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## **NewOcean Energy Holdings Limited**

**( 新 海 能 源 集 團 有 限 公 司 ) \***

*(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)*

**(Stock Code: 342)**

website: <http://www.newoceanhk.com>

### **INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

#### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHT**

- Revenue from continuing operations increased by 16.65% to HK\$6,857 million
- Profit for the period attributable to the owners of the Company from continuing operations increased by 65.69% to HK\$379 million
- Basic earnings per share from continuing operations increased by 58.29% to HK\$0.277

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of NewOcean Energy Holdings Limited (the “Company”) presents the unaudited condensed consolidated interim results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the “Group”) for the six months ended 30 June 2013 together with comparative figures for the corresponding period in 2012. These condensed consolidated interim results have not been audited, but have been reviewed by the Company’s external auditor and the audit committee.

*\* for identification purpose only*

**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OF LOSS AND OTHER  
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2013

		<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
		<b>2013</b>	2012
		<b>(Unaudited)</b>	(Unaudited and restated)
	<i>Note</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
<i>Continuing operations</i>			
Revenue	3	<b>6,857,440</b>	5,878,569
Cost of sales		<b>(6,294,529)</b>	(5,335,017)
Gross profit		<b>562,911</b>	543,552
Net exchange gain (loss)	4	<b>89,307</b>	(94,369)
Other income	5	<b>83,459</b>	71,996
Selling and distribution expenses		<b>(107,812)</b>	(84,952)
Administrative expenses		<b>(105,224)</b>	(92,122)
Changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments		<b>(15,458)</b>	37,868
Changes in fair values of convertible bonds		<b>1,385</b>	-
Finance costs		<b>(123,995)</b>	(145,128)
Share of profit of a joint venture		<b>546</b>	1,285
Share of profits of associates		<b>9,878</b>	-
Profit before taxation	6	<b>394,997</b>	238,130
Taxation charge	7	<b>(16,415)</b>	(10,587)
Profit for the period from continuing operations		<b>378,582</b>	227,543
<i>Discontinued operations</i>			
Profit for the period from discontinued operations	8	<b>-</b>	465
Profit for the period		<b>378,582</b>	228,008
Other comprehensive income (expense):			
Item that will not be reclassified to profit or loss:			
Exchange differences arising on translation to presentation currency		<b>35,472</b>	(9,795)
Item that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss:			
Fair value loss on available for sale investment		<b>(3,177)</b>	-
Other comprehensive income (expense) for the period (net of tax)		<b>32,295</b>	(9,795)
Total comprehensive income for the period		<b>410,877</b>	218,213

		<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
		<b>2013</b>	2012
		<b>(Unaudited)</b>	(Unaudited and restated)
	<i>Note</i>	<b>HK\$'000</b>	<b>HK\$'000</b>
Profit for the period attributable to:			
Owners of the Company			
Continuing operations		<b>378,754</b>	228,589
Discontinued operations		-	465
		<u>378,754</u>	<u>229,054</u>
Non-controlling interests		<u>(172)</u>	<u>(1,046)</u>
		<b><u>378,582</u></b>	<b><u>228,008</u></b>
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the period attributable to:			
Owners of the Company		<b>411,013</b>	219,270
Non-controlling interests		<u>(136)</u>	<u>(1,057)</u>
		<b><u>410,877</u></b>	<b><u>218,213</u></b>
Earnings per share			
From continuing and discontinued operations	9		
Basic		<b><u>HK\$0.277</u></b>	<u>HK\$0.175</u>
Diluted		<b><u>HK\$0.272</u></b>	<u>HK\$0.173</u>
From continuing operations			
Basic		<b><u>HK\$0.277</u></b>	<u>HK\$0.175</u>
Diluted		<b><u>HK\$0.272</u></b>	<u>HK\$0.172</u>

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AT 30 JUNE 2013

		As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) HK\$'000
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	11	1,475,844	1,362,710
Land use rights		244,834	231,298
Prepaid lease payments for coast		9,711	9,963
Goodwill		294,715	289,608
Other intangible assets		351,557	359,036
Interest in associates		241,600	231,722
Interest in a joint venture		11,159	10,420
Other assets		8,600	1,068
Deferred tax assets		1,341	1,304
		<b>2,639,361</b>	<b>2,497,129</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories		742,014	705,155
Trade debtors and bills receivable	12	1,477,661	2,069,137
Amount due from an associate		212,890	137,084
Other debtors, deposits and prepayments	12	985,895	1,104,393
Derivative financial instruments		2,866	6,906
Land use rights		10,187	9,515
Prepaid lease payments for coast		861	846
Properties held for sales		208,575	221,989
Properties under development for sales		206,724	188,060
Available for sale investment		77,632	80,809
Convertible bonds		81,356	79,971
Pledged bank deposits	13	3,230,217	4,056,010
Bank balances and cash		1,113,021	1,196,143
		<b>8,349,899</b>	<b>9,856,018</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade creditors and bills payable	14	2,042,437	3,258,442
Other creditors and accrued charges		164,387	193,238
Amount due to a joint venture		502	493
Derivative financial instruments		21,583	31,418
Tax liabilities		45,688	40,063
Borrowings fully secured by pledged bank deposits – repayable within one year	15	2,666,463	3,588,551
Borrowings partially secured by pledged bank deposits – repayable within one year	15	900,306	31,007
Borrowings secured by other assets – repayable within one year	15	192,166	228,987
Borrowings unsecured – repayable within one year	15	1,070,108	2,058,250
Payable to non-controlling shareholder of a subsidiary		5,649	5,550
		<b>7,109,289</b>	<b>9,435,999</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>1,240,610</b>	<b>420,019</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>3,879,971</b>	<b>2,917,148</b>

		As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Share capital	16	148,340	130,586
Share premium and other reserves		<u>3,530,259</u>	<u>2,437,818</u>
Equity attributable to equity holders of the Company		<b>3,678,599</b>	2,568,404
Non-controlling interests		<u>16,436</u>	<u>16,572</u>
Total equity		<u><b>3,695,035</b></u>	<u>2,584,976</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Deferred tax liabilities		146,533	145,661
Borrowings unsecured – repayable over one year	15	<u>38,403</u>	<u>186,511</u>
		<u>184,936</u>	<u>332,172</u>
		<u><b>3,879,971</b></u>	<u>2,917,148</u>

**NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2013**

**1. General Information and Basis of Preparation**

The Company is incorporated in Bermuda as an exempted company with limited liability and its shares are listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (“Stock Exchange”). Its ultimate and immediate holding company is Uniocean Investments Limited (“Uniocean”), a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands (“BVI”). The address of the registered office of the Company is Clarendon House, 2 Church Street, Hamilton HM11, Bermuda and the principal place of business is 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, Times Tower, 393 Jaffe Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

The Company acts as an investment holding company. The principal activities of the Group are sales and distribution of liquefied petroleum gas (“LPG”), oil products business and sales of electronic products.

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard (“HKAS”) 34 “Interim Financial Reporting” issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (the “HKICPA”) and as well as with the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange (the “Listing Rules”).

The functional currency of the Company is Renminbi (“RMB”), the currency of the primary economic environment in which the Group operates. For the purpose of the condensed consolidated financial statements and convenience of the financial statements users, the results and financial position of the Group are expressed in Hong Kong dollars (“HK\$”), the presentation currency for the condensed consolidated financial statements.

On 24 December 2012, the segment of selling of oil products to marine transportation customers in Hong Kong become discontinued operation. The details are set out in note 8. The comparative figures of the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and other relevant notes to the interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2012 have been restated accordingly.

