

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



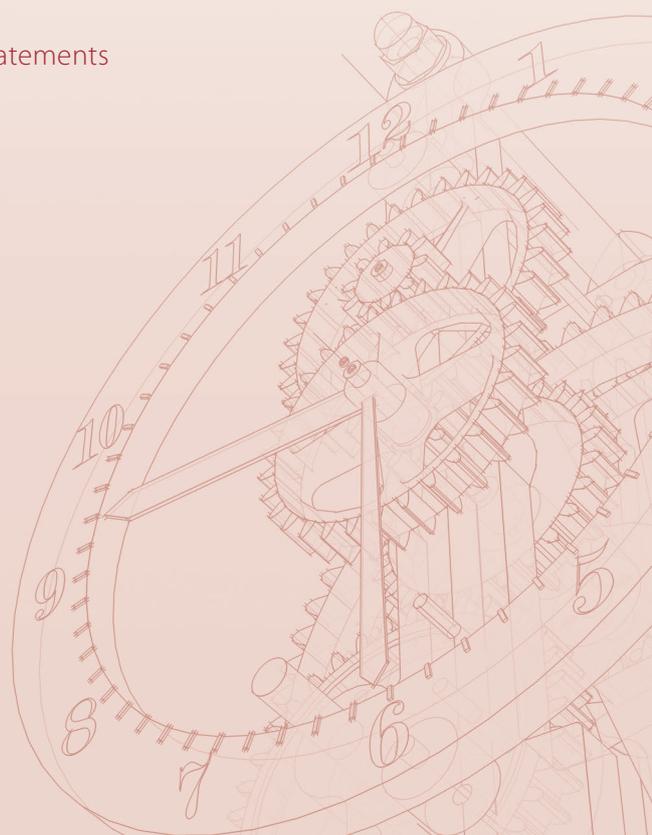
ERNEST BOREL
HOLDINGS LIMITED

(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

STOCK CODE : 1856

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CORPORATE INFORMATION

Ernest Borel Holdings Limited ((the “**Company**”), and together with its subsidiaries, the “**Group**”)

DIRECTORS

Executive Directors

Mr. Teguh Halim

*(Chairman of the Board of Directors (the “**Board**”))*

Ms. Lam Lai

Non-executive Director

Mr. Xiong Ying

Independent Non-executive Directors

Mr. To Chun Kei

Ms. Chan Lai Wa

Mr. Zhang Bin

COMPANY SECRETARY

Mr. Ng Kin Sun (Resigned on 15 January 2024)

Ms. Kei Siu Ying (Appointed on 15 January 2024)

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Mr. To Chun Kei (*Chairman*)

Ms. Chan Lai Wa

Mr. Zhang Bin

REMUNERATION COMMITTEE

Mr. To Chun Kei (*Chairman*)

Mr. Teguh Halim

Ms. Chan Lai Wa

Mr. Zhang Bin

NOMINATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Teguh Halim (*Chairman*)

Mr. To Chun Kei

Ms. Chan Lai Wa

Mr. Zhang Bin

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mr. Teguh Halim (*Chairman*)

Ms. Lam Lai

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Mr. Teguh Halim (*Chairman*)

Ms. Lam Lai

AUTHORISED REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. Lam Lai

Mr. Ng Kin Sun (Resigned on 15 January 2024)

Ms. Kei Siu Ying (Appointed on 15 January 2024)

COMPANY'S WEBSITE

www.ernestborel.ch

REGISTERED OFFICE

Third Floor, Century Yard, Cricket Square

P.O. Box 902, Grand Cayman, KY1-1103

Cayman Islands

HEAD OFFICE IN SWITZERLAND

8, rue des Perrières

2340 Le Noirmont

Switzerland

OFFICE IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

EBOHR Building

Jin'an Road, Guangming

New District, Shenzhen,

China

PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS AND HEAD OFFICE IN HONG KONG

Unit 1612–13 & 15, Level 16, Tower 1

Grand Century Place

193 Prince Edward Road West

Mongkok, Kowloon

Hong Kong

PRINCIPAL SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

Tricor Services (Cayman Islands) Limited

Third Floor, Century Yard, Cricket Square

P.O. Box 902, Grand Cayman, KY1-1103

Cayman Islands

HONG KONG BRANCH SHARE REGISTRAR AND TRANSFER OFFICE

Tricor Investor Services Limited

17/F, Far East Finance Centre

16 Harcourt Road

Hong Kong

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

BDO Limited

Certified Public Accountants

Registered Public Interest Entity Auditor

25 Floor, Wing On Centre

111 Connaught Road Central

Hong Kong

PRINCIPAL BANKER

Hang Seng Bank Limited

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- ② Turnover for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 (“**FY2023**”) increased from approximately HK\$137.4 million to approximately HK\$165.0 million when compared with the financial year ended 31 December 2022 (“**FY2022**”).
- ② Gross profit margin from approximately 54.7% for FY2022 to approximately 52.8% for FY2023. Gross profit from approximately HK\$75.2 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$87.1 million for FY2023.
- ② Profit attributable to the owners of the Company for FY2023 was approximately HK\$18.9 million (FY2022: Loss of approximately HK\$12.1 million).
- ② Earnings per share for FY2023 was approximately HK\$5.30 cents (FY2022: Loss per share was approximately HK\$3.47 cents).
- ② The Board has resolved not to recommend any payment of a final dividend for FY2023 (FY2022: Nil).

Note: In the case of any inconsistency between the Chinese translation and the English text of this annual report, the English text shall prevail.



CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT



Dear Shareholders,

On behalf of the board of directors (the **"Board"**) of Ernest Borel Holdings Limited (**"Ernest Borel"**, the **"Company"** or **"We"**), I am pleased to present the annual report of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the **"Group"**) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

During the period under review, the consumer market in Mainland China, the Group's main sales market, has not fully recovered from the pandemic, which has had an impact on the overall consumer market. Residents are not willing to spend money and do not dare to spend money. The Group's domestic offline stores are experiencing unprecedented difficulties, with most of the dealers in demand for purchases extremely conservative, the offline retail industry is facing difficulties such as outdated business models, e-commerce platform impacts, and reduced customer flow, and the slowdown in economic recovery has caused a significant impact on the retail business.

In Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and overseas regions, through the efforts of the sales team, the sales market in Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan and overseas has begun to be activated, customer relations have been maintained and store management has been strengthened, and the adoption of new design plans has been recognized by customers, and the overall sales performance and business in this region have improved significantly compared with the same period last year. After a long period of rapid growth, the e-commerce market has also begun to enter the adjustment stage, with market consumption capacity declining, brand competition becoming increasingly fierce, and operating costs rising.

In addition, the Group acquired a smart watch accessories manufactory this year, and the Group's future business expanded into smart watches in addition to traditional watches with the R&D and production of watch accessories, the Group's business will be more diversified and extensive (For details, please refer to the announcement dated 19 April 2023).

Chairman's Statement

In the face of the above challenges, the Group has taken a variety of measures in a timely manner, including: (1) investing more energy in improving the design plan, and through a series of means, such as developing third-party partner e-commerce platforms, increasing sales promotion, strengthening the sales of the Outlets system and customizing the overseas customer to reduce the inventory, and (2) Trying to enhance the awareness and market reputation of the brand network, such as inviting online celebrities to conduct offline store visits, advertising implantation, brand friendship cooperation projects, etc. (3) Reducing personnel and optimizing the management structure, streamlining work processes, and strictly controlling marketing expenses to reduce various operating costs.

Looking ahead, the Group's business will reach a new milestone, which will significantly boost local tourism and business activities as Hong Kong and China's economies recover. The Group has always been cautious and optimistic about the luxury watch market, and will, as always, pay close attention to the market situation and adjust the Group's operation strategy according to actual needs. At the same time, it has better control over the Group's operating costs in terms of production, distribution and administrative expenses, so as to create more profit for the Group. The Group will also target for future investment opportunities, with the aim of maximizing the Group's earnings and bringing valuable and sustainable returns to shareholders.

Lastly, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our shareholders and customers for their long-lasting trust and support in the Group.

Mr. Teguh Halim
Chairman
27 March 2024



BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. Teguh Halim, aged 42, was appointed as an Executive Director and Vice Chairman of the Board of the Company on 12 October 2018. He was also appointed as a member of the Remuneration Committee, Executive Committee and Investment Committee of the Company on 12 October 2018. Mr. Halim has been re-designated as the Chairman of the Board, the chairman of Nomination Committee, Executive Committee and Investment Committee on 5 January 2022. Currently, Mr. Halim is an Executive Director of Citychamp Watch & Jewellery Group Limited ("**Citychamp**"), a company listed on the main board of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "**Stock Exchange**") with stock code 256, and which, as at the date of this annual report, holds 57.14% equity interest in the Company through VGB Limited ("**VGB**"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Citychamp and a direct controlling shareholder of the Company. Mr. Halim is a director of VGB and several subsidiaries of the Company. Mr. Halim joined Citychamp in October 2008 and has been appointed as an Executive Director of Citychamp since 23 January 2018. Before being appointed as the Executive Director of Citychamp, he was a Vice President of Citychamp. Mr. Halim is also the director of several subsidiaries of Citychamp and the Company engaged in watch business. He has gained years of experience in the watch industry and financial business management. Mr. Halim graduated from Ohio State University as bachelor of science in business administration majoring in accounting.

Ms. Lam Lai (林黎), aged 45, was appointed as an Executive Director and Authorized Representative of the Company on 12 October 2018. She was also appointed as a member of the Executive Committee and Investment Committee of the Company on 12 October 2018. Ms. Lam joined Citychamp in 2008 as investment manager and has been redesignated as CEO assistant mainly responsible for merger and acquisition as well as business development. Since April 2021, Ms. Lam has been redesignated as the Vice President of Citychamp. Ms. Lam is also appointed as director of various subsidiaries of Citychamp, including Bendura Bank AG and VGB. Ms. Lam serves as a Non-executive Director of Dragon Mining Limited, a company listed on the main board of the Stock Exchange with stock code 1712, with effect from 18 July 2019. Ms. Lam graduated from University of Western Sydney in 2001 with a bachelor degree of business majoring in marketing.

NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Xiong Ying (熊鷹), aged 51, was appointed as the Non-executive Director of the Company on 31 October 2018. Mr. Xiong graduated from the Department of International Finance & Trade at Shenzhen University in 1995 and worked in the property insurance project department of Shenzhen Pacific Insurance Company Limited* (深圳太平洋保險有限公司) from 1995 to 2000. Mr. Xiong obtained a degree of master of business administration from Peking University in 2002. After that, Mr. Xiong worked in the securities investment department at Beijing Gehua Cable Co., Ltd.* (北京歌華有線股份有限公司) from 2003 to 2005. Since 2006, Mr. Xiong has been a director of Beijing P&C Investment Limited* (北京共和同創投資有限公司).

* For identification purpose only

Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management

INDEPENDENT NON-EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

Mr. To Chun Kei (杜振基), aged 57, was appointed as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company and a member of each of the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee of the Company with effect from 4 October 2016. Mr. To was appointed as the chairman of the Audit Committee and Remuneration Committee with effect on 6 September 2019. Mr. To graduated from the University of Western Sydney with a bachelor degree in Business Administration in 1999 and received a master degree in Professional Accounting from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in 2009. Mr. To is also a fellow member of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. From 2004 to 2011, he was an Independent Non-executive Director, chairman of the audit committee and remuneration committee of China Development Bank International Investment Limited, a company listed on the main board of the Stock Exchange with stock code 1062. Mr. To serves as an Independent Non-executive Director of AVIC Joy Holdings (HK) Limited, a company listed on the main board of the Stock Exchange with stock code 260, with effect from 18 September 2020. Moreover, Mr. To is currently the Hong Kong and Macau business partner of Beijing Central Finova Financial Services Co., Ltd. (北京中央金創金融服務股份有限公司).

Mr. Zhang Bin (張斌), aged 59, was appointed as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company on 26 April 2023 and a member of the audit committee, the remuneration committee and the nomination committee of the Company. Mr. Zhang is currently a partner of Hylands Law Firm (formerly Beijing Haotian Xinhe Law Firm) (“**Hylands**”). He obtained a degree of Bachelor of Laws from Fudan University in Shanghai in 1986 and was qualified as a lawyer in China in 1988 and had served as a legal advisor in a large scale state-owned enterprise for years upon his graduation. Before joining Hylands in 2008, he worked in law firms in Beijing, London and Hong Kong. Mr. Zhang is involved in a wide range of areas of practice and has accumulated tremendous experiences in legal affairs in respect of financial investments, real estates and intellectual property rights.

Ms. Chan Lai Wa (陳麗華), aged 59, was appointed as an Independent Non-executive Director of the Company and a member of each of the Audit Committee, Remuneration Committee and Nomination Committee of the Company with effect from 22 December 2017. Ms. Chan obtained an economic management professional qualification in the PRC in June 1998 and is currently the owner and director of an accounting and taxation consultancy firm in Hong Kong.



* For identification purpose only

Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Mr. He Wen (何文), aged 49, was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (“**CEO**”) of the Company on 10 June 2019. Mr. He graduated from Hunan University of Finance and Economics majoring in auditing in 1996. He is a certified public accountant in China. From March 1998 to September 2014, he worked in EBOHR Luxuries International Limited* (依波精品(深圳)有限公司) (“**EBOHR**”) and successively served as the personnel manager, financial manager, assistant to general manager, financial controller and operations director. From September 2014 to October 2016, he worked in Zhuhai Rossini Watch Industry Limited as executive vice general manager. From October 2016 to present, he worked in the Company, successively serving as the vice president, chief operation officer and executive vice president.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Ms. Kei Siu Ying (紀少櫻) has been appointed as the Company Secretary and the Authorised Representatives of the Company with effect from 15 January 2024. Ms. Kei holds a Master degree in Corporate Governance and a Bachelor degree of Arts (Honours) in Business Enterprise. She is an associate member of the Hong Kong Chartered Governance Institute. Ms. Kei has over 10 years of working experience in providing administration, accounting and corporate secretarial work and amongst which, she had been working in a company listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange for over 9 years and she has extensive experience in administration, accounting and corporate secretarial practice.

CHANGE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO DIRECTORS

Changes in information relating to the Directors required to be disclosed pursuant to Rule 13.51B(1) of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange (the “**Listing Rules**”) are set out below:

- (1) Mr. Zhang Bin has been appointed as an Independent non-executive Director, member of Audit Committee, member of Remuneration Committee and member of Nomination Committee on 26 April 2023.

* For identification purpose only

MANAGEMENT DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

BUSINESS REVIEW

Established since 1856 in Switzerland, Ernest Borel has a proud heritage spanning 167 years. Throughout the course of its history and across its operations, the Group has upheld the principles of producing high precision “Swiss-made” products and implemented stringent quality controls. Under its own brand “Ernest Borel”, the Group is engaged in the design, production, marketing and sale of mechanical and quartz premium watches. As one of the oldest Swiss premium watchmakers, Ernest Borel has adopted the “dancing couple” as its icon, which embodies “romance and elegance”. Together with its distinctive market position, Ernest Borel has gained leadership among brands of watches for couples in Switzerland. The extensive distribution network of the Group covers retail markets in the PRC, Hong Kong, Macau and other markets. As at 31 December 2023, the Group has more than 786 POS.

Ernest Borel recorded a revenue of approximately HK\$165.0 million (2022: approximately HK\$137.4 million), representing a year-on-year increase of approximately 20.1%, and gross profit and gross profit margin increased to approximately HK\$87.1 million (2022: approximately HK\$75.2 million) and approximately 15.8% (2022: approximately decreased 54.7%), respectively. Consequently, profit attributable to equity holders amounted to approximately HK\$17.5 million in FY2023 (2022: approximately loss HK\$12.1 million).

OVERVIEW

In 2023, China’s overall economic growth was slow down, the impact of Sino-US trade frictions and other macro factors, and the recovery momentum of consumption in the Chinese market was lower than expected. With the advancement of technology and the rise of smart watches, the traditional watch industry is facing several challenges. The company will strive to expand overseas markets and use online sales platforms to increase the exposure rate of traditional watches to stimulate sales. In addition, it actively develops the research and development of smart watch accessories, hoping to create higher profits for the company through the smart watch manufacturing business.

The PRC Market

The PRC remains the core market of the Group. As at 31 December 2023, the Group had around 633 POS in the country. Revenue from the PRC segment increased by approximately 0.04% from approximately HK\$131.8 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$131.8 million for FY2023, which accounted for approximately 79.9% of total revenue.

Hong Kong and Macau Markets

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had around 37 POS in Hong Kong and Macau markets. Revenue in these markets increased by approximately 67.5% from approximately HK\$3.3 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$5.6 million for FY2023, which accounted for approximately 3.4% of total revenue.

Other markets

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had 116 POS in the other markets, mainly in Europe. Revenue in this markets increased by approximately 57.3% from approximately HK\$1.3 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$2.1 million for FY2023, which accounted for approximately 1.3% of total revenue.

The Group revenue from other Asia markets, mainly in Vietnam, Korea and other South East Asia. Revenue in these markets approximately HK\$25.5 million for FY2023, which accounted for approximately 15.4% of total revenue (2022: HK\$0.9 million and 0.7% of total revenue).



Management Discussion and Analysis

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Revenue and segment information

Our revenue increased by approximately HK\$27.6 million, or approximately 20.1% from approximately HK\$137.4 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$165.0 million for FY2023.

Performance by geographical locations

	2023	2022	Changes	
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	%
The PRC	131,849	131,795	54	0.04
Vietnam	18,351	–	18,351	N/A
Hong Kong and Macau	5,592	3,338	2,254	67.5
Korea	3,670	–	3,670	N/A
South East Asia	3,437	903	2,534	73.7
Others	2,095	1,332	763	57.3
	164,994	137,368	27,626	20.1

The PRC market

The PRC continues to be our major market, representing approximately 79.9% of our total revenue for FY2023. Revenue in this region increased by approximately 0.04% from approximately HK\$131.8 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$131.8 million for FY2023.

Hong Kong and Macau markets

Hong Kong and Macau markets accounted for approximately 3.4% of our total revenue for FY2023. Revenue in these markets increased by approximately 67.5% from approximately HK\$3.3 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$5.6 million for FY2023.

Other markets

Revenue from other markets, mainly in Europe, accounted for approximately 1.3% of our total revenue for FY2023. Revenue in these markets increased by approximately 57.3% from approximately HK\$1.3 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$2.1 million for FY2023.

Furthermore revenue from other Asia markets, mainly in Vietnam, Korea and other South East Asia. Revenue in these markets approximately HK\$25.5 million for FY2023, which accounted for approximately 15.4% of total revenue.

Cost of sales

Cost of sales increased by approximately 25.3% from approximately HK\$62.2 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$77.9 million for FY2023.

Gross profit

Our gross profit increased by approximately HK\$11.9 million or approximately 15.8% from approximately HK\$75.2 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$87.1 million for FY2023, the gross profit margin approximately 54.7% for FY2022 to approximately 52.8% for FY2023.

Management Discussion and Analysis

Other gains and losses, net

Our gains increased by HK\$45.5 million from net losses of approximately HK\$1.3 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$44.2 million for FY2023.

