# NATIONAL ELECTRONICS HOLDINGS LIMITED

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 213)

# ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2008

## **RESULTS**

The board (the "Board") of directors (the "Directors") of National Electronics Holdings Limited (the "Company") is pleased to announce the consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the "Group") for the year ended 31st March, 2008 and the consolidated balance sheet as at 31st March, 2008 as follows:

## CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2008

FOR THE TEAR ENDED \$181 MARCH, 2008	NOTES	<b>2008</b> <i>HK\$</i>	<b>2007</b> <i>HK\$</i>
Revenue	2	1,256,702,994	1,066,224,323
Cost of sales		(1,062,107,895)	(949,730,533)
Gross profit		194,595,099	116,493,790
Other income	3	11,328,737	10,165,112
Increase in fair value of investment properties		111,796,048	35,508,189
Gain on disposal of investment properties		55,102,767	-
Distribution costs		(7,945,828)	(8,049,545)
Administrative expenses		(108,112,983)	(92,819,771)
Other expenses		-	(20,583,279)
Finance costs	4	(31,768,680)	(22,879,746)
Gain on disposal of subsidiaries		-	89,298,098
Loss on dissolution of an associate		-	(5,364)
Share of results of associates		1,609,582	13,427,803
Profit before taxation	5	226,604,742	120,555,287
Income tax expenses	6	(14,955,963)	(7,288,817)
Profit for the year		211,648,779	113,266,470
Earnings per share – Basic and diluted	7	20.9 HK cents	10.7 HK cents
Dividend per share - Final dividend proposed after the balance sheet date		2.0 HK cents	2.0 HK cents

# CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AT 31ST MARCH, 2008

	NOTES	2008 HK\$	<b>2007</b> <i>HK</i> \$
Non-current assets			
Investment properties		880,020,039	345,000,000
Property, plant and equipment		100,549,321	72,073,736
Prepaid lease payments		262,321,527	42,457,834
Deposit paid for acquisition of a property		-	18,000,000
Interests in associates		18,050,773	13,427,803
Available-for-sale investments	_	23,180,000	17,820,000
		1,284,121,660	508,779,373
Current assets	-		
Inventories		153,537,569	155,891,724
Prepaid lease payments		4,443,812	639,204
Investment held for trading		4,099,115	3,936,786
Inventory of unsold properties		28,514,155	100,739,388
Properties under development for sale Deposits held in trust for property under		1,241,831,573	830,940,024
development for sale		43,435,147	5,703,533
Bills receivables	8	12,000,000	11,000,000
Trade receivables, deposits and prepayments	8	113,040,917	100,816,895
Amounts due from associates	0	140,079,370	17,464,354
Tax recoverable		558,225	1,272,990
Bank balances and cash		91,950,237	188,641,735
Dank datances and cash	_	91,930,237	188,041,733
		1,833,490,120	1,417,046,633
Current liabilities	-		
Trade payables and accrued expenses	9	189,770,481	164,309,200
Bills payables	9	79,575,635	88,401,894
Amount due to a related party		-	2,216,099
Taxation payable		1,317,983	780
Derivative financial instruments		457,012	840,864
Obligations under finance leases Deposits received from sale of properties		3,705,623	2,548,094
under development		448,301,219	162,636,657
Bank loans		1,034,104,990	660,303,841
Dank Idans	-	1,034,104,990	000,303,841
		1,757,232,943	1,081,257,429
Net current assets	-	76,257,177	335,789,204
Total assets less current liabilities	<del>-</del>	1,360,378,837	844,568,577
	=		

	<b>2008</b> <i>HK\$</i>	<b>2007</b> <i>HK\$</i>
Capital and reserves		
Share capital	99,851,793	103,351,393
Reserves	568,744,841	402,264,366
	668,596,634	505,615,759
Non-current liabilities		
Provision for long service payments	3,687,257	3,779,297
Obligations under finance leases	4,351,759	3,040,796
Bank loans	662,884,770	325,655,517
Deferred tax liabilities	20,858,417	6,477,208
	691,782,203	338,952,818
	1,360,378,837	844,568,577

Notes:

#### 1. APPLICATION OF NEW AND REVISED HONG KONG FINANCIAL REPORTING STANDARDS

In the current year, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following new standard, amendment and interpretations ("new HKFRSs") issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants ("HKICPA"), which are either effective for accounting periods beginning on or after 1 May 2006, 1 June 2006, 1 November 2006, 1 January 2007 or 1 March 2007.

