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A & S GROUP (HOLDINGS) LIMITED
亞洲實業集團(控股)有限公司
(Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 1737)

INTERIM RESULTS ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

The board (the “**Board**”) of directors (the “**Directors**”) of A & S Group (Holdings) Limited (the “**Company**”) announces the unaudited interim results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively, the “**Group**”) for the six months ended 30 September 2023, together with the comparative figures for the corresponding period in 2022 as follows:

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

		(Unaudited)	
		Six months ended	
		30 September	
		2023	2022
	Note	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Revenue	3	310,031	252,441
Direct costs		<u>(274,732)</u>	<u>(233,016)</u>
Gross profit		35,299	19,425
Other income and gains	3	1,533	14,826
Administrative and other operating expenses		<u>(27,768)</u>	<u>(26,212)</u>
Operating profit		9,064	8,039
Finance costs	5	<u>(699)</u>	<u>(777)</u>
Profit before tax	4	8,365	7,262
Income tax expense	6	<u>(1,216)</u>	–
Profit and total comprehensive income for the period attributable to the owners of the Company		<u>7,149</u>	<u>7,262</u>
Basic and diluted earnings per share	7	<u>HK0.71 cents</u>	<u>HK0.73 cents</u>

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 30 September 2023

		(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 HK\$'000	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 HK\$'000
	<i>Note</i>		
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	9	11,958	14,617
Right-of-use assets	10	36,040	61,032
Club membership	11	869	869
		<u>48,867</u>	<u>76,518</u>
Current assets			
Trade receivables	12	168,395	143,620
Other receivables, deposits and prepayments	13	19,293	17,317
Amount due from a related company		35	35
Tax recoverable		4,784	6,000
Pledged deposit	14	3,016	3,016
Cash and bank balances	14	75,780	82,694
		<u>271,303</u>	<u>252,682</u>
Total assets		<u>320,170</u>	<u>329,200</u>
EQUITY			
Capital and reserves			
Share capital	15	10,000	10,000
Reserves		203,643	196,494
Total equity		<u>213,643</u>	<u>206,494</u>
LIABILITIES			
Non-current liabilities			
Lease liabilities	10	–	11,021
Deferred tax liabilities		589	589
		<u>589</u>	<u>11,610</u>

		(Unaudited)	(Audited)
		As at	As at
		30 September	31 March
		2023	2023
	<i>Note</i>	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Current liabilities			
Trade payables	<i>16</i>	30,863	20,866
Accruals and other payables		39,322	41,108
Lease liabilities	<i>10</i>	35,753	49,122
		<u>105,938</u>	<u>111,096</u>
Total liabilities		<u>106,527</u>	<u>122,706</u>
Total equity and liabilities		<u>320,170</u>	<u>329,200</u>
Net current assets		<u>165,365</u>	<u>141,586</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>214,232</u>	<u>218,104</u>

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

	Attributable to the owners of the Company				Total equity HK\$'000
	Share capital HK\$'000	Share premium HK\$'000 (Note a)	Merger reserve HK\$'000 (Note b)	Retained earnings HK\$'000	
Balance at 1 April 2022 (audited)	10,000	98,122	(1)	114,787	222,908
Profit and total comprehensive income for the period	–	–	–	7,262	7,262
Dividends paid	–	–	–	(25,000)	(25,000)
Balance at 30 September 2022 (unaudited)	<u>10,000</u>	<u>98,122</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>97,049</u>	<u>205,170</u>
Balance at 1 April 2023 (audited)	10,000	98,122	(1)	98,373	206,494
Profit and total comprehensive income for the period	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>–</u>	<u>7,149</u>	<u>7,149</u>
Balance at 30 September 2023 (unaudited)	<u>10,000</u>	<u>98,122</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>105,522</u>	<u>213,643</u>

Notes:

- Share premium is the excess of the proceeds received over the nominal value of the shares of the Company issued at a premium, less expenses incurred in connection with the issue of the shares.
- The merger reserve represents the difference between the nominal value of the shares issued by the Company in exchange for the nominal value of the share capital of its subsidiaries arising from the reorganisation in prior years.

UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

		(Unaudited)	
		Six months ended	
		30 September	
		2023	2022
	<i>Note</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash generated from operations	17	18,453	54,995
Income tax paid		—	(682)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash generated from operating activities		18,453	54,313
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment		(530)	(4,548)
Interest income received		252	2
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash used in investing activities		(278)	(4,546)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of bank borrowings		—	(19,000)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(25,089)	(24,578)
Interest paid on bank borrowings		—	(8)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash used in financing activities		(25,089)	(43,586)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents		(6,914)	6,181
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of period		82,694	128,732
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of period		75,780	134,913
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the six months ended 30 September 2023

1 GENERAL INFORMATION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The Company was incorporated in the Cayman Islands on 7 July 2016 as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Law (Cap.22, Law 3 of 1961, as consolidated and revised) of the Cayman Islands and its shares have been listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**Stock Exchange**”) since 14 March 2018 (the “**Listing**”).

The address of the Company’s registered office is Windward 3, Regatta Office Park, PO Box 1350, Grand Cayman KY1-1108, Cayman Islands and the Company’s principal place of business is Room 11, 14th Floor, Tower 2, Ever Gain Plaza, 88 Container Port Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories, Hong Kong.

The Company is an investment holding company. The Group is principally engaged in the provision of air freight forwarding ground handling services and air cargo terminal operating and related services in Hong Kong.

The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong dollars (“**HK\$**”), which is the same as the functional currency of the Company. All values are rounded to the nearest thousand (**HK\$’000**) except when otherwise indicated.

2 PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

2.1 Basis of presentation

The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Group have been prepared in accordance with all applicable Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards (“**HKFRSs**”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. In addition, the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures required by the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange (the “**Listing Rules**”) and by the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance. The unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except as otherwise stated in the accounting policies below.