Distribution expenses

Our distribution expenses increased by approximately HK\$10.6 million or approximately 23.2% from approximately HK\$45.6 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$56.2 million for FY2023.

Administrative expenses

Our administrative expenses increased by approximately HK\$19.0 million or approximately 60.5% from approximately HK\$31.4 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$50.4 million for FY2023.

Finance costs

Our finance costs decreased by approximately HK\$2.0 million or approximately 17.7% from approximately HK\$11.3 million for FY2022 to approximately HK\$9.3 million for FY2023.

Profit attributable to owners of the Company

We recorded a profit of approximately HK\$18.9 million for FY2023 as compared to loss of approximately HK\$12.1 million for FY2022.

Inventories

Inventories amounted to approximately HK\$324.8 million as at 31 December 2023, which represented an increase of approximately HK\$2.5 million from approximately HK\$322.3 million as at 31 December 2022.

Trade and other receivables and payables

The Group's trade and other receivables amounted to approximately HK\$134.7 million as at 31 December 2023, which represented an increase of approximately HK\$44.9 million from approximately HK\$89.8 million as at 31 December 2022.

The Group's trade and other payables amounted to approximately HK\$67.2 million as at 31 December 2023, which represented an increase of approximately HK\$33.5 million from approximately HK\$33.7 million as at 31 December 2022.

Liquidity, financial resources and capital structure

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had pledged bank deposits of approximately HK\$5.0 million (2022: HK\$6.5 million) and non-pledged cash and bank balances of approximately HK\$5.9 million (2022: approximately HK\$6.3 million). As at 31 December 2023, the Group had bank and other borrowings of approximately HK\$319.2 million (2022: approximately HK\$282.1 million), of which approximately HK\$ Nil (2022: approximately HK\$3.9 million) were secured and interest-free; of which approximately HK\$12.2 million (2022: approximately HK\$13.0 million) were secured and carried with variable interest bearings ranged from 7.67% to 8.63% (2022: 6.97% to 8.88%) per annum; of which HK\$44.4 million (2022: HK\$3.4 million) were unsecured and interest free; and of which approximately HK\$262.6 million (2022: approximately HK\$261.8 million) were unsecured and carried with fixed interest bearings 1.5% to 6% (2022: 5% to 6%) per annum. As at 31 December 2023, part of the bank and other borrowings amounted to approximately HK\$2.3 million was repayable over one year and the remaining balance amounted to approximately HK\$316.9 million was repayable within one year.

Management Discussion and Analysis

As at 31 December 2023, the Group's gearing ratio was approximately 190.2% (2022: approximately 261.6%). This was calculated by dividing the bank and other borrowings (including bank and other borrowings, amounts due to related parties, amounts due to fellow subsidiaries, amounts due to a director and amount due to an ultimate holding company) by total equity attributable to owners of the Company as at 31 December 2023.

The Group has adopted a prudent financial and surplus funds management approach towards its treasury policies and thus maintained a healthy liquidity position throughout the year ended 31 December 2023. To manage liquidity risk, the Board closely monitors the Group's liquidity position to ensure that the sufficient financial resources are available in order to meet its funding requirements and commitment timely.

Foreign exchange exposure

Certain members of our Group have foreign currency sales, which expose us to foreign currency exchange fluctuation risk. In addition, certain amounts of our trade receivables, other receivables and deposits, bank balances, other payables and accrued expenses, bank borrowings and our intra-group balances were denominated in foreign currencies.

We monitor foreign exchange trends and shall consider hedging significant foreign currency exposure should the need arise.

Charge on assets

As at 31 December 2023, bank deposits of approximately HK\$5.0 million (2022: approximately HK\$6.5 million) were pledged to secure the short term banking facilities granted to the Group.

Material acquisition and disposal of subsidiaries or associated companies

On 21 November 2022, the Group entered into a sale and purchase agreement with a vendor (the "**Vendor**"), pursuant to which the Group conditionally agreed to acquire and the Vendor conditionally agreed to sell the entire issued share capital of Gold Vantage Industrial Limited ("**Gold Vantage**"), which together with its subsidiaries (collectively, the "**Gold Vantage Group**") are principally engaged in the business of design, development and manufacturing of stainless-steel alloy watches cases, smart watch cases on ODM or OEM basis (the "**Acquisition**"). The Acquisition was completed on 19 April 2023.

Details of the transaction are set out in the Company's announcement dated 21 November 2022, the Company's circular dated 13 March 2023 and announcement dated on 19 April 2023.

The directors of the Company estimated that the audited profit after tax of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 would be less than HK\$30,000,000. The balance represented the fair value of the financial assets in relation to 2023 Profit Compensation and the directors have engaged an independent professional valuer to assist them to estimate the fair values as at 19 April 2023 (being the completion date of the acquisition) and 31 December 2023. The fair value gain of HK\$44,000,000 has been recognised in the other gains and losses for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Subsequent to the reporting date, regarding the settlement of 2023 Profit Compensation, the Company has agreed with Fair Future, an associate of ultimate holding company that the balance shall be set off by the followings:

- a) HK\$5,270,000 advance from Fair Future during the year ended 31 December 2023 and included as amount due to a related party as at 31 December 2023;
- b) HK\$10,000,000 advance from Fair Future in January 2024;

Management Discussion and Analysis

- c) the outstanding cash consideration of the first installment of HK\$13,333,333.3 in relation to the acquisition as set out in note 30; and
- d) the current account with fellow subsidiaries.

Save as disclosed above, the Group had no significant investment, material acquisition and disposal of subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures during 2023 year.

Future plan for material investment and capital assets

The Group does not have any plan authorised by the Board for material investments or additions of capital assets as at the date of this announcement.

Significant investments held

During FY2023, no significant investments were held by the Group.

Contingent liabilities

As at 31 December 2023, the Group did not have any contingent liabilities.

Employees and remuneration policies

As at 31 December 2023, the Group had a total of 434 full-time employees, which represented an increase of approximately 197.26% compared to 146 employees as at 31 December 2022. Total staff costs for FY2023 increased to approximately HK\$53.7 million from approximately HK\$39.4 million for FY2022.

All of our full-time employees are paid a fixed salary and may be granted other allowances, based on their positions. Members of the sales staff are also eligible for commissions based on their ability to meet sales targets. In addition, year-end bonuses may also be awarded to the employees at our discretion and based on employees' performance. Yearly performance appraisals are conducted to ensure that the employees receive feedback on their performance. Our Company has adopted a share option scheme (the "**Share Option Scheme**") on 24 June 2014, which became effective on 11 July 2014 and will expire on 24 June 2024. No option has been granted under the Share Option Scheme during FY2023.

The Group provides training to its employees on a regular basis to keep them abreast of their knowledge in the Group's products, technology developments and market conditions of its industry. In addition, the Group's senior management also participates in conferences and exhibitions to deepen their knowledge in the industry.

Capital commitments

There was no capital commitments as at 31 December 2023 (2022: Nil).

EVENTS AFTER THE REPORTING PERIOD

There was no events after the reporting period as at 31 December 2023.

Management Discussion and Analysis

PROSPECTS

In 2023, China's overall economic growth slow down, the impact of Sino-US trade frictions and other macro factors, and the recovery momentum of consumption in the Chinese market is lower than expected. With the advancement of technology and the rise of smart watches, the traditional watch industry is facing several challenges. However, by constantly innovating and adapting to market changes, there is still an opportunity for the traditional watch industry to continue to grow.

Products

In 2023, the Group planned a complete price system for all online and offline channels and platforms, and maintain the brand positioning of Ernest Borel Swiss watches from the price system.

According to the company's procurement guidelines and policy guidelines, the supply chain has gradually changed from purchasing spare parts and Swiss self-assembly to all outsourcing and procurement. The Group establish and maintain long-term, stable, positive and good cooperative relations with suppliers to ensure the effective operation of the supply chain system, and continuously improve the comprehensive control of the supply chain including quality assurance, delivery time achievement and adjustment and optimization to strengthen the competitiveness of products.

Brand Promotion

In 2023, a new image counter store will be launched to create a romantic, elegant, fashionable and young style of the brand and enhance the visual effect of the brand. In order to stimulate terminal consumption, the class purchase of watches and gifts is adopted to promote the sales growth of terminal stores. 2023 new product information and best-selling catalogue will be sent to stores and distributors across the country. Inheritance series, star diamond series, retro series, overseas models: wisdom series, retro series video shooting. Invite influencers to visit offline stores to promote the project and enhance the brand's popularity on the Internet. Domestic official platforms (Weibo, WeChat, 小紅書, Tiktok and 快手 etc.) and overseas official platforms Facebook and Instagram for information updates and fan interactions.

Intensify efforts to promote overseas brands (Vietnam through cooperation with local golf associations to organise events, Kuala Lumpur and Taiwan to hold new product launches and in-house cocktail parties). Comprehensively optimize after-sales service and improve customer satisfaction.

In the coming year, the Group will strengthen its overseas brand promotion efforts, continue to seek development opportunities, explore new markets, expand its business base, expand its overseas territory and increase its overseas market share. In view of the good growth potential and strong market demand in the smart watch market. On 19 April 2023, the Group completed the acquisition of a smart watch manufacturer, which mainly engaged in the design, development and production of stainless steel alloy watch cases and smart watch cases in the form of original design manufacturers and original equipment manufacturers. The Group is strengthened its revenue base through the production and sale of smart watch components. The Group is able to catch up the opportunities in the smart watch market, enhance the growth potential of the Group and maximize returns for shareholders.

Management Discussion and Analysis

BUSINESS AND SALES STRATEGY

(1) Product research and development

In 2024, it is planned that the domestic market will still be dominated by inventory clearance and renovation of products. The main resources and energy of R&D are focused on overseas markets with more opportunities and more new products.

(2) Sales operations

1) Online and offline sales

Online, striving to expand sales scale, seize market share, improve sales profits, and increase cash flow are the business directions of the brand. Strive to expand high-quality customers, increase the number of new accounts of high-quality stores, and increase the stock of existing customers and existing stores. On the premise of maintaining and expanding sales scale and sales profits, we will continue to adhere to the flexible and down-to-earth sales policy of one place and one policy.

Offline, focus on the development of third, fourth and fifth tier cities. Under the advantage of maintaining the current sales channels, we will focus on promotional activities and design diversified activity content. Improve the decoration effect of offline stores, achieve the purpose of “attracting and retaining customers”, and help increase the sales of offline stores. The annual promotion will focus on key areas and key stores, and add a variety of different types of promotional gifts to strive for the effectiveness of promotion. Self-operated stores will propose promotional activities that are more relevant and attractive to consumers.

2) E-commerce sales

Increase the scale of e-commerce sales, such as Tmall stores, JD self-operated and POP stores, improve the product segmentation, optimize page details, main image videos and other content, improve page performance, and strive for higher stay and conversion. For Vip shop, good in communication and service with partners, especially the maintenance of product supply and price system, maintains close communication with partners and platforms on a daily basis, pays attention to product and sales data, and strives for stable sales output.

3) Sales in Hong Kong, Macau, other Asia, overseas and duty-free shopping system

We will focus on developing the Southeast Asian and North American markets. For the Asian market, we will focus on strengthening the new Sales and brand image renewal of duty-free stores in Canada, Thailand duty-free stores will be launched in the second quarter of 2024, South Asia and India have completed the replacement of new distributors and completed the first batch of shipments, Hong Kong and Macau market continues to launch edition styles item.

Management Discussion and Analysis

4) Strengthen marketing integration within the group

Strengthen resource sharing and marketing interaction with the brother brands to influence of the Ernest Borel brand in the global market. At the same time, well prepare in the global market of the Ernest Borel brand synergy of marketing resources to enhance the sharing of information on Ernest Borel activities at home and abroad, including Swiss materials innovation, the sharing of marketing materials in different countries and the release of multi-national marketing accounts and channels let the global consumers can always pay attention to brand dynamics and seek the expansion and leverage effect of resource investment. Enhance the Swiss's style and internationalization of the brand to enhance consumer recognition.

5) R&D of smart watch accessories

During the year, it successfully acquired a smart watch accessories processing and production manufacturer, which is mainly engaged in smart watch accessories, the R&D, OEM and production. It probably are creating synergies with the traditional watch business, and our company will work hard to explore and distribute more unique watch accessories to diversify Ernest Borel products and business in the future.

(3) Incentive mechanisms

- 1) Implement strict performance appraisal for each sales department, focusing on the three major indicators of invoicing, payment collection and profit. It is directly linked to the company's annual business objectives.
- 2) The functional departments implement a comprehensive assessment system, and motivate according to the department's contribution when the company's goals are completed.
- 3) Actively explore the equity incentive mechanism of listed companies, and strive to complete the equity incentive plan on an annual basis.

CONCLUSION

In the new year, looking back on history and looking forward to the future, the global economic situation is improving and economic development is recovering. We have a clear understanding of the market, and with the implementation of our measures, under the guidance of the Board of Directors, we are full of confidence in the development of the brand, and we all work together to do our own work and complete the target plan.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

Good corporate governance is conducive to enhancing overall performance and accountability and is essential in modern corporate administration. During the year ended 31 December 2023 (the “Year”), the Company has adopted, for corporate governance purposes, the code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code (the “CG Code”) as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules. The Board will continue to observe the principles of good corporate governance in the interests of shareholders of the Company (the “Shareholders”) and devote considerable effort to identifying and formalizing best practice.

MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS OF DIRECTORS OF LISTED ISSUERS (“MODEL CODE”)

The Company has adopted the Model Code as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules as its own code of conduct for dealing in the securities of the Company by the Directors. Following specific enquiries made by the Company on the Directors, all Directors have confirmed that they had fully complied with the required standards set out in the Model Code during FY2023.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Responsibilities of the Board

The Board takes overall responsibility to oversee all major matters of the Group, including the formulation and approval of all policy matters, overall strategic development of the Group, monitoring and controlling the Group’s operation and financial performance, internal control and risk management systems. The Directors have to make decisions objectively in the interests of the Group. The decision making power on day-to-day operation of the Group has been delegated to the management team, which is led by a team of senior management with substantial experience and expertise in the Group’s business.

Board Composition

As of the date of this annual report, the Board is comprised of two Executive Directors, one Non Executive Director (“NED”) and three Independent Non-executive Directors (the “INEDs”):

Executive Directors

Mr. Teguh Halim (*Chairman of the Board*)
Ms. Lam Lai

NED

Mr. Xiong Ying

INEDs

Mr. To Chun Kei
Ms. Chan Lai Wa
Mr. Zhang Bin



Corporate Governance Report

The Board is well-balanced with the Directors having sound industry knowledge, extensive corporate and strategic planning experience and/or expertise relevant to the business of the Group. The Executive Directors, the NED and the INEDs bring a variety of experience and expertise to the Company. The biographical information of the Directors is set out in the section headed **“Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management”** of this annual report.

Board meetings have been held from time to time to discuss the business strategies of the Group; monitor financial and operational performance; approve the annual and interim results of the Group; and discuss the corporate governance functions of the Board.

APPOINTMENT, RE-ELECTION AND REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

Each of the Executive Directors has entered into a service contract with the Company for a specific term of three years, which may be terminated by either party upon a three-month prior written notice. The service contracts are automatically renewed upon expiration.

Each of our NED and INEDs has entered into an appointment letter with the Company for a term of three years. The appointment letters are automatically renewed upon expiration.

All the Directors, including the INEDs are subject to retirement by rotation and re-election at an annual general meeting (**“AGM”**) at least once every three years in accordance with the articles of association of the Company (the **“Articles of Association”**). The Articles of Association provide that any Director appointed by the Board to fill a casual vacancy in the Board shall hold office until the first general meeting of the Company after his/her appointment and be subject to re-election at such meeting, and any Director appointed by the Board as an addition to the existing Board shall hold office only until the next following AGM and shall then be eligible for re-election.

BOARD DIVERSITY POLICY

Pursuant to the CG Code, the Board adopted a board diversity policy (the **“Board Diversity Policy”**) in June 2014. The Company recognises and embraces the benefits of diversity of Board members. While all Board appointments will continue to be made on a merit basis, the Company will ensure that the Board has a balance of skills, experience and diversity of perspectives appropriate to the needs of the Company's business. Selection of candidates will be based on a range of diversity perspectives, including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, experience (professional or otherwise), skills and knowledge. Currently, the Board of Directors consists of 4 men and 2 women.

CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The roles of Chairman and CEO are held by Mr. Teguh Halim and Mr. He Wen, respectively. The Chairman and the CEO are not related, and their roles are segregated with a clear division of responsibilities. The Chairman is responsible to lead and effectively run the Board, ensuring that all key and appropriate issues are discussed by the Board in a timely and constructive manner; and the CEO, appointed by the Board under its authority, is responsible for the day to day general management and control of the business and operations of the Company.

INDEPENDENCE OF INEDs

The INEDs have played a significant role in the Board by bringing their independent judgment at the Board meetings and scrutinizing the Group's performance. Their views carry significant weight in the Board's decisions. In particular, they bring an impartial view to bear on issues of the Group's strategy, performance and control. All INEDs possess extensive academic, professional and industry expertise and management experience and have provided their professional advice to the Board. The INEDs provide independent advice on the Group's business strategy, results and management so that all interests of the Shareholders can be taken into account, and the interests of the Company and its Shareholders can be protected.

Corporate Governance Report

The Board has three INEDs with one of them, namely Mr. To Chun Kei, possessing appropriate professional accounting qualifications and financial management expertise in compliance with the requirements set out in Rules 3.10(1) and (2) and 3.10A of the Listing Rules.

Mechanisms to ensure independent opinion

The Company ensures that an independent opinion is introduced to the Board through the following mechanisms:

1. The Nomination Committee shall review annually the composition of the Board and the independence of the Independent Non-Executive Directors, in particular the proportion of the Independent Non-Executive Directors and the independence of the Independent Non-Executive Directors who have served for more than nine years.
2. The Company has received an annual independent confirmation letter from each of the independent non-executive directors in accordance with Rule 3.13 of the Listing Rules. The Company considers that these independent non-executive directors are independent persons under the Listing Rules.
3. In order to comply with good corporate governance practices and to avoid conflicts of interest, directors of certain subsidiaries and/or senior management of the Company who are also controlling shareholders and/or controlling shareholders of the Company should abstain from voting on the relevant Board resolutions relating to transactions with the controlling shareholders and/or associates.
4. The Chairman of the Board shall meet with the Independent Non-Executive Directors at least once a year.
5. All members of the Board of Directors may seek independent professional advice, if necessary, in the performance of their duties in accordance with the Company's policies.

The Board annually reviews the mechanism to ensure that the Board introduces independent advice, whether in relation to the proportion, employment and independence of independent non-executive directors, their contributions and whether they can obtain outside independent professional advice.

DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS LIABILITY INSURANCE

The Company has arranged for appropriate and sufficient insurance coverage on Director's liabilities in respect of legal actions taken against the Directors arising out of corporate activities.

