

# DAISHO MICROLINE HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 0567)

# INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE 6 MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2006

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS			
RESULTS	6 months ended 2006	d 30 September 2005	% Change
Revenue (HK\$'000) Profit attributable to equity holders (HK\$'000) Gross profit ratio (%) Basic earnings per share (HK cents) Interim dividend per share (HK cents)	458,944 97,687 47 20.52 4.0	251,507 25,775 36 5.53	+82% +279% +11% +271% N/A
FINANCIAL POSITION	30 September 2006	31 March 2006	% Change
Net assets (HK\$'000) Gearing ratio (times) Current ratio (times)	333,596 0.29 1.28	237,341 0.28 1.05	+41% +4% +22%

## **UNAUDITED INTERIM REPORT**

The Board of Directors (the "Board") of Daisho Microline Holdings Limited (the "Company") is pleased to present the unaudited interim report of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the 6 months ended 30 September 2006 as follows:

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

	(Unaudited			
	6 months ended 3		30 September	
		2006	2005	
	Notes	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	
REVENUE	3	458,944	251,507	
Cost of sales		(241,506)	(160,361)	
Gross profit		217,438	91,146	
Other income and gains		2,237	841	
Selling and distribution costs		(81,963)	(44,968)	
Administrative expenses		(19,576)	(14,079)	
Other expenses		(755)	(2,535)	
Finance costs	4	(2,899)	(1,136)	
PROFIT BEFORE TAX	4	114,482	29,269	
Tax	<i>4 5</i>	(16,795)	(3,494)	
PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD		97,687	25,775	
Attributable to equity holders of the Company		97,687	25,775	
INTERIM DIVIDEND	6	19,225	_	

ATTRIBUTABLE TO ORDINARY EQUITY HOLDERS OF THE COMPANY	7		
- Basic		HK20.52 cents	HK5.53 cents
– Diluted		HK20.33 cents	HK5.51 cents

# CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET			
	Notes	(Unaudited) 30 September 2006 HK\$'000	(Audited) 31 March 2006 <i>HK</i> \$'000
NON-CURRENT ASSETS Property, plant and equipment Prepaid land lease payments Deposits paid for acquisition of items of property, plant and equipment	8	326,384 4,131 1,518	242,873 4,069 19,270
Total non-current assets		332,033	266,212
CURRENT ASSETS Inventories Trade debtors Sundry debtors, prepayments & deposits Cash and bank balances	9 10	52,195 161,421 11,675 65,815	38,762 135,751 8,862 53,355
Total current assets		291,106	236,730
CURRENT LIABILITIES Trade creditors Other creditors and accruals Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings Tax payable	11 12	98,355 68,123 42,641 17,424	89,427 94,062 32,208 9,187
Total current liabilities		226,543	224,884
NET CURRENT ASSETS		64,563	11,846
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		396,596	278,058
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES Interest-bearing bank and other borrowings Deferred tax liabilities	12	54,730 8,270	34,217 6,500
Total non-current liabilities		63,000	40,717
Net assets		333,596	237,341
EQUITY Equity attributable to equity holders of the Company Issued share capital Reserves Proposed final dividend Total equity		48,061 285,535 ——————————————————————————————————	47,176 175,913 14,252 237,341

#### NOTES TO THE CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 1. BASIS OF PREPARATION AND ACCOUNTING POLICIES

This interim report has been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard ("HKAS") 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and Appendix 16 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("Listing Rules").

The accounting policies and methods of computation used in the preparation of this interim report are the same as those adopted in preparing the annual audited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2006, except that the Group has changed certain of its accounting policies following its adoption of the following new/revised Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRSs"), HKASs and Interpretations (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "new HKFRSs") which are effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 April 2006.

HKAS 21 Amendment Net Investment in a Foreign Operation

HKAS 39 Amendment Cash Flow Hedge Accounting of Forecast Intragroup Transactions

HKAS 39 Amendment The Fair Value Option

HKAS 39 & HKFRS 4 Amendment Financial Guarantee Contracts

HK(IFRIC) – Int 4 Determining whether an Arrangement contains a Lease HK(IFRIC) – Int 6 Liabilities arising from Participating in a Specific Market

- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

The application of these new HKFRSs did not have any material impact on how the financial statements of the Group are prepared and presented for the current or prior accounting period. Accordingly, no prior period adjustments are required.

## 2. IMPACT OF ISSUED BUT NOT YET EFFECTIVE HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

The Group has not applied the following new and revised HKFRSs, that have been issued but not yet effective, in this interim report.