The preparation of unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with HKFRSs requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise its judgement in the process of applying the Group’s accounting policies. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

(a) New and amended standards adopted by the Group

The Group has applied the following standards and amendments for the first time for its annual reporting period commencing on 1 April 2023:

HKFRS 17 (including the October 2020 and February 2022 Amendments to HKFRS 17)	Insurance Contracts
Amendments to Hong Kong Accounting Standards (“HKAS”) 1 and HKFRS Practice Statement 2	Disclosure of Accounting Policies
Amendments to HKAS 12	International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules
Amendments to HKAS 8	Definition of Accounting Estimates
Amendments to HKAS 12	Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction

The amendments listed above did not have any impact on the amounts recognised in prior periods and are not expected to significantly affect the current period.

(b) New standards and interpretations not yet adopted

Certain new accounting standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for 31 March 2024 reporting periods and have not been early adopted by the Group. These standards are not expected to have a material impact on the entity in the current or future reporting periods and on foreseeable future transactions.

Amendments to HKAS 7 and HKFRS 7	Supplier Finance Arrangements ²
Amendments to HKFRS 10 and HKAS 28	Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture ¹
Amendments to HKFRS 16	Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback ²
Amendments to HKAS 1	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current and related amendments to Hong Kong Interpretation 5 (2020) ²
Amendments to HKAS 1	Non-current Liabilities with Covenants (2022) ²

¹ Effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date to be determined.

² Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024.

The above new and amended standards and interpretation are not expected to have a material impact on the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Group.

3 REVENUE, OTHER INCOME AND GAINS AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

Revenue and other income and gains recognised during the period are as follows:

	(Unaudited)	
	Six months ended	
	30 September	
	2023	2022
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Revenue from contracts with customers and recognised over time:		
Air freight forwarding ground handling services	217,399	190,555
Air cargo terminal operating and related services	92,632	61,886
	<u>310,031</u>	<u>252,441</u>

Transaction price allocated to remaining performance obligations

The Group's contracts include promises to perform an undefined quantity of tasks at a fixed contractual rates per unit, with no contractual minimums that would make some or all of the consideration fixed. As a result, the possible transaction prices and the ultimate consideration for those contracts will depend on the occurrence or non-occurrence of future customer usage. In light of the aforesaid, the analysis of the transaction price that is allocated to remaining performance obligations is not disclosed.

	(Unaudited)	
	Six months ended	
	30 September	
	2023	2022
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Other income and gains		
Bank interest income	252	2
Management fee income	664	618
Government grants (<i>Note</i>)	–	10,078
Others	617	4,128
	<u>1,533</u>	<u>14,826</u>

Note: During the six months ended 30 September 2022, the Group recognised government grants of which approximately HK\$8,822,000 was granted under the Employment Support Scheme launched by the Government and approximately HK\$1,256,000 related to the subsidy from the Hong Kong Airport Authority for subsidising the aviation support service operators. There are no unfilled conditions or other contingencies attaching to these grants.

Segment information

The chief operating decision-maker has been identified as the executive Directors. The executive Directors regard the Group's business as a single operating segment and review the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements accordingly. Also, all of the Group's revenue during the six months ended 30 September 2023 and 2022 were derived from Hong Kong, the place of domicile of the Group's operating subsidiary. Therefore, no segment information is presented.

Information about major customers

Revenue from customers contributing over 10% of the total revenue of the Group are as follows:

	(Unaudited) Six months ended 30 September	
	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Customer A ¹	80,717	61,886
Customer B ¹	95,223	82,529
Customer C	40,605	39,771

¹ Such customers represent a collective of companies within a group.

4 PROFIT BEFORE TAX

Profit before tax has been arrived at after charging:

	(Unaudited) Six months ended 30 September	
	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Included in direct costs:		
Direct labour costs	61,110	61,337
Dispatched labour costs	136,001	93,072
Costs of packaging materials	5,874	5,713
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	2,174	1,801
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	24,992	26,166
Expense relating to short-term leases not included in the measurement of lease liabilities		
– Car parking spaces	1,144	1,064
– Forklifts	3,548	3,383
Included in administrative and other operating expenses:		
Auditors' remuneration	426	504
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	1,015	1,508
Expense relating to short-term leases not included in the measurement of lease liabilities		
– Office premises	180	180
Staff costs, including directors' emoluments	9,600	8,972

5 FINANCE COSTS

	(Unaudited)	
	Six months ended	
	30 September	
	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Interest on bank borrowings	–	8
Interest on lease liabilities	699	769
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	699	777
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

6 INCOME TAX EXPENSE

On 21 March 2018, the Hong Kong Legislative Council passed The Inland Revenue (Amendment) (No. 7) Bill 2017 (the “**Bill**”) which introduced the two-tiered profits tax rates regime. The Bill was signed into law on 28 March 2018 and was gazetted on the following day. Under the two-tiered profits tax rates regime of Hong Kong Profits Tax, the first HK\$2 million of profits of the qualifying group entity will be taxed at 8.25%, and profits above HK\$2 million will be taxed at 16.5%. The profits of group entities not qualifying for the two-tiered profits tax rates regime will continue to be taxed at a flat rate of 16.5%.

Accordingly, the Hong Kong profits tax of the qualifying group entity is calculated at 8.25% on the first HK\$2 million of the estimated assessable profits and at 16.5% on the estimated assessable profits above HK\$2 million for the six months ended 30 September 2023 and 2022.

The amount of income tax expense charged to the unaudited interim condensed consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income represents:

	(Unaudited)	
	Six months ended	
	30 September	
	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Hong Kong profits tax: – Current income tax	1,216	–
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

7 BASIC AND DILUTED EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the profit attributable to the owners of the Company by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the respective periods.