Corporate Governance Report

MEETINGS

The Board meets regularly either in person or through electronic means of communication to discuss the overall strategy as well as the operation and financial performance of the Group. The total number of the meetings and the attendance of each Director at these meetings for the Year have been set out as follows:

	No. of attendance/No. of meetings						EGM ⁽³⁾	AGM ⁽⁴⁾
	Board Meetings	Audit Committee Meetings	Remuneration Committee Meeting	Nomination Committee Meeting	Executive Committee Meetings	Investment Committee Meeting		
Executive Directors								
Mr. Teguh Halim	4/4	N/A	2/2	2/2	0/0	0/0	1/1	1/1
Ms. Lam Lai	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	0/0	0/0	1/1	1/1
NEDs								
Mr. Xiong Ying	4/4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/1	0/1
INEDs								
Mr. To Chun Kei	4/4	2/2	2/2	2/2	N/A	N/A	1/1	1/1
Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick ⁽¹⁾	1/4	1/2	1/2	1/2	N/A	N/A	0/1	N/A
Ms. Chan Lai Wa	4/4	2/2	2/2	2/2	N/A	N/A	1/1	1/1
Mr. Zhang Bin ⁽²⁾	3/4	1/2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	1/1

Notes:

1. Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick resigned as an INED on 26 April 2023.
2. Mr. Zhang Bin appointed as an INED on 26 April 2023.
3. The executive Directors, Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai; the Non-executive Directors, Mr. Xiong Ying; and the independent Non-executive Directors, Mr. To Chun Kei and Ms. Chan Lai Wa, attended the EGM in person or by electronic means. Independent Non-executive Director Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick was unable to attend the EGM due to other business engagement.
4. The Executive Directors, Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai; and the Independent Non-executive Directors, Mr. To Chun Kei, Ms. Chan Lai Wa and Mr. Zhang Bin, attended the AGM in person or by electronic means. The Non-executive Director Mr. Xiong Ying was unable to attend the AGM due to other business engagement.

All Directors are provided with relevant materials relating to the matters brought before the meetings. They have separate and independent access to the senior management and the Company Secretary of the Company at all times and may seek independent professional advice at the Company's expense. Where queries are raised by the Directors, steps would be taken to respond as promptly and fully as possible. All Directors have the opportunity to include matters in the agenda for Board meetings. Notices of at least 14 days of regular Board meetings are given to the Directors and Board procedures complied with the Articles of Association, as well as relevant rules and regulations.

DIRECTORS' CONTINUOUS TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The Directors have been informed of the requirement under Code provision A.6.5 of the CG Code regarding continuous professional development. According to the records maintained by the Company, the Directors received the following training by attending briefings, webinars, conferences or reading relevant materials with an emphasis on the roles, functions and duties of a director of a listed company in compliance with the requirement of the CG Code on continuous professional development during the Year:

	Read director training material published by the Independent Commission Against Corruption	Attending expert briefings/webinars/conferences/relevant materials relevant to the business, corporate governance, accounting or directors' duties
Executive Directors		
Mr. Teguh Halim (<i>Chairman of the Board</i>)	✓	✓
Ms. Lam Lai	✓	✓
NEDs		
Mr. Xiong Ying	✓	✓
INEDs		
Mr. To Chun Kei	✓	✓
Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick ⁽²⁾	N/A	N/A
Ms. Chan Lai Wa	✓	✓
Mr. Zhang Bin ⁽¹⁾	✓	✓

Notes:

1. Mr. Zhang Bin appointed as an INED on 26 April 2023.
2. Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick resigned as an INED on 26 April 2023.

BOARD COMMITTEES

The Board has established (i) the Audit Committee, (ii) the Remuneration Committee, (iii) the Nomination Committee, (iv) the Executive Committee and (v) the Investment Committee with defined terms of reference. The terms of reference of the Board committees, which explain their respective roles and the authority delegated to them by the Board are available on the respective websites of the Company and the Stock Exchange. The Board committees are provided with sufficient resources to discharge their duties and, upon reasonable request, are able to seek independent professional advice and other assistance in appropriate circumstances, at the Company's expenses.

(i) Audit Committee

The Company established the Audit Committee pursuant to a resolution of the Directors passed on 24 June 2014 in compliance with Rules 3.21 and 3.22 of the Listing Rules. The primary duties of the Audit Committee are to make recommendation to the Board on the appointment and removal of external auditors, review the financial statements and material advice in respect of financial reporting, and oversee the internal control procedures of the Company. The Audit Committee currently consists of three members, namely Mr. To Chun Kei, Ms. Chan Lai Wa and Mr. Zhang Bin, all of whom are INEDs. Mr. To Chun Kei has appropriate professional qualifications and experience in accounting matters and is the chairman of the Audit Committee. None of the members of the Audit Committee is a former partner of the existing external auditors of the Company.

Corporate Governance Report

During the Year, the Audit Committee held two meetings and mainly performed following duties:

- reviewed the Group's audited annual results for the year ended 31 December 2022 and unaudited interim results for the six months ended 30 June 2023, met with the external auditors to discuss annual results and internal control issues without the Company's management being present, and was of the opinion that the preparation of the relevant financial statements complied with the applicable accounting standards and requirements and that adequate disclosure had been made;
- reviewed the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group;
- reviewed the Group's internal control system and related matters;
- assisted the Board in meeting its responsibilities for maintaining an effective system of internal control and risk management;
- considered and made recommendations on the re-appointment of the independent auditor of the Group, and the terms of engagement; and
- reviewed the continuing connected transactions of the Group.

There had been no disagreement between the Board and the Audit Committee during the Year.

(ii) Remuneration Committee

The Company established the Remuneration Committee on 24 June 2014 with written terms of reference. The primary duties of the Remuneration Committee are to make recommendation to the Board on the overall remuneration policy and structure relating to all Directors and senior management of the Company, review remuneration, and ensure none of the Directors determine their own remuneration. The Remuneration Committee currently consists of four members, namely Mr. To Chun Kei, Ms. Chan Lai Wa, Mr. Zhang Bin (all being INEDs) and Mr. Teguh Halim (one of the Executive Directors). Mr. To Chun Kei is the chairman of the Remuneration Committee.

During the Year, the Remuneration Committee held two meeting and mainly performed following duties:

- reviewed the Group's remuneration policy and recommended to the Board the remuneration package of the Executive Directors and senior management for the Year; and
- recommended to the Board on the remuneration of Non-executive Directors.
- When considering directors remuneration, none of the directors participates in and determines their own remuneration.

Further particulars regarding Directors' remuneration and the five highest paid employees as required to be disclosed pursuant to Appendix 16 to the Listing Rules are set out in note 12 to the consolidated financial statements.



Corporate Governance Report

(iii) Nomination Committee

The Company established the Nomination Committee on 24 June 2014 with written terms of reference. The primary duties of the Nomination Committee are to review the structure, size and composition of the Board on a regular basis and to recommend to the Board the suitable candidates for Directors after consideration of the nominees' independence and quality in order to ensure the fairness and transparency of all nominations. The Nomination Committee will also take into consideration the Board Diversity Policy when identifying suitable and qualified candidates to become members of the Board, and the Board will review the Board Diversity Policy so as to develop and review measurable objectives for implementing the Board Diversity Policy and to monitor the progress on achieving these objectives.

The Board approved and adopted a nomination policy (the "**Board Nomination Policy**") on 21 December 2018 in order to set out the approach to guide the nomination committee of the Company in relation to the selection and recommendation of candidates for directorship.

This Board Nomination Policy aims to ensure that the Board has a balance of skills, experience and diversity of perspectives appropriate to the needs of the Company's business.

In assessing, selecting and recommending candidates for directorship to the Board, the Nomination Committee will give due consideration to the factors including but not limited to (collectively, the "**Factors**"):

- (a) reputation for character and integrity;
- (b) accomplishment and experience in the relevant industries in which the Company's business is involved and other professional qualifications;
- (c) number of directorship the candidate holds in listed companies, commitment in respect of available time and relevant interest;
- (d) diversity in all aspects including but not limited to gender, age, cultural and educational background, experience (professional or otherwise), skills, knowledge and length of service;
- (e) contribution that the candidates can potentially bring to the Board;
- (f) whether cross-directorship or significant links with other Directors through involvements in other companies or bodies exists; and
- (g) plans in place for the orderly succession of the Board; and
- (h) If a candidate is nominated as an independent non-executive director, his or her independence will be reviewed with reference to the factors specified in Rules 3.13(1) to (8) of the Listing Rules.

The Nomination Committee currently consists of four members, namely Mr. Teguh Halim (one of the Executive Directors); Mr. To Chun Kei, Ms. Chan Lai Wa, and Mr. Zhang Bin (all being INEDs). Mr. Teguh Halim is the chairman of the Nomination Committee.

During the Year, the Nomination Committee held two meeting and mainly performed the following duties:

- reviewed the annual confirmation of independence submitted by the INEDs and assessed their independence;
- reviewed the structure, size and composition of the Board during the Year;

Corporate Governance Report

- considered and made recommendation to the Board on the changes in compositions of the Board and Board Committees during the Year; and
- considered the re-election of the Directors of the Company at the AGM of the Company.

(iv) Executive Committee

The Company established the Executive Committee on 29 March 2017 with written terms of reference. It is responsible for facilitating more efficient day-to-day operations of the Company, handling such matters as delegated by the Board from time to time and expediting the process of decision making from the Board on a timely fashion. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held at least once a year. The Executive Committee currently consists of two members, namely Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai (all of them are Executive Directors).

During the Year, no Executive Committee meeting was held.

(v) Investment Committee

The Company established the Investment Committee on 29 March 2017 with written terms of reference. It is responsible for evaluating investment projects proposed by the Company and making recommendations to the Board on such investment projects. The Investment Committee currently consists of two members, namely Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai (all of them are Executive Directors).

During the Year, no Investment Committee meeting was held.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE FUNCTIONS

The Company's corporate governance function is carried out by the Board and the Executive Committee pursuant to a set of written terms of reference adopted by the Board in compliance with Code provision A.2.1 of the CG Code, which include (a) to develop and review the Company's policies and practices on corporate governance and make recommendations to the Board; (b) to review and monitor the training and continuous professional development of the Directors and senior management of the Group; (c) to review and monitor the Company's policies and practices on compliance with legal and regulatory requirements; (d) to develop, review and monitor the code of conduct and compliance manual (if any) applicable to employees of the Group and the Directors; and (e) to review the Company's compliance with the CG Code and disclosure in the corporate governance report. During the Year, the Board had (a) reviewed the Company's policies and practices on corporate governance; (b) reviewed the training and continuous professional development of the Directors; and (c) reviewed the Company's compliance with the CG Code and disclosure in the corporate governance report.

FINANCIAL REPORTING, RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROLS

Financial reporting

The Board is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements of the Company and the Group for each financial year, which shall give a true and fair view of the financial position, performance and cash flow of the Group for that year. The Directors acknowledge their responsibilities for preparing the financial statements of the Company. The Board is not aware of any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt upon the Group's ability to continue as a going concern.

The responsibilities of BDO Limited, the Company's external auditors in Hong Kong, on the financial statements are set out in the **"Independent Auditors' Report"** in this annual report.

Corporate Governance Report

Risk Management and Internal Controls

The Board is responsible for ensuring the reliability and effectiveness of the Group's risk management and internal control systems on, among other things, financial, operational and compliance controls. In order to safeguard the Group's assets and shareholders' investments, the Board and the Audit Committee have performed annual review on the effectiveness of the risk management and internal control systems on all major operations of the Group during the Year. The system of internal control of the Group is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve corporate objectives and provide reasonable but not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

During the Year, the Audit Committee and the Board have performed a risk assessment with the intention to identify, evaluate and priorities the critical risks of the Group as well as conducted review on the effectiveness of risk management and internal control systems. Such risks would include, amongst others, material risks relating to Environmental, Social and Governance. Moreover, the Internal Auditor from Citychamp has reviewed the Group's risk management and internal control systems and provided recommendations for improvement.

The Company has taken appropriate measures to identify inside information and preserve its confidentiality until proper dissemination via the electronic publication system operated by the Stock Exchange.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

The Company has re-appointed BDO Limited as the independent auditor in Hong Kong during the Year. The Audit Committee reviews the independent auditor's audit scope and approves its fees. For the Year, the total fee paid/payable in respect of audit and non-audit services provided by the Company's independent auditor is set out below:

	HK\$'000
Audit services	1,100
Non-audit services	932
<hr/>	
Total	2,032

The non-audit services mainly included professional service in respect of acting as the reporting accountant for the Company's major acquisition and review of continuing connected transactions.

There is no disagreement between the Board and the Audit Committee on the re-appointment of the independent auditor, and they both have agreed to recommend the re-appointment of BDO Limited as the Company's independent auditor for the ensuing year at the forthcoming AGM.

COMPANY SECRETARY

Ms. Kei Siu Ying is the Company Secretary of the Company. Details of her biography are set out in the section headed "**Biographical Details of Directors and Senior Management**" of this annual report. Ms. Kei has been informed of the requirements under Rule 3.29 of the Listing Rules and he has confirmed that he had attained not less than 15 hours of relevant professional training during the Year.

Corporate Governance Report

DIVIDEND POLICY

The Company has approved and adopted a dividend policy (the “**Dividend Policy**”) on 21 December 2018 in order to provide return to the Shareholders whilst retaining adequate reserves for the Group’s future development.

The Company considers stable and sustainable returns to the Shareholders to be our goal. The Company may declare and distribute dividends to Shareholders provided that the declaration and distribution of dividends does not affect the normal operations of the Group. According to the Dividend Policy, in deciding whether to propose a dividend and in determining the dividend amount, the Board shall take into account the following factors:

- (a) the Group’s retained earnings and distributable reserves;
- (b) the Group’s future earnings;
- (c) the Group’s capital requirements;
- (d) the Group’s working capital requirements;
- (e) the general financial conditions of the Group;
- (f) the Group’s business development strategies and future expansion plans;
- (g) contractual restrictions on payment of dividends;
- (h) the general economic and industrial conditions; and
- (i) any other factors that the Board considers relevant.

The declaration and payment of dividends by the Company shall be determined at the sole discretion of the Board and shall be subject to any restrictions under the Companies Law of the Cayman Islands and the Articles of Association. The Dividend Policy will continue to be reviewed from time to time and could be modified at any time at the sole and absolute discretion of the Board. There can be no assurance that dividends will be proposed or declared in any particular amount for any given period.



CONSTITUTIONAL DOCUMENTS

During the year, the company revised its memorandum of association and articles of association in accordance with the listing rules.

Pursuant to Rule 13.90 of the Listing Rules, the Company has posted its Memorandum and Articles of Association on the respective websites of the Stock Exchange and the Company.

COMMUNICATION WITH SHAREHOLDERS AND SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

The Board recognizes the importance of maintaining clear, timely and effective communication with Shareholders and investors. Therefore, the Group is committed to maintaining a high degree of transparency to ensure that the investors and the Shareholders receive accurate, clear, comprehensive and timely information of the Group by the publication of interim/annual reports, announcements and circular. The Company also publishes all corporate correspondence on the Company's website www.ernestborel.ch. The Board maintains regular dialogues with institutional investors and analysts from time to time to keep them informed of the Group's strategy, operations, management and plans. The Directors and the members of the various Board committees will attend and answer questions raised at the AGM. Separate resolutions will be proposed at the general meeting on each substantially separate issue.

The chairman of the general meetings of the Company will explain the procedures for conducting a poll before putting a resolution to vote. The results of the voting by poll will be published on the respective websites of the Stock Exchange and the Company.

SHAREHOLDERS' RIGHTS

Procedures by which Shareholders can convene an extraordinary general meeting (the "EGM") and put forward proposals at Shareholders' meetings

Pursuant to article 58 of the Articles of Association, any one or more Shareholder(s) holding at the date of deposit of the requisition not less than one-tenth of the paid up capital of the Company carrying the right of voting at general meetings of the Company shall at all times have the right, by written requisition to the Board or the Company Secretary by mail at the Company's correspondence address in Hong Kong, to require an EGM to be called by the Board for the transaction of any business specified in such requisition; and such meeting shall be held within two months after the deposit of such requisition. If within 21 days of such deposit the Board fails to proceed to convene such meeting, the requisitionist(s) himself (themselves) may do so in the same manner, and all reasonable expenses incurred by the requisitionist(s) as a result of the failure of the Board shall be reimbursed to the requisitionist(s) by the Company.

Procedures by which enquiries may be put to the Board

Shareholders may send their enquiries and concerns to the Board by addressing them to the Company Secretary by mail at the principal place of business and head office in Hong Kong at Unit 1612-1613 & 1615, Level 16, Tower 1, Grand Century Place, 193 Prince Edward Road West, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong or by email to the Company Secretary at ashleykei@ernestborel.ch. Upon receipt of the enquiries, the Company Secretary will forward communications relating to (a) matters within the Board's purview to the Board and (b) ordinary business matters, such as suggestions, enquiries and consumer complaints to the Executive Directors.

ENVIRONMENTAL, SOCIAL AND GOVERNANCE REPORT

1. ABOUT THIS REPORT

Ernest Borel Holdings Limited (hereinafter referred to as “**We**”, “**Ernest Borel**”, the “**Company**”) and its subsidiaries (collectively the “**Group**”) are pleased to present its Environmental, Social & Governance (“**ESG**”) Report (the “**Report**”), which demonstrates the ESG performance of the Group in achieving sustainable development for the future.

1.1 About Ernest Borel

Ernest Borel listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited in 2014, under our own brand “**Ernest Borel**”, the Group is principally engaged in the design, production, marketing and sale of Swiss-made mechanical and quartz premium watches for men and women in the PRC, Hong Kong, Macau and other markets.

In addition, in order to expand its business, the Group completed the acquisition of a smart watch accessories manufactory in April 2024 and will expand ODM or OEM in the future. Design, develop and manufacture stainless steel alloy watch cases and other smart watch accessories production business.

1.2 Statement of the Board

The Board of directors the Group (the “**Board**”) assumes full responsibility for the Group’s ESG strategy and reporting, and is responsible for assessing and determining the Group’s risks related to ESG, and ensuring that the Company has appropriate and effective ESG risk management and internal control systems in place. Therefore, the Board fully monitors the related risks and opportunities as well as conducts enterprise risk assessment at least once a year to identify, assess and monitor environmental, social and governance related risks in the ordinary course of business.

We pay extra attention to the sustainable development of the Company, with the Board leading and participating in the deliberation and decision-making of major ESG matters, including identifying and assessing ESG risks, formulating ESG strategies and guidelines, establishing management policies and plans, approving and reviewing ESG target management, and approving each annual ESG report and other management matters.

Moreover, the Group has been focusing on maintaining closer connections with different stakeholders, listening to the voices of all parties, caring for and growing with its employees, and taking on more social responsibilities. We have identified key ESG issues to specify the focus of its work, including: employee rights and interests, safety and health, green building opportunities, product quality and safety, and innovation management, etc. The Group reviewed the above issues and improved its performance in its daily operation, and managed its targets accordingly. In the future, we will continue to adjust our sustainability management strategies and promotion methods in line with stakeholders’ expectations and the Group’s actual operating situation, thereby continuously improving the level of sustainable development.

