manages its capital to ensure that entities in the Group will be able to continue as a going concern while maximising the return to shareholders of the Company through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance.

The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, which includes the borrowings as disclosed in note 25, offset by bank deposits, cash and cash equivalents, and equity attributable to owners of the Company, comprising issued share capital and reserves.

The directors of the Company review the capital structure on a continuous basis taking into account the cost of capital and the risk associated with the capital. The Group will balance its overall capital structure through payment of dividend, issuance of new shares as well as raising of new debts or repayment of existing debts.

The Group's overall strategy remains unchanged from the prior year.

#### 35. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

### (a) Categories of financial instruments

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$'000
Financial assets		
Debt instruments at FVTOCI	389	1,656
Financial assets at amortised cost	18,663	16,970
Financial liabilities		
Amortised cost	1,508	4,128

### (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Group's financial instruments include debt instruments at FVTOCI, trade receivables, other receivables, amount due from a joint venture, bank deposits, cash and cash equivalents, deposits received, other payables and borrowings. Details of the financial instruments are disclosed in the respective notes. The risks associated with the Group's financial instruments include market risk (currency risk and interest rate risk), credit risk and liquidity risk. The policies on how to mitigate these risks are set out below. The management manages and monitors these exposures to ensure appropriate measures are implemented on a timely and effective manner.

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### 35. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

### (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (continued)

### **Currency risk**

Most of the Group's assets and liabilities are denominated and settled in Hong Kong dollars or United States dollars. As Hong Kong dollars is pegged to United States dollars, the management thus considers the Group's foreign currency exposure is not significant. The Group has certain cash and cash equivalents denominated in Renminbi which are considered as insignificant, as such, foreign currency sensitivity analysis is not presented. The Group will consider entering into foreign exchange forward contracts to hedge against its foreign currency exposure if the risk is considered to be significant.

#### Interest rate risk

The Group is exposed to fair value interest rate risk in relation to bank deposits (see note 22) and lease liabilities (see note 26). The Group is also exposed to cash flow interest rate risk primarily relating to cash and cash equivalents and borrowings at the end of the reporting period which carry variable interest rates, as disclosed in notes 22 and 25 respectively. The Group has not entered into any interest rate swaps to mitigate its exposure associated with fluctuations relating to interest rate risk. However, the management monitors interest rate exposure and will consider necessary actions when significant interest rate exposure is anticipated.

The Group's exposures to interest rates on financial liabilities are detailed in the liquidity risk section below. The Group's cash flow interest rate risk is mainly concentrated on the fluctuations of SOFR/LIBOR arising from the Group's variable-rate borrowings.

The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on the exposure to interest rates for variable-rate borrowings at 31 December 2023 and 2022. The analysis is prepared assuming the variable-rate borrowings outstanding at the end of the reporting period were outstanding for the whole reporting year. An 100 basis points (2022: 300 basis points) increase or decrease is used as it represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in interest rates. If interest rates had been 100 basis points (2022: 300 basis points) higher/lower and all other variables were held, the Group's loss for the year ended 31 December 2023 would increase/decrease by US\$8,000 (2022: profit for the year would decrease/increase by US\$86,000).

#### Credit risk and impairment assessment

The Group's credit risk exposure are primarily attributable to bank deposits, cash and cash equivalents and debt instruments at FVTOCI. The Group does not hold any collateral or other credit enhancements to cover its credit risk.

### Bank deposits, cash and cash equivalents

The credit risks on bank deposits, cash and cash equivalents are limited because the deposits are mainly placed in a state-owned bank and therefore the ECL is considered negligible.

### Debt instruments at FVTOCI

All of the Group's debt instruments at FVTOCI are corporate bond investments listed on either the Hong Kong Stock Exchange or SGX-ST which were acquired in previous years. At 31 December 2023, all the issuers of these bond investments are property developer companies based in the PRC. Most of these bond investments at the year end were in default status due to non-payments of interest and/or principal and were therefore regarded as credit-impaired and lifetime ECL was recognised. The Group estimated the recovery from these bond investments based on relevant market data and/or default study reports available without undue cost or effort.

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#### **35. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)**

#### (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (continued)

### Credit risk and impairment assessment (continued)

Debt instruments at FVTOCI (continued)

The following table shows a reconciliation of the allowance for credit losses that had been recognised for debt instruments at FVTOCI, which were all originated at the beginning of the year.

				Purchased or	
		Lifetime ECL (not credit-	Lifetime ECL (credit-	originated credit-	
	12m ECL	impaired)	impaired)	impaired	Total
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
At 1 January 2022	26	1,380	3,954	_	5,360
Transfer from lifetime ECL					
(not credit-impaired)					
to lifetime ECL					
(credit-impaired)	-	(1,380)	1,380	-	-
Transfer from lifetime ECL					
(credit-impaired) to purchased					
or originated					
credit-impaired	_	_	(764)	764	_
Remeasurement			(, , ,	, , ,	
of credit losses, net	_	_	1,495	(67)	1,428
Credit losses reversed					
due to redemption	(26)				(26)
At 31 December 2022	_	_	6,065	697	6,762
Credit losses recognised			671	475	1,146
At 31 December 2023	_	_	6,736	1,172	7,908

### Liquidity risk

In the management of the liquidity risk, the Group monitors and maintains a level of cash and cash equivalents deemed adequate by the management to finance the Group's operations and mitigate the effects of fluctuations in cash flows. Management also monitors the utilisation of borrowings and ensures compliance with loan covenants. The management therefore considers that the Group's liquidity risk has been reduced.