	(Unaudited)	
	Six months ended	
	30 September	
	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Profit attributable to the owners of the Company (HK\$'000)	<u>7,149</u>	<u>7,262</u>
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purpose of calculating basic earnings per share (in thousand)	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>
Basic earnings per share (HK cents)	<u>0.71</u>	<u>0.73</u>

The diluted earnings per share for the six months ended 30 September 2023 and 2022 were the same as the basic earnings per share as there were no dilutive potential ordinary share in issue during the respective periods.

8 DIVIDENDS

During the six months ended 30 September 2023, there was no final dividend per ordinary share in respect of the year ended 31 March 2023 (six months ended 30 September 2022: HK2.5 cents per ordinary share in respect of the year ended 31 March 2022 amounting to approximately HK\$25,000,000).

The Board does not recommend the payment of an interim dividend for the six months ended 30 September 2023 (six months ended 30 September 2022: Nil).

9 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the six months ended 30 September 2023, the Group acquired items of property, plant and equipment with a cost of approximately HK\$530,000 (six months ended 30 September 2022: approximately HK\$4,548,000).

10 LEASES

This note provides information for leases where the Group is a lessee.

Amounts recognised in the unaudited interim condensed consolidated statement of financial position

The unaudited interim condensed consolidated statement of financial position shows the following amounts relating to leases:

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Right-of-use assets		
Warehouses and loading bay	<u>36,040</u>	<u>61,032</u>
	<u>36,040</u>	<u>61,032</u>
Lease liabilities		
Current	35,753	49,122
Non-current	<u>–</u>	<u>11,021</u>
	<u>35,753</u>	<u>60,143</u>

As at 30 September 2023, the Group entered into new leases for forklifts and office premises, with non-cancellable period of one year, the total future undiscounted cash flows over the non-cancellable period amounted to approximately HK\$8,711,000 (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$4,008,000).

Lease committed

As at 9 May 2023, the Group entered into a new lease for a warehouse that have not yet commenced, with a non-cancellable period ranging from 1 April 2024 to 30 June 2027 the total future discounted cash flows over the non-cancellable period amounted to approximately HK\$34,000,000.

11 CLUB MEMBERSHIP

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Club membership	<u>869</u>	<u>869</u>

The club membership with indefinite useful lives is stated at cost less impairment loss and is tested for impairment annually or whenever there is an indication of impairment. The Directors are of the opinion that no indication of impairment loss was identified with reference to market value.

12 TRADE RECEIVABLES

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Trade receivables	169,947	145,172
Less: Loss allowance	(1,552)	(1,552)
	<u>168,395</u>	<u>143,620</u>

Notes:

- (a) The credit period granted to customers ranges from 30 to 90 days from the invoice date generally. Trade receivables are denominated in HK\$. The Group does not hold any collateral as security.
- (b) The ageing analysis of the trade receivables, net of loss allowance, based on invoice date is as follows:

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
0-30 days	87,491	49,580
31-60 days	23,583	63,968
61-90 days	42,225	13,633
Over 90 days	16,648	17,991
	<u>169,947</u>	<u>145,172</u>
Less: Loss allowance	(1,552)	(1,552)
	<u>168,395</u>	<u>143,620</u>

13 OTHER RECEIVABLES, DEPOSITS AND PREPAYMENTS

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Deposits	12,986	9,389
Prepayments	5,945	7,118
Other receivables	362	810
	<u>19,293</u>	<u>17,317</u>

None of the above assets is either past due or impaired. The financial assets included in the above balances relate to receivables for which there were no recent history of default.

14 CASH AND BANK BALANCES AND PLEDGED DEPOSIT

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Cash at banks (<i>Note a</i>)	64,752	39,714
Cash on hand	1,028	980
Time deposits	13,016	45,016
	<u>78,796</u>	<u>85,710</u>
Less: Pledged deposit (<i>Note b</i>)	<u>(3,016)</u>	<u>(3,016)</u>
Cash and bank balances	<u>75,780</u>	<u>82,694</u>

Notes:

- (a) Cash at banks earns interest at floating rates based on daily bank deposit rates.
- (b) As at 31 March 2023 and 30 September 2023, the pledged deposit was placed to secure the Group's outstanding bank borrowings.

15 SHARE CAPITAL

	Number of share	Share capital <i>HK\$'000</i>
Ordinary shares of HK\$0.01 each		
Authorised:		
At 1 April 2022, 31 March 2023, 1 April 2023, and 30 September 2023	<u>2,000,000,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Issued and fully paid:		
At 1 April 2022, 31 March 2023, 1 April 2023, and 30 September 2023	<u>1,000,000,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>

16 TRADE PAYABLES

Payment terms granted by suppliers generally ranges from 7 to 60 days from the invoice date of the relevant purchase. The ageing analysis of trade payables based on the invoice date is as follows:

	(Unaudited) As at 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	(Audited) As at 31 March 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>
0-30 days	25,423	14,694
31-60 days	1,116	3,316
61-90 days	4,324	2,856
	<u>30,863</u>	<u>20,866</u>

17 NOTES TO THE UNAUDITED INTERIM CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Reconciliation of profit before tax to net cash generated from operations

	(Unaudited) Six months ended 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$'000</i>	2022 <i>HK\$'000</i>
Profit before tax	8,365	7,262
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	3,189	3,309
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	24,992	26,166
Interest income	(252)	(2)
Interest expense on bank borrowings	–	8
Interest expense on lease liabilities	699	769
	<u>36,993</u>	<u>37,512</u>
Operating profit before working capital changes	36,993	37,512
(Increase)/Decrease in trade receivables	(24,775)	11,200
(Increase)/Decrease in other receivables, deposits and prepayments	(1,976)	604
Increase in trade payables	9,997	2,758
(Decrease)/Increase in accruals and other payables	(1,786)	2,921
	<u>18,453</u>	<u>54,995</u>
Net cash generated from operations	<u>18,453</u>	<u>54,995</u>

18 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Parties are considered to be related if one party has the ability, directly or indirectly, to control the other party or exercise significant influence over the other party in making financial and operational decisions. Parties are also considered to be related if they are subject to common control or joint control. Related parties may be individuals or other entities.