**2. Principal Accounting Policies**

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for certain financial instruments that are measured at fair values.

Except as described below, the accounting policies and methods of computation used in the condensed consolidated financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2013 are the same as those followed in the preparation of the Group’s annual consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2012.

In the current interim period, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following new and revised HKASs, Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“HKFRSs”) amendments and interpretation (“HK(IFRIC) – INT” (hereinafter collectively referred to as the “new and revised HKFRSs”)) issued by the HKICPA.

- HKFRS 10 Consolidated financial statements;
- HKFRS 11 Joint arrangements;
- HKFRS 12 Disclosure of interests in other entities;
- Amendments to HKFRS 10, HKFRS 11 and HKFRS 12 Consolidated financial statements, joint arrangements and disclosure of interest in other entities: Transition guidance;
- HKFRS 13 Fair value measurement;
- HKAS 19 (as revised in 2011) Employee benefits;
- HKAS 28 (as revised in 2011) Investments in associates and joint ventures;
- Amendments to HKFRS 7 Disclosures – Offsetting financial assets and financial liabilities;
- Amendments to HKAS 1 Presentation of items of other comprehensive income;
- Amendments to HKFRSs Annual improvements to HKFRSs 2009-2011 cycle; and
- HK(IFRIC) – INT 20 Stripping costs in the production phase of a surface mine.

*New and revised Standards on consolidation, joint arrangements, associates and disclosures*

In the current interim period, the Group has applied for the first time HKFRS 10, HKFRS 11, HKFRS 12 and HKAS 28 (as revised in 2011) together with the amendments to HKFRS 10, HKFRS 11 and HKFRS 12 regarding the transitional guidance. HKAS 27 (as revised in 2011) is not applicable to these condensed consolidated financial statements as it deals only with separate financial statements.

*HKFRS 10 Consolidated financial statements*

HKFRS 10 replaces the parts of HKAS 27 "Consolidated and separate financial statements" that deal with consolidated financial statements and HK(SIC) - INT 12 "Consolidation - special purpose entities". HKFRS 10 changes the definition of control such that an investor has control over an investee when a) it has power over the investee, b) it is exposed, or has rights, to variable returns from its involvement with the investee and c) has the ability to use its power to affect its returns. All three of these criteria must be met for an investor to have control over an investee. Previously, control was defined as the power to govern the financial and operating policies of an entity so as to obtain benefits from its activities. Additional guidance has been included in HKFRS 10 to explain when an investor has control over an investee. Some guidance included in HKFRS 10 that deals with whether or not an investor that owns less than 50% of the voting rights in an investee has control over the investee is relevant to the Group.

The directors of the Company reviewed and assessed the Group's investees in accordance with the requirements of HKFRS 10. The directors of the Company concluded that there was no impact to the Group's condensed consolidated financial statements for the adoption of HKFRS 10.

### *HKFRS 11 Joint arrangements*

HKFRS 11 replaces HKAS 31 "Interests in joint ventures", and the guidance contained in a related interpretation, HK(SIC) - INT 13 "Jointly controlled entities - non-monetary contributions by venturers", has been incorporated in HKAS 28 (as revised in 2011). HKFRS 11 deals with how a joint arrangement of which two or more parties have joint control should be classified and accounted for. Under HKFRS 11, there are only two types of joint arrangements - joint operations and joint ventures. The classification of joint arrangements under HKFRS 11 is determined based on the rights and obligations of parties to the joint arrangements by considering the structure, the legal form of the arrangements, the contractual terms agreed by the parties to the arrangement, and, when relevant, other facts and circumstances. A joint operation is a joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement (i.e. joint operators) have rights to the assets, and obligations for the liabilities, relating to the arrangement. A joint venture is a joint arrangement whereby the parties that have joint control of the arrangement (i.e. joint venturers) have rights to the net assets of the arrangement. Previously, HKAS 31 had three types of joint arrangements - jointly controlled entities, jointly controlled operations and jointly controlled assets. The classification of joint arrangements under HKAS 31 was primarily determined based on the legal form of the arrangement (e.g. a joint arrangement that was established through a separate entity was classified as a jointly controlled entity).

The initial and subsequent accounting of joint ventures and joint operations are different. Investments in joint ventures are accounted for using the equity method (proportionate consolidation is no longer allowed). Investments in joint operations are accounted for such that each joint operator recognises its assets (including its share of any assets jointly held), its liabilities (including its share of any liabilities incurred jointly), its revenue (including its share of revenue from the sale of the output by the joint operation) and its expenses (including its share of any expenses incurred jointly). Each joint operator accounts for the assets and liabilities, as well as revenues and expenses, relating to its interest in the joint operation in accordance with the applicable standards.

The directors of the Company reviewed and assessed the classification of the Group's investment in joint arrangement in accordance with the requirements of HKFRS 11. The directors of the Company concluded that the Group's investment in 廣州市橋新燃氣有限公司, which was classified as a jointly controlled entity under HKAS 31 and accounted for using the equity method, should be classified as a joint venture under HKFRS 11 and continuous accounted for using the equity method. There was no impact to the Group's condensed consolidated financial statements for the adoption of HKFRS 11.

### *Amendments to HKFRS 7 Disclosures – Offsetting Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities*

The amendments to HKFRS 7 require entities to disclose information about rights of offset and related arrangements for financial instruments under an enforceable master netting agreement or similar arrangement. The Group has outstanding derivative financial instruments presented under current assets and current liabilities in the condensed consolidated statement of financial position which are under master netting agreements.

The amendments have been applied retrospectively. For the purpose of preparing the condensed consolidated financial statements, the additional disclosures are not presented but will be included in the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2013.



### *HKFRS 13 Fair value measurement*

The Group has applied HKFRS 13 for the first time in the current interim period. HKFRS 13 establishes a single source of guidance for, and disclosures about, fair value measurements, and replaces those requirements previously included in various HKFRSs. Consequential amendments have been made to HKAS 34 to require certain disclosures to be made in the interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

The scope of HKFRS 13 is broad, and applies to both financial instrument items and non-financial instrument items for which other HKFRSs require or permit fair value measurements and disclosures about fair value measurements, subject to a few exceptions. HKFRS 13 contains a new definition for 'fair value' and defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction in the principal (or most advantageous) market at the measurement date under current market conditions. Fair value under HKFRS 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique. Also, HKFRS 13 includes extensive disclosure requirements.

In accordance with the transitional provisions of HKFRS 13, the Group has applied the new fair value measurement and disclosure requirements prospectively. The Group has included the disclosures of fair value information in accordance with the consequential amendments of HKAS 34 in the unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial information and additional disclosures in accordance HKFRS 13 will be disclosed in the Group's annual consolidated financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2013. The application of HKFRS 13 has no impact to the fair value measurements of the Group's assets and liabilities.

### *Amendments to HKAS 1 Presentation of items of other comprehensive income*

The amendments to HKAS 1 introduce new terminology for statement of comprehensive income and income statement. Under the amendments to HKAS 1, a statement of comprehensive income is renamed as a statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income. The amendments to HKAS 1 require additional disclosures to be made in the other comprehensive section such that items of other comprehensive income are grouped into two categories: (a) items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss; and (b) items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss when specific conditions are met. Income tax on items of other comprehensive income is required to be allocated on the same basis - the amendments do not change the existing option to present items of other comprehensive income either before tax or net of tax. The amendments have been applied retrospectively, and hence the presentation of items of other comprehensive income has been modified to reflect the changes.