Going forward, the Board will continue to oversee and refine the Group’s measures and performance on sustainable development in order to create long-term value for all stakeholders and the communities in which we operate.

1.3 ESG Management

The Board is the highest authority in managing the Group’s ESG-related matters, they uphold the overall responsibility to review and approve this Report.

Environmental, Social and Governance Report

1.4 Reporting period

This Report which covers the material ESG issues faced by the Group for the period from 1 January 2023 to 31 December 2023.

1.5 Reporting Scope

This Report focuses on the operations of “**Swiss-made**” watches business of the Group and smart watch accessories manufactory, the reporting scope is the same as that of last financial year’s Report which covers Hong Kong, China and Switzerland offices as well as the production plants in Switzerland and China. The key performance indicators (“**KPI**”), have been used for tracking and set out to demonstrate our performance through the utilisation of our resources.

1.6 Reporting Standard

This Report is prepared in accordance with the ESG Guide contained in Appendix 27 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “**Listing Rules**”). The Group refers to the reporting guide with a complete index in compliance is available at the end of this Report for reference. Except for provisions that the Group considers are inapplicable to its operations, for which explanations have been given on the rightmost column in the said index, this Report has complied with all “**comply or explain**” provisions set out in the reporting guide.

1.7 Reporting Principles

The four reporting principles of this Report:

- **Materiality:** The Group determines material ESG issues by stakeholder engagement and materiality assessment. Details are explained in the section headed “**Materiality Assessment**”.
- **Quantitative:** Information is presented with quantitative measure, whenever feasible, including information on the standards, methodologies, assumptions used and provision of comparative data.
- **Balance:** Both our achievements and improvement plan present an unbiased picture of our ESG performance.
- **Consistency:** The reporting methodologies remain consistent with past reports to enable a meaningful comparison of our performance.

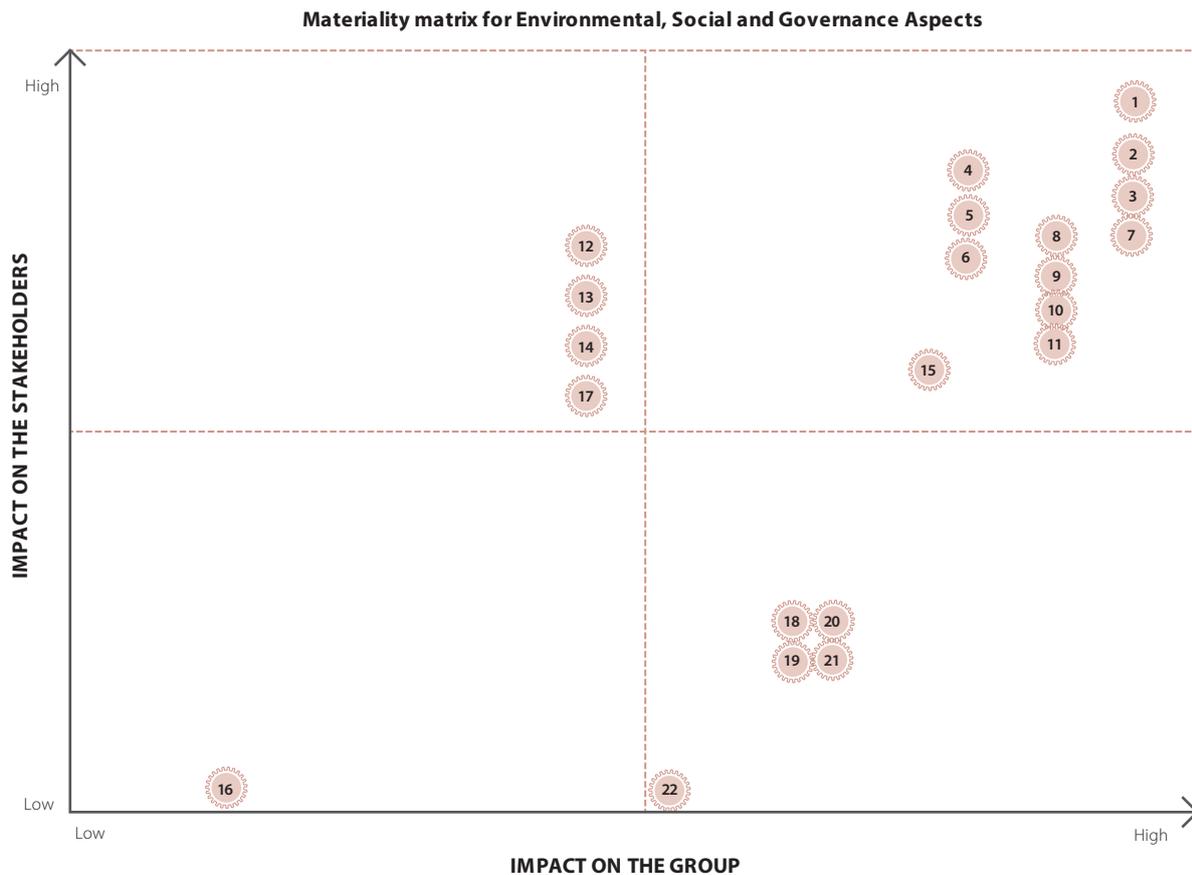
Environmental, Social and Governance Report

2. ESG GOVERNANCE

The Group believes that good ESG governance strategies and practices are the key to enhancing its investment value and bringing long-term returns to its stakeholders. The Board bears the primary responsibilities of overseeing and reporting on the Group's ESG strategies, as well as identifying and assessing ESG-related risks, so as to establish effective management approaches on ESG risk. The Board delegates authority to the management of different departments, where ESG policies and measures are formulated and executed.

2.1 Materiality Assessment

The Report covers the environmental and social subject areas, which underline various aspects of relevant ESG issues. As the chart below, the Group has identified the relevant material issues to its operations and has disclosed the respective performances in the Report:



1	Product quality and safety	9	Diversity and equal opportunity	17	Community support
2	Customer satisfaction	10	Intellectual properties	18	Energy use
3	Customer privacy	11	Product and service labelling	19	Water use
4	Occupational health and safety	12	Marketing communications	20	Air emission
5	Employee development	13	Forced labor	21	Greenhouse gas emission
6	Labor rights	14	Child labor	22	Non-hazardous waste generation
7	Ethical business	15	Use of materials		
8	Supply chain management	16	Hazardous waste generation		

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2.2 Stakeholder Engagement

The preparation of the Report was supported by the employees across various departments, enabling us to have a thorough understanding of our current environmental and social development. The information that the Group gathered is a summary of the environmental and social initiatives carried out by the Group during the year and acts as the basis for mapping out its short-term and long-term sustainable development strategies. Meanwhile, the Group strives to create long-term values for our stakeholders, we place great emphasis on engaging and communicating with both internal and external stakeholders listed below:

Internal Stakeholders	Expectations and Requirements	Means of Communication and Response
Employees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of rights Occupational health and safety Remunerations and benefits Career development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meetings Annual appraisals with employees Training and workshop Internal portal

External Stakeholders	Expectations and Requirements	Means of Communication and Response
Governmental and regulators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with national policies, laws and regulations Tax payment on time 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual reports, interim reports, ESG reports and other public information
Investors and Shareholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> feedback Compliant operation Transparency and effective communication 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annual General meetings and other general meetings Announcements Email, telephone communication and company website Annual reports, interim reports, ESG reports and other public information
Customers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Products with good quality Good after-sales service Health and Safety Operational integrity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Customer service hotline and repairing centers Social media platforms
Suppliers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long-term and sustainable business relationship Fair competition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Suppliers contracts, emails and interview Suppliers evaluation

2.3 Stakeholder's Feedback

For any enquiries, comments or suggestions regarding this Report, please contact our Company Secretary of the Group at:

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Grand Century Place,
193 Prince Edward Road West, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 3628 5511
Fax: (852) 3582 4933
E-mail: ashleykei@ernestborel.ch

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3. ENVIRONMENTAL

The Group aims to minimize environmental footprint through efficient use of resources, we believe that increased environmental awareness is the key to environmental protection and wellness to the general community. The Group's offices are located in Hong Kong, Mainland China and Switzerland, the main emissions and waste produced by the Group are primarily attributable to its use of electricity, water, paper and packing materials.

During the reporting period, the Group is not aware of any material non-compliance with the relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the environment and natural resources relating to air and greenhouse gas emissions, discharges into water and land, and generation of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.

3.1 Air Pollutant Emissions

The air pollutants emitted by the Group mainly come from the fuel consumed by few vehicles owned by the Group. The vehicles are used for the passenger transportation purpose, the Group believed that the emission from our vehicles imposed immaterial impact on the overall air pollution in different countries. During the reporting period, the air pollutant emissions were as follows:

Type of air pollutants	Year 2023	Year 2022
	Total	Total
Nitrogen oxides (NO _x)	19.14 kg	15.95 kg
Sulphur dioxide (SO ₂)	0.19 kg	0.16 kg
Particulate matter (PM)	1.71 kg	1.43 kg

Note:

- Reference was made to the "Appendix 2: Reporting Guidance on Environmental KPIs (last updated version on 25 March 2022)" published by the Stock Exchange.

3.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions

In view of the challenges due to climate change, the Group is committed to paying efforts in reducing our carbon emissions in our daily operations. To understand the Group's environmental performance, we have conducted a carbon quantification on our energy and resource usage. The use of stationary fuel, vehicle fuel and electricity are identified as the major sources of the Group's greenhouse gas emissions. During the reporting period, the Group has emitted a total of 124.88 tCO₂e of greenhouse gas, with an intensity of 0.0083 tCO₂e per watch.

Greenhouse Gas	Year 2023		Year 2022		
	Emission	Unit	Emission	Unit	
Scope 1	Stationary fuel	18.86	tCO ₂ e	15.72	tCO ₂ e
	Vehicle fuel	35.18	tCO ₂ e	29.32	tCO ₂ e
Scope 2	Electricity	70.84	tCO ₂ e	59.04	tCO ₂ e
Total		124.88	tCO ₂ e	104.08	tCO ₂ e
<i>Intensity</i>		0.0083	tCO ₂ e per watch	0.0034	tCO ₂ e per watch

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Notes:

1. The Greenhouse Gas is calculated according to the "Appendix 2: Reporting Guidance on Environmental KPIs (last updated version on 25 March 2022)" published by the Stock Exchange.
2. Reference was made to the "2023 Sustainability Report of CLP Holdings Limited, page 145-146" for the emission factors of electricity in Hong Kong.
3. Reference was made to the "Appendix 2: Reporting Guidance on Environmental KPIs (last updated version on 25 March 2022)" published by the Stock Exchange for the emission factors of electricity in China.
4. Reference was made to the "Carbon footprint – Country specific electricity grid greenhouse gas emission factors" at www.carbonfootprint.com for the emission factors of electricity in Switzerland.
5. Intensity was calculated by dividing the total unit of Greenhouse Gas emitted in FY2023 and FY2022 by the number of quartz and mechanical watches have been produced in FY2023 and FY2022, which is 15,078 and 30,719.

3.3 Waste Management

Hazardous wastes

Due to the nature of our business, our production at our workshop in Switzerland and China workshop mainly involves watch assembling and accessories assembly thus we do not generate hazardous waste or industrial pollutants during our operations.

Nevertheless, we strive to practise maximum recycling in our operations, for example, all used watch batteries are recycled by a third-party recycling company in order to avoid chemical substances from releasing to the landfill, which may pose threats to the environment. Moreover, all domestic wastes from the workshop, which are mainly composed of metals, are carefully collected and mostly recycled and where necessary, disposed of in full compliance with Swiss environmental laws and regulations.

The Group adheres to its commitment to sustainable management and has taken various measures in Hong Kong and China offices to encourage recycling to reduce waste generation, for instance, we encourage staff to reuse used envelopes and document folders whenever possible. Moreover, in our Hong Kong office, We sort and send discarded office equipment to environmental recycling workshop.

Non-hazardous wastes

The Group considered the number of non-hazardous wastes is not significant. The non-hazardous wastes generated by the Group's operations mainly consist of paper and packing materials, which mainly involves commercial printing and packing our products for transportation. In efforts to prevent paper wastage, the Group took a series of actions, for instance: (i) a default setting of double-sided printing on our staffs' computers; (ii) we purchase recycled paper or paper accredited with sustainable forest standard; (iii) re-using used envelope or paper; and (iv) placed sticker reminders around the office to encourage staff to "reducing usage of papers". Moreover, the Group encourages our customers to bring their own bags instead of purchasing shopping bags. For more details, please refer to the below section "3.4 – Use of Resources – Paper and packing materials".

During the reporting period, the Group is not aware of any material non-compliance with the relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the generation of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes.

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3.4 Use of Resources

Recognizing the importance of conserving our resources, we strive to utilize resources in an efficient and responsible way, for instance, our "Procurement Policy" strictly controls our procurement and keep materials at an optimum level to avoid over-ordering and hence potential wastage; the lighting for watch assembling at our workshops is operated at an optimal level of brightness for our workers, avoiding consuming excessive energy while striking a balance between environmental protection and workplace comfort.

To better understand our continuous performance in resource management, we have started to track our consumption pattern during the reporting period. The results are presented below. The main types of resources consumed by our Group are identified as electricity, vehicle fuel, stationary fuel, drinking water and pipe water, paper, and various type of packaging materials.

The main reason for the increase in overall resource usage in 2023 is due to the addition of the consumption of the newly acquired smart watch accessories manufactory this year, so the overall figures have increased. In the future, the Group will educate employees on their awareness of environmental protection and conservation through internal training.

Type of Resources	Year 2023		Year 2022	
	Consumption	Unit	Consumption	Unit
Electricity	222,437.6	kWh	158,884	kWh
<i>Intensity</i>	14.75	kWh per watch	5.17	kWh per watch
Vehicle fuel	15,426.6	Litre	11,019	Litre
<i>Intensity</i>	0.97	Litre per watch	0.36	Litre per watch
Stationary fuel	8,409.8	Litre	6,007	Litre
<i>Intensity</i>	0.55	Litre per watch	0.20	Litre per watch
Drinking water & pipe water	140.84	M ³	100.60	M ³
<i>Intensity</i>	0.009	M ³ per watch	0.003	M ³ per watch
Paper	941.41	Litre	672.44	Litre
<i>Intensity</i>	0.062	Litre per watch	0.02	Litre per watch

Type of Packaging Materials	Consumption	Unit	Consumption	Unit
Carton box, Plastic and Other	30,069.2	kg	21,478	kg
<i>Intensity</i>	1.99	kg per watch	0.70	kg per watch

Note:

- Intensity was calculated by dividing the total unit of Greenhouse Gas emitted in FY2023 and FY2022 by the number of quartz and mechanical watches have been produced in FY2023 and FY2022, which is 15,078 and 30,719.

Electricity

The major resource used in all areas of the Group's business operation, such as general lighting, powering of laptops, printers and all electrical equipment in the offices and warehouse. The Group has been actively seeking for more energy efficient equipment to reduce electricity consumption and hence, Greenhouse Gas emission. We actively encourage and promote the idea of "green office" as we believe that it is the joint responsibility of all of us to conserve our valuable resources. Our green office policy covers various environmentally friendly actions such as implementing green procurement strategy, upgrading to energy-efficient LED lighting and placing "energy saving" sticker and instill the concept of conservation and environmental protection into employees.

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Vehicle Fuel

Petrol and diesel were used in the Group's several motor vehicles for passenger transportation purpose, we encourage our staff to take public transit instead of going in motor vehicles and use environmentally friendly gasoline to fuel official vehicles.

Stationery Fuel

Stationery fuel was mainly used in the production plants in Switzerland in winter for indoor warming purpose, in long term, we will consider to replace the existing heater to with energy saving mode.

Drinking Water and pipe water

Pipe water was used in the workshop in Switzerland and drinking water was consumed by our staff in Hong Kong and China office. The Group constantly reminds employees of the importance of saving water.

Paper and packing materials

The Group strives to promote employees' awareness of environmental protection and conservation, such as double-sided printing and the use of environmentally friendly paper.

3.5 Environmental Protection

As a world-renowned Swiss watchmaker with production facilities in Switzerland and China, we fully recognize that protecting the environment is our core responsibility as a corporate citizen. Even though the Group's business poses insignificant impact on the environment, we are fully committed to conservation of precious natural resources by minimizing our environmental impacts and carbon footprints as detailed in the coming sections. Looking forward, we will continue to work towards sustainability and look for opportunities to reduce our environmental impact.

We have an essential obligation to reduce our carbon footprint and protect our natural resources in response to climate change in order to make our planet suitable for future generations. We remain proactive in managing environmental risks and improving our performance.

In order to pursue long-term and sustainable development in operation, we set the following environmental objectives on water use, waste efficiency and GHG management. The group will gradually reduce our environmental footprint and constantly review the market development and opportunities to improve our performance.



GHG emissions

- Reduce 10% carbon emissions intensity by 2027



Energy use efficiency

- Reduce 10% energy consumption intensity by 2027

Environmental, Social and Governance Report

3.6 Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Conservation

The Group pledges to uphold quality management and implements policies for conserving resources and managing waste. The Group will continue to increase its capacity for recycling to reduce the material impact of the Group's operation on the environment and natural resources. The Group adopts consistent policies to save resources effectively and follows the laws and regulations to achieve healthy business development. Awareness of environmental protection among all employees is enhanced through environmental protection activities and promotion. The Group is promoting the concepts of "Reduce", "Reuse" and "Recycle" in order to protect the environment and give back to society.

3.7 Climate Change

Climate change has become a popular topic and concern in the global market because it is related to the long-term sustainability of organizations.

To deal with any unforeseen climate related disasters, such as extreme weather, the operational contingency plans have been developed in the Group, for instance, the Group has developed mitigation measures in Hong Kong to reduce the effect raised by extreme weather conditions such as typhoons on our employees, properties and our operation, which is before the Black Rainstorm Warning Signals and No. 8 or above Tropical Cyclone Warning Signals incurred, the Group will release employees from work and ensure there is sufficient time for their journeys between living place and office. In addition, the Group also conducts inspection on windows during the typhoon and rainstorm season and ensure all inventories will be stocked on the shelves for the protection from the risk of water invasion.

Moreover, we recognize that there are any accidents in our working environments, thus we ensure adequate insurance covers the risks, for instance, fire accident, third party injury in our offices, employee injury in the process of business, loss or damage of finished products transported by the manufacturer etc.

4. EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR PRACTICES

4.1 Employment Profile

Workforce As at	31 December 2023	31 December 2022
By Gender		
Male	230	61
Female	204	85
By Age group		
Aged 18–29	72	14
Aged 30–39	142	53
Aged 40–49	153	55
Aged 50–59	63	23
Aged 60 or above	4	1
By Geographical Region		
Hong Kong	22	25
The Mainland China	401	108
Switzerland	11	13
By employment type		
Full-time	434	146
Part-time	4	0
Total	438	146

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4.2 Employee Turnover Rate % in 2023

By Geographical Region	Hong Kong	The Mainland China	Switzerland
Total	34%	48%	18.18%
By Gender			
Male	21%	23.94%	0%
Female	12.5%	24.94%	18.18%
By Age group			
Aged 18–29	0%	26.43%	0%
Aged 30–39	8.4%	12.47%	0%
Aged 40–49	8.4%	8.23%	18.18%
Aged 50–59	12.5%	1.75%	0%
Aged 60 or above	4.2%	0%	0%

4.3 Safe and Healthy Workplace

The Group values health and safety as of paramount importance and endeavours to provide safe working environment to all employees.