(a) Name and relationship with related parties

The following individuals and companies were related parties that had transactions or balances with the Group as at and during the six months ended 30 September 2023.

Name of related parties	Relationship with the Group
Mr. Law Kwok Leung Alex (“ Mr. Alex Law ”) and Mr. Law Kwok Ho Simon (“ Mr. Simon Law ”)	Directors of the Company
Gobo Trade Limited	Mr. Alex Law and Mr. Simon Law have joint control
Parkston Limited (“ Parkston ”)	Mr. Alex Law has control

(b) Transactions with related parties

Name of related parties	Nature of transactions	(Unaudited) Six months ended 30 September	
		2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Mr. Alex Law and Mr. Simon Law	Office premises rental	180	180
Gobo Trade Limited	Revenue from logistics services	22	77
	Purchases of office supplies	349	1,110
	Purchases of packaging materials	4,081	5,614
Parkston	Security services	4,048	–

19 COMMITMENTS

Capital commitment

As at 30 September 2023, the Group did not have any material capital commitments (31 March 2023: Nil).

20 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Group, in the ordinary course of its business, is involved in various claims, suits, investigations, and legal proceedings that arise from time to time. Although the Group does not expect that the outcome in any of these legal proceedings, individually or collectively, will have a material adverse effect on its financial position or results of operations, litigation is inherently unpredictable. Therefore, the Group could incur judgements or enter into settlements of claims that could adversely affect its operating results or cash flows in a particular period.

21 EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Saved as disclosed in this announcement, there was no other important event affecting the Group since 30 September 2023 and up to date of this announcement.

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

BUSINESS REVIEW AND OUTLOOK

During the six months ended 30 September 2023 (the “**Review Period**”), the global economy has recovered gradually despite the after-effect of the COVID-19 pandemic and ongoing geopolitical complications around the world. The Group, as an established air freight forwarding ground handling services provider and air cargo terminal operating services provider in Hong Kong, has continued to provide services to its customers including global logistics companies and major freight forwarding agents during the Review Period.

During the Review Period, the recovery of global economic activities boosted the demand for air cargo terminal operating services. The Group had a satisfied operation and financial performance due to the recovery of cargo volume processed from air cargo terminal operating services. During the Review Period, the Group extended its services for one of its existing clients to flight meal packing and luggage transfer, which has contributed to the Group’s business performance during the Review Period and this new business stream is expected to become another income source for the Group. During the Review Period, the Group recorded an increase of approximately 22.8% in revenue and a significant increase of approximately 81.7% in gross profit.

Although the global economic market showed signs of recovery, global uncertainties and instabilities still exist due to the intensification of global geopolitical conflicts. Amid the unstable economic environment, the Group will continue to adopt flexible approaches in its business operation and take effective cost control measures. Despite the volatile situation, the management believes that the demand for transportation, including air cargo, ground transportation and warehousing services will recover progressively in the second half of the financial year ended 31 March 2024. To this end, the Group will actively expand its customer base to increase the Group’s revenue sources and be committed to strengthening its competitiveness in the logistics service industry to alleviate the impact of social and economic uncertainties.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue

Revenue of the Group increased by approximately 22.8% from approximately HK\$252.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022 to approximately HK\$310.0 million for the Review Period. Such increase was mainly attributable to the growth of the Group’s air cargo terminal operating and related services and air freight forwarding ground handling services.

Gross profit and gross profit margin

Gross profit increased by approximately 81.7% from approximately HK\$19.4 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022 to approximately HK\$35.3 million for the Review Period. The Group’s gross profit margin for the Review Period was approximately 11.4%, representing an increase of approximately 3.7 percentage points as compared to approximately 7.7% for the six months ended 30 September 2022. Such increase was mainly due to the fact that the overall revenue and handling volume of the Group’s services was able to increase to a greater extent as compared to the increase in direct costs.

Other income and gains

Other income and gains mainly comprised of bank interest income, management fee income and other miscellaneous income.

Other income and gains decreased from approximately HK\$14.8 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022 to approximately HK\$1.5 million for the Review Period due to the absence of new funding from the Government under the Employment Support Scheme and the Anti-epidemic Fund during the Review Period.

Administrative and other operating expenses

Administrative and other operating expenses increased by approximately 6.1% from approximately HK\$26.2 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022 to approximately HK\$27.8 million for the Review Period. Such increase was mainly attributable to the increase in cost of repair and maintenance, legal and professional fee and management fee and rates during the Review Period.

Finance costs

Finance costs decreased from approximately HK\$0.8 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022 to approximately HK\$0.7 million for the Review Period, which was mainly due to the decrease in interest on lease liabilities.

Income tax expense

Income tax expense is approximately HK\$1.2 million for the Review Period (six months ended 30 September 2022: Nil).

Profit and total comprehensive income for the period

As a result of the foregoing, the Group recorded a profit and total comprehensive income attributable to the owners of the Company of approximately HK\$7.1 million for the Review Period as compared to a profit and total comprehensive income attributable to the owners of the Company of approximately HK\$7.3 million for the six months ended 30 September 2022.

LIQUIDITY AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Group's operation and investments were financed principally by cash generated from its business operations. As at 30 September 2023, the Group had net current assets of approximately HK\$165.4 million (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$141.6 million), cash and bank balances of approximately HK\$75.8 million (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$82.7 million) and pledged bank deposit with original maturity over three months of approximately HK\$3.0 million (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$3.0 million). As at 30 September 2023, the Group's total equity attributable to the owners of the Company amounted to approximately HK\$213.6 million (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$206.5 million), and the Group's total debt comprising lease liabilities amounted to approximately HK\$35.8 million (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$60.1 million). The Directors confirmed that the Group will have sufficient financial resources to meet its obligations as they fall due in the foreseeable future.

CAPITAL STRUCTURE

The Group's shares were successfully listed on the Stock Exchange on 14 March 2018 (the "**Listing Date**"). There has been no change in the capital structure of the Group since the Listing Date. The capital of the Group only comprised of ordinary shares.