Except as described above, the application of the other new or revised HKFRSs in the current interim period has had no material impact on the amounts reported in these condensed consolidated financial statements and/or on the disclosures set out in these condensed consolidated financial statements.

### **3. Segment Information**

Information reported to the Chairman of the Company, being the chief operating decision maker ("CODM"), for the purpose of resources allocation and assessment of segment performance focuses on nature and location of the goods being sold. These revenue streams and the basis of the internal reports about components of the Group are regularly reviewed by the CODM in order to allocate resources to segments and to assess their performance. No operating segments identified by the CODM have been aggregated in arriving at the reportable segments of the Group.

During the six months ended 30 June 2013, the Group engaged selling of oil products to wholesaler customers, leasing of oil vessels and leasing of oil storages in Zhuhai which included in oil products business segment. The Group currently organised into the following major operating segments, each of which represents an operating and reportable segment of the Group:

1. Sales and distribution of LPG - This segment derives its revenue from selling of LPG to various customers including wholesalers, industrial customers, autogas operators, overseas customers, bottled LPG end-users, autogas end-users etc. The operation is carried out in Hong Kong, PRC and Macau for both onshore and offshore customers.
2. Oil products business - This segment derives its revenue from selling of oil products to wholesaler customers, and marine transportation customers, leasing of oil vessels and leasing of oil storages in Zhuhai.
3. Sales of electronic products - This segment derives its revenue from trading of electronic products such as integrated circuit and mobile phones etc.

In December 2012, the Group lost control on subsidiaries that engaged in the segment of selling of oil products to marine transportation customers in Hong Kong and thus became discontinued operations. The details of the discontinued operations are set out in note 8.

For the period ended 30 June 2012, the segment information for oil products business reported below includes segment information for the discontinued operations of selling of oil products to marine transportation customers in Hong Kong.

Information regarding the above segments is presented below.

***Six months ended 30 June 2013 (Unaudited)***

	<b>Sales and distribution of LPG HK\$'000</b>	<b>Oil products business HK\$'000</b>	<b>Sales of electronic products HK\$'000</b>	<b>Consolidated HK\$'000</b>
<i>Continuing operations</i>				
Segment revenue	<b>5,826,929</b>	<b>943,570</b>	<b>58,441</b>	<b>6,828,940</b>
Segment profit	<b>449,321</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>4,023</b>	<b>455,844</b>
Share of profits of associates	<b>-</b>	<b>9,878</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,878</b>
	<b>449,321</b>	<b>12,378</b>	<b>4,023</b>	<b>465,722</b>
Other income				<b>75,429</b>
Profit from property investment and development in the PRC				<b>11,100</b>
Central administration costs and directors' salaries				<b>(19,186)</b>
Changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments				<b>(15,458)</b>
Changes in fair values of convertible bonds				<b>1,385</b>
Finance costs				<b>(123,995)</b>
Profit before taxation				<b>394,997</b>

Six months ended 30 June 2012 (Unaudited and restated)

	Sales and distribution of LPG HK\$'000	Oil products business HK\$'000	Sales of electronic products HK\$'000	Consolidated HK\$'000
<i>Continuing operations</i>				
Segment revenue	<u>5,441,850</u>	<u>99,475</u>	<u>436,719</u>	<u>5,978,044</u>
Segment profit	<u>248,694</u>	<u>465</u>	<u>46,558</u>	295,717
Other income				66,955
Central administration costs and directors' salaries				(16,817)
Changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments				37,868
Finance costs				(145,128)
Profit for the period from discontinued operations				<u>(465)</u>
Profit before taxation				<u>238,130</u>

All of the segment revenue reported above is from external customers or associates. Segment profit represents the profit earned by each segment without allocation of certain other income, central administration costs and directors' salaries, changes in fair values of derivative financial instruments, changes in fair values of convertible bonds and finance costs.

The total reportable segment revenue can be reconciled to the revenue as presented in condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as follows:

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013</b> <b>(Unaudited)</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>	<b>2012</b> <b>(Unaudited)</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>
Total reportable segment revenue	<b>6,828,940</b>	5,978,044
Add: Revenue from property investment and development in the PRC	<b>28,500</b>	-
Less: Revenue from discontinued operation	<u>-</u>	<u>(99,475)</u>
Revenue as presented in the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income	<u><b>6,857,440</b></u>	<u>5,878,569</u>

The Group has a subsidiary engages in the property investment and development in the PRC which is considered as ordinary course of business. The operating results and other financial information of this subsidiary are not reviewed by the CODM for the purpose of resources allocation and performance assessments.

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

*Segment assets*

	As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited and restated) <i>HK\$'000</i>
<i>Continuing operations</i>		
Sales and distribution of LPG	4,005,569	5,091,644
Sales of electronic products	732,635	606,410
Oil products business	742,999	231,722
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total segment assets	5,481,203	5,929,776
Available for sale investment	77,632	80,809
Convertible bonds	81,356	79,971
Deferred tax assets	1,341	1,304
Bank balances and cash	1,113,021	1,196,143
Pledged bank deposits	3,230,217	4,056,010
Properties held for sales	208,575	221,989
Properties under development for sales	206,724	188,060
Derivative financial instruments	2,866	6,906
Other unallocated assets	586,325	592,179
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Consolidated assets	<b>10,989,260</b>	<b>12,353,147</b>

*Segment liabilities*

	As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
<i>Continuing operations</i>		
Sales and distribution of LPG	1,984,292	3,416,868
Sales of electronic products	15,852	15
Oil products business	162,502	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total segment liabilities	2,162,646	3,416,883
Derivative financial instruments	21,583	31,418
Tax liabilities	45,688	40,063
Deferred tax liabilities	146,533	145,661
Borrowings	4,867,446	6,093,306
Other unallocated liabilities	50,329	40,840
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Consolidated liabilities	<b>7,294,225</b>	<b>9,768,171</b>

**4. Net Exchange Gain (Loss)**

*Continuing operations*

During the period, the amount included net exchange gain arising from pledged RMB bank deposits and the corresponding USD borrowings amounted to approximately HK\$42,038,000 (Six months ended 30 June 2012: net exchange loss of HK\$70,847,000).

## 5. Other Income

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>(Unaudited)</b>	<b>(Unaudited)</b>
	<b>HK\$'000</b>	<b>HK\$'000</b>
<i>Continuing operations</i>		
Interest income on pledged RMB bank deposits	45,281	50,906
Other interest income	30,148	16,049
Others	8,030	5,041
	<u>83,459</u>	<u>71,996</u>

## 6. Profit Before Taxation

	<b>Six month ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>(Unaudited)</b>	<b>(Unaudited)</b>
	<b>HK\$'000</b>	<b>HK\$'000</b>
<i>Continuing operations</i>		
Profit before taxation has been arrived at after charging:		
Amortisation of land use rights (included in administrative expenses)	4,406	7,993
Amortisation of prepaid lease payments for coast (included in administrative expenses)	426	422
Amortisation of other intangible assets (included in cost of sales)	13,748	7,843
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	42,492	37,908
Total depreciation and amortisation	<u>61,072</u>	<u>54,166</u>
Gross rental income from leasing of oil vessels	1,000	-
Less: Direct operating expenses	<u>(243)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>757</u>	<u>-</u>

## 7. Taxation Charge

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2013	2012
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
<i>Continuing operations</i>		
Other regions in the PRC		
Current tax	18,100	13,604
Deferred tax		
Current period	<u>(1,685)</u>	<u>(3,017)</u>
	<u>16,415</u>	<u>10,587</u>

No provision for Hong Kong Profits Tax has been made in the financial statements as the Company's subsidiaries operating in Hong Kong incurred tax losses for the six months periods ended 30 June 2013 and 30 June 2012.