In the past three years, the number of work-related fatalities and lost days due to work-related injuries as follows:

	2023	2022	2021
 Number of work-related fatalities	0	0	0
 Number of lost days due to work-related injuries	0	0	0

Since our production is mainly related to assembling of timepieces and does not involve the use of heavy machinery or hazardous chemicals, our working environment is relatively safe and correspondingly the occupational health and safety risks faced by our employees are low. Nevertheless, we always take all necessary precautions and measures to ensure the safety of our workplace. For example:

- At our production workshop in Switzerland and China manufacturing workshop, we have posted notices and reminders to raise employees’ awareness of potential dangers. We have also issued safety instructions and posters on ergonomics, to remind our employees the importance of correct postures while using computers and making watches.
- Apart from potential safety issues at workplace, we recognize the possibility of hazards caused by external factors, including potential fire outbreaks at office buildings. Hence, to prepare and ensure that our staff is aware of the potential danger and familiar with the emergency plans, we also asked our employees to attend and participate in fire drill in their respective workplace. Through these measures, we hope to minimize the occupational safety and health risks faced by our employees.

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Response to COVID-19 and influenza epidemic

In view of the COVID-19 and influenza epidemic, we have taken measures to protect the health of our employees. In order to reduce gatherings and strengthen social distance, offices in China, Hong Kong and Switzerland have strengthened sanitation and cleaning work to reduce the risk of employee infection. If an employee is infected, he or she must report it to the company, and can only return to work after providing proof of recovery from testing.

4.4 Training and Continuous Development

In today's competitive market and increasingly volatile economy, continuous innovation and improvement are essential for companies to stay competitive and gain success in the market. We strongly believe that the continuous growth and development of our employees, will enable the Company to grow and develop as well. Therefore, as part of our Human Resources Management Policy, all new employees are required to attend orientation training to ensure the employees are aware and familiarise themselves with the Group's values and goals and understand their roles in the Group. In addition, we are committed to providing training and opportunities for our staff, so that they can grow with us. We also encourage staff to receive external training programmes and offer subsidies to support their continuous professional development. In addition, our training department will continuously provide on-job training for our salespersons. During the reporting period, the summary of trained employees as follows:



4.5 Labour Standards and Caring Employees

Our employees are one of our most valuable assets and we are committed to creating values for our employees through ensuring a safe and fair workplace, as well as providing regular training and personal development opportunities. The Group strictly complies with the labour laws and other relevant laws and regulations in relation to compensation and dismissal, recruitment and promotion, working hours, anti-discrimination, minimum wages, provision of statutory holidays and leaves, prohibition of child labour and forced labour practice etc in the PRC, Hong Kong and Switzerland.

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4.5.1 Employment Practices

We conduct all our human resources activities in accordance with Human Resources Management Policy which details all the necessary steps and procedures for human resources matters. We offer competitive remuneration packages and provide benefits including medical insurance and year-end bonuses for our employees. On top of statutory leaves, employees are also given annual and special leaves, providing them with flexibility to strike a balance between work and life. Other special staff benefits include a special staff discount for purchase of our company watches.

4.5.2 Equal Opportunity and Diversity

At Ernest Borel, we embrace diversity and believe that everyone should be treated fairly and equally, regardless of their genders, disability, race, family status, etc. We request our staff to strictly follow our Code of Conduct, and we do not tolerate any forms of harassments or discrimination. Besides, effective communication channels are provided for employees to express their opinions and report any related incidents at work. We treat each reported case seriously and will provide all necessary support and protection for employees.

During the year under review, the Group was not aware of any incidents of non-compliance with laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the Group relating to providing a safe working environment and protecting employees from occupational hazards.

5. SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

5.1 Selection of Suppliers

The making of our premium watches involves assembling of many highly specialized parts and materials from various suppliers during our production. To establish an efficient supply chain, we have implemented a mature procurement process based on our "Procurement Policy", which have defined a clear set of criteria for selection and management of qualified suppliers, any supplier whose products and services with environmentally friendly and socially responsible features will be high preferable for us.

Prices of products and materials are not the only factor that determines our selection of suppliers. We assess suppliers with an integrate approach, among which quality, undoubtedly, is one of the most important aspects that we consider. Thus, we always conduct quality check ("QC") on products provided by suppliers, record the results of the checks on our QC statistic database, and monitor their performances on a monthly basis. We also maintain close communication with our suppliers and provide our feedback for improvement, especially in case of more frequent defects discovered regarding the materials we received.

5.2 Number of Suppliers by Geographical Region

During the year under review, the Group has 93 suppliers with the below geographic distribution:



Since the Group acquired a smart watch accessories manufactory in 2023, the number of suppliers has increased compared with last year.

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5.3 Environmental and Social Risk Consideration

The Group increasingly concerns the environmental and social performance of its business partners within the supply chain. Environmental and social risk considerations have been incorporated into the supplier selection and management.

5.3.1 Environmental risk

To ensure we have a reliable supply chain, all suppliers are required to comply with the legal requirements and regulations in the relevant jurisdictions in relation to environmental protection.

5.3.2 Social risk

In order to reduce the social risk, the Group has also scrutinised its business partners in terms of the compliance with relevant labour standards and the respect of human rights. Any child labour or forced labour is strictly prohibited.

To enhance the transparency of its governance, the Group will place greater concerns and consider devoting more resource in the due diligence of its supply chain in future.

6. PRODUCT RESPONSIBILITY

With the belief of creating the outstanding timepieces since the inception of the Company, we fully understand quality of our products is the key factor that attracts our customers. Therefore, to maintain and strive for a better quality, we fully understand we need to ensure the quality at every segment of our production cycle, from the initial procurement process to the final product finishing stage.

All of our watches are entitled to the branding of "Swiss-made" according to the corresponding Swiss Federal Law, i.e., the movement of our watches is Swiss-made, and the watches assembled and the final quality check conducted in Switzerland. Hence, all of our watches are required to be produced under strict production standards with the utmost care and diligence.

According to our "Procurement Policy" which governs the procurement of materials and equipment for production works, if any parts or materials are discovered to be defective during the assembling process, our production staff will notify our logistics department immediately to return such materials to the suppliers.

Our "Production Policy" governs the quality of our products during their production. Apart from the standard quality check for each watch, upon completion of the production process, a final quality check will be carried out before the products are delivered to our customers. This is to ensure that the products received by our customers are of the best quality.

6.1 Percentage of total products sold or shipped subject to recalls for safety and health reasons

During the Year under review, there was no product sold or shipped subject to recalls for safety and health reasons.



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6.2 Deal with Complaints

During the Year under review, there was no material complaints on our products and service. However, in case of any complaints occurs, we will according to local rules and regulations as well as standards in Hong Kong, PRC and Switzerland in relation to health and safety, advertising, labelling and privacy matters, including but not limited to:

- Consumer Council Ordinance (Cap. 216 of the Laws of Hong Kong);
- Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486 of the Laws of Hong Kong);
- Patents Ordinance (Cap. 514 of the Laws of Hong Kong);
- Product Quality Law of the People's Republic of China (中華人民共和國產品質量法);
- Law of the People's Republic of China on Protection of Consumer Rights and Interests (中華人民共和國消費者權益保護法);
- Advertising Law of the People's Republic of China (中華人民共和國廣告法);
- Patent Law of the People's Republic of China (中華人民共和國專利法); and
- Trademark Law of the People's Republic of China (中華人民共和國商標法).

6.3 Intellectual Property

We recognize the values of intellectual property – as the creativity and innovation embedded in intellectual property worth far more than any tangible assets. In fact, constant innovation and creation are very important to our success and competitiveness. As a world-class watchmaker, we fully understand the importance of intellectual property. In particular, when it comes to the designs and production of watches, we are fully committed to protecting and treasuring it. The designs of our timepieces, including their appearances, functions and the materials used for making them, are the key differences between a niche product and a mass product.

We have included in our Employee handbook the “Code of Conduct”, which contains our “Confidentiality Policy” on Company’s property and information, and set out clear guidelines and requirements for our employees on the protection of data and intellectual property. Therefore, not only do we make sure our intellectual property is safe through internal security policy, but we also respect others’ intellectual property by avoiding and prohibiting any illegal use of the intellectual property.

6.4 Advertising, Labelling and Data Privacy

We also understand that advertising, labelling and data privacy are important factors affecting consumers’ experience. Hence, on top of complying with the Trade Descriptions Ordinance (Cap. 362 of the Laws of Hong Kong) and other local laws and regulations on advertising in our operating locations, we have set up internal policy regarding advertisements to ensure that our advertisements do not contain misleading, offensive, or false information that may adversely affect customers’ behavior.

In regard to data privacy, our Code of Conduct in our Employee Handbook sets out clear rules for controlling leakage of information, and we fully comply with the requirements in the Personal Data (Privacy) Ordinance (Cap. 486 of the Laws of Hong Kong) by taking all necessary steps to ensure customers’ data and information is secured and properly used.

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6.5 Maintaining High Product Quality

According to our “Quality policy”, we aim to keep our products in a high-quality standard.

We believe that our responsibility extends beyond quality assurance. In particular, we also put emphasis on after-sale services, as we believe that maintenance of product quality is just as important as its initial production. All customers who purchased the Ernest Borel watches from our shops and distributors are guaranteed with maintenance and repair services within the warranty period at our customer service centers and stores located all over the world.

7. ANTI-CORRUPTION

7.1 Ethical Conduct

We do not tolerate any forms of bribery, forgery, or corruption at Ernest Borel. To eliminate such forms of illegal activities, we have established a Code of Conduct for directors and as part of the Employee Handbook for all employees. We prohibit abuse, forgery, or fraud, as well as corrupting activities, including acceptance of benefits from personnel of business relationship with the Group.

Extending this code of ethical conduct to external stakeholders, we also request that our employees avoid conflicts of interest by constantly reviewing and making declarations where appropriate, especially for those purchasing staff that is responsible for making procurement decisions.

7.2 Whistle-blower Policy

Our “Whistle-blower Policy” is implemented to encourage our staff to report potential infringements. The identity of the whistle blower is fully protected and remains confidential throughout the investigation. The Company is committed to handling any reported cases swiftly and fairly.

In order to build up an ethical corporate culture and practices, the Group has established policies and procedures for anti-corruption and anti-money laundering, these policies and procedures together with the Code of Conduct can be found in the Employee Handbook for all employees. We aim to prevent the Group’s employees and clients, customers, suppliers, vendors, and contractors from being misused for money laundering, terrorist financing or other financial crimes. For example, if there is an unusual or suspicious financial transaction, our employees should be aware of it may be involved in money laundering, they must verify the identities of transaction parties to obtain their background information, for instance, the business nature and source of income etc.

Our “Whistle-blower Policy” is implemented to encourage our staff to report potential infringement. During the Year, no legal case regarding corrupt practices was brought against the Group or its employees. Also, no whistleblowing concerning a criminal offence or misconduct was reported.

8. COMMUNITY

As a responsible company, we aim at serving and strengthening the wider community, and encouraging employees to support the community. Our Group understands the importance of making positive contribution to the community where it operates, and considers community benefits as one of our social responsibility. The Group encourages our staff to take part in community welfare and voluntary work, through participating in these activities, public welfare education in the community such as environmental protection, conservation and other positive messages can be promoted. The Group will gradually participate in community activities according to the situation.

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9. ESG GUIDE CONTENT INDEX OF THE STOCK EXCHANGE

Aspects, General Disclosures and KPIs	Descriptions	Corresponding section of this report/Remarks
A	Environmental	
Aspect A1 Emissions	General Disclosure (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to air and greenhouse gas emissions, discharges into water and land, and generation of hazardous and non-hazardous waste.	
KPI A1.1	Types of emissions and respective emissions data	3.1 Air Pollutant Emissions
KPI A1.2	Direct (Scope 1) and energy indirect (Scope 2) greenhouse gas emissions (in tonnes) and, where appropriate, intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	3.2 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
KPI A1.3	Total hazardous waste produced (in tonnes) and, where appropriate, intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	3.3 Waste Management
KPI A1.4	Total non-hazardous waste produced (in tonnes) and, where appropriate, intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	3.3 Waste Management
KPI A1.5	Description of emissions target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	3.5 Environmental Protection
KPI A1.6	Description of how hazardous and non-hazardous wastes are handled, and a description of reduction target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	3.3 Waste Management
Aspect A2 Use of Resources	General Disclosure Policies on the efficient use of resources, including energy, water and other raw materials.	
KPI A2.1	Direct and/or indirect energy consumption by type (e.g. electricity, gas or oil) in total (kWh in '000s) and intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	3.4 Use of Resources
KPI A2.2	Water consumption in total and intensity (e.g. per unit of production volume, per facility).	3.4 Use of Resources
KPI A2.3	Description of energy use efficiency target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	3.4 Use of Resources
KPI A2.4	Description of whether there is any issue in sourcing water that is fit for purpose, water efficiency target(s) set and steps taken to achieve them.	3.4 Use of Resources
KPI A2.5	Total packaging material used for finished products (in tonnes) and, if applicable, with reference to per unit produced.	3.4 Use of Resources

Environmental, Social and Governance Report

Aspects, General Disclosures and KPIs	Descriptions	Corresponding section of this report/Remarks
Aspect A3 The Environment and Natural Resources	General Disclosure Policies on minimizing the issuer's significant impact on the environment and natural resources.	
KPI A3.1	Description of the significant impacts of activities on the environment and natural resources and the actions taken to manage them.	3.6 Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Conservation
Aspect A4 Climate Change	General Disclosure Policies on identification and mitigation of significant climate-related issues which have impacted, and those which may impact, the issuer.	3.7 Climate Change
KPI A4.1	Description of the significant climate-related issues which have impacted, and those which may impact, the issuer, and the actions taken to manage them.	3.7 Climate Change
B	Social	
Aspect B1 Employment	General Disclosure Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to compensation and dismissal, recruitment and promotion, working hours, rest periods, equal opportunity, diversity, anti-discrimination, and other benefits and welfare.	
KPI B1.1	Total workforce by gender, employment type (for example, full-or part-time), age group and geographical region.	4.1 Employment Profile
KPI B1.2	Employee turnover rate by gender, age group and geographical region.	4.2 Employee Turnover Rate % in 2023
Aspect B2 Health and Safety	General Disclosure Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to providing a safe working environment and protecting employees from occupational hazards.	
KPI B2.1	Number and rate of work-related fatalities occurred in each of the past three years including the reporting year.	4.3 Safe and Healthy Workplace
KPI B2.2	Lost days due to work injury	4.3 Safe and Healthy Workplace
KPI B2.3	Description of occupational health and safety measures adopted, and how they are implemented and monitored.	4.3 Safe and Healthy Workplace

Environmental, Social and Governance Report

Aspects, General Disclosures and KPIs	Descriptions	Corresponding section of this report/Remarks
Aspect B3 Development and Training	General Disclosure Policies on improving employees' knowledge and skills for discharging duties at work. Description of training activities.	
KPI B3.1	The percentage of employees trained by gender and employee category (e.g. senior management, middle management).	4.4 Training and Continuous Development
KPI B3.2	The average training hours completed per employee by gender and employee category.	4.4 Training and Continuous Development
Aspect B4 Labour Standards	General Disclosure Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to preventing child and forced labour.	
KPI B4.1	Description of measures to review employment practices to avoid child and forced labour.	4.5 Labour Standards and Caring Employees
KPI B4.2	Description of steps taken to eliminate such practices when discovered.	4.5 Labour Standards and Caring Employees
Aspect B5 Supply Chain Management	General Disclosure Policies on managing environmental and social risks of the supply chain.	
KPI B5.1	Number of suppliers by geographical region.	5.2 Number of Suppliers by Geographical Region
KPI B5.2	Description of practices relating to engaging suppliers, number of suppliers where the practices are being implemented, and how they are implemented and monitored.	5.1 Selection of Suppliers
KPI B5.3	Description of practices used to identify environmental and social risks along the supply chain, and how they are implemented and monitored.	5.3 Environmental and Social Risk Consideration
KPI B5.4	Description of practices used to promote environmentally preferable products and services when selecting suppliers, and how they are implemented and monitored.	5.1 Selection of Suppliers



Environmental, Social and Governance Report

Aspects, General Disclosures and KPIs	Descriptions	Corresponding section of this report/Remarks
Aspect B6 Product Responsibility	General Disclosure Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to health and safety, advertising, labelling and privacy matters relating to products and services provided and methods of redress.	
KPI B6.1	Percentage of total products sold or shipped subject to recalls for safety and health reasons.	6.1 Percentage of total products sold or shipped subject to recalls for safety and health reasons
KPI B6.2	Number of products and service related complaints received and how they are dealt with.	6.2 Deal with Complaints
KPI B6.3	Description of practices relating to observing and protecting intellectual property rights.	6.3 Intellectual Property
KPI B6.4	Description of quality assurance process and recall procedures.	6.4 Advertising, Labelling and Data Privacy
KPI B6.5	Description of consumer data protection and privacy policies, and how they are implemented and monitored.	6.5 Maintaining High Product Quality
Aspect B7 Anti-corruption	General Disclosure Information on: (a) the policies; and (b) compliance with relevant laws and regulations that have a significant impact on the issuer relating to bribery, extortion, fraud and money laundering.	
KPI B7.1	Number of concluded legal cases regarding corrupt practices brought against the issuer or its employees during the reporting period and the outcomes of the cases.	7. Anti-Corruption
KPI B7.2	Description of preventive measures and whistle-blowing procedures, and how they are implemented and monitored.	7.2 Whistle-blower Policy
KPI B7.3	Description of anti-corruption training provided to directors and staff.	7.1 Ethical Conduct
Aspect B8 Community Investment	General Disclosure Policies on community engagement to understand the needs of the communities where the issuer operates and to ensure its activities take into consideration the communities' interests.	8. Community
KPI B8.1	Focus areas of contribution (e.g. education, environmental concerns, labour needs, health, culture, sport).	N/A
KPI B8.2	Resources contributed (e.g. money or time) to the focus area.	N/A



REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

The Board are pleased to present the annual report together with the audited consolidated financial statements of the Group for the Year.

BUSINESS REVIEW

A review on the business of the Group during the Year and a discussion on the Group's future business development are set out in the Chairman's Statement and Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 4 to 5 and pages 9 to 15 of this annual report.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

A number of factors may affect the results and business operations of the Group. Major risks are summarized below.

(i) Macroeconomic environment

Macroeconomic changes may affect consumers' behavior. In 2023, China's overall economic growth will slow down. Affected by macro factors such as the impact of Sino-US trade friction, the consumption power of the Chinese market will decline, and the sales of traditional watch business will not be as satisfactory. Therefore, the Group will strive to expand overseas business and develop the research and development of smart watch accessories. The Group will adjust its business plan based on market conditions.