HKAS 1 (Amendment) Capital Disclosures

HKFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures

HK(IFRIC)-Int 8 Scope of HKFRS 2

HK(IFRIC)-Int 9 Reassessment of Embedded Derivatives
HK(IFRIC)-Int 10 Interim Financial Reporting and Impairment
HK(IFRIC)-Int 11 HKFRS 2 – Group and Treasury Share Transactions

The adoption of the new HKFRSs had no material effect on how the Group's results and financial position for the current or prior accounting periods have been prepared and presented. Accordingly, no prior period adjustment has been required.

The Group has applied the disclosure requirements under HKAS 1 (Amendment) and HKFRS 7 retrospectively. Certain information presented in prior year under the requirements of HKAS 32 has been removed and the relevant comparative information based on the requirements of HKAS 1 (Amendment) and HKFRS 7 has been presented for the first time in the current year.

The Group has not early applied the following new and revised standards, amendment or interpretations that have been issued but are not yet effective.

HKAS 1 (Revised) Presentation of Financial Statements<sup>1</sup>

HKAS 23 (Revised) Borrowing Costs<sup>1</sup>

HKAS 27 (Revised) Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements<sup>2</sup>

HKFRS 2 (Amendment) Share-based Payment - Vesting Conditions and Cancellations<sup>1</sup>

HKFRS 3 (Revised) Business Combinations<sup>2</sup>
HKFRS 8 Operating Segments<sup>1</sup>

HK(IFRIC)-Int 12 Service Concession Arrangements<sup>3</sup> HK(IFRIC)-Int 13 Customer Loyalty Programmes<sup>4</sup>

HK(IFRIC)-Int 14 HKAS 19 – The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding

Requirements and their Interaction<sup>3</sup>

The directors of the Company anticipate that the application of these standards, amendment or interpretations will have no material impact on the results and the financial position of the Group.

## **Basis of preparation:**

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis except for investment properties and certain financial instruments which are measured at fair values.

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards issued by the HKICPA. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures required by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange and by the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2009

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2008

# 2. REVENUE AND SEGMENTAL INFORMATION

Revenue represents the net amount received and receivable for goods sold and services provided during the year. The following is an analysis of the Group's business segments information.

## 2008

REVENUE External sales Inter-segment sales Total revenue	Manufacture of watches HK\$ 314,463,990  314,463,990	Trading of watch movements HK\$  793,320,379 1,795,605  795,115,984		Property investment HK\$ 148,434,565 	Eliminations HK\$ (1,795,605) (1,795,605)	Consolidated HK\$ 1,256,702,994 
Inter-segment sales are charged at cost.						
RESULT Segment result	14,017,070	43,397,781	(5,020,187)	168,823,992	-	221,218,656
Interest income Unallocated net other income Unallocated other expenses Finance costs Gain on disposal of investment properties Share of results of associates	<u> </u>	- -	<u> </u>	55,102,767 1,609,582	<u> </u>	3,535,747 26,181,855 (49,275,185) (31,768,680) 55,102,767 1,609,582
Profit before taxation Income tax expenses						226,604,742 (14,955,963)
Profit for the year						211,648,779

## BALANCE SHEET

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	Manufacture of watches HK\$	Trading of watch movements  HK\$	Property development HK\$	Property investment HK\$	Eliminations HK\$	Consolidated HK\$
ASSETS						
Segment assets	130,292,764	154,340,628	1,311,002,538	893,392,753	-	2,489,028,683
Interests in associates Amounts due from associates						18,050,773
Unallocated corporate assets						140,079,370 470,452,954
Unanocated corporate assets						4/0,432,934
Consolidated total assets						3,117,611,780
LIABILITIES						
Segment liabilities	68,097,627	84,386,016	528,572,540	20,020,137	_	701,076,320
Unallocated corporate liabilities	00,007,027	0.,500,010	220,272,2.0	20,020,127		1,747,938,826
Consolidated total liabilities						2,449,015,146
OTHER INFORMATION						
		Trading of				
	Manufacture of watches	watch movements	Property development	Property investment	<u>Unallocated</u>	Consolidated
	HK\$	HK\$	HK\$	HK\$	HK\$	HK\$
Capital additions	8,826,732	7,957,180	450,388	31,433,789	-	48,668,089
Depreciation of property, plant						
and equipment	4,273,520	12,458,737	419,989	2,395,772	16,027	19,564,045
Amortisation of prepaid lease payments	629,118	-	-	1,248,012	-	1,877,130
Allowance for doubtful debts	273,943	-	-	-	=	273,943
Write-down of inventories	3,965,523	-	-	-	-	3,965,523
Increase in fair value of				111 706 040		111 706 040
investment properties	-	-	-	111,796,048	-	111,796,048
Gain on disposal of investment properties	_	_	-	55,102,767	_	55,102,767
0 ' 1' 1 6 '				, ,		
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment		1,048,553		, ,		1,048,553