PRC enterprise income tax is calculated at the rates prevailing in the PRC.

No deferred tax liability has been recognised in respect of temporary differences associated with undistributed earnings of subsidiaries operating in the PRC because the Group is in a position to control the timing of the reversal of the temporary differences and it is probable that such differences will not reverse in the foreseeable future.

## 8. Discontinued Operations

On 5 September 2012, Sound Hong Kong Limited ("SHK") a wholly owned subsidiary of the Company entered into an investment agreement (the "Investment Agreement") with New Concept Capital Limited ("NCC") and Nitgen&Company Co., Ltd ("Nitgen"). NCC is an independent third party to the Group and is a wholly owned subsidiary of a company listed on the Stock Exchange. Nitgen is a company incorporated in Korea whose common shares are listed on Korean Securities Dealers Automated Quotations ("KOSDAQ"), a trading board of the Korea Exchange. Pursuant to the Investment Agreement, both SHK and NCC conditionally agreed to subscribe certain amounts of shares and convertible bonds to be issued by Nitgen (the "Subscription"). The Subscription was completed on 12 December 2012, SHK subscribed 17,136,230 Nitgen shares at price of KRW11,070,005,000 (equivalent to approximately HK\$80,809,000) and convertible bonds issued by Nitgen at price of USD10,369,000 (equivalent to approximately HK\$80,672,000).

On 5 September 2012, SHK, NCC and Nitgen Eco & Energy International Holdings Limited ("NEE") entered into a sales and purchase agreement (the "Disposal Agreement") in which SHK and NCC agreed to dispose their equity interests in Success Pillar Limited ("Success Pillar") to NEE at a total consideration of HK\$ 241,180,000 (the "Disposal"). NEE is a wholly owned subsidiary of Nitgen. Before completion of the Disposal, SHK and NCC owned 65% and 35% of equity interest in Success Pillar respectively. Success Pillar owned 51% of Ego Time Limited ("Ego Time") and the remaining 49% equity interest is owned by another wholly owned subsidiary of the Company. Ego Time is a newly set up investment holding company in May 2012 of two subsidiaries incorporated in BVI and engaged in the business of sales and distribution of oil products in Hong Kong. Upon completion of the Disposal on 24 December 2012, the Group lost control over Success Pillar and Ego Time, with the effective interest in Ego Time reduced from 82.15% to 49%. The consideration of HK\$156,767,000 and HK\$84,413,000 to SHK and NCC were settled by the fund raised by Nitgen through the Subscription.

The details of the Investment Agreement and Disposal Agreement are set out in the circular issued by the Company in accordance with Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules on 11 October 2012, and independent shareholders' approval was obtained at a special general meeting of the Company on 1 November 2012.

The retained equity interest in Ego Time is held by another wholly owned subsidiary treated as interest in associates to the Group. On 24 December 2012, the segment of selling of oil products to marine transportation customers in Hong Kong became discontinued operations. The comparative figures of the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income and other relevant notes to the interim financial statements for the six months ended 30 June 2012 have been restated accordingly.

The results of the segment of selling of oil products to marine transportation customers in Hong Kong for the period ended 30 June 2013, which have been included in the condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, were as follows:

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013</b> <b>(Unaudited)</b> <i>HK\$'000</i>	2012 (Unaudited and restated) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Revenue	-	99,475
Cost of sales	-	(98,133)
Gross profit	-	1,342
Net exchange loss	-	(21)
Selling and distribution expenses	-	(724)
Administrative expenses	-	(132)
Profit before taxation	-	465
Taxation charge	-	-
Profit for the period	<u>-</u>	<u>465</u>

Profit for the period from discontinued operations included the following:

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013</b> <b>(Unaudited)</b> <i>HK\$'000</i>	2012 (Unaudited and restated) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Cost of inventory recognised as expense	-	98,133
Staff salaries and bonus	-	7

During the period ended 30 June 2012, Success Pillar did not have any significant impact to the Group's cash flow. The carrying amounts of the assets and liabilities of Success Pillar at the date of disposal are disclosed in 2012 annual report.

## 9. Earnings Per Share

### *From continuing and discontinued operations*

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to the owners of the Company is based on the following data:

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	2012 (Unaudited) HK\$'000
<b>Earnings</b>		
Earnings for the purposes of basic and diluted earnings per share (profit for the period attributable to the owners of the Company)	<u>378,754</u>	<u>229,054</u>
<b>Number of shares</b>		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of basic earnings per share	1,367,040,244	1,305,853,374
Effect of dilutive ordinary shares Share options	<u>25,602,319</u>	<u>19,734,380</u>
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of diluted earnings per share	<u>1,392,642,563</u>	<u>1,325,587,754</u>

### *From continuing operations*

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share from continuing operations attributable to the owners of the Company is based on the following data:

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	2012 (Unaudited) HK\$'000
Earnings figures are calculated as follow:		
Profit for the period attributable to the owners of the Company	378,754	229,054
Less: Profit for the year from discontinued operations	<u>-</u>	<u>(465)</u>
Earnings for the purpose of basic earnings per share from continuing operations	<u>378,754</u>	<u>228,589</u>

The denominators used are the same as detailed above for both basic and diluted earnings per share.

### *From discontinued operations*

For the six months ended 30 June 2012, basic and diluted earnings per share from the discontinued operations were insignificant based on the profit from discontinued operations of approximately HK\$465,000.



## 10. Dividend

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2013	2012
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Final dividend of HK3.80 cents per share for the year ended 31 December 2012 paid during the interim period (2012: Final dividend of HK2.30 cents per share for year ended 31 December 2011)	<b>56,369</b>	<b>30,036</b>

The directors do not recommend the payment of an interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2013 (six months ended 30 June 2012: nil).

## 11. Movements in Property, Plant and Equipment

During the period, the Group paid approximately HK\$133,734,000 (six months ended 30 June 2012: HK\$185,152,000) to acquire property, plant and equipment. During the period ended 30 June 2012, the property, plant and equipment acquired on acquisition of a subsidiary amounted to approximately HK\$269,164,000.

## 12. Trade Debtors, Bills Receivable, Other Debtors, Deposits and Prepayments

The Group allows an average credit period of 90 days to its trade debtors. The bills receivable are matured within the range of 30 days to 180 days for the period ended 30 June 2013 and the year ended 31 December 2012. The following is an aged analysis of trade debtors and bills receivable at the end of the reporting period presented based on the invoice date, which approximated the respective revenue recognition dates:

	As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) HK\$'000
0 to 30 days	674,240	1,387,388
31 to 60 days	290,565	306,538
61 to 90 days	216,788	303,795
91 to 180 days	204,590	67,842
Over 180 days	91,478	3,574
	<b>1,477,661</b>	<b>2,069,137</b>

Included in deposits are trade deposits paid to suppliers of approximately HK\$521,982,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$614,042,000) in relation to the purchase of inventories which will be delivered within one year commencing from the date of the signed purchase contract.

## 13. Pledged Bank Deposits

At 30 June 2013, RMB pledged bank deposits of approximately HK\$3,104,469,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$3,606,395,000) were pledged to banks to secure the bank trust receipts loans.