GEARING RATIO

As at 30 September 2023, the gearing ratio (calculated on the basis of total lease liabilities divided by the total equity of the Group) was approximately 16.7% (31 March 2023: approximately 29.1%). Such decrease was primarily attributable to the decrease in lease liabilities for the right-of-use assets recognised under HKFRS 16 for the Review Period.

COMMITMENTS

As at 30 September 2023, the Group did not have any material capital commitments in respect of acquisition of property, plant and equipment (31 March 2023: Nil).

As at 30 September 2023, the Group's operating lease commitments were approximately HK\$8.7 million (31 March 2023: approximately HK\$4.0 million).

CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

As at 30 September 2023, the Group did not have any material contingent liability (31 March 2023: Nil).

INFORMATION ON EMPLOYEES

As at 30 September 2023, the Group employed 376 employees (31 March 2023: 386 employees). Remuneration packages are generally structured to market terms, individual qualifications and experience. Salaries and wages of the Group's employees are normally reviewed on an annual basis based on performance appraisals and other relevant factors. Various types of trainings were provided to the employees. The total staff cost (including remuneration of Directors and mandatory provident funds contributions) for the Review Period amounted to approximately HK\$70.7 million (six months ended 30 September 2022: approximately HK\$70.3 million).

CHARGE ON GROUP ASSETS

As at 30 September 2023 and 31 March 2023, the Group pledged bank deposits of approximately HK\$3.0 million to the bank to secure the Group's general banking facilities.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE EXPOSURE

The Group is currently not exposed to any material foreign exchange risks as most of the monetary assets and liabilities are denominated in Hong Kong dollars. The management will consider suitable hedging instruments against significant currency exposure should the need arises.

TREASURY POLICY

The Directors will continue to follow a prudent policy in managing the Group's cash and maintaining a strong and healthy liquidity to ensure that the Group is well placed to take advantage of any future growth opportunities.

SEGMENT INFORMATION

Segmental information is presented for the Group as disclosed in Note 3 to the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements.

SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENTS HELD, MATERIAL ACQUISITIONS AND DISPOSALS OF SUBSIDIARIES AND AFFILIATED COMPANIES AND PLANS FOR MATERIAL INVESTMENTS OR CAPITAL ASSETS

Save as disclosed in this announcement, the Group did not have any significant investments held, material acquisitions or disposals of subsidiaries and associated companies during the Review Period. There was no other plan for material investments or capital assets as at 30 September 2023.

INTERIM DIVIDENDS

The Board does not recommend the payment of interim dividend for the Review Period (six months ended 30 September 2022: Nil).

EVENT AFTER REPORTING PERIOD

Saved as disclosed in this announcement, there was no other important event affecting the Group since 30 September 2023 and up to the date of this announcement.

COMPARISON BETWEEN BUSINESS OBJECTIVES WITH ACTUAL BUSINESS PROGRESS

An analysis comparing the business objectives as set out in the prospectus of the Company dated 28 February 2018 (the “Prospectus”) with the Group’s actual business progress for the period from the Listing Date to 30 September 2023 is set out below:

Business strategies as stated in the Prospectus	Business objectives up to 30 September 2023 as stated in the Prospectus	Actual business progress up to 30 September 2023
Setting up of new warehouse premises	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Rental deposit of new warehouse premises in Tuen Mun of around 130,000 sq. ft.– Fitting out and renovation of new warehouse premises– Installation of CCTV system, access control system and burglar alarm system– Installation of cargo storage and forklift operation systems in the new warehouse premises– Installation of RFID applications in the various storage locations in the new warehouses premises for cargo in and out segregation– Installation of measurement and control systems such as automatic measurement and weight check systems for pallet– Acquire mobile devices for scanning applications– Commence operations of the new warehouse premises– Working capital for the initial operation of new warehouse premises	The Group intended to set up a new warehouse in the Chek Lap Kok area near the Hong Kong International Airport. For details, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 9 May 2023

Business strategies as stated in the Prospectus	Business objectives up to 30 September 2023 as stated in the Prospectus	Actual business progress up to 30 September 2023
Upgrading existing facilities and acquiring additional trucks and equipment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="464 306 1086 427">– Acquire two additional 5.5 ton trucks, three additional 9 ton trucks and ten additional 16 ton trucks <li data-bbox="464 506 1086 676">– Upgrade other existing facilities in the Group’s warehouses and offices, such as shelving and racking, CCTV surveillance and fire equipment and RFID applications <li data-bbox="464 704 1086 874">– Install two automatic measurement and weight check systems for cargo pallets in cargo receiving areas in the existing warehouses <li data-bbox="464 902 1086 1115">– Install security X-ray inspection systems for cargo pallets to applicable standard of the Transportation Security Administration of the United States for cargo screening process areas in the existing warehouses <li data-bbox="464 1187 1086 1268">– Maintenance for the upgraded and new facilities or other existing facilities 	<p data-bbox="1114 306 1522 427">The Group has acquired twelve additional 16 ton trucks and one unit of 5.5 ton truck</p> <p data-bbox="1114 506 1522 676">The Group has upgraded the CCTV surveillance equipment and security system of the warehouses</p> <p data-bbox="1114 704 1522 832">The Group has installed one unit of automatic measurement and weight check system</p> <p data-bbox="1114 902 1522 1157">The Group has installed six units of X-ray machines and two units of explosive trace detection equipment to upgrade the air cargo security screening facilities</p> <p data-bbox="1114 1187 1522 1476">A portion of the net proceeds were used to maintain the upgraded and new facilities or other existing facilities but not fully utilised due to delay in the schedule as discussed above</p>