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	Manufacture of watches HK\$	Trading of watch movements HK\$	Property development HK\$	Property investment HK\$	Eliminations HK\$	Consolidated HK\$
REVENUE External sales	365,665,479	653,115,394	430,438	47,013,012	_	1,066,224,323
Inter-segment sales	<u> </u>	4,386,619	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	(4,386,619)	
Total revenue	365,665,479	657,502,013	430,438	47,013,012	(4,386,619)	1,066,224,323
Inter-segment sales are charged at cost.						
RESULT						
Segment result	(8,378,871)	14,342,749	(2,565,102)	51,778,974	-	55,177,750
Interest income Unallocated net other income Unallocated other expenses Other expenses Finance costs Gain on disposal of subsidiaries Share of results of associates	- - -	<u>-</u> -	89,298,098 -	13,427,803	- -	5,408,453 4,872,405 (4,166,197) (20,583,279) (22,879,746) 89,298,098 13,427,803
Profit before taxation Income tax expenses						120,555,287 (7,288,817)
Profit for the year						113,266,470

## BALANCE SHEET

LOGOTINO.	Manufacture of watches HK\$	Trading of watch movements HK\$	Property development HK\$	Property investment HK\$	Eliminations HK\$	Consolidated HK\$
ASSETS Segment assets	171,199,739	126,119,023	863,374,120	450,668,471	-	1,611,361,353
Interests in associates						13,427,803
Amounts due from associates Unallocated corporate assets						17,464,354 283,572,496
Consolidated total assets						1,925,826,006
LIABILITIES	(1 (22 017	00.400.105	252 004 200	6.000.050		410 205 255
Segment liabilities Amount due to a related party	61,622,017	90,428,197	252,004,290	6,330,853	-	410,385,357 2,216,099
Unallocated corporate liabilities						1,007,608,791
Consolidated total liabilities						1,420,210,247
OTHER INFORMATION		Trading of				
	Manufacture	watch	Property	Property		
	of watches HK\$	movements HK\$	development HK\$	investment HK\$	<u>Unallocated</u> HK\$	Consolidated HK\$
Capital additions	13,418,036	4,986,700	634,472	699,939	-	19,739,147
Depreciation of property, plant	10 427 140	4 166 117	476,000	1 (50 202	21.027	16.740.675
and equipment Amortisation of prepaid lease payments	10,427,149 323,638	4,166,117	476,090	1,650,292 311,401	21,027	16,740,675 635,039
Write-down of inventories	16,620,837	-	_	-	-	16,620,837
Increase in fair value of	, ,					, ,
investment properties	-	-	-	35,508,189	-	35,508,189
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	_	137,372	130,000	_	_	267,372
plant and equipment		137,372				201,312

# **Geographical segments**

The Group's operations are mainly located in Hong Kong and other regions in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"), North America and Europe.