HKAS 1 Amendment Capital disclosure<sup>1</sup>

HKFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures<sup>1</sup>

HK(IFRIC) – Int 8 Scope of HKFRS 2<sup>2</sup>

HK(IFRIC) – Int 9 Reassessment of Embedded Derivatives<sup>3</sup> HK(IFRIC) – Int 10 Interim financial reporting and impairment<sup>4</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2007
- <sup>2</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 May 2006
- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 June 2006
- Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 November 2006

The Group anticipates that the applications of these new or revised standard, amendment and interpretations would not have significant impact on the result and financial position of the Group.

#### 3. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

The principal activities of the Group are the manufacture and trading of printed circuit boards. There was no change in the nature of the Group's principal activities during the current period.

Revenue represents the net invoiced value of goods sold, after allowances for goods returns and trade discounts.

#### (a) Business segment

The Group has only one business segment, which is the manufacture and trading of printed circuit boards. Therefore, no business segment analysis is presented.

## (b) Geographical segments

In presenting information by geographical segment, segment revenue is based on the location of the customers.

	(Unaudited)	
	6 months ended 30 September	
	2006	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
		(restated)
Segment revenue:		
Sales to external customers		
Mainland China	196,008	120,360
Europe	169,407	75,495
Hong Kong	31,940	22,529
Japan	26,705	18,312
Others	34,884	14,811
	458,944	251,507

#### 4. PROFIT BEFORE TAX

Profit before tax is arrived at after crediting and (charging):

	(Unaudited)	
	6 months ended 30 September	
	2006	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
(a) Finance costs:		
Interest on:		
Bank loans and other loans wholly repayable within five years	(645)	(618)
Finance leases and hire purchase contracts	(2,254)	(518)
	(2,899)	(1,136)
(b) Other items:		
Depreciation	(34,058)	(18,153)
Amortization of land lease payments	(59)	(58)
Staff costs (including directors' remuneration)	(21,077)	(14,880)
Bank interest income	724	51

#### 5. TAX

Hong Kong profits tax has been provided at the rate of 17.5% on the estimated assessable profits arising in Hong Kong for the current period. No provision for Hong Kong profits tax has not been made for the prior period as the Company and its subsidiaries either had no assessable profits for that period or had utilised tax losses brought forward from prior years to offset the assessable profits arising during that period.

Taxes on profits assessable elsewhere have been calculated at the rates of tax prevailing in the countries in which the Group operates, based on existing legislation, interpretations and practices in respect thereof.

Deferred tax has been provided on temporary differences using the current applicable rate.

		(Unaudited)	
		6 months ended 30 September	
		2006	2005
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
	Group:		
	Current – Hong Kong		
	Charge for the period	6,450	_
	Current – Elsewhere		
	Charge for the period	8,575	3,014
	Deferred	1,770	480
		<u></u>	
	Total tax charge for the period	16,795	3,494
6.	INTERIM DIVIDEND		
٠.	INTERNIT DIVIDEND	(Unaud	lited)
		6 months ended	
		2006	2005
		HK\$'000	HK\$'000
		Πη σσο	ΠΙΨ ΟΟΟ
	Proposed interim dividend of HK4.0 cents (2006: nil) per share	19,225	_
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At the Board meeting held on 30 November 2006, the Board has resolved to declare an interim dividend of HK4.0 cents per share for the year ending 31 March 2007. This proposed dividend is not reflected as a dividend payable in the condensed consolidated financial statements for the 6 months ended 30 September 2006, but will be reflected as an appropriation of retained profits for the year ending 31 March 2007.

The amount of the proposed interim dividend is based on 480,613,785 shares in issue at 30 November 2006.

### 7. EARNINGS PER SHARE

(a) Basic earnings per share

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company of HK\$97,687,000 (2005: HK\$25,775,000) and the weighted average number of 476,103,402 (2005: 466,013,785) ordinary shares in issue during the period.

## (b) Diluted earnings per share

The calculation of diluted earnings per share is based on the profit for the period attributable to ordinary equity holders of the Company of HK\$97,687,000 (2005: HK\$25,775,000) and the weighted average number of 480,616,527 (2005: 467,888,459) ordinary shares after adjusting for the effects of all dilutive potential ordinary shares.