(ii) Changes in consumer behavior

After the epidemic, the consumption behavior of general customers has changed, the business of physical stores has been sluggish compared to the past, and online shopping has become more popular. In the future, the Group will work hard to optimize the online shopping platform and strive to increase the profits of the online business.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS

(i) Employees

Employees are one of the greatest assets of the Group and the Group regards the personal development of its employees as highly important. The Group wants to continue to be an attractive employer for committed employees. The Group strives to motivate its employees with a clear career path and opportunities for advancement and improvement of their skills.

The Group provides on-the-job training and development opportunities to its employees. The training programs cover areas such as managerial skills, sales and production, quality control and training of other areas relevant to the industry.

In addition, the Group offers competitive remuneration packages to its employees. The Group has also adopted share option schemes to recognize and reward the contribution of the employees to the growth and development of the Group.

(ii) Suppliers

We have developed long-standing and good relationships with our vendors and taken great care to ensure that they can share our commitment to product quality. We carefully select our suppliers and require them to satisfy certain assessment criteria including track record, experience, financial strength, reputation, ability to produce high-quality products and quality control effectiveness.

Report of the Directors

(iii) Retailers and distributors

We sell our products to end customers through third-party retailers and distributors. We work with retailers and distributors as business partners and ensure we share the view for upholding our brand value and customer services, specifically focusing on providing quality products to our customers. We and our retailers and distributors reach an agreement on sales target and store expansion plans before they place their orders. We also monitor the financial condition and repayment history of our retailers and distributors.

PERMITTED INDEMNITIES

Pursuant to the Articles of Association, the Directors shall be indemnified and secured harmless out of the assets and profits of the Company from and against all actions, costs, charges, losses, damages and expenses which shall or may incur or sustain by or by reason of any act done, concurred in or omitted in or about the execution of their duty. In addition, the Company has arranged for appropriate and sufficient insurance coverage on Directors' liabilities in respect of legal actions taken against the Directors arising out of corporate activities.

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

We are committed to being an environmentally-friendly corporation that pays close attention to conserving natural resources. We strive to minimize our environmental impact by saving electricity and encouraging recycling of office supplies and other materials. Details of environmental policies are set out in the section headed **"Environmental, Social and Governance Report"** of this annual report.

INCORPORATION AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS

The Company was incorporated in the Cayman Islands by registration as a non-resident company on 18 January 1991 and re-registered as an exempted company with limited liability on 14 April 2014. Its principal place of business in Hong Kong is located at Unit 1612-1613 & 1615, Level 16, Tower 1, Grand Century Place, 193 Prince Edward Road West, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The Company acts as an investment company. The principal activities of the Company's subsidiaries are designing, manufacturing, marketing and selling of Swiss-made mechanical and quartz premium watches for men and women and smart watch accessories R&D, OEM and manufacturer.

SUBSIDIARIES

Details of the principal subsidiaries of the Company as at 31 December 2023 are set out in note 36 to the consolidated financial statements.

MAJOR CUSTOMERS AND SUPPLIERS

During the Year, the aggregate sales to the Group's largest and five largest customers accounted for approximately 5% (2022: approximately 6.1%) and approximately 17% (2022: approximately 19.9%), respectively, of the Group's total revenue for the Year.

The aggregate purchases from the Group's largest and five largest suppliers accounted for approximately 12.9% (2022: approximately 14.9%) and approximately 16.1% (2022: approximately 19.8%), respectively, of the Group's total purchases for the Year.

At no time during the Year, did a Director, his/her close associate(s) or a shareholder of the Company (who or which, to the knowledge of the Directors, owns more than 5% of the Company's issued share capital) have an interest in any of the Group's five largest customers and suppliers.

Report of the Directors

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The profit of the Group for the Year and the state of the Company's and the Group's affairs as at that date are set out in the consolidated financial statements on pages 62 to 131 of this annual report.

A discussion and analysis of the Group's performance during the Year and the material factors underlying its results and financial position are set out in the Management Discussion and Analysis on pages 9 to 16 of this annual report.

FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A summary of the results and the assets and liabilities of the Group as at 31 December 2023 and for the past four financial years are set out on page 132 of this annual report.

PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Details of movements in property, plant and equipment of the Group for the Year are set out in note 15 to the consolidated financial statements.

RESERVES

Details of movements in reserves of the Company and the Group are set out on page 65 of the consolidated financial statements.

DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVES OF THE COMPANY

At 31 December 2023, the Company's reserves available for distribution to the Shareholders amounted to approximately HK\$107,169,000 (2022: approximately HK\$83,769,000).

Under the Companies Law of the Cayman Islands, the share premium account of the Company in the amount of approximately HK\$212,739,000 (2022: approximately HK\$182,099,000) may be applied for payment of distributions or dividends to the Shareholders provided that immediately following the date on which the distribution or dividend is proposed to be paid, the Company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due in the ordinary course of business.

FINAL DIVIDEND

The Board has resolved not to recommend the payment of a final dividend for FY2023 (2022: Nil).

CHARITABLE DONATIONS

The Group did not make any charitable donation during the Year (2022: Nil).

BANK BORROWINGS AND OTHER BORROWINGS

Details of bank borrowings and other borrowings of the Group as at 31 December 2023 are set out in notes 24 and 26 to the consolidated financial statements.

SHARE CAPITAL

Details of movements in the share capital of the Company during the Year are set out in note 28 to the consolidated financial statements.

Report of the Directors

PRE-EMPTIVE RIGHTS

There are no provisions for pre-emptive rights under the Articles of Association or the Companies Law of the Cayman Islands where our Company is incorporated applicable to the Company.

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

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Company did not redeem any of its shares listed and traded on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited nor did the Company or any of its subsidiaries purchase or sell any of such shares.

ISSUE OF CONSIDERATION SHARES UNDER GENERAL MANDATE

On 21 November 2022, the Group entered into a sale and purchase agreement with a vendor (the "**Vendor**"), pursuant to which the Group conditionally agreed to acquire and the Vendor conditionally agreed to sell the entire issued share capital of Gold Vantage Industrial Limited ("**Gold Vantage**"), which together with its subsidiaries (collectively, the "**Gold Vantage Group**") are principally engaged in the business of design, development and manufacturing of stainless-steel alloy watches cases, smart watch cases on ODM or OEM basis (the "**Acquisition**"). The Acquisition was completed on 19 April 2023.

The consideration for the Acquisition of HK\$140,000,000 shall be satisfied as to (i) HK\$100,000,000 by way of the allotment and issue of the consideration shares to the vendor; and (ii) HK\$40,000,000 in cash, subject to the satisfaction of the profit guarantee. Details of the transaction are set out in the Company's announcement dated 21 November 2022 and the Company's circular dated 13 March 2023 and announcement dated 19 April 2023.

First instalment of Consideration Shares 12,820,512 shares allotted and issued to vendor on 27 April 2023.

TAX RELIEF AND EXEMPTION

The Directors are not aware of any tax relief and exemption available to the shareholders by reason of their holding of the Company's securities.

DIRECTORS

The following table sets forth the information concerning the Directors for the Year and up to the date of this annual report.

Name	Position
Teguh Halim	Executive Director and Chairman of the Board
Lam Lai	Executive Director
Xiong Ying	Non-executive Director
To Chun Kei	Independent Non-executive Director
Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick ⁽¹⁾	Independent Non-executive Director
Chan Lai Wa	Independent Non-executive Director
Zhang Bin ⁽²⁾	Independent Non-executive Director

Pursuant to article 84 of the Articles of Association, at each AGM one-third of the Directors for the time being (or, if their number is not a multiple of three (3), the number nearest to but not less than one-third) shall retire from office by rotation provided that every Director shall be subject to retirement at an AGM at least once every three years. A retiring Director shall be eligible for re-election and shall continue to act as a Director throughout the meeting at which he retires. The Directors to retire by rotation shall include (so far as necessary to ascertain the number of directors to retire by rotation) any Director who wishes to retire and not to offer himself for re-election. Any further Directors so to retire shall be those of the other Directors subject to retirement by rotation who have been longest in office since their last re-election or appointment and so that as between persons who became or were last re-elected Directors on the same day those to retire shall (unless they otherwise agree among themselves) be determined by lot.

Report of the Directors

Accordingly, Mr. Xiong Ying shall retire and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election at the AGM. Mr. To Chun Kei service period will expire for nine years in 2024 and Nomination Committee will re-examine his independence and eligibility for re-election.

Notes:

1. Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick has resigned as the Independent non-executive Director on 26 April 2023.
2. Mr. Zhang Bin has appointed as the Independent non-executive Director on 26 April 2023.

BIOGRAPHIES OF DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Biographical details of the Directors and senior management of the Company are set out on pages 6 to 8 of this annual report.

SERVICE CONTRACTS OF DIRECTORS

Each of the Executive Directors has entered into a service contract with the Company for a term of three years, which is subject to retirement by rotation and re-election in accordance with the Articles of Association, and may be terminated by either party upon prior written notice of three months. Each of the NEDs and the INEDs has entered into an appointment letter with the Company for a term of three years, which is subject to retirement by rotation and re-election in accordance with the Articles of Association, and may be terminated by either party upon a three-month prior written notice. The service contracts and appointment letters are automatically renewed upon expiration.

No Director proposed for re-election at the forthcoming AGM has an unexpired service contract which is not determinable by the Company or any of its subsidiaries within one year without payment of compensation, other than statutory compensation.

REMUNERATION OF DIRECTORS AND FIVE INDIVIDUALS WITH HIGHEST EMOLUMENTS

Details of the remuneration of the Directors and five individuals with the highest emoluments of the Company are set out in note 12 to the consolidated financial statements.

MANAGEMENT CONTRACT

No contract concerning the management and administration of the whole or any substantial part of the business of the Group were entered into or in existence during the Year.

DIRECTORS' INTERESTS IN COMPETING BUSINESS

None of the Directors is or was interested in any business apart from the Group's business, that competes or competed or is or was likely to compete, either directly or indirectly, with the Group's business at any time during the year ended 31 December 2023 and up to and including the date of this annual report.

SUFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC FLOAT

As at the date of this annual report, to the best knowledge of the directors and based on the information publicly available to the Company, there was sufficient public float as required by the Listing Rules.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

Details of the corporate governance practices adopted by the Company are set out in the Corporate Governance Report on pages 17 to 27 of this annual report.

Report of the Directors

DIRECTORS' AND CHIEF EXECUTIVES' INTERESTS AND SHORT POSITIONS IN SHARES, UNDERLYING SHARES AND DEBENTURES AND ITS ASSOCIATED CORPORATIONS

As at 31 December 2023, the interests or short positions of the Directors and the Chief Executive of the Company in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or the associated corporations of the Company, within the meaning of Part XV of the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the laws of Hong Kong) (the "SFO") which were required: (a) to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to Divisions 7 and 8 of Part XV of the SFO (including interests and short positions which they were taken or deemed to have under such provisions of the SFO); or (b) pursuant to section 352 of the SFO, to be recorded in the register referred to therein or (c) to be notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code, are as follows:

Long Positions in the Company's Shares or shares in associated corporation of the Company

Name of Directors	Company/Name of associated corporation	Capacity/Nature of interest	Number of Shares held	Approximate Percentage of interest in the total issued Shares in the Company ⁽²⁾ / associated corporation
Mr. Teguh Halim	Citychamp	Beneficial owner/ Personal Interest/ Interest of Spouse ⁽¹⁾	6,000,000	0.14%
Mr. Xiong Ying	Citychamp	Beneficial owner	70,000	0.00%

Notes:

1. 3,000,000 shares were held by Mr. Teguh Halim's wife.
2. Calculated based on the number of issued Shares as at 31 December 2023 (i.e. 360,257,512 shares).

Saved as disclosed above, as at 31 December 2023, none of the Directors and the Chief Executive of the Company and their respective associates had or was deemed to have any interests and short positions in the shares, underlying shares and debentures of the Company or any of its associated corporations (within the meaning of Part XV of the SFO) as recorded in the register of the Company required to be kept under Section 352 of the SFO or as otherwise notified to the Company and the Stock Exchange pursuant to the Model Code.

Report of the Directors

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

So far as is known to any Director or Chief Executive of the Company, as at 31 December 2023, the persons or corporations (not being a Director or Chief Executive of the Company) who or which had an interest or short position in the Shares and underlying Shares of the Company which were required to be disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Division 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO, or which were recorded in the register required to be kept under section 336 of the SFO were as follows:

Long Position in the Company's Shares

Name	Capacity	Number of Shares	Approximate % of total number of issued Shares ⁽⁵⁾
VGB Limited ⁽¹⁾	Beneficial owner	205,834,485	57.14%
Citychamp ⁽¹⁾	Interest in controlled corporation	205,834,485	57.14%
Sincere View ^(1,2)	Interest in controlled corporation	210,834,485	58.52%
Full Day ^(1,2)	Beneficial owner/interest in controlled corporation	217,634,485	60.41%
Hon Kwok Lung ^(2,3)	Interest in controlled corporation	222,634,485	61.8%
Lam Suk Ying ^(2,3)	Interest in controlled corporation	210,834,485	58.52%
Prime Route ⁽⁴⁾	Beneficial owner	37,935,000	10.92%
Xu Hong ⁽⁴⁾	Interest in controlled corporation	37,935,000	10.92%

Notes:

- In the issued share capital of the Company total 205,834,485 shares were directly held by VGB Limited and 217,634,485 shares directly held by Full Day Limited ("**Full Day**"). VGB Limited is wholly-owned and controlled by Citychamp. Citychamp was the controlled corporation of each of Sincere View International Limited ("**Sincere View**") and Full Day. Accordingly, each of Citychamp, Sincere View and Full Day was deemed to be interested in the shares of the Company held by VGB Limited.
- Mr. Hon Kwok Lung ("**Mr. Hon**") held the entire issued share capital of Full Day. Sincere View was the controlled corporation of each of Mr. Hon and Ms. Lam Suk Ying ("**Ms. Lam**"), the spouse of Mr. Hon. Accordingly, each of Mr. Hon and Ms. Lam was deemed to be interested in the shares of the Company held by VGB Limited.
- Mr. Hon and Ms. Lam also directly held 3,500,000 shares and 1,374,000 shares in the issued share capital of Citychamp, respectively.
- Prime Route Investment Limited ("**Prime Route**") is a company wholly-owned by Ms. Xu Hong ("**Ms. Xu**"). Ms. Xu is therefore deemed to be interested in the shares held by Prime Route.
- Calculated based on the number of issued Shares as at 31 December 2023 (i.e. 360,257,512 shares).

Save as disclosed above, as at 31 December 2023, the Directors were not aware of any other person or corporation having an interest or short position in the Shares and underlying Shares which were required to be disclosed to the Company under the provisions of Division 2 and 3 of Part XV of the SFO, or which were recorded in the register required to be kept under section 336 of the SFO.

Report of the Directors

SHARE OPTION SCHEME

The Company conditionally adopted a Share Option Scheme on 24 June 2014, which was effective upon 11 July 2014 and will expire on 24 June 2024. The purpose of the Share Option Scheme is to help motivate eligible persons to optimize their future performance and efficiency to the Group and/or reward them for their past contributions, to attract and retain or otherwise maintain on-going relationships with such eligible persons who are significant to and/or whose contributions are or will be beneficial to the performance, growth or success of the Group.

Eligible persons include (a) any Executive Director of, manager of, or other employee holding an executive, managerial, supervisory or similar position in, any member of the Group, any full-time or part-time employee, or a person for the time being seconded to work full-time or part-time for any member of the Group; (b) a director or proposed director (including an INED) of any member of the Group; (c) a direct or an indirect shareholder of any member of the Group; (d) a supplier of goods or services to any member of the Group; (e) a customer, consultant, business or joint venture partner, franchisee, contractor, agent or representative of any member of the Group; (f) a person or entity that provides design, research, development or other support or any advisory, consultancy, professional or other services to any member of the Group; and (g) an associate of any of the persons referred to in (a) to (c) above.

The maximum number of Shares which may be issued upon exercise of all options to be granted under the Share Option Scheme and any other schemes of the Group shall not in aggregate exceed 34,700,000 Shares, representing approximately 9.63% of the issued share capital as at the date of this annual report.

No option may be granted to any participant of the Share Option Scheme such that the total number of shares issued and to be issued upon exercise of the options granted and to be granted to that person in any 12-month period up to the date of the latest grant exceeds 1% of the Company's issued share capital from time to time.

An option may be exercised in accordance with the terms of the Share Option Scheme at any time during a period as determined by the Board and not exceeding 10 years from the date of the grant. There is no minimum period for which an option must be held before it can be exercised. Participants of the Share Option Scheme are required to pay the Company HK\$1.00 upon acceptance of the grant on or before the 28 days after the offer date. The exercise price of the options is determined by the Board in its absolute discretion and shall not be less than whichever is the highest of:

- (a) the nominal value of a Share;
- (b) the closing price of a Share as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotations sheets on the offer date; and
- (c) the average closing price of a Share as stated in the Stock Exchange's daily quotation sheets for the five business days immediately preceding the offer date.

The Share Option Scheme shall be valid and effective for a period of 10 years from the adoption date, after which no further options will be granted or offered.

From the date on which the Share Option Scheme became effective and up to the date of this annual report, no share options were granted, exercised or cancelled or lapsed under the Share Option Scheme.

The share option plan will be reviewed this year and an announcement will be made in due course.

Report of the Directors

CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

During the Year, the Company had certain loans (the “**Loans**”) from its related parties, namely Citychamp, Mr. Halim Teguh and Mr. He Wen. The Loans are unsecured, interest bearing at 5% to 6% per annum and repayable within one year from the drawn down date, the details of the Loans are set out in note 24 to the consolidated financial statements. During the Year, the Company had bank borrowings of HK\$13,000,000, which was partly secured by an assignment of insurance policy (the “**Assignment of Insurance**”) in the bank’s standard form executed by a fellow subsidiary of the Company as policy holder to assign by way of security to the bank all the rights title, interests and benefits acceptable to the bank and the proceeds of such policy, free from all encumbrances, the details of the bank borrowings are set out in note 26 to the consolidated financial statements.

During the Year, as (i) Citychamp is the controlling shareholder of the Company; (ii) Mr. Halim is the Executive Director of the Company; and (iii) Mr. He is a connected person of the Company, each of the Loans and the Assignment of Insurance constitute connected transactions under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules. However, given the Loans and the Assignment of Insurance are financial assistance received by the Company from its connected persons on normal commercial terms or better and they are not secured by any assets of the Company, the Loans and the Assignment of Insurance are fully exempt from the reporting, annual review, announcement and independent shareholders’ approval requirements pursuant to Rule 14A.90 of the Listing Rules.

CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTIONS

As disclosed in note 35 “Related Party Transactions” of the consolidated financial statements, the Group had the following continuing connected transactions during the Year:

Master Product and Service Framework Agreement

1. On 29 September 2020, the Company and Citychamp entered into the Master Product and Service Framework Agreement pursuant to which (1) the Citychamp Group, may, from time to time, provide products and services to the Group, including (a) Watches and Components; and (b) Watch labor services; and (2) the Group may, from time to time, provide products and services to the Citychamp Group, including (a) Watches and Components; and (b) Watch labor services during the term of the Master Product and Service Framework Agreement. These transactions constitute continuing connected transactions with a connected person which is subject to the annual review, reporting and announcement requirements pursuant to Rule 14A.76 of the Listing Rules and exempt from independent shareholders’ approval.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the aggregate transaction amounts of Products and Services under the Master Product and Service Framework Agreement is around HK\$8,860,000 and HK\$16,000 respectively.