The following table provides an analysis of the Group's sales by geographical markets, irrespective of the origin of the goods/services:

	<u>2008</u> <i>HK\$</i>	<u>2007</u> HK\$
Hong Kong and the PRC North America Europe Others	953,627,883 141,378,858 154,291,017 7,405,236	712,362,173 218,444,471 131,245,326 4,172,353
	1,256,702,994	1,066,224,323

The following is an analysis of the carrying amount of segment assets, additions to investment properties and additions to property, plant and equipment, analysed by the geographical area in which the assets are located:

2008	Carrying amount of segment assets <i>HK\$</i>	Additions to investment properties HK\$	Additions to property, plant and equipment HK\$
Hong Kong and the PRC North America	1,137,120,616 1,351,908,067	675,419,761 40,020,039	48,141,591 526,498
Total segment assets	2,489,028,683	715,439,800	48,668,089
<u>2007</u>	Carrying amount of segment assets <i>HK\$</i>	Additions to investment properties HK\$	Additions to property, plant and equipment HK\$
Hong Kong and the PRC North America	730,880,143 880,481,210	143,491,811	19,722,525 16,622
Total segment assets	1,611,361,353	143,491,811	19,739,147

## 3. OTHER INCOME

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
	HK\$	HK\$
Bank interest income	3,535,747	5,408,453
Dividend income from unlisted investments	591,388	271,544
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	1,048,553	267,372
Management fee income received from associates	2,177,909	1,272,960
Sundry income	3,975,140	2,944,783
	11,328,737	10,165,112

## 4. FINANCE COSTS

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
	$\overline{HK\$}$	HK\$
Interest on:		
Amount due to a related party	24,841	266,331
Bank loans and overdrafts		
<ul> <li>wholly repayable within five years</li> </ul>	71,989,193	39,928,293
<ul> <li>not wholly repayable within five years</li> </ul>	3,329,214	9,357,166
Obligations under finance leases	451,048	377,730
Total borrowing costs	75,794,296	49,929,520
Less: Amount capitalised to properties under		
development for sale	(44,025,616)	(27,049,774)
	31,768,680	22,879,746

Borrowing costs capitalised during the year are calculated by applying a capitalisation rate of 8% (2007: 6%) to expenditure on properties under development for sale.

## 5. PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION

	<u>2008</u> <i>HK\$</i>	<u>2007</u> HK\$
Profit before taxation has been arrived at after charging:		
Allowance for doubtful debts Write-down of inventories	273,943 3,965,523	16,620,837
Auditors' remuneration	1,429,861	1,649,614
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	19,564,045	16,740,675
Less: Amount capitalised to properties under	(4.52.2.5)	(122 520)
development for sale	(163,266)	(132,638)
	19,400,779	16,608,037
Amortisation of prepaid lease payments	1,877,130	635,039
Loss on fair value changes of investment held for trading	376,462	288,987
Loss on fair value changes of derivative financial instruments  Minimum lease payments for operating leases in	457,012	840,864
respect of land and buildings	1,047,939	2,731,575
Share of taxation of an associate	-	3,828,263
Staff costs including directors' emoluments Less: Amount capitalised to properties under	110,166,238	114,786,782
development for sale	(216,914)	(578,655)
Less: Amount capitalised to investment properties	(15,804,500)	
	94,144,824	114,208,127
Exchange loss, net	6,704,235	2,372,467
Cost of inventories recognised as an expense	1,058,142,372	933,109,696
and after crediting:		
Reversal of allowance for amounts due from associates	-	7,529,220
Gross rental income from properties	5,633,725	7,483,452
Less: Outgoings	(1,135,187)	(1,742,950)
Net rental income from properties	4,498,538	5,740,502

Minimum lease payments for operating leases in respect of staff quarters amounting to HK\$3,779,495 (2007: HK\$5,216,833) are included in staff costs.

## 6. INCOME TAX EXPENSES

	2008 HK\$	2007 HK\$
The charge comprises:	$III\chi \phi$	IIIV
Hong Kong Profits Tax Current year Overprovision in prior years	903,607 (328,853)	2,347,643 (146,394)
Other jurisdictions - current year	574,754	2,201,249 3,450
Deferred tax liabilities	574,754 14,381,209	2,204,699 5,084,118
Taxation attributable to the Company and its subsidiaries	14,955,963	7,288,817

Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at 17.5% (2007: 17.5%) on the estimated assessable profit for the year. Taxation arising in other jurisdictions is calculated at the rates prevailing in the relevant jurisdictions.

## 7. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of basic earnings per share is based on the following data:

	<u>2008</u> <i>HK\$</i>	<u>2007</u> <i>HK\$</i>
Earnings for the purpose of basic earnings per share	211,648,779	113,266,470
Weighted accompanies of antiques about for the	<u>Numbe</u> 2008	r of shares 2007
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of basic earnings per share	1,013,412,382	1,053,941,605

No diluted earnings per share has been presented as there were no potential ordinary shares in both years.