(c) Reconciliation	(Unaudited) 6 months ended 30 September 2006 2005	
	Number of shares	Number of shares
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating basic earnings per share	476,103,402	466,013,785
Deemed issue of ordinary shares for no consideration arising from share options	4,513,125	1,874,674
Weighted average number of ordinary shares used in calculating diluted earnings per share	480,616,527	467,888,459
8. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	-	
	(Unau 6 months ended	idited) I 30 Sentember
	2006	2005
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	108,327	43,354
9. TRADE DEBTORS  The Group has a reliev which allows an everyon gradit period of 60 days to	o ito ovotomono. An ocod onely	

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The Group has a policy which allows an average credit period of 60 days to its customers. An aged analysis of the trade debtors as at the period end, based on the payment due date and net of provisions, is as follows:

	(Unaudited) 30 September 2006 HK\$'000	(Audited) 31 March 2006 HK\$'000
Current to 1 month 1 to 2 months 2 to 3 months Over 3 months	157,754 2,006 957 704	133,721 1,344 46 640
	161,421	135,751
10. CASH AND BANK BALANCES	(Unaudited) 30 September 2006 HK\$'000	(Audited) 31 March 2006 HK\$'000
Cash at bank and in hand Bank deposits maturing within 3 months when placed	22,921 19,494	51,618 1,737
Cash and cash equivalents in the condensed consolidated cash flow statement Bank deposits maturing after 3 months but within 1 year when placed	42,415 23,400	53,355
	65,815	53,355

#### 11. TRADE CREDITORS

An aged analysis of the trade creditors as at the period end, based on the payment due date, is as follows:

	(Unaudited) 30 September 2006 HK\$'000	(Audited) 31 March 2006 <i>HK</i> \$'000
Current to 1 month 1 to 2 months 2 to 3 months Over 3 months	86,909 3,746 5,949 1,751	74,937 12,150 1,373 967
	98,355	89,427
12. INTEREST-BEARING BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS	(Unaudited) 30 September 2006 HK\$'000	(Audited) 31 March 2006 <i>HK</i> \$'000
Current liabilities Trust receipt loans Bank loans – unsecured Bank loans – secured Finance lease and hire purchase contract payable	5,548 183 36,910 42,641	4,501 5,549 1,278 20,880 32,208
Non-current liabilities  Bank loans – unsecured  Finance lease and hire purchase contract payable	5,833 48,897 54,730	4,722 29,495 34,217
Total	97,371	66,425

## 13. MAJOR NON-CASH TRANSACTIONS

During the period, the Group entered into finance lease arrangements in respect of the property, plant and equipment with a total capital value at the inception of the leases of HK\$49,750,000 (2005: HK\$22,683,000).

## 14. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The Group had the following capital commitments as at the period end:

	(Unaudited) 30 September 2006 HK\$'000	(Audited) 31 March 2006 HK\$'000
Capital commitments, Contracted but not provided for,	4.226	50.641
in respect of acquisition of items of property, plant and equipment	4,326	59,641

#### 15. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

The Group has changed its identification of reportable geographical segment revenue for the 6 months ended 30 September 2006. The Group reclassified its six geographical segments in the corresponding period, namely "Mainland China", "Estonia", "Europe (excluding Estonia)", "Hong Kong", "Japan" and "Others" into the current five geographical segments, namely "Mainland China", "Europe", "Hong Kong", "Japan" and "Others". In the opinion of the directors, the revised basis of segment identification provides a more appropriate presentation of the segment revenue information.

#### MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

#### **Business Review**

The Group made remarkable achievement for the current period. Revenue was about HK\$459 million which represented a year on year growth of 82%. Profit attributable to equity holders was about HK\$98 million which represented a year on year growth of 279%. The outstanding operating performance was mainly attributable to the strong global demand for mobile phones during the current period and the Group's timely addition of highly sophisticated production equipment since the second half of last year so as to cope with the foreseeable huge demand for High Density Inter-connect ("HDI") printed circuit boards ("PCB").

During the current period, the sales orders coming from the telecommunication product customers were enormous and their profit margin was on average far greater than those from other electronic products customers. In order to obtain the highest economic benefit out of existing resources, most of the Group's PCB production capacity was devoted to meet the demand from the telecommunication product customers as much as possible. Accordingly, the sales value of PCB sold to the telecommunication product customers increased to about 85% of the Group's revenue for the current period.

Because the sales of different categories of PCB increased almost at the same pace during the current period, there was no significant change in the sales mix as compared to the last corresponding period. About two-third of the Group's revenue comprised HDI PCB and about one-third of the Group's revenue comprised two-layer and multilayer PCB.