2. On 30 November 2023, the Company and Fair Future Group entered into the Master Processing Service Framework Agreement pursuant to which the Group, may, from time to time, provide Watch Components Processing Services to the Fair Future Group during the term of the Master Processing Service Framework Agreement. These transactions constitute continuing connected transactions with a connected person which is subject to the annual review, reporting and announcement requirements pursuant to Rule 14A.76 of the Listing Rules and exempt from independent shareholder’s approval.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the aggregate transaction amount of the Processing Services under the Master Processing Service Framework Agreement is around HK\$2,208,000.

Report of the Directors

The Board, including the INEDs, has reviewed and confirmed that each of the connected transactions and continuing connected transactions were entered into during the year was:

- (1) in the ordinary and usual course of business of the Group;
- (2) either (i) on arm's length and normal commercial terms; or (ii) where there was no available comparison on terms no less favorable to or from the Group than terms available to or from independent third parties;
- (3) in accordance with the relevant agreements governing such transactions on terms that were fair and reasonable and in the interests of the shareholders of the Company as a whole; and
- (4) the aggregate transaction amount during the financial year ended 31 December 2023 had not exceeded the cap disclosed in the respective announcements.

The Company's auditor was engaged to report on the Group's continuing connected transactions in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Assurance Engagements 3000 (Revised) "Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information" and with reference to Practice Note 740 "Auditor's Letter on Continuing Connected Transactions under the Hong Kong Listing Rules" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The Company's auditor has issued an unqualified letter containing his findings and conclusions in respect of the continuing connected transactions disclosed by the Group below in accordance with Rule 14A.56 of the Listing Rules. A copy of the auditor's letter has been provided by the Company to the Stock Exchange.

DIRECTORS' AND SHAREHOLDERS' INTERESTS IN CONTRACTS OF SIGNIFICANCE

Other than as disclosed in note 35 to the consolidated financial statements, no transaction, arrangement or contract of significance to the business of the Group to which the Company, or any of its subsidiaries or fellow subsidiaries was a party and in which a Director or any connected entity thereof had a material interest, whether directly or indirectly, subsisted at the end of the Year or at any time during the Year.

ARRANGEMENT FOR DIRECTORS TO PURCHASE SHARES OR DEBENTURES

Save as disclosed in the paragraphs headed "Share Option Scheme" above, at no time during the Year were rights to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in or debentures of the Company granted to any Director of the Company or their respective spouses or minor children, or were such rights exercised by them, or was the Company, its holding company or any of its subsidiaries a party to any arrangements to enable the Directors to acquire benefits by means of the acquisition of shares in, or debt securities (including debentures) of the Company or any other body corporate.

EMOLUMENT POLICY

The Group's emolument policies are based on the merit, qualifications and competence of individual employees and are reviewed by the remuneration committee periodically.

The emoluments of the Directors are recommended by the remuneration committee and are decided by the Board, having regard to the Group's operating results, individual performance and comparable market statistics.

The Group has adopted one share option schemes to motivate and reward its Directors and eligible employees. Details of the scheme is set out in the paragraphs headed "Share Option Scheme" above.

Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai waived emoluments of HK\$1,300,000 respectively for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022: Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai waived emoluments of HK\$1,300,000 and HK\$500,000 respectively). Except these, no other directors waived or agreed to waive any remuneration for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022.

Report of the Directors

RETIREMENT SCHEMES

The Group participates in defined contribution retirement benefit schemes organized by the municipal and provincial government authorities in the PRC for the Group's eligible employees in the PRC, and operates a Mandatory Provident Fund scheme for the employees in Hong Kong and contributes to a mandatory post-employment defined benefit plan ("**Defined benefit scheme**") for the employees in Switzerland. Particulars of these retirement plans are set out in note 25 to the consolidated financial statements.

EQUITY-LINKED AGREEMENTS

Save for the "Share Option Scheme" described above, no equity-linked agreements were entered into by the Group, or existed during the year ended 31 December 2023.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

We have complied with all the relevant laws and regulations that have a material impact on the operations of the Group during the year ended 31 December 2023.

SIGNIFICANT LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Group and the Company were not engaged in any litigation or arbitration of material importance and no litigation or claim of material importance is known to the Directors to be pending or threatened against the Group and the Company during the Year and at 31 December 2023.

REVIEW BY AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee comprises all the three INEDs, namely Mr. To Chun Kei, Ms. Chan Lai Wa and Mr. Zhang Bin with Mr. To Chun Kei serving as the chairman. The Audit Committee has reviewed with the management the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and discussed auditing, internal control and financial reporting matters including the review of the Group's consolidated annual results and annual report for the Year.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

The consolidated financial statements of the Group for the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023 were audited by BDO Limited.

BDO Limited will retire and will be eligible to offer themselves for re-appointment. A resolution for the re-appointment of BDO Limited as auditors of the Company will be proposed at the forthcoming AGM of the Company.

By order of the Board
Ernest Borel Holdings Limited
Teguh Halim
Chairman

Hong Kong, 27 March 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT



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TO THE MEMBERS OF ERNEST BOREL HOLDINGS LIMITED

(incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability)

OPINION

We have audited the consolidated financial statements of Ernest Borel Holdings Limited (the “**Company**”) and its subsidiaries (together the “**Group**”) set out on pages 62 to 131, which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2023, and the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the consolidated statement of changes in equity and the consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the consolidated financial statements, including material accounting policies.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements give a true and fair view of the consolidated financial position of the Group as at 31 December 2023, and of its consolidated financial performance and its consolidated cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards as issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“**IFRS Accounting Standards**”) and have been properly prepared in compliance with the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with Hong Kong Standards on Auditing (“**HKSAs**”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants (“**HKICPA**”). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the “Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements” section of our report. We are independent of the Group in accordance with the HKICPA’s “Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants” (the “**Code**”), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

KEY AUDIT MATTERS

Key audit matters are those matters that, in our professional judgement, were of most significance in our audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period. These matters were addressed in the context of our audit of the consolidated financial statements as a whole, and in forming our opinion thereon, and we do not provide a separate opinion on these matters.

Provision for inventories

Refer to notes 5(c) and 19 to the consolidated financial statements and the material accounting policies in note 4(l). As at 31 December 2023, the Group has inventories with the carrying amount of HK\$324,784,000, which represented a substantial portion of the Group’s total assets.

Management considers several factors in determining the appropriate level of inventory allowance, including inventory ageing, subsequent sales and usage of inventories, product pricing and current market condition.

We identified the valuation of inventories as key audit matter because of the magnitude of the inventories and significant judgement is exercised by management in determining the appropriate level of inventory allowance.

Independent Auditor's Report

How the matter was addressed in our audit

Our procedures on the management's assessment on the inventory allowance included:

- (i) Obtaining an understanding of the management's basis for inventory provision;
- (ii) Assessing the reasonableness of the basis used and estimates made by the management in determining the level of inventory allowance;
- (iii) Testing the inventory ageing, on a sample basis, to the inventory records; and
- (iv) Evaluating the reasonableness and adequacy of the inventory allowance by comparing the actual inventory loss to the management's estimation.

Impairment assessment of goodwill

Refer to notes 5(f) and 18 to the consolidated financial statements and the material accounting policies as set out in note 4(c). As at 31 December 2023, the Group has goodwill of HK\$41,323,000 (before the current year impairment) relating to cash-generating unit of Gold Vantage Industrial Limited and its subsidiaries ("**Gold Vantage CGU**") within the Group. Gold Vantage CGU is tested for impairment annually and impairment loss of HK\$13,389,000 has been recognised in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Determining whether the carrying amounts of Gold Vantage CGU is impaired requires an estimation of the recoverable amount, which is considered to be the higher of fair value less cost of disposal and value-in-use. The value-in-use calculation requires the management to estimate the future cash flows expected to arise from Gold Vantage CGU and a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value. Management has appointed an independent valuation firm to assist them to carry out the assessments. In carrying out the assessments, management and the independent valuation firm are required to make judgements when estimating recoverable amounts of Gold Vantage CGU, including (i) producing future cash flow forecasts with appropriate assumptions; and (ii) selecting and applying appropriate key inputs such as discount rate.

We identified the impairment assessment of goodwill as a key audit matter because of its significance to the consolidated financial statements and because this area involves a significant degree of judgements and estimation made by management, in particular the estimation of future cash flows and discount rate.

How the matter was addressed in our audit

Our procedures on the management's assessment on the goodwill impairment included:

- (i) Assessing the valuation methodologies used;
- (ii) Evaluating the independent valuation firm's competence, capabilities and objectivity;
- (iii) Reviewing and challenging the reasonableness of key assumptions and critical judgement areas which underpin the calculations;
- (iv) Engaging an auditor's expert to assist us to assess the appropriateness of the valuation methodology and the reasonableness of the inputs, assumptions and estimation used by management and the independent valuation firm which underpin the value-in-use calculation; and
- (v) Checking the accuracy and the relevance of the input data used.

Independent Auditor's Report

OTHER INFORMATION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT

The directors of the Company are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Company's annual report, but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditor's report thereon.

Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of consolidated financial statements that give a true and fair view in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards and the disclosure requirements of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, the directors of the Company are responsible for assessing the Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the Group or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

The directors are also responsible for overseeing the Group's financial reporting process. The Audit Committee assists the directors of the Company in discharging their responsibilities in this regard.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. This report is made solely to you, as a body, in accordance with the terms of our engagement, and for no other purpose. We do not assume responsibility towards or accept liability to any other person for the contents of this report.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with HKSA's will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with HKSA's, we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Independent Auditor's Report

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS *(Continued)*

- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Group's internal control.
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.
- conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Group's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Group to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.
- obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with the Audit Committee regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

We also provide the Audit Committee with a statement that we have complied with relevant ethical requirements regarding independence, and to communicate with them all relationships and other matters that may reasonably be thought to bear on our independence, and where applicable, related safeguards.

From the matters communicated with the directors, we determine those matters that were of most significance in the audit of the consolidated financial statements of the current period and are therefore the key audit matters. We describe these matters in our auditor's report unless law or regulation precludes public disclosure about the matter or when, in extremely rare circumstances, we determine that a matter should not be communicated in our report because the adverse consequences of doing so would reasonably be expected to outweigh the public interest benefits of such communication.

BDO Limited

Certified Public Accountants

Lui Chi Kin

Practising Certificate Number P06162

Hong Kong, 27 March 2024



CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Revenue	6	164,994	137,368
Cost of sales		(77,932)	(62,214)
Gross profit		87,062	75,154
Other gains and losses, net	7	44,230	(1,300)
Other income	8	2,116	2,320
Distribution expenses		(56,203)	(45,634)
Administrative expenses		(50,427)	(31,379)
Finance costs	9	(9,295)	(11,282)
Profit/(loss) before tax	10	17,483	(12,121)
Income tax credit	11	1,388	53
Profit/(loss) for the year attributable to owners of the Company		18,871	(12,068)
Other comprehensive income			
<i>Item that will not be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss:</i>			
Remeasurement of net defined benefit obligations	25	1,858	2,592
<i>Item that may be subsequently reclassified to profit or loss:</i>			
Exchange differences arising on translation of foreign operations		8,452	4,543
Other comprehensive income for the year		10,310	7,135
Total comprehensive income for the year attributable to owners of the Company		29,181	(4,933)
Earnings/(loss) per share	14		
– Basic and diluted (Hong Kong cents)		5.30	(3.47)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	15	57,111	23,093
Life insurance policy	16	1,411	–
Rental deposits	20	1,485	881
Goodwill	18	27,934	–
Intangible assets	17	59,391	–
Deferred tax assets	27	7,362	–
		154,694	23,974
CURRENT ASSETS			
Inventories	19	324,784	322,277
Trade and other receivables	20	133,205	88,920
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	21	32,410	–
Pledged bank deposits	22	5,000	6,500
Bank balances and cash	22	5,911	6,274
		501,310	423,971
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	23	67,247	33,689
Tax payable		1,468	1,493
Lease liabilities	29	7,625	4,935
Amounts due to related parties	24	13,555	728
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	24	266,599	244,990
Amount due to a director	24	2,424	3,503
Amount due to an ultimate holding company	24	3,400	–
Bank and other borrowings	26	30,925	29,390
		393,243	318,728
NET CURRENT ASSETS		108,067	105,243
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		262,761	129,217

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

As at 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities	29	15,443	2,882
Bank borrowings	26	2,314	3,459
Deferred tax liabilities	27	30,374	14,119
Pension obligations	25	1,933	915
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	21	44,905	–
		94,969	21,375
NET ASSETS			
		167,792	107,842
EQUITY			
Equity attributable to owners of the Company			
Share capital	28	3,603	3,474
Reserves		164,189	104,368
TOTAL EQUITY			
		167,792	107,842

The consolidated financial statements on pages 62 to 131 were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 27 March 2024 and are signed on its behalf by:

Teguh Halim
DIRECTOR

Lam Lai
DIRECTOR

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Share capital	Share premium	Other reserve	Actuarial gain and loss reserve	General reserve	Translation reserve	Accumulated losses	Total
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
		(Note (iii))	(Notes (i) and (iii))	(Note (iii))	(Notes (i) and (iii))	(Note (iii))	(Note (iii))	
At 1 January 2022	3,474	182,099	15,500	(1,739)	1,547	10,318	(98,424)	112,775
Loss for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	(12,068)	(12,068)
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	2,592	-	4,543	-	7,135
Total comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	2,592	-	4,543	(12,068)	(4,933)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	3,474	182,099	15,500	853	1,547	14,861	(110,492)	107,842
Issue of consideration shares (note 28(i))	129	30,640	-	-	-	-	-	30,769
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	18,871	18,871
Other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	-	1,858	-	8,452	-	10,310
Total comprehensive income for the year	129	30,640	-	1,858	-	8,452	18,871	59,950
At 31 December 2023	3,603	212,739	15,500	2,711	1,547	23,313	(91,621)	167,792

Notes:

- (i) Other reserve of HK\$15,500,000 represents amount arising from capitalisation of loans from former shareholders of a subsidiary of the Company.
- (ii) General reserve represents the legal reserve being allocated from the retained profits of certain subsidiaries of the Company, as required under the relevant legislation of Switzerland and the People's Republic of China (the "PRC"), respectively.
- (iii) These reserve accounts comprise of the consolidated reserves of HK\$164,189,000 (2022: HK\$104,368,000) in the consolidated statements of financial position.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Profit/(loss) before tax		17,483	(12,121)
Adjustments for:			
Reversal of provision for inventories	10	(38)	(4,433)
Provision for/(reversal of) impairment loss of trade receivables, net	7	6,826	(249)
Impairment loss on goodwill	7	13,389	–
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	10	15,782	11,723
Amortisation of intangible assets	10	8,458	–
Loss on lease modification	7	–	149
Fair value gain on the financial assets/financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	7	(65,192)	–
Fair value loss on life insurance policy	7	157	–
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	7	(33)	(270)
Loss on write off of property, plant and equipment	7	1,093	–
Finance costs	9	9,295	11,282
Interest income	8	(184)	(6)
Provision for defined benefit obligations		382	328
Operating profits before working capital changes		7,418	6,403
Changes in working capital:			
Decrease in inventories		13,920	42,366
Increase in trade and other receivables		(36,376)	(45,417)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables		6,191	(4,487)
Contribution to defined benefit obligations		(382)	(358)
Cash used in operations		(9,229)	(1,493)
Switzerland income tax paid		(318)	(167)
NET CASH USED IN OPERATING ACTIVITIES		(9,547)	(1,660)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Additions to property, plant and equipment		(3,305)	(2,486)
Additions to intangible asset		(138)	–
Paid for life insurance policy		(1,568)	–
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment		88	5,742
Acquisition of subsidiaries, net of cash acquired	30	12,186	–
Placement of pledged bank deposits		–	(6,500)
Withdrawal of pledged bank deposits		1,500	–
Interest received		184	6
NET CASH GENERATED FROM/(USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES		8,947	(3,238)

Consolidated Statement of

Cash Flows

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	NOTES	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
FINANCING ACTIVITIES	34		
Repayment of bank and other borrowings		(32,768)	(26,841)
Interest paid		(1,891)	(7,174)
New bank and other borrowings raised		25,989	28,350
Lease payments for lease liabilities		(8,235)	(5,161)
Repayment of loan from related parties		(6,575)	(1,498)
Loan from related parties		17,173	728
Repayment of loan from fellow subsidiaries		(6,966)	–
Receipt from fellow subsidiaries		10,537	13,141
Repayment of loan from an ultimate holding company		–	(5,000)
Loan from an ultimate holding company		3,400	5,000
Repayment of loan of a director		(1,482)	–
Loans from a director		556	1,477
NET CASH (USED IN)/GENERATED FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		(262)	3,022
NET DECREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		(826)	(1,876)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE YEAR		6,274	7,585
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes		499	565
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR, represented by bank balances and cash		5,911	6,274

NOTES TO THE CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2023

1. GENERAL

Ernest Borel Holdings Limited (the “**Company**”) is an exempted company with limited liability incorporated in the Cayman Islands. The Company’s shares listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. The Company’s ultimate holding company is Citychamp Watch & Jewellery Group Limited (“**Citychamp**”), a limited liability company incorporated in the Cayman Islands with its shares listed on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

During the year, the principal activities of the Company is investment holding and its subsidiaries (together referred to as the “**Group**”) include:

- designing, manufacturing, marketing and selling of Swiss-made mechanical and quartz premium watches; and
- designing, development and manufacturing of stainless-steel alloy watches cases, smartwatches cases on ODM or OEM basis.

The Group has completed the acquisition of 100% equity interests of Gold Vantage Industrial Limited (“**Gold Vantage**”) and its subsidiaries (“**Gold Vantage Group**”) on 19 April 2023. Details of the acquisition are set out in note 30 to the consolidated financial statements.

Other than the aforementioned transaction, there was no significant change in the Group’s operation during the year.

The Company’s addresses of the registered office is Second Floor, Century Yard, Cricket Square, P.O. Box 902, Grand Cayman, KY1-1103, Cayman Islands and its principal place of business is Units 1612-1613 & 1615, Level 16, Tower I, Grand Century Place, 193 Prince Edward Road West, Mongkok, Kowloon, Hong Kong.

2. APPLICATION OF NEW OR AMENDMENTS TO IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (“IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS”)

(a) Adoption of new or amendments to IFRS accounting standards – effective 1 January 2023

In the current year, the Group has applied the following new or amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards issued by the International Accounting Standards Board (“**IASB**”) which are relevant to and effective for the Group’s consolidated financial statements for the annual period beginning on 1 January 2023:

IFRS 17	Insurance contracts
Amendments to IAS 8	Definition of Accounting Estimates
Amendments to IAS 12	International Tax Reform – Pillar Two Model Rules
Amendments to IAS 12	Deferred Tax related to Assets and Liabilities arising from a Single Transaction
Amendments to IAS 1 and IFRS Practice Statement 2	Disclosure of Accounting Policies

The application of these new or amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards has no material impact on the Group’s results and financial position for the current or prior period. The Group has revisited the accounting policy information it has been disclosing and removed certain immaterial accounting policies.