## 8. BILLS RECEIVABLES, TRADE RECEIVABLES, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS

Bills receivables with full recourse of HK\$12,000,000 (2007: HK\$11,000,000) are aged within 30 days.

The Group has a policy of allowing an average credit period of 30 - 60 days to its trade customers.

Included in trade receivables, deposits and prepayments are trade receivables net of allowance for doubtful debts of HK\$53,692,129 (2007: HK\$67,367,839) with an aged analysis as follows:

The Group

	<u>2008</u> <i>HK\$</i>	2007 HK\$
Within 30 days 31 to 90 days 91 to 180 days Over 180 days	50,728,763 1,897,707 873,516 192,143	39,396,192 27,062,557 612,898 296,192
	53,692,129	67,367,839

At 31 March 2008, trade receivables included an amount of approximately HK\$16.8 million receivable from a major customer.

Included in the Group's trade receivable balance are debtors with a carrying amount of HK\$1,102,607 (2007: HK\$647,100) which are past due at the reporting date for which the Group has not provided for impairment loss. The Group does not hold any collateral over these balances. The average age of these receivables is 127 days (2007: 77 days).

## Ageing of trade receivables which are past due but not impaired

The Group	<u>2008</u> <i>HK\$</i>	<u>2007</u> HK\$
31 to 90 days 91 to 180 days	266,704 835,903	128,195 518,905
	1,102,607	647,100

## Movement in the allowance for doubtful debts

The Group	<u>2008</u> <i>HK</i> \$	<u>2007</u> HK\$
Balance at beginning of the year Impairment losses recognised on receivables Amounts written off as uncollectible	2,226,113 273,943 (305,105)	2,226,113
Balance at end of the year	2,194,951	2,226,113

Included in the allowance for doubtful debts are individually impaired trade receivables with a balance of HK\$2,194,951 (2007: HK\$2,226,113) which were past due and not recoverable. The impairment recognised represents the carrying amount of these trade receivables. The Group does not hold any collateral over these balances.

# Ageing of impaired trade receivables

The Group

	<u>2008</u> <i>HK</i> \$	<u>2007</u> <i>HK\$</i>
91 to 180 days Over 180 days	37,806 2,157,145	325,310 1,900,803
	2,194,951	2,226,113

## 9. BILLS PAYABLES, TRADE PAYABLES AND ACCRUED EXPENSES

Included in bills payables, trade payables and accrued expenses are trade payables of HK\$112,910,976 (2007: HK\$129,345,872) with an aged analysis as follows:

The Group	<u>2008</u> <i>HK</i> \$	<u>2007</u> HK\$
Within 30 days 31 to 90 days 91 to 180 days Over 180 days	77,365,304 29,562,340 1,819,875 4,163,457	111,333,063 13,821,861 1,942,134 2,248,814
	112,910,976	129,345,872

The average credit period on purchases is 3 months. The Group has financial risk management policies in place to ensure that all payables are paid within the credit timeframe.

#### DIVIDEND AND CLOSURE OF REGISTER OF MEMBERS

A final dividend of 2.0 HK cents per share (2007: 2.0 HK cents) payable to the shareholders whose names on the register of members of the Company on 13th August, 2008 has been proposed by the Board and is subject to approval by the shareholders in the forthcoming annual general meeting.

The register of members of the Company will be closed from 13th August, 2008 to 20th August, 2008 (both days inclusive) during which no transfer of shares will be registered.

In order to qualify for the final dividend, all transfers, accompanied by the relevant share certificates, should be lodged with the Company's Share Registrars in Hong Kong, Tricor Standard Limitd, 26th floor, Tesbury Centre, 28 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong not later than 4:00 p.m. on 12th August, 2008. Dividends are expected to be paid on 3rd September, 2008.

#### **RESULTS**

The audited consolidated profit attributable to shareholders of the Group for the year ended 31st March, 2008 was HK\$211,648,779 (2007 – HK\$113,266,470). The earnings per share of the Company for the year ended 31st March, 2008 was 20.9 HK cents per share (2007 – 10.7 HK cents per share).

#### **BUSINESS REVIEW**

#### Watches and watch components

During the period under review, the performance of the Group's watch manufacturing division has improved. With the introduction of new consumer electronic products, the Group was able to improve its profit margin.