#### 14. Trade Creditors and Bills Payable

The aged analysis of trade creditors and bills payable presented based on invoice date is as follows:

	As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) HK\$'000
0 to 30 days	849,466	765,094
31 to 60 days	269,124	613,039
61 to 90 days	367,468	471,646
91 to 180 days	553,813	1,408,470
Over 180 days	2,566	193
	<u>2,042,437</u>	<u>3,258,442</u>

The trade creditors and bills payable are mainly mature within 90 and 180 days respectively.

#### 15. Borrowings

	As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000	As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) HK\$'000
Bank trust receipts loans	1,031,130	1,519,815
Bank trust receipts loans (pledged with RMB bank deposits)	3,405,330	3,588,551
Other bank loans	430,986	984,940
	<u>4,867,446</u>	<u>6,093,306</u>
Repayable within one year shown under current liabilities		
Borrowings fully secured by pledged bank deposits	2,666,463	3,588,551
Borrowings partially secured by pledged bank deposits	900,306	31,007
Borrowings secured by other assets	192,166	228,987
Borrowings unsecured	1,070,108	2,058,250
	<u>4,829,043</u>	<u>5,906,795</u>
Repayable over one year shown under non-current liabilities		
Borrowings unsecured	38,403	186,511
	<u>4,867,446</u>	<u>6,093,306</u>
Analysis as:		
Secured	3,758,935	3,848,545
Unsecured	1,108,511	2,244,761
	<u>4,867,446</u>	<u>6,093,306</u>
Carrying amount repayable:		
Within one year	4,829,043	5,906,795
More than one year, but not exceeding two years	38,403	158,041
More than two years, but not exceeding five years	-	28,470
	<u>4,867,446</u>	<u>6,093,306</u>
Less: Amounts due within one year shown under current liabilities	<u>(4,829,043)</u>	<u>(5,906,795)</u>
	<u>38,403</u>	<u>186,511</u>

As at 30 June 2013, the bank borrowings of approximately HK\$192,166,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$228,987,000) are pledged by the Group's bills receivable.

## 16. Share Capital

	Number of shares	Amount HK\$'000
Ordinary shares of HK\$0.10 each (2012: HK\$0.10 each)		
Authorised share capital:		
At 1 January 2012, 31 December 2012 and 30 June 2013	<u>20,000,000,000</u>	<u>2,000,000</u>
Issued and fully paid share capital:		
At 1 January 2012, 31 December 2012 and 1 January 2013	1,305,853,374	130,586
Issued of shares pursuant to placements (Note a)	166,500,000	16,650
Issued of shares pursuant to exercise of share options (Note b)	<u>11,044,842</u>	<u>1,104</u>
At 30 June 2013	<u>1,483,398,216</u>	<u>148,340</u>

### Notes:

- (a) On 22 April 2013, arrangements were made in accordance with the placing and subscription agreement dated 17 April 2013 (the "Placing and Subscription Agreement") for a private placement to independent places of 166,500,000 shares of HK\$0.10 each in the Company held by Uniocean, at a price of HK\$4.68 per share representing a discount of approximately 13.49% to the closing market price of the Company's shares on 17 April 2013.

Pursuant to the Placing and Subscription Agreement, Uniocean subscribed for 166,500,000 new shares of HK\$0.10 each in the Company at a price of HK\$4.68 per share on 29 April 2013. The net proceeds of approximately HK\$748,648,000 would be used as follows: (i) to upgrade and expand the handling capacity of its LPG facilities at the Group's LPG terminal in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, the PRC; (ii) for funding of the Sinopec - NewOcean JV as set out in the announcement of the Company dated 10 April 2013; (iii) for the installation of LPG or Liquefied Natural Gas facilities in certain gas stations owned by China Petroleum & Chemical Corporation; (iv) to build two propylene tanks in Zhuhai Terminal to support the upgraded sea terminal in Zhuhai, Guangdong Province, the PRC; (v) to acquire LPG bottles in relation to the Company's business in Hong Kong and (vi) for general capital purposes. These new shares were issued under the general mandate granted to the directors at the annual general meeting of the Company held on 21 May 2012 and rank pari passu with other shares in issue in all respects.

- (b) During the period ended 30 June 2013, the Company issued and allotted a total of 11,044,842 shares of HK\$0.10 each in the Company at exercise price of HK\$0.625 each to certain share options holders who exercised their share options. These shares issued rank pari passu with other shares issue in all respects.

The table below discloses movement of the Company's share options held by the Group's employees (including directors):

	Number of share options
Outstanding as at 1 January 2013	32,582,284
Exercised during the period	<u>(11,044,842)</u>
Outstanding as at 30 June 2013	<u><u>21,537,442</u></u>

## 17. Lease Commitments

### *The Group as lessee*

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

	As at <b>30 June</b> <b>2013</b> <b>(Unaudited)</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>	As at 31 December 2012 <b>(Audited)</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>
Within one year	<b>19,020</b>	20,250
In the second to fifth year inclusive	<b>34,703</b>	39,674
After five years	<b>21,634</b>	22,888
	<u><b>75,357</b></u>	<u>82,812</u>

### *The Group as lessor*

At the end of the reporting period, the Group had contracted with tenants for the following future minimum lease payments:

	As at <b>30 June</b> <b>2013</b> <b>(Unaudited)</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>	As at 31 December 2012 <b>(Audited)</b> <b>HK\$'000</b>
Within one year	<b>4,898</b>	-
In the second to fifth year inclusive	<b>2,512</b>	-
After five years	<b>301</b>	-
	<u><b>7,711</b></u>	<u>-</u>

## 18. Other Commitments

	<b>As at 30 June 2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000</b>	<b>As at 31 December 2012 (Audited) HK\$'000</b>
Capital expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements in respect of:		
Purchase of gas plant and machinery	<b><u>50,685</u></b>	<b><u>90,086</u></b>

## 19. Contingent Liabilities

The Group had no significant contingent liabilities at both 30 June 2013 and 31 December 2012.

## 20. Related Party Transactions

During the period, the Group entered into the following transactions with related parties:

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013 (Unaudited) HK\$'000</b>	<b>2012 (Unaudited) HK\$'000</b>
Sales to a joint venture	<b>1,025</b>	517
Rental expenses paid to Shum Ho, Neo (Note)	<b>480</b>	480
Sales to an associate	<b>942,145</b>	-
Rental income received from an associate		-
(i) Oil vessels	<b>1,000</b>	-
(ii) Office premises	<b>330</b>	-
	<b><u>943,880</u></b>	<b><u>1,007</u></b>

Note: Shum Ho, Neo is an employee of the Group and also the son of Shum Siu Hung and Tong Shiu Ming. Shum Siu Hung is the executive director of the Company.

On 16 May 2012, Sound Management Services Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Company, entered into an office tenancy agreement with Shum Ho, Neo, son of Shum Siu Hung, for the use of office premises provided by Shum Ho, Neo located on 20th Floor, Times Tower, 393 Jaffe Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong at HK\$80,000 per calendar month for a period of one year commencing on 16 May 2012. On 16 May 2013, the agreement was renewed for one year to 15 May 2014 at HK\$80,000 per calendar month with the same terms.

### *Compensation of key management personnel*

The remuneration of executive directors and other members of key management during the period was as follows:

	<b>Six months ended 30 June</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>(Unaudited)</b>	<b>(Unaudited)</b>
	<b>HK\$'000</b>	<b>HK\$'000</b>
Salaries and allowances	<b>4,334</b>	4,128
Contribution to retirement benefit schemes	<b>45</b>	46
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<b>4,379</b>	<b>4,174</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The remuneration of directors and key executives is determined by the remuneration committee having regard to the performance of individuals and market trends.