**Business strategies
as stated in the
Prospectus**

Implementing new
information
technology system

**Business objectives up to
30 September 2023 as stated
in the Prospectus**

- Plan for upgrading the existing warehouse management system and accounting system
- Implement and evaluate the performance of the upgraded warehouse management system and accounting system
- Recruit two experienced personnel responsible for the planning and implementation of the information system upgrade and maintain the cost of additional personnel for information system upgrade
- Upgrade the existing hardwares, acquiring new computer facilities, implementing and engage specialised service providers to develop the new human resources management system
- Implement and evaluate the performance of the new human resources management system

**Actual business progress
up to 30 September 2023**

Warehouse management system has been upgraded in extension to scanning package IDs across HAWB to get more information. The warehouse management system data became available to traffic management system. This makes the shipment data more accurate and transparent

The Group has recruited one experienced personnel responsible for the information system upgrade

The Group is working with its information technology consultant to study the hardwares and computer facilities upgrade

The new human resources management system has been launched. The Group is working with the human resources vendor to explore the enhancement and upgrading the human resources system to improve the overall efficiency

USE OF PROCEEDS FROM SHARE OFFER

The net proceeds from the listing of the shares of the Company on the Stock Exchange on the Listing Date (the “**Listing**”) (after deducting the underwriting fees and other listing expenses borne by the Company) amounted to approximately HK\$92.8 million (the “**Net Proceeds**”). After the Listing, a part of these proceeds has been applied for the purposes in accordance with the future plans and use of proceeds as set out in the Prospectus.

On 9 May 2023, the Board resolved for the change in use of the unutilised Net Proceeds. For further details of the change in use of Net Proceeds, please refer to the announcement of the Company dated 9 May 2023. An analysis of the utilisation of Net Proceeds from the Listing up to 30 September 2023 is set out below:

	Planned use of Net Proceeds up to 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$ million</i>	Unutilised Net Proceeds as at 1 April 2023 <i>HK\$ million</i>	Actual use of Net Proceeds up to 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$ million</i>	Unutilised use of Net Proceeds up to 30 September 2023 <i>HK\$ million</i>	Revised application of the unutilised Net Proceeds <i>HK\$ million</i>
Setting up of new warehouse premises in Chek Lap Kok	36.4	36.4	–	36.4	36.4
Upgrading on existing facilities and acquisition of additional trucks and equipment	36.4	3.6	0.5	3.1	3.1
New information technology system	14.5	8.0	0.3	7.7	7.7
General working capital	5.5	–	–	–	–
	<u>92.8</u>	<u>48.0</u>	<u>0.8</u>	<u>47.2</u>	<u>47.2</u>

The Group intends to finance the capital expenditure for setting up new warehouse premises in Chek Lap Kok using the Net Proceeds. Based on the current market conditions, the Directors estimate that the set up cost of the warehouse premises includes the capital expenditure for warehouse facilities, such as installation of cargo storage and forklift operating systems, measurement and control systems, and RFID and scanning applications in the warehouse premises, of approximately HK\$19.6 million, rental payment of the warehouse premises for the first year of approximately HK\$11.8 million and working capital for the warehouse premises of approximately HK\$5.0 million.

For the upgrading of existing facilities and the acquisition of additional trucks and equipment, the Group has acquired two units of truck during the Review Period. For the implementation of new information technology system, the Group has maintained the salary of IT staffs and upgraded the CCTV surveillance and security systems during the Review Period.

The unutilised Net Proceeds are expected to be fully utilised within 14 months from the date of this announcement. Such expected timeline is based on the estimation made by the Group which might be subject to changes in accordance with the change in market conditions from time to time.

The business objectives, future plans and planned use of proceeds as stated in the Prospectus were based on the best estimation and assumption of future market conditions made by the Group at the time of preparing the Prospectus while the proceeds were applied based on the actual development of the Group's business and the industry.

OTHER INFORMATION

DIRECTORS' AND CHIEF EXECUTIVES' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES OF THE COMPANY

As at 30 September 2023, the interests and short positions of each of the Directors and chief executives of the Company (“**Chief Executives**”) in the shares, underlying shares or debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of Securities and Future Ordinance (the “**SFO**”)) which are required to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Division 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests or short positions which they were taken or deemed to have under such provisions), or which were recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, or which are required, pursuant to the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Companies set out in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules (the “**Model Code**”), to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange, are as follows:

Long positions in ordinary share and underlying shares of the Company

Name	Capacity/Nature of interest	Number of shares of the Company held/interested	Percentage of shareholding
Mr. Alex Law ^{Note 1}	Interest of a controlled corporation	750,000,000	75.0%
Mr. Simon Law ^{Note 2}	Interest of a controlled corporation	750,000,000	75.0%

Notes:

1. Mr. Alex Law beneficially owns 65% of the issued share capital of Dynamic Victor Limited (“**Dynamic Victor**”). Therefore, Mr. Alex Law is deemed, or taken to be, interested in 750,000,000 shares of the Company held by Dynamic Victor for the purpose of the SFO.
2. Mr. Simon Law beneficially owns 35% of the issued share capital of Dynamic Victor. Therefore, Mr. Simon Law is deemed, or taken to be, interested in 750,000,000 shares of the Company held by Dynamic Victor for the purpose of the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 September 2023, none of the Directors and Chief Executives had any interests or short positions in any shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) which would have to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests or short positions which they were taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO), or which were recorded in the register required to be kept by the Company pursuant to Section 352 of the SFO, or which were required, pursuant to the Model Code, to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange.

SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS' AND OTHER PERSONS' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES AND UNDERLYING SHARES OF THE COMPANY

So far as known to the Directors or Chief Executives, as at 30 September 2023, the following person/entity (other than the Directors and Chief Executives) had or were deemed to have an interest or a short position in the shares or the underlying shares of the Company which would be required to be disclosed to the Company and the Stock Exchange under the provisions of Division 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO, or which were recorded in the register of the Company remained to be kept under Section 336 of the SFO, or who were directly or indirectly, interested in 5% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital carrying rights to vote in all circumstances at general meetings of the Company or any other member of the Group:

Long positions in ordinary share and underlying shares of the Company

Name	Capacity/Nature of interest	Number of shares of the Company held/interested	Percentage of shareholding
Dynamic Victor	Beneficial owner	750,000,000	75.0%
Ms. Lau Lai Ha Sunshine ^{Note 1}	Interest of spouse	750,000,000	75.0%

Note:

1. Ms. Lau Lai Ha Sunshine is the spouse of Mr. Alex Law. Therefore, Ms. Lau Lai Ha Sunshine is deemed, or taken to be, interested in the same number of shares of the Company in which Mr. Alex Law is interested for the purpose of the SFO.

Save as disclosed above, as at 30 September 2023, there was no person or corporation, other than the Directors and Chief Executives whose interests are set out in the section “Directors’ and Chief Executives’ interests and short positions in shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company” above, had or were deemed to have an interest or a short position in the shares or the underlying shares of the Company which would be required to be disclosed to the Company and the Stock Exchange under the provisions of Divisions 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO, or which were recorded in the register of the Company remained to be kept under Section 336 of the SFO, or who were directly or indirectly, interested in 5% or more of the nominal value of any class of share capital carrying rights to vote in all circumstances at general meetings of the Company or any other members of the Group.

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

Neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities during the Review Period.

COMPETING BUSINESS

During the Review Period, none of the Directors or the controlling shareholders (as defined in the Listing Rules) of the Company (the "**Controlling Shareholders**") and their respective associates had any interests in a business, apart from the business of the Group, which competes or may compete with the business of the Group or has any other conflict of interest with the Group which would be required to be disclosed under Rule 8.10 of the Listing Rules.

Non-Competition Undertaking

In order to avoid any possible future competition between the Group and the Controlling Shareholders, Mr. Alex Law, Mr. Simon Law, the then controlling shareholder Mr. Chiu Tat Ting Albert ("**Mr. Albert Chiu**") and Dynamic Victor (each a "**Covenantor**" and collectively the "**Covenantors**") have entered into the deed of non-competition (the "**Deed of Non-competition**") with the Company (for itself and as trustee of its subsidiaries) on 21 February 2018. Pursuant to the Deed of Non-competition, each of the Covenantors has irrevocably and unconditionally undertaken to the Company (for itself and as trustee of its subsidiaries) that, during the period that the Deed of Non-competition remains effective, he/it shall not, and shall procure that his/its close associates (other than any member of the Group) not to develop, acquire, invest in, participate in, carry on or be engaged, concerned or interested or otherwise be involved, whether directly or indirectly, in any business in competition with or likely to be in competition with the existing business activity of any member of the Group.

Each of the Covenantors further undertakes that if any of he/it or his/its close associates other than any member of the Group is offered or becomes aware of any business opportunity which may compete with the business of the Group, he/it shall (and he/it shall procure his/its close associates to) notify the Group in writing and the Group shall have a right of first refusal to take up such business opportunity. The Group shall, within 6 months after receipt of the written notice (or such longer period if the Group is required to complete any approval procedures as set out under the Listing Rules from time to time), notify the Covenantor(s) whether the Group will exercise the right of first refusal or not.

According to the Company's announcement dated 18 March 2021, Mr. Alex Law, Mr. Simon Law and Mr. Albert Chiu has entered into the sale and purchase agreement, pursuant to which Mr. Albert Chiu agreed to sell all his shares in Dynamic Victor (the "**Sale Shares**"), representing 10% of the issued share capital of Dynamic Victor, and each of Mr. Alex Law and Mr. Simon Law agreed to purchase half of the Sale Shares on 18 March 2021. Upon the completion of such share transfer, Dynamic Victor is beneficially owned as to 65% by Mr. Alex Law and 35% by Mr. Simon Law. The undertakings given by Mr. Albert Chiu pursuant to the Deed of Non-competition have lapsed upon completion of the transfer of the Sale Shares.

The Group shall only exercise the right of first refusal upon the approval of all the independent non- executive Directors (who do not have any interest in such opportunity). The relevant Covenantor(s) and the other conflicting Directors (if any) shall abstain from participating in and voting at and shall not be counted as quorum at all meetings of the Board where there is a conflict of interest or potential conflict of interest including but not limited to the relevant meeting of the independent non-executive Directors for considering whether or not to exercise the right of first refusal.

Each of the covenantors also gave certain non-competition undertakings under the Deed of Non-competition as set out in the section headed “Relationship with our Controlling Shareholders – Non-competition undertakings” in the Prospectus.

During the Review Period, the Company had not received any information in writing from any of the Controlling Shareholders in respect of any new business opportunity which competed or might compete with the existing and future business of the Group which were offered to or came to be the knowledge of the Controlling Shareholders or their associates (other than any member of the Group).

DIRECTORS’ SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

The Company has adopted the Model Code as the code of conduct regarding securities transactions by Directors. Having made specific enquiry, all Directors have fully complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code during the Review Period.

SHARE OPTION SCHEME

The share option scheme of the Company (the “**Share Option Scheme**”) was conditionally adopted pursuant to the written resolution of the sole shareholder of the Company passed on 21 February 2018.

The purpose of the Share Option Scheme is to attract and retain the best available personnel, to provide additional incentive to employees (full-time and part-time), directors, consultants, advisers, distributors, contractors, suppliers, agents, customers, business partners or service providers of the Group and to promote the success of the business of the Group.

The subscription price of a share in respect of any particular option granted under the Share Option Scheme shall be a price solely determined by the Board and notified to a participant and shall be at least the higher of: (i) the closing price of the shares as stated in the Stock Exchange’s daily quotations sheet on the date of grant of the option, which must be a business day; (ii) the average of the closing prices of the shares as stated in the Stock Exchange’s daily quotations sheets for the five business days immediately preceding the date of grant of the option; and (iii) the nominal value of a share on the date of grant of the option.