As for the Group's watch component trading division, due to the strong demand for complication movements, the Group is able to achieve higher turnover and profit margin as compared with the previous year.

## Property development and investment

During the year under review, the Group disposed of the following properties:

- 1. 45th floor, Far East Finance Centre, 16 Harcourt Road, Hong Kong;
- 2. 6th floor, Citicorp Centre, No.18 Whitfield Road, Hong Kong;
- 3. No.59 Shouson Hill Road, Bay Villas, Hong Kong;
- 4. House No.8, Villa Rosa, No.88 Red Hill Road, Hong Kong;
- 5. Unit 3201, 32th floor, Tower 2, Lippo Centre, No.89 Queensway, Hong Kong; and
- 6. Flat A, 20th floor, Tower 2, No.37 Repulse Bay Road, Hong Kong.

The Group enjoyed satisfactory capital gains for the above disposals.

As of March 2008, the Group has added the following properties into its property portfolio:-

- 1. No. 87 and 89, Jervois Street, Hong Kong for development purposes;
- 2. 22nd floor (including the roof thereof) and car parking space no. 9 on level 1, Century Tower II, Nos. 1 and 1A Tregunter Path, Hong Kong for investment purposes;
- 3. No. 99, 101 and 103 Bonham Strand and No. 127 Wing Lok Street, Hong Kong for development purposes;
- 4. 5, 7, and 9 Sultan Street, Toronto, Canada for investment and development purposes;
- 5. Ground, 1st, 2nd and 3rd floors and the roof, No. 459 and 461 Lockhart Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong for investment purposes;
- 6. House 6, Double Bay, No.46 Island Road, Hong Kong for investment purposes; and
- 7. House No.1, Abergeldie, 52 Plantation Road, Hong Kong for investment purposes.

#### **PROSPECTS**

## Watches and watch components

As set out in the interim report, the Group has started the first phase of the relocation scheme of its manufacturing facilities to Nanning, Capital of Guangxi Province, China.

The Group sees continued demand for its non-watch consumer electronic products and will remain focused on developing these products.

The Group expects that its watch component trading business will continue to provide stable profits.

## Property development and investment

#### **Overseas**

The occupancy programme of the Group's "One St.Thomas" residential project in Toronto is expected to be completed by Autumn of 2008 as stated in the interim report.

## Local

"The Putman", the Group's Luxurious Boutique Hotel at 202 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong which is a Joint Venture project with Citi Property Investors, has been fully occupied since the end of the last calendar year.

With regard to the Group's second Joint Venture project with Citi Property Investors at 137-138 Connaught Road West, Hong Kong, the superstructure work has topped out and the building is expected to be completed by the end of 2008.

The Group's third Joint Venture project with Citi Property Investors at Nos. 50 to 59 Connaught Road Central, Hong Kong for the development of an A-Grade office building is also on schedule. The demolition work of these buildings will be completed by fourth quarter 2008.

The foundation work of the Group's project at No. 87 and 89 Jervois Street, Hong Kong will be completed by fourth quarter 2008. The completion date of this new boutique hotel is targeted around the beginning of 2010.

At the same time, the Group expects the foundation work of its development project at 21 Whitfield Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong to be completed by first quarter 2009. The Group aims to complete this new boutique hotel around the middle of 2010.

As for the Group's development site at No. 99, 101 & 103 Bonham Strand and No. 127 Wing Lok Street, Hong Kong, the Group intends to construct a new boutique hotel on this site and the demolition work of the existing old building has commenced. The target completion date is around the end of 2010.

The Group has also commenced the demolition work on No.194-196 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong. The Group intends to complete this new one suite per floor boutique hotel by 2011.

The Group expects that demand for new-built designer boutique hotels will continue to grow as evidenced by the strong occupancy rate at The Putman. The Group's new developments in this sector will provide a unique set of designer hotels to the market.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Liquidity and financial resources

As at 31st March, 2008, the Group's total borrowings were HK\$1,697 million, representing an increase of HK\$711 million from last year. The maturity profile spreads over a period of 30 years, with HK\$1,034 million (including the construction loan for the Group's St. Thomas residential development project in Toronto, Canada) repayable within one year, HK\$365 million within two to five years and HK\$298 million beyond five years.