The Group's PCB average selling price for the current period increased by about 13% as compared to the last corresponding period. Resulting from the increase in production volume during the current period, the Group further obtained benefits from the economy of scale like bulk purchase discount and lower average fixed overhead cost per unit etc. However, the Group's gross profit ratio for the current period increased by about 11% only because of the substantial increment in the purchase prices of certain models of essential raw material items such as laminate and copper foil etc. of which the purchase prices have increased by as much as 40% during the current period as a result of the continuous mismatch of global demand and supply for copper and glass fibre.

#### **Financial Review**

The total capital expenditure incurred by the Group during the current period amounted to about HK\$108 million which consisted mainly of highly sophisticated production equipment acquired to cope with the foreseeable huge demand for HDI PCB. External finance lease facilities amounting to about HK\$50 million had been arranged in last year to finance part of these capital expenditure during the current period while the balance had been or would be financed by the Group's internal resources.

The Group's gearing ratio (defined as the ratio of interest-bearing bank and other borrowings to total equity) at 30 September 2006 and 31 March 2006 was 0.29 times and 0.28 times respectively while the Group's current ratio at 30 September 2006 and 31 March 2006 was 1.28 times and 1.05 times respectively. Although the Group's PCB operation generated net cash inflow of about HK\$70 million during the current period, the gearing ratio had slightly increased instead because of the finance of the capital expenditure by external finance lease facilities amounting to about HK\$50 million during the current period as mentioned above.

As at 30 September 2006, the Group's interest-bearing bank and other borrowings amounting to HK\$97,371,000 (31 March 2006: HK\$66,425,000) out of which HK\$42,641,000 (31 March 2006: HK\$32,208,000) were repayable within the next 12 months. These borrowings were all denominated in Hong Kong dollars ("HK\$"), originally repayable monthly over 3 years (except for the bank borrowings as at 31 March 2006 totaling HK\$4,501,000 which were originally repayable within 3 months) and subjected to floating interest rates for about 88% (31 March 2006: 79%) of them. The Group has not adopted any interest rate hedging tool for these borrowings. Certain machinery and equipment of the Group with a net book value at 30 September 2006 of HK\$113,464,000 (31 March 2006: HK\$70,089,000) were pledged to secured these borrowings.

As at 30 September 2006, the Group's assets and liabilities were mostly denominated in either HK\$, US\$ or Renminbi ("RMB"). Because the exchange rate for US\$ against HK\$ is relatively stable in Hong Kong for the moment, the Group has not adopted any hedging tool against its assets or liabilities denominated in US\$. Also because the Group's subsidiary in Mainland China has net assets as at 30 September 2006 and RMB is expected to appreciate gradually, there is only a remote possibility that the Group will suffer exchange loss on the translation of these net assets and so the Group has not adopted any hedging tool against these net assets denominated in RMB. However, the Group began to make use of foreign exchange forward contracts during the current period to hedge against about one-third of its operating expenses to be paid in RMB in light of the likely appreciation of RMB.

# **Employee Benefits**

As at 30 September 2006, the Group had 1,842 (31 March 2006: 2,001) employees, including directors, working mainly in Mainland China. For the period ended 30 September 2006, the Group's total staff costs including directors' remuneration were HK\$21,077,000 (2005: HK\$14,880,000).

According to the Group's staff remuneration policy, the remuneration of an employee and the Company's director is determined by the Board and the Company's Remuneration Committee respectively from time to time with reference to his performance and duties, the performance and profitability of his employer and the prevailing market conditions.

#### Outlook

It is estimated by some industry analysts that the global sales of mobile phones in the year 2006 will reach about 1 billion units. Certainly, it is hard to find a single electronic product with such a great demand like that of mobile phone for the moment. The Group's strategic alliance with Daisho Denshi Co. Ltd. (one of the top PCB manufacturers in Japan and one of the Company's substantial shareholders) in the provision of highly delicate PCB for the telecommunication product customers has been proven to be the right move. The Group is progressing to the manufacture of next hierarchy of HDI PCB which requires more advance technology in order to stand out further from the majority of competitors and the Group's existing customer base comprising many world-renowned customers will become the springboard for the Group to advance further.

The Group has begun to develop business with more non-telecommunication products customers and the result is encouraging. Some famous customers manufacturing such electronic products as digital camera, laser printer and photocopier etc. have promised to place more sales orders with the Group from the year 2007 onwards. The Group will gradually broaden its customer base and achieve a more balanced growth.