### **INTERIM DIVIDEND**

The Board does not recommend the payment of interim dividend for the six months ended 30 June 2013 (six months ended 30 June 2012: nil).

### **MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

#### **1. General**

In the first half of 2013 the market was of the general view that economic growth in China was slowing down, and that her business sector would need to hold back its development pace. This was not evident in Southern China, where capital investments in various sectors remained strong. Besides, as energy products are the basic needs for all economic activities, there is no sign of a weakening in their demand. The price of energy products for the period remained relatively stable without significant fluctuations on both the international market and the local market, providing a favourable environment for further development of the Group's energy business in the region.

Two years ago, the Group marked the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its launch into the Liquefied Petroleum Gas ("LPG") business with the establishment of a long-term strategy focusing all its resources in the energy market in Southern China, in particular the Guangdong Province and Hong Kong. As part of this strategy, the Group will pursue a two-pronged development in both LPG and oil products to capitalize on its advantage of having built up a fully integrated business network and logistic platform in the region over the past decade. In 2012, through an associated company the Group commenced marine bunkering service in Hong Kong as a spearhead project for its oil products business. With the successful completion of the spearhead project in autumn 2012 a new growth cycle of the Group began.

During the first half of 2013, in addition to continual sales expansion of LPG and oil products in accordance with the strategy, the Group has been highly successful in the implementation of various significant programmes. These included the award in January 2013 of a two-year exclusive contract by the Hong Kong Government to an associate of the Group to provide bunkering service for the entire Hong Kong Government fleet of marine vessels; the signing in April of a joint venture agreement between Sinopec Guangdong and the Group for a close alliance in the development of the Guangzhou autogas market; and the issue in May by the Hong Kong Buildings Department of a construction commencement permit which allows the immediate construction of a bottled LPG depot in Tuen Mun and signifies the count-down to commencement of sale of bottled LPG in Hong Kong. Construction of the Group's 70,000 ton depot for oil products and two additional 5,000 ton berths in the Zhuhai Terminal has reached rudimentary completion, and pre-delivery inspection commenced in late June 2013. The new facilities will be the powerhouse for the Group's marine bunkering business. These programmes together laid a solid foundation for the future development of LPG and oil products business.

## **2. Group Overall Performance**

Turnover of the Group in the first 6 months of 2013 was approximately HK\$6,857,440,000, representing an increase of 16.65% as compared to approximately HK\$5,878,569,000 for the same period of 2012. Net profit for the period increased substantially by approximately 66.04% to approximately HK\$378,582,000 in comparison with approximately HK\$228,008,000 for the same period of 2012.

The Group issued 166,500,000 new shares in April 2013 by way of top-up issuance which raised net proceeds of approximately HK\$748,648,000. As at 30 June 2013, the Company's weighted average number of ordinary shares was accordingly increased to 1,367,040,244 shares (as at 30 June 2012: 1,305,853,374 shares). Basic earnings per share for the half year ended 2013 was HK 27.7 cents (for the half year ended 30 June 2012: HK 17.5 cents), representing a 58.29% increase as compared to that for the same period last year.

The Group's principal businesses of LPG and oil products along with its auxiliary business of electronics business achieved an aggregate gross profit of approximately HK\$562,911,000 and a gross profit margin of about 8.21%. Although the gross profit slightly increased by 3.56%, gross profit margin decreased by around 1% in comparison with the gross profit of approximately HK\$543,552,000 and gross profit margin of 9.25% for the same period of 2012. Notwithstanding the rapid growth of the oil products business for the period, its profitability still remained on the low side as total sales would still need time to pick up, which led to reduction in the overall gross profit margin.

### **2.1 Segmental Performance**

#### ***LPG***

LPG sales volume of the Group in the first half of 2013 amounted to about 859,700 tons, representing a slight increase of 4.96% as compared to about 819,100 tons for the same period of 2012. Turnover of LPG was approximately HK\$5,826,929,000, 7.08% above that of approximately HK\$5,441,850,000 for the same period of 2012. Gross profit increased by about 9.82% to approximately HK\$545,247,000 in 2013 from approximately HK\$496,478,000 for the same period of 2012. During this period, the Group has improved its sales to industrial customers in Guangdong Province and sales of bottled LPG (which generate higher gross profit) and moderately reduced sales to fellow LPG operators (which generate lower gross profit). As a result, despite increases in turnover by approximately 7% only, gross profit has increased by about 10%. The overall gross profit margin of LPG business has increased to 9.36% from 9.12% of the corresponding period last year. As at 30 June 2013, LPG business contributed approximately 84.97% (for the same period of 2012: 92.57%) of the Group's total turnover. Purely as a result of the rapid growth of oil products business, the LPG proportion of the Group's total turnover has shown a decline.

## ***Oil Products***

As part of a strategic arrangement, the Group disposed of 51% equity interest in project companies that had been responsible for spearheading its marine bunkering business in Hong Kong to a Korean listed group. Accordingly, the project companies have changed their status from being subsidiaries to associates of the Group, and the results of marine bunkering business were no longer consolidated in the Group's accounts. However, as the Group retained its function as the principle supplier, most of the bunkering fuel delivered by the project companies was still supplied by a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Group. Sales of bunkering fuel amounted to approximately 203,000 tons in the first half of 2013, whereas the Group's turnover was about HK\$943,570,000 and net profit was approximately HK\$2,500,000. Such business accounting for approximately 13.76% of the Group's turnover for the period under review. In addition, profits shared from the associates amounted to approximately HK\$9,878,000 were included in the Group's consolidated financial statements under equity method of accounting. The aggregate amount of these two items was approximately HK\$12,378,000, amounting to about 1.31% of the sales of oil products.

## ***Electronics***

The trading volume of mobile phones and electronics components ("Electronics") reduced significantly with a turnover of merely about HK\$58,441,000, representing an 86.62% decrease as compared to approximately HK\$436,719,000 for the same period of 2012. Gross profit reduced significantly 94.09% from approximately HK\$47,074,000 for the same period of 2012 to only approximately HK\$2,783,000. The gross profit margin of the electronics business decreased to about 4.76% (for the same period of 2012: 10.78%) as well. In the first half of 2013, a large part of the procurement of mobile phones and electronic components from the Group by a major Thailand buyer was postponed due to restructuring of its business direction and overall development plan, including a repositioning of target customers and products. This did not represent the termination of cooperation of the major buyer with the Group. We believed that upon the completion of its business restructuring, the Group's turnover of electronics business would gradually return to normal.

## **2.2 Foreign Exchange Gain and Other Income**

Since the beginning of the year the market has gradually restored its expectation for the appreciation of RMB. The change providing an opportunity for the Group to structurally match its related payment obligations against financing arrangements for the purchase of imported gas, thereby reducing the cost of foreign exchange conversion (equivalent to a reduction in the purchase cost of imported gas in RMB) for the settlement of the purchase price. At the same time, the interest rate for US dollars loans remained low while the RMB deposit rate rose modestly. As the interest margin of the two currencies widened, the related economic benefits from these structured matching transactions became more significant. In the first half of 2013, the Group had a net foreign exchange gain of approximately HK\$89,307,000 and interest income of approximately HK\$75,429,000.