As at 31st March, 2008, the Group's gearing ratio was 0.99 (2007: 0.64) which is calculated based on the Group's long-term borrowings of approximately HK\$663 million and shareholders' funds of approximately HK\$669 million.

As at 31st March, 2008, the Group's total bank balances and cash was approximately HK\$92 million (2007: HK\$189 million).

Similar to the past years, the Group has maintained a reasonable level of cash resources and stand-by credit facilities to provide adequate liquid funds to finance its commitments and working capital requirements.

## **Treasury policies**

As at 31st March, 2008, 41% of the Group's borrowings was in HK\$, 11% in US\$, 12% in JPY and 36% in CAD.

As at 31st March, 2008, 65% of the Group's bank balances and cash was in HK\$, 26% in US\$, 6% in RMB, 2% in CAD and 1% in others.

All the Group's borrowings are variable-rate borrowings. The Group will carefully monitor its foreign exchange exposure and utilize hedging instruments such as forward contracts as necessary.

## Future plans for material investments

Other than the acquisitions mentioned in the Chairman's Statement, the Group currently has no other plans for material investments. All the aforesaid acquisitions have been funded by bank borrowings and the internal resources of the Group.

## Charges on assets

As at 31st March, 2008, certain properties of the Group of approximately HK\$2,425 million (2007: HK\$1,326 million) were pledged to secure banking facilities for the Group.

## **Employees**

As at 31st March, 2008, the Group employed approximately 2,400 employees in Hong Kong, the PRC and other overseas countries. The staff costs for the year including directors' emoluments amounted to HK\$110 million (2007: HK\$115 million). Remuneration is determined by reference to market terms as well as the qualifications and experiences of the staff concerned. Salaries are reviewed annually and discretionary bonuses may be paid depending on individual performance and the profitability of the Group.

## PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S SHARES

During this financial year, the Company repurchased a total of 34,996,000 (2007: 42,390,000) of its own shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("Stock Exchange"). The details are as follows:-

Month of	Number of ordinary shares	Price per share		Aggregate consideration
<u>repurchase</u>	of HK\$0.1 each	<u>Highest</u>	<u>Lowest</u>	<u>paid</u>
		HK\$	HK\$	HK\$
April 2007	400,000	0.405	0.390	160,495
May 2007	1,228,000	0.435	0.395	499,093
August 2007	5,466,000	0.485	0.455	2,572,852
October 2007	13,292,000	0.600	0.540	7,601,817
November 2007	1,140,000	0.640	0.620	721,487
December 2007	5,866,000	0.650	0.620	3,737,888
January 2008	4,602,000	0.630	0.490	2,737,159
February 2008	1,404,000	0.520	0.490	710,783
March 2008	1,598,000	0.510	0.460	785,435
	34,996,000			19,527,009

#### **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The Company has complied with the code provisions set out in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices set out in Appendix 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities (the "Listing Rules") on the Stock Exchange.

An audit committee has been established by the Company to review and supervise the Company's financial reporting process and internal controls and review the relationship with the auditors. The audit committee has held meetings in accordance with the relevant requirements and reviewed the results for the year ended 31st March, 2008.

The Company has also adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers (the "Model Code") contained in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules. Having made specific enquiries of all Directors of the Company who have confirmed that during this financial year they have complied with the required standard set out in the Model Code.

#### PUBLICATION OF RESULT ON THE STOCK EXCHANGE'S WEBSITE

The annual report of the Company for the year ended 31st March, 2008 containing all applicable information required by Paragraph 45 of Appendix 16 of the Listing Rules will be published on the Stock Exchange's website and on the Company's website (http://www.irasia.com/listco/hk/national/index.htm) in due course.

By Order of the Board

LEE YUEN CHING JIMMY

Chairman

Hong Kong, 16th July, 2008

As at the date of this announcement, the executive Directors are Mr. Lee Yuen Ching, Jimmy, Mr. Lee Yuen Kui, James, Mr. Lee Bon Chi Loewe, Mr. Lee Yuen Cheor, Edward and Mr. Wai Kwong Yuen, Ricky, the non-executive Director is Miss Lee Yuen Yu, Dorathy and the independent non-executive Directors are Dr. Samson Sun, M.B.E., J.P., Mr. Chan Chak Cheung, William and Mr. Chan Kwok Wai.