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### 35. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (continued)

### (b) Financial risk management objectives and policies (continued)

### Liquidity risk (continued)

The following table details the Group's remaining contractual maturity for its non-derivative financial liabilities. The table has been drawn up based on the undiscounted cash flows of financial liabilities, based on the earliest date on which the Group can be required to pay. The table includes both interest and principal cash flows. To the extent that interest flows are based on floating rate, the undiscounted amount is derived from interest rate at the end of the reporting period.

	Weighted average interest rate %	On demand or 6 months or less US\$'000	6 to 12 months <i>US\$'000</i>	1 to 2 years <i>US\$'000</i>	Total undiscounted cash flows US\$'000	Carrying amounts US\$'000
At 31 December 2023						
Other payables	-	752	-	-	752	752
Borrowings	9.28	776	-	-	776	756
Lease liabilities	5.36	53	52	9	114	108
		1,581	52	9	1,642	1,616
At 31 December 2022						
Other payables	-	1,250	-	-	1,250	1,250
Borrowings	8.65	1,175	1,129	775	3,079	2,878
Lease liabilities	2.86	12			12	12
		2,437	1,129	775	4,341	4,140

The amounts included above for variable interest rate instruments for non-derivative financial liabilities are subject to change if changes in variable interest rates differ to those estimates of interest rates determined at the end of the reporting period.

### Fair values

The fair values of listed debt securities classified as debt instruments at FVTOCI are categorised as Level 1 fair value measurement and determined with reference to quoted prices in active markets.

The fair values of other financial assets and financial liabilities are determined in accordance with generally accepted pricing models based on discounted cash flow analysis.

The directors of the Company consider that the carrying amounts of financial assets and financial liabilities recorded at amortised cost at the end of each reporting period approximate their fair values.

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### 36. RECONCILIATION OF LIABILITIES ARISING FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

	Lease liabilities <i>US\$'000</i>	Borrowings <i>US\$'000</i>
At 1 January 2022	152	9,786
Interest expenses	2	-
Repayment	(142)	(6,908)
At 31 December 2022	12	2,878
Addition	194	_
Interest expenses	7	_
Repayment	(105)	(2,122)
At 31 December 2023	108	756

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### 37. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESERVES OF THE COMPANY

	2023	2022
	US\$'000	US\$′000
Non-current assets		
Interests in subsidiaries	-	
Amounts due from subsidiaries	52,379	56,327
	52,379	56,327
Current assets		
Other receivables and prepayments	133	104
Bank deposits	11,589	9,387
Cash and cash equivalents	134	1,362
·		
	11,856	10,853
Total assets	64 225	67 100
i otal assets	64,235	67,180
Current liabilities		22.22
Amounts due to subsidiaries	36,739	32,939
Other payables and accruals	134	76
	36,873	33,015
Net current liabilities	(25,017)	(22,162)
Total assets less current liabilities	27,362	34,165
Capital and reserves		
Share capital (note 27)	1,098	1,098
Reserves (note)	26,264	33,067
	27,362	34,165
Total liabilities and equity	64,235	67,180
rotal habilities and equity	07,233	07,100

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### 37. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AND RESERVES OF THE COMPANY (continued)

Note:

	Share premium <i>US\$'000</i>	Contributed surplus US\$'000	Accumulated losses US\$'000	Total <i>US\$'000</i>
At 1 January 2022	8,072	41,029	(7,019)	42,082
Loss and total comprehensive expense for the year			(9,015)	(9,015)
At 31 December 2022	8,072	41,029	(16,034)	33,067
Loss and total comprehensive expense for the year			(6,803)	(6,803)
At 31 December 2023	8,072	41,029	(22,837)	26,264

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### 38. PARTICULARS OF THE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES OF THE COMPANY

	Proportion of					
	Place of	Class of	nominal value of			
	incorporation/	shares	Issued	issued cap	oital held	
Name of subsidiaries	establishment	held	capital	by the Co		Principal activities
				2023	2022	
				%	%	
					70	
Direct:						
Courage Marine Holdings (BVI) Limited	The British Virgin Islands (" <b>BVI</b> ")	Ordinary	US\$10,000	100	100	Investment holding
Peak Prospect Global Limited	BVI	Ordinary	US\$1	100	100	Investment holding
Indirect:						
CMG Management Limited	Hong Kong	Ordinary	HK\$1	100	100	Investment holding and provision of management services
Heroic Marine Corp.	Republic of Panama	Ordinary	US\$200	100	100	Provision of marine transportation services
Polyworld Marine Corp.	Republic of Panama	Ordinary	US\$10,000	100	100	Provision of marine transportation services
Zorina Navigation Corp.	Republic of Panama	Ordinary	US\$10,000	100	100	Provision of marine transportation services

The directors are of the opinion that a complete list of subsidiaries of the Company will be of excessive length and therefore the above list contains only the particulars of subsidiaries which principally affects the results or assets of the Group.

None of the subsidiaries had issued any debt securities as at the end of the year.

# **Five-Year Financial Summary**

	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
RESULTS					
Revenue	8,512	12,372	9,738	7,920	14,708
(Loss) profit before tax Income tax credit	(3,974)	1,123	10,488	(3,471)	180
(Loss) profit for the year	(3,974)	1,123	10,488	(3,470)	180
		At	er		
	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019
	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000	US\$'000
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES					
Total assets	59,034	66,455	72,451	66,926	64,770
Total liabilities	(1,936)	(5,317)	(10,999)	(17,386)	(20,928)
Equity attributable to owners of the Company	57,098	61,138	61,452	49,540	43,842