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# **GUOCO GROUP LIMITED**

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 53)

## **OVERSEAS REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENT**

(This overseas regulatory announcement is issued pursuant to Rule 13.09(2) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.)

Please refer to the attached announcement on the next page.

The board of directors of Guoco Group Limited currently comprises Mr. Quek Leng Chan as Executive Chairman; Mr. Kwek Leng Hai as President, CEO; Mr. Tan Lim Heng and Mr. Ding Wai Chuen as executive directors; Mr. Kwek Leng San as non-executive director and Mr. Sat Pal Khattar, Mr. Volker Stoeckel and Mr. Roderic N. A. Sage as independent non-executive directors.



# **News Release**

10 November 2011

# **European Court decides in Rank VAT case**

The Rank Group Plc ("Rank") notes the decision of the Court of Justice of the European Union ('ECJ') regarding claims for overpaid VAT on certain types of amusement machines and bingo. The ECJ has confirmed that UK VAT law was in breach of the EU law principle of fiscal neutrality.

Today's announcement confirms the findings of successive UK courts for Rank's bingo claims totalling £253.4m including interest.

Rank is considering the implications of the ECJ decision with its advisors on its amusement machines claim for £30.8m including interest and will provide an update on this claim in due course.

#### ends

#### **Further information**

## The Rank Group Plc

Philip Munn, investor relations 01628 504149

#### **FTI Consulting**

Marc Cohen 020 7831 3113

### **Notes**

# 1) Rank Group's claims

Rank group has submitted several claims against HMRC pursuant to this litigation. The details of these claims can be found in Rank's half year results. The agreement Rank reached in 2010, which is referred to in Rank's results, does not cover the amusement machines claim.

To view previous announcements concerning Rank's VAT claims please visit <a href="https://www.rank.com/investors.news.jsp">www.rank.com/investors.news.jsp</a>

#### 2) Fiscal neutrality

The European Union's law of fiscal neutrality requires that supplies of services that are the same or similar should be not be treated differently for VAT purposes. This position was confirmed in the European Court of Justice case Finanzamt v Linneweber (2005).

**3) About The Rank Group Plc** The Rank Group Plc is a leading European gaming and betting business, based in the UK and listed on the London Stock Exchange (RNK.L). Its principal activities are the operation of bingo clubs and casinos with complementary interactive gaming and bookmaking services.