## **2.3 Cost Control**

### ***Financial Expenditures***

Financial expenditures (most of them were interest expenses) in the first half of 2013 was approximately HK\$123,995,000, representing a decrease of about 14.56% compared to approximately HK\$145,128,000 for the same period of 2012. Since the beginning of the year, the Group has started to increase the amount of US dollar short-term working capital loan raised in Hong Kong to replace RMB short-term working capital loan utilized in the PRC. Due to the timely implementation of this arrangement, the Group's financial expenditures were effectively reduced. Moreover, credit tightening in the PRC in the mid-year did not have any negative effects on the funding of the Group.



## ***Cost***

The aggregate amount of sales and distribution costs and administrative expenses for the period was approximately HK\$213,036,000, representing an increase of about 20.31% as compared to that of about HK\$177,074,000 for the same period of 2012. When comparing this aggregate sum with that of approximately HK\$252,099,000 for the second half of 2012, the total costs and expenses were actually lower than that for the second half of 2012 by 15.50%. It is expected that the LPG and oil products business would continue to grow rapidly but the Group's overall operation cost in coming years would be able to maintain effectively at a level similar to that in 2013.

## **2.4 Conclusion**

It can be seen from the analysis above that the net profit for the period has increased substantially by 66.04%, which was mainly attributable to improved LPG sales of the Group to industrial customers which generated higher profit margin and the cost outlay of the Group's LPG purchases has lowered through the adoption of effective financial matching arrangements. In addition, the replacement of RMB borrowings with US dollar borrowings has reduced the financing cost which also contributing to the increase of net profit.

## **3. Particulars of the LPG Business**

The sales of LPG of the Group in the first half of 2013 was approximately 859,700 tons, representing an increase of about 4.96% as compared to that of about 819,100 tons for the same period of 2012. Wholesaling and end-users sales amount were approximately 603,500 tons and 256,200 tons respectively. The wholesaling to end-users sales proportion was about 70:30, which is similar to the proportion of 69:31 for the same period of 2012.

### ***Industrial Customers***

The Group's major customers in the region include petrochemical plants, aluminium mills, air-conditioner manufacturers, lighter manufacturers, ceramic factories, glass factories, aerosol factories, automobile manufacturers and other autogas refueling operators in Guangzhou. Sales to these customers in the first half of 2013 reached about 381,200 tons, representing an increase by 33.15% in comparison with that of about 286,300 tons (sales to industrial customers: 278,000 tons, sales to autogas refueling operators: 8,300 tons) for the same period of 2012. Sales to industrial customers in the first half of 2013 alone have gone up by about 87,000 tons. The petrochemical plants that used LPG as production feedstock contributed mostly to this increase in demand, and they are naturally our captive customers. The volume supplied to other autogas refueling operators in Guangzhou increased by about 7,900 tons, signifying also a gradual strengthening of cooperation between the Group and those operators.

### ***Overseas Customers***

Sales to overseas customers in the first half of this year amounted to approximately 166,300 tons, decreasing by 24.06% as compared to that of approximately 219,000 tons for the same period last year. Nevertheless, we believed that the annual sales in 2013 would be similar to that of 2012. In spite of the very modest profit generated by this business, we should make use of the sales to those overseas customers to adjust our inventory level on timely manner so that the risk of price fluctuations can be effectively mitigated. Moreover, our overseas customers were all reputable oil majors or international LPG traders. Maintaining close cooperative relationships with them would help enhancing the international recognition and status of the Group.

### ***Other Sea Terminals and Bottling Plants***

Sales of other sea terminals and bottling plants for the period was about 56,000 tons, representing a decrease of 10.40% as compared to that of about 62,500 tons for the same period of 2012. Similar to the sales to overseas customers, although this business could only generate very modest profit, we need to maintain cooperative relationships with them for the sake of smooth expansion of our downstream market in the region.

### ***End-users – Bottled LPG***

The Group sold bottled LPG to household and industrial and commercial customers (such as restaurants, food outlets and small factories) in different districts through the 16 bottling plants located in 11 cities in Guangdong and Guangxi Province. The computerised customer service centre in Zhuhai established by the Group has improved the quality of services to household customers and thereby enhanced the direct sales of bottled LPG in Guangdong Province. The Group's LPG bottling plant near Zhuhai Hengqin has succeeded to provide regular cross border bottle refilling service to a number of international bottled LPG operators in Macau, well proving that the professionalism (in terms of services and safety) of the Group in handling bottled LPG has reached international standard and gained international recognition. Sales of bottled LPG of the Group in the first half of 2013 continued to increase to 141,600 tons, representing an increase of 5.04% as compared to about 134,800 tons for the same period last year. As at 30 June 2013, the Group has a total of approximately 823,000 captive household customers, representing an increase of 1.48% with the number of household customers rose by about 12,000 in this half year. The number of commercial customers was about 4,600, representing an increase of 6.98% with the number of commercial customers rose by about 300 in this half year.

### ***End-users – Autogas***

The Group achieved sales of about 114,600 tons through the 17 autogas refueling stations in Guangzhou, representing a slight decrease of 1.63% in comparison with that of about 116,500 tons in the first half of 2012. The slight decrease in the sales volume was caused by the need of 3 stations for renovation in the first half of this year. During the period of renovation (about 2 months), only part of the facilities within these stations could provide normal autogas refueling services. Besides, as we had to serve buses with priority, certain number of taxis unavoidably was lost to other autogas refueling stations during that period. In fact, the volume of autogas supplied to buses by the 17 stations increased by about 1,400 tons in the first half of this year, while the loss of sales to taxis as caused by the station renovation was about 3,300 tons. Sales of autogas is anticipated to rebound as negative impact of station renovation will be greatly reduced and the demand for autogas in Guangzhou in the latter half of the year are usually more than that in the first half.

## **4. Operation of the Oil Products Business**

In May 2012, the Group launched the marine bunkering business in Hong Kong (namely, to distribute fuel oil to ships within Hong Kong waters) through the establishment of new project companies. The Group subsequently disposed of 51% equity interest in the project companies to a listed company in Korea at the end of the year. Since then, although the Hong Kong marine oil distribution business has been separated from the Group's business, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Group took the role of supplying most of the marine fuel oil that the project companies required. Notwithstanding its lack of direct involvement in the downstream sales in Hong Kong marine bunkering business, the Group still proactively develops and owns various infrastructure and operating licenses (including the oil storage depot under construction, the application of operating license for bonded warehouses and the acquisition of a number of bunker ships, and the floating barge) that are the keys in the entire supply chain. All these reflect the Group's strong commitment in pursuing great development of its oil products business.

During the first half of 2013, the project companies have distributed fuel oil to the ships in Hong Kong through two main channels: (1) a non-motorized barge as the refuelling station anchored in Yau Ma Tei Typhoon Shelter to supply marine gas oil to small cargo ships sailing between mainland China and Hong Kong. Pursuant to the contract with the Hong Kong Government, starting from January this year, the refueling station commenced to supply ultra-low sulphur diesel to all ships owned by the Hong Kong Government. The Group acquired that refueling station, now known as the “NEWOCEAN 3” (「新海3」) in May this year and leased it to the project companies by way of bareboat charter; and (2) 4 bunker ships to transfer marine fuel oil to ships including import and export merchant ships, container ships, cruises and foreign warships. The storage capacity of these 4 bunker ships is 260 tons, 320 tons, 350 tons and 1,000 tons respectively. The Group has purchased the two bunker ships with storage capacity of 260 tons and 350 tons and named them “NEWOCEAN 1” (「新海1」) and “NEWOCEAN 2” (「新海2」) respectively, which are also leased to the project companies through bareboat charter. The remaining two bunker ships are leased by the project companies from third party owners directly.