The maximum number of shares issuable upon exercise of all options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company as from the adoption date (excluding, for this purpose, the shares issuable upon exercise of options which have been granted but which have lapsed in accordance with the terms of the Share Option Scheme or any other share option schemes of the Company) must not in aggregate exceed 10% of all the shares in issue as at the Listing Date. Therefore, it is expected that the Company may grant options in respect of up to 100,000,000 shares (or such numbers of shares as shall result from a sub-division or a consolidation of such 100,000,000 shares from time to time) to the participants under the Share Option Scheme.

The 10% limit as mentioned above may be refreshed at any time by obtaining approval of the shareholders in a general meeting provided that the total number of shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company must not exceed 10% of the shares in issue as at the date of approval of the refreshed limit. Options previously granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company (including those outstanding, cancelled or lapsed in accordance with the terms of the Share Option Scheme or any other share option schemes of the Company) will not be counted for the purpose of calculating the refreshed 10% limit. A circular must be sent to the shareholders containing the information as required under the Listing Rules in this regard.

The Company may seek separate approval of the shareholders in a general meeting for granting options beyond the 10% limit provided the options in excess of the 10% limit are granted only to grantees specifically identified by the Company before such approval is sought. In such event, the Company must send a circular to the shareholders containing a generic description of such grantees, the number and terms of such options to be granted and the purpose of granting options to them with an explanation as to how the terms of the options will serve such purpose, such other information required under the Listing Rules.

The aggregate number of the shares which may be issued upon exercise of all outstanding options granted and yet to be exercised under the Share Option Scheme and any other share option schemes of the Company must not exceed 30% of the shares in issue from time to time. No options may be granted under the Share Option Scheme or any other share option schemes of the Company if this will result in such 30% limit being exceeded.

The total number of shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of options granted to any participant (including both exercised and outstanding options) under the Share Option Scheme or any other share option scheme of the Company, in any 12-month period up to the date of grant shall not exceed 1% of the shares in issue. Any further grant of options in excess of such limit must be separately approved by shareholders in a general meeting with such grantee and his associates abstaining from voting. In such event, the Company must send a circular to the shareholders containing the identity of the grantee, the number and terms of the options to be granted (and options previously granted to such grantee), and all other information required under the Listing Rules. The number and terms (including the subscription price) of the options to be granted must be fixed before the approval of the shareholders and the date of the Board meeting proposing such further grant should be taken as the date of grant for the purpose of calculating the subscription price.

An option may be exercised in accordance with the terms of the Share Option Scheme at any time during a period as the Board may determine which shall not exceed ten years from the date of grant subject to the provisions of early termination thereof.

The Share Option Scheme is valid and effective for a period of ten years from 21 February 2018, after which no further options will be granted or offered. As at the date of this announcement, the Share Option Scheme had a remaining life of approximately four years.

As at 1 April 2023 and 30 September 2023, the total number of share options available for grant under the Share Option Scheme was 100,000,000. For the six months ended 30 September 2023, no share option was granted, exercised, expired, lapsed or cancelled and there is no outstanding share option under the Share Option Scheme. As such, no shares of the Company that may be issued in respect of options granted under all shares schemes of the Company during the Review Period.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICE

The Company and the Board are committed to achieving and maintaining high standards of corporate governance, as the Board believes that good and effective corporate governance practices are the key to obtaining and maintaining the trust of the shareholders of the Company and other stakeholders, and are essential for encouraging accountability and transparency so as to sustain the success of the Group and to create long-term value for the shareholders of the Company. The Company has adopted the principles and code provisions set out in the Corporate Governance Code (the “**CG Code**”) contained in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules.

To the best knowledge of the Board, the Company has complied with the code provisions of the CG Code during the Review Period and up to the date of this announcement.

AUDIT COMMITTEE

The audit committee of the Company (the “**Audit Committee**”) was established on 21 February 2018. The chairman of the Audit Committee is Mr. Kwan Ngai Kit, an independent non-executive Director, and other members include Mr. Ho Chun Chung Patrick and Mr. Iu Tak Meng Teddy, the independent non-executive Directors. The written terms of reference of the Audit Committee are posted on the Stock Exchange’s website and on the Company’s website.

The primary duties of the Audit Committee are mainly to review the financial information and oversee the financial reporting system, internal control systems and risk management system and relationship with external auditors and review arrangements employees of the Company can use in confidence, to raise concerns about possible improprieties in financial reporting, internal control or other matters of the Company.

The Company has complied with Rule 3.21 of the Listing Rules in that at least one of the members of the Audit Committee (which must comprise a minimum of three members and must be chaired by an independent non-executive Director) is an independent non-executive Director who possesses appropriate professional qualifications or accounting related financial management expertise.

The Group's interim condensed consolidated financial statements for the Review Period are unaudited, but have been reviewed by the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee is of the opinion that the unaudited interim condensed consolidated financial statements of the Group for the Review Period comply with applicable accounting standards, the Listing Rules and that adequate disclosures have been made.

PUBLICATION OF INTERIM RESULTS AND INTERIM REPORT

The interim results announcement and the interim report are/will be published on the website of the Stock Exchange at (www.hkexnews.hk) and the Company's website at (www.asl.hk). The interim report of the Company for the Review Period will be dispatched to the shareholders of the Company. Should the shareholders of the Company have any difficulties in accessing the corporate communications electronically, please request the printed interim report, free of charge, at any time by writing to the Company or the Company's branch share registrar and transfer office in Hong Kong, Tricor Investor Services Limited.

By order of the Board
A & S Group (Holdings) Limited
Law Kwok Leung Alex
Chairman and Executive Director

Hong Kong, 17 November 2023

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises Mr. Law Kwok Leung Alex, Mr. Law Kwok Ho Simon and Mr. Chiu Tat Ting Albert as executive Directors; and Mr. Ho Chun Chung Patrick, Mr. Iu Tak Meng Teddy and Mr. Kwan Ngai Kit as independent non-executive Directors.