The Group is well aware of the keen competition within the telecommunication product industry. Resulting from the rapid launch of different new models of mobile phone in the past, most telecommunication product customers have suffered from the reduction in the average selling price for their products. In order to avoid the early erosion in the average selling price, the Group's telecommunication product customers have begun to re-schedule the launch of some new models of mobile phone since August 2006. The re-schedule will definitely decelerate the growth of the Group but the extent of the impact cannot be assessed for the moment because it will depend on the duration of the re-schedule and the number of new models of mobile phone re-scheduled for launching.

The road ahead for the Group will be full of business opportunities and challenge. Equipped with sound financial position and ample experience in the manufacture of highly delicate PCB, the Group is ready to catch the business opportunities and confront the challenge.

#### INTERIM DIVIDEND

The Board has resolved to declare an interim dividend of HK4.0 cents per ordinary share for the year ending 31 March 2007 (2006: Nil). The interim dividend will be paid on 7 February 2007 to shareholders whose names are registered in the register of members of the Company on 26 January 2007.

## **CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS**

The register of members will be closed from 24 January 2007 to 26 January 2007, both days inclusive during which period no transfer of shares will be registered. In order to qualify for the interim dividend, all completed transfer documents accompanied by the relevant share certificates must be lodged with the Company's Hong Kong share registrars, Tengis Limited at 26th Floor, Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong not later than 4:00 p.m. on 23 January 2007.

# **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

In the opinion of the directors, the Company has complied with the applicable code provisions of the Code on Corporate Governance Practices as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules throughout the 6 months ended 30 September 2006, except for the following deviations:

# **Chairman and Chief Executive Officer**

According to the Code Provision A.2.1, the roles of chairman and chief executive officer ("CEO") should be separate and should not be performed by the same individual. The division of responsibilities between the chairman and CEO should be clearly established and set out in writing.

The Company does not have a separate Chairman and CEO, and Mr. Chan Sik Ming, Harry currently holds both positions. The Board believes that vesting the roles of both Chairman and CEO in the same person ensures consistent leadership within the Group and enables more effective and efficient planning of long-term strategies and implementation of business plans. The Board believes that the balance of power and authority will not be impaired and is adequately ensured by an effective Board which comprises experienced and high calibre individuals with a sufficient number thereof being independent non-executive directors.

#### **Non-executive directors**

Under the Code Provision A.4.1, non-executive directors should be appointed for a specific term subject to reelection. The independent non-executive directors of the Company do not have a specific term of appointment, but are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Company's byelaws.

#### **Re-election of directors**

Under the Code Provision A.4.2, every director, including those appointed for a specific term, should be subject to retirement by rotation at least once every three years.

The Company is subject to a private act known as "The Juko Laboratories Holdings Limited Company Act 1990" which does not require the Chairman of the Company to be subject to retirement by rotation in accordance with the Bye-Laws of the Company. However, in the spirit of good corporate governance practice, the existing Chairman has agreed to retire on a voluntary basis at least once every three years at the annual general meeting of the Company.

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

During the current period, there was no purchase, sale or redemption by the Company or any of its subsidiaries of the Company's listed securities.

#### **AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee of the Company comprises the three independent non-executive directors of the Company. It was established in compliance with the Listing Rules for the purposes of reviewing and providing supervision over the Group's financial reporting process and internal controls.

The Audit Committee of the Company has reviewed with management the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group, and discussed internal controls and financial reporting matters including a review of the unaudited interim report for the 6 months ended 30 September 2006.

## MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS OF LISTED ISSUERS

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 "Model Code") as its code of conduct regarding directors' securities transactions. The Company has made specific enquiries of all directors and all directors have confirmed that they have complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code during the 6 months ended 30 September 2006.

#### PUBLICATION OF INTERIM RESULTS ON THE WEBSITE OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE

This announcement will be published on the website of the Stock Exchange. The interim report for the 6 months ended 30 September 2006 containing all information required by Appendix 16 of the Listing Rules will be dispatched to shareholders and published on the website of the Stock Exchange in due course.

By Order of the Board Chan Sik Ming, Harry Chairman

Hong Kong, 30 November 2006

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises the following members:

Executive directors:
CHAN Sik Ming, Harry (Chairman & CEO)
Motofumi TSUMURA
Hiroto SASAKI

AU-YEUNG Wai Hung

Hiroyuki KIKUCHI

Independent non-executive directors:
Kohu KASHIWAGI
CHAN Yuk Tong
LI Chi Kwong