During the first six months of the year, the sales volume of the project companies have grown significantly, resulting in an increase in oil supply from the Group to the project companies to about 203,000 tons. The Group has provided sufficient support and resources to the project companies to improve their distribution capacity and service quality, which has helped to increase the sales and market share of the project companies at a swift pace.

## **5. Business Outlook**

Following the successful completion of the spearhead project for oil products, and the successful implementation of the various expansion programmes for its LPG, Liquefied Nature Gas (“LNG”) and oil products businesses, the Group is now poised for substantial revenue growth in the foreseeable future.

### ***LPG business***

The Group has signed a joint venture agreement with Sinopec Guangdong in April this year to establish a joint venture for the joint implementation of long term development plans of various businesses. The joint venture has completed its capital injection verification, and would be able to commence operation upon the issue of operating license by the Industry and Commerce Bureau of the PRC government. The joint venture intends to carry out LPG businesses that include the followings:

1. By way of subcontracting, the joint venture will operate and manage the 17 LPG refueling stations in Guangzhou owned by the Group and the 3 LPG refueling stations in Guangzhou currently owned by Sinopec Guangdong. Within the coming two years, the joint venture will invest to add LPG refueling facilities in 5 selected petrol stations currently owned by Sinopec. Besides, the joint venture will also transform the other 22 selected petrol stations currently owned by Sinopec into integrated oil and gas stations. In the meantime, there is no fixed plan for which stations to be installed with LPG refueling facilities and which to be installed with LNG refueling facilities. This will be determined subject to the market demand. No matter how, in line with the increase in the number of LPG refueling stations in Guangzhou, there will be adequate auto-gas refueling resources in Guangzhou, which can effectively promote the replacement of diesel and gasoline by LPG as vehicle fuel and hence give an impetus to more demand of auto-gas in Guangzhou.
2. The Group is responsible for supplying the LPG required by all the refueling stations operated by the joint venture.
3. The joint venture plans to enhance its distribution efficiency of bottled LPG through leveraging on the existing petro station network of Sinopec in Guangdong. By combining the vacant land resources of Sinopec Guangdong and the well-established sales network of the Group, the sales channels of bottled LPG will be further expanded so that both parties will increase their bottled LPG market shares in Guangdong.

## ***LNG Business***

In line with the Group's strategy in the development of autogas refueling business (i.e. stations need to be built in prime locations and targeting on customers with massive consumption), in May, the Group has entered into a cooperation agreement with a Guangzhou bus company preparing to carry out LNG autogas refueling business in Guangzhou. The parties are drafting the application for gas station construction. The plan is to build LNG autogas refueling stations inside the parking lots where the bus company parks its buses, with an aim to facilitate the bus company's replacement project of diesel bus by LNG bus. The bus company estimates that there will ultimately be approximately 1,000 LNG buses in service, and those buses will then become our captive LNG customers.

Furthermore, the Group is planning on the two projects below:

1. To construct LNG storage tanks on a land parcel near the Group's Zhuhai Terminal, which has already been reserved for the use of the Group's business development. The whole idea is to integrate the LNG storage tanks with the terminal and transform them into a receiving terminal to serve as the key infrastructure for LNG importation.
2. To construct a liquefaction plant on a land parcel owned by Sinopec Guangdong in Shaoguan of Guangdong Province, turning compressed natural gas brought into Guangdong through pipelines into LNG for supplying to heavy vehicles in Guangdong as a fuel to substitute gasoline and diesel.

These two projects are still in the preliminary stage of research. In principle, the implementation timeframe will be decided after taking into consideration of the market demand for LNG. It is estimated that the construction will only be commenced after 5 years' time at the soonest.

## ***Oil Products Business***

1. The Group's 70,000 tons oil storage depot in the Zhuhai Terminal is expected to complete construction and commence operation during the fourth quarter of this year. Equipped with the oil storage depot, the Group will be able to purchase from different channels to lower the purchase costs and reinforce the competitiveness of its marine bunkering business in Hong Kong.
2. In addition, the Group has ordered two bunker ships each with a capacity of 4,500 tons sailing between Zhuhai and Hong Kong for timely replenishment of marine oil that the bunkering business in Hong Kong will require.
3. As supported by the 70,000 tons oil storage depot in Zhuhai, the joint venture with Sinopec Guangdong will also lease from Sinopec the license of providing bonded marine oil foreign ships berthing at the mouth of the Pearl River (within the China Water).

## **CHANGE IN COMPANY SECRETARY**

On 30 June 2013, Mr. Wu Hong Cho ("Mr. Wu") retired from the office of company secretary of the Company and Mr. Cheung Man Kin ("Mr. Cheung") is appointed as company secretary with effect from 1 July 2013. Mr. Cheung has extensive experience in accounting and auditing, is a certified public accountant of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and a member of Certified Public Accountants of Australia. The Board wishes to take this opportunity to express its gratitude to Mr. Wu for his valuable service and contributions to the Company.

## **LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL REVIEW**

At 30 June 2013, the net current assets of the Group amounted to approximately HK\$1,240,610,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$420,019,000) and the Group's bank balances and cash was approximately HK\$1,113,021,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$1,196,143,000). At the end of reporting date, gearing ratio was 0.01:1 (31 December 2012: 0.07:1) which was calculated based on total long term borrowings of approximately HK\$38,403,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$186,511,000) and total equity of approximately HK\$3,695,035,000 (31 December 2012: HK\$2,584,976,000).

## **HUMAN RESOURCES**

As at 30 June 2013, the Group employed approximately 1,100 employees in Hong Kong, Macau and mainland China. The Group remunerated the employees based on their performance, experience and prevailing market practices.

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

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities during the six months ended 30 June 2013.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The audit committee, comprising all independent non-executive directors of the Company, has reviewed with the Company's external auditor and the management the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed internal controls and financial reporting matters with the directors, including a review of the unaudited condensed consolidated accounts for the six months ended 30 June 2013.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE**

In the opinion of the directors, throughout the six months ended 30 June 2012 the Company has complied with the code provisions (the "CG Code") contained in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices and Corporate Governance Report as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules with the exception that the independent non-executive directors are not appointed for a specific term as provided in the Corporate Governance Code. Under the Bye-laws of the Company, independent non-executive directors of the Company shall retire by rotation and their appointment will be reviewed when they are due for re-election. In the opinion of the directors, this arrangement meets the same objectives as the CG Code.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS**

The Company has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules (the "Securities Transactions Code") as its own code of conduct regarding securities transactions. Having made specific enquiry of all directors, all directors of the Company have complied with the required standards as set out in the Securities Transactions Code during the six months ended 30 June 2013.

## **PUBLICATION OF RESULTS AND INTERIM REPORT**

This result announcement is published on the Company's website at <http://www.newoceanhk.com> and the website of the Stock Exchange at <http://www.hkexnews.hk>. The 2013 Interim Report will be dispatched to shareholders in due course and will be published at the websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange at the same time.

By order of the Board  
**Shum Siu Hung**  
*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 19 August 2013

*As at the date of this announcement, the Board of the Company comprises Mr. Shum Siu Hung, Mr. Shum Chun, Lawrence, Mr. Cen Ziniu, Mr. Chiu Sing Chung, Raymond, Mr. Siu Ka Fai, Brian and Mr. Wang Jian, being the executive directors, Mr. Cheung Kwan Hung, Anthony, Mr. Chan Yuk Wai, Benedict and Dr. Xu Mingshe, being the independent non-executive directors.*