Notes to the Consolidated

Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

2. APPLICATION OF NEW OR AMENDMENTS TO IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS (“IFRS ACCOUNTING STANDARDS”) (Continued)

(a) Adoption of new or amendments to IFRS accounting standards – effective 1 January 2023 (Continued)

New HKICPA guidance on the accounting implications of the abolition of the MPF-LSP offsetting mechanism

In July 2023, the HKICPA published Accounting implications of the abolition of the mandatory provident fund (“MPF”)–long service payment (“LSP”) offsetting mechanism in Hong Kong that provides accounting guidance relating to the offsetting mechanism and the abolition of the mechanism.

To better reflect the substance of the abolition of the offsetting mechanism, the Group has changed its accounting policy in connection with its LSP liability and has applied the above HKICPA guidance retrospectively. The cessation of applying the practical expedient in paragraph 93(b) of IAS 19, Employee Benefits, in conjunction with the enactment of the Amendment Ordinance resulted in a catch-up profit or loss adjustment in January 2023 for the service cost up to that date and consequential impacts on current service cost, interest expense and remeasurement effects from changes in actuarial assumptions for the year ended 31 December 2023, with the corresponding adjustment to the comparative carrying amount of the LSP liability. However, since the amount of the catch-up profit or loss adjustment was immaterial, the Group did not restate the comparative figure for the consolidated financial statements.

(b) New and amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards in issue but not yet effective

The following new or amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards, potentially relevant to the Group’s consolidated financial statements, have been issued but are not yet effective and have not been early adopted by the Group.

Amendments to IAS 1	Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current ¹
Amendments to IAS 1	Non-current Liabilities with Covenants ¹
Amendments to IFRS 16	Liability in a Sale and Leaseback ¹
Amendments to IAS 21	Lack of Exchangeability ²
Amendments to IAS 7 and IFRS 7	Supplier Finance Arrangements ¹
Amendments to IFRS 10 and IAS 28	Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture ³

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

² Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025

³ Effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date to be determined

The Group is in the progress of making assessments of the potential impact of these new or amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards upon initial application.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

3. BASIS OF PREPARATION

3.1 Statement of compliance

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with IFRS Accounting Standards issued by the IASB. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include applicable disclosures requirement of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited ("**Listing Rules**") and the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

3.2 Basis of measurement

The consolidated financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, except for the life insurance policy (refer to note 16) and financial assets/financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (refer to notes 21 and 30) in relation to a business combination completed during the year ended 31 December 2023, which are stated at fair value.

The adoption of new or amendments to IFRS Accounting Standards and the impact on the Group's consolidated financial statements, if any, are disclosed in note 2.

It should be noted that accounting estimates and assumptions are used in preparing the consolidated financial statements. Although these estimates are based on the Group's management's best knowledge and judgement of current events and actions, actual results may ultimately differ from those estimates. The areas involving a higher degree of judgement or complexity, or areas where assumptions and estimates are significant to the consolidated financial statements, are disclosed in note 5.

3.3 Functional and presentation currency

The consolidated financial statements are presented in Hong Kong Dollars ("**HK\$**"), which is also the functional currency of the Company and all values are rounded to the nearest thousand ("**HK\$'000**") unless otherwise stated and may be different from the functional currency of certain group entities, that is, Renminbi ("**RMB**") and Swiss Franc ("**CHF**"). The Group's management has elected to use HK\$ as they believe HK\$ is the appropriate presentation currency for the users of Group's consolidated financial statements.

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

(a) Business combination and basis of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements comprise the financial statements of the Company and its subsidiaries. Inter-company transactions and balances between group companies together with unrealised profits are eliminated in full in preparing the consolidated financial statements. Unrealised losses are also eliminated unless the transaction provides evidence of impairment on the asset transferred, in which case the loss is recognised in profit or loss.

The results of subsidiaries acquired during the year are included in the consolidated statement of comprehensive income from the effective dates of acquisition or up to the effective dates of disposal, as appropriate. Where necessary, adjustments are made to the financial statements of subsidiaries to bring their accounting policies in line with those used by other members of the Group.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(a) Business combination and basis of consolidation *(Continued)*

Acquisition of subsidiaries or businesses is accounted for using acquisition method. The cost of an acquisition is measured at the aggregate of the acquisition-date fair value of assets transferred, liabilities incurred and equity interests issued by the Group, as the acquirer. The identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed are principally measured at acquisition-date fair value. The Group's previously held equity interest in the acquiree is re-measured at acquisition-date fair value and the resulting gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss. Acquisition-related costs incurred are expensed unless they are incurred in issuing equity instruments, in which case the costs are deducted from equity.

In respect of a business combination which took place during the year ended 31 December 2023, the vendor undertakes to reimburse to the Group the shortfall between the target financial performance and the actual financial performance of the acquiree, by reducing the amount of consideration to be paid by the Group to the vendor and potentially by cash (referred to as Profit Compensation in note 30 to the consolidated financial statements for details), the arrangements of such profit compensation was accounted for as financial assets/financial liabilities at fair values through profit or loss.

(b) Subsidiaries

A subsidiary is an investee over which the Company is able to exercise control. The Company controls an investee if all three of the following elements are present: power over the investee, exposure, or rights, to variable returns from the investee, and the ability to use its power to affect those variable returns. Control is reassessed whenever facts and circumstances indicate that there may be a change in any of these elements of control.

In the Company's statement of financial position, investments in subsidiaries are stated at cost less impairment loss, if any. The results of subsidiaries are accounted for by the Company on the basis of dividend received and receivable.

(c) Goodwill

Goodwill is initially recognised at cost being the excess of the aggregate of the fair value of consideration transferred, the amount recognised for non-controlling interests in the acquiree and the acquisition date fair value of the Group's previously held equity interest in the acquiree over the fair value of identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities acquired. The consideration transferred is measured at the aggregate of fair values, at the date of exchange, of assets given, liabilities incurred or assumed, and equity instruments issued by the Group.

Where the fair value of identifiable assets, liabilities and contingent liabilities exceed the fair value of consideration paid, the amount of any non-controlling interests in the acquiree and the acquisition date fair value of the Group's previously held equity interest in the acquiree, the excess is recognised in profit or loss on the acquisition date, after re-assessment.

Goodwill is measured at cost less accumulated impairment losses. For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill arising from an acquisition is allocated to each of the relevant cash generating units ("CGU") that are expected to benefit from the synergies of the acquisition. A CGU is the smallest identifiable group of assets that generates cash inflows that are largely independent of the cash inflows from other assets or groups of assets. A CGU to which goodwill has been allocated is tested for impairment annually, and whenever there is an indication that the unit may be impaired.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(d) Revenue

(i) Revenue from contracts with customers

The Group sells goods to customer. Revenue from sales of goods to customers is recognised when control of the products has been transferred, being when the products are delivered to the customers and there is no unfulfilled obligation that could affect the customer's acceptance of the products. It is the Group's policy to sell its products to the customers with a right to exchange faulty products to another product within reasonable period after delivery. These rights of return do not allow the returned goods to be refund in cash. No liability and right to the returned goods are recognised as insignificant amount of returns are expected based on accumulated experience.

Maintenance service income is recognised at a point of time when the repair services is complete. The contract price is fixed with no variable consideration.

(ii) Revenue from other source

Interest income is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable, which is the rate that exactly discounts the estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the financial asset to that asset's net carrying amount on initial recognition.

(e) Lease

The Group as lessee

All leases are required to be capitalised in the consolidated statements of financial position as right-of-use assets and lease liabilities, but accounting policy choices exist for an entity to choose not to capitalise (i) leases which are short-term leases and/or (ii) leases for which the underlying asset is of low-value. The Group has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for low-value assets and leases for which at the commencement date have a lease term of 12 months or less and do not contain purchase option. The lease payments associated with those leases have been expensed on straight-line basis over the lease term.

Right-of-use asset

The right-of-use asset should be recognised at cost and would comprise: (i) the amount of the initial measurement of the lease liability (see below for the accounting policy to account for lease liability); (ii) any lease payments made at or before the commencement date, less any lease incentives received; (iii) any initial direct costs incurred by the lessee and (iv) an estimate of costs to be incurred by the lessee in dismantling and removing the underlying asset to the condition required by the terms and conditions of the lease, unless those costs are incurred to produce inventories. The Group measures the right-of-use assets applying a cost model. Under the cost model, the Group measures the right-to-use at cost, less any accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses, and adjusted for any remeasurement of lease liability.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(e) Lease *(Continued)*

Lease liability

The lease liability is recognised at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the date of commencement of the lease. The lease payments are discounted using the lessees' incremental borrowing rate.

The following payments for the right-to-use the underlying asset during the lease term that are not paid at the commencement date of the lease are considered to be lease payments: (i) fixed payments less any lease incentives receivable; (ii) variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at commencement date; (iii) amounts expected to be payable by the lessee under residual value guarantees; (iv) the exercise price of a purchase option if the lessee is reasonably certain to exercise that option and (v) payments of penalties for terminating the lease, if the lease term reflects the lessee exercising an option to terminate the lease.

Subsequent to the commencement date, the Group measures the lease liability by: (i) increasing the carrying amount to reflect interest on the lease liability; (ii) reducing the carrying amount to reflect the lease payments made; and (iii) remeasuring the carrying amount to reflect any reassessment or lease modifications, or to reflect revised in-substance fixed lease payments.

When the Group revises its estimate of the term of any lease (because, for example, it re-assesses the probability of a lessee extension or termination option being exercised), it adjusts the carrying amount of the lease liability to reflect the payments to make over the revised term, which are discounted using a revised discount rate.

When the Group renegotiates the contractual terms of a lease with the lessor, if the renegotiation results in one or more additional assets being leased for an amount commensurate with the standalone price for the additional rights-of-use obtained, the modification is accounted for as a separate lease, in all other cases, where the renegotiated increases the scope of the lease (whether that is an extension to the lease term, or one or more additional assets being leased), the lease liability is remeasured using the discount rate applicable on the modification date, with the right-of-use asset being adjusted by the same amount.

(f) Retirement benefit costs

Retirement benefits to employees are provided through defined contribution plans and defined benefit pension plans.

(i) **Defined contribution plans (for subsidiaries in Hong Kong and the PRC)**

A defined contribution plan is a pension plan under which the Group pays fixed contributions to a separate entity. The Group has no legal or constructive obligations to pay further contributions after payment of the fixed contribution.

The contributions recognised in respect of defined contribution plans are expensed as they fall due. Liabilities and assets may be recognised if underpayment or prepayment has occurred and are included in current liabilities or current assets as they are normally of a short-term nature.

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(f) Retirement benefit costs *(Continued)*

(i) Defined contribution plans (for subsidiaries in Hong Kong and the PRC) *(Continued)*

The Group operates a defined contribution Mandatory Provident Fund retirement benefits scheme (the “**MPF Scheme**”) under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance, for those employees in Hong Kong who are eligible to participate in the MPF Scheme. Contributions are made based on a percentage of the employees’ basic salaries and are charged to profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the MPF Scheme. The assets of the MPF Scheme are held separately from those of the Group in an independently administered fund. The Group’s employer contributions vest fully with the employees when contributed into the MPF Scheme.

The employees of the Group’s subsidiaries which operate in the PRC are required to participate in a central pension scheme operated by the local municipal government (the “**Scheme**”). These subsidiaries are required to contribute certain percentage of its payroll costs to the central pension scheme. The Scheme is responsible for the entire pension obligations payable to the retired employees and the Group has no further obligations for the actual pension payments or other post-retirement benefits beyond the employer contributions. Contributions under the Scheme are charged to profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the PRC.

(ii) Defined benefit scheme (for a subsidiary in Switzerland)

Defined benefit pension plans define an amount of pension benefit that an employee will receive on retirement, usually dependent on one or more factors such as age, years of service and compensation.

The liability recognised in the consolidated statements of financial position in respect of defined pension plans is the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the end of the reporting period less the fair value of plan assets. The defined benefit obligation is calculated annually by independent actuaries using the projected unit credit method. The present value of the defined benefit obligation is determined by discounting the estimated future cash outflow using interest rates of high-quality corporate bonds that are denominated in the currency in which the benefits will be paid, and that have terms to maturity approximating to terms of the related pension obligation. In countries where there is no deep market in such bonds, the market rates on government bonds are used.

Actuarial gains and losses arising from experience adjustments and changes in actuarial assumptions are charged or credited to equity in other comprehensive income in the period in which they arise.

Past service costs are recognised immediately in profit or loss.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(f) Retirement benefit costs *(Continued)*

(ii) Defined benefit scheme (for a subsidiary in Switzerland) *(Continued)*

Discretionary contributions made by employees or third parties reduce service cost upon payment of these contributions to the plan.

When the formal terms of the plans specify that there will be contributions from employees or third parties, the accounting depends on whether the contributions are linked to service, as follows:

- If the contributions are not linked to services (for example contributions are required to reduce a deficit arising from losses on plan assets or from actuarial losses), they are reflected in the remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability (asset).
- If contributions are linked to services, they reduce service costs. For the amount of contribution that is dependent on the number of years of service, the entity reduces service costs by attributing the contributions to periods of service using the attribution method required by IAS 19 for the gross benefits. For the amount of contribution that is independent of the number of years of service, the entity reduces service costs by attributing contributions to the employees' periods of service in accordance with IAS 19 paragraph 70.

(g) Short-term and other long-term employee benefits

Short-term employee benefits are recognised at the undiscounted amount of the benefits expected to be paid as and when employees rendered the services. All short-term employee benefits are recognised as an expense unless another IFRS Accounting Standards requires or permits the inclusion of the benefit in the cost of an asset.

A liability is recognised for benefits accruing to employees (such as wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave) after deducting any amount already paid.

Liabilities recognised in respect of other long-term employee benefits are measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows expected to be made by the Group in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date. Any changes in the liabilities' carrying amounts resulting from service cost, interest and remeasurement are recognised in profit or loss except to the extent that another IFRS Accounting Standards requires or permits their inclusion in the cost of an asset.

(h) Taxation

Income tax expense represents the sum of the tax currently payable and deferred tax.

The tax currently payable is based on taxable profit for the year. Taxable profit differs from 'profit before tax' as reported in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income because of items of income or expense that are taxable or deductible in other years and items that are never taxable or deductible. The Group's liability for current tax is calculated using tax rates that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the end of each reporting period.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(h) Taxation *(Continued)*

Deferred tax for the Company is recognised on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities in the consolidated financial statements and the corresponding tax bases used in the computation of taxable profit. Deferred tax liabilities are generally recognised for all taxable temporary differences. Except for goodwill and recognised assets and liabilities that affect accounting nor taxable profit, deferred tax assets are generally recognised for all deductible temporary differences to the extent that it is probable that taxable profits will be available against which those deductible temporary differences can be utilised. Such deferred tax assets and liabilities are not recognised if the temporary difference arises from the initial recognition of assets and liabilities in a transaction that affects neither the taxable profit nor the accounting profit.

Deferred tax liabilities are recognised for taxable temporary differences associated with investments in subsidiaries, except where the Group is able to control the reversal of the temporary difference and it is probable that the temporary difference will not reverse in the foreseeable future. Deferred tax assets arising from deductible temporary differences associated with such investments are only recognised to the extent that it is probable that there will be sufficient taxable profits against which to utilise the benefits of the temporary differences and they are expected to reverse in the foreseeable future.

The carrying amount of deferred tax assets is reviewed at the end of each reporting period and reduced to the extent that it is no longer probable that sufficient taxable profits will be available to allow all or part of the asset to be recovered.

(i) Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment including buildings and freehold land held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, or for administrative purposes are stated in the consolidated statements of financial position at cost less subsequent accumulated depreciation and amortisation and subsequent accumulated impairment losses, if any.

Depreciation is recognised so as to write off the cost of assets (other than freehold land) less their residual values over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method, at the following rates per annum:

Right-of-use assets	Over the shorter of lease terms or at 30%
Building held under freehold land	3.3%–10%
Leasehold improvement	Over the lease term ranging from 3 to 5 years
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	5%–50%
Machinery	6%–20%
Motor vehicles	30%

Freehold land is not depreciated.

The estimated useful lives, residual value and depreciation method are reviewed at the end of each reporting period, with the effect of any changes in estimate accounted for on a prospective basis.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(j) Intangible assets

(i) Acquired intangible assets

Intangible assets acquired separately are initially recognised at cost. The cost of intangible assets acquired in a business combination is fair value at the date of acquisition. Subsequently, intangible assets with definite useful lives are carried at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses.

Amortisation is provided on a straight-line basis over their useful lives as follows. The amortisation expense is recognised in profit or loss.

Computer software	10 years
Customer relationship	3 years
Technical knowhow	10 years

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives shall not be amortised.

Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are carried at cost less any accumulated impairment losses.

(ii) Impairment

Intangible assets with definite useful lives are tested for impairment when there is an indication that an asset may be impaired. Intangible assets with indefinite useful lives (included goodwill) and intangible assets not yet available for use are tested for impairment annually, irrespective of whether there is any indication that they may be impaired. Intangible assets are tested for impairment by comparing their carrying amounts with their recoverable amounts (note 4(p)).

If the recoverable amount of an asset is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset is reduced to its recoverable amount.

An impairment loss is recognised as an expense immediately.

When an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount; however, the carrying amount should not be increased above the lower of its recoverable amount and the carrying amount that would have resulted had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. All reversals are recognised in the profit or loss immediately.

(k) Impairment of non-financial assets

At the end of each reporting period, the Group reviews the carrying amounts of the following assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have suffered an impairment loss or an impairment loss previously recognised no longer exists or may have decreased:

- property, plant and equipment; and
- intangible assets

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(k) Impairment of non-financial assets *(Continued)*

If the recoverable amount (i.e. the higher of the fair value less costs of disposal and value-in-use) of an asset/its cash-generating unit is estimated to be less than its carrying amount, the carrying amount of the asset/its cash-generating unit is reduced to its recoverable amount. An impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately, unless the relevant asset is carried at a revalued amount under another IFRS Accounting Standards, in which case the impairment loss is treated as a revaluation decrease under that IFRS Accounting Standards.

Where an impairment loss subsequently reverses, the carrying amount of the asset/its cash-generating unit is increased to the revised estimate of its recoverable amount to the extent that the increased carrying amount does not exceed the carrying amount that would have been determined had no impairment loss been recognised for the asset in prior years. A reversal of an impairment loss is recognised in profit or loss immediately.

Value-in-use is based on the estimated future cash flows expected to be derived from the asset or CGU (note 4(c)), discounted to their present value using a pre-tax discount rate that reflects current market assessments of the time value of money and the risks specific to the asset or CGU.

(l) Inventories

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Cost of inventories are determined on a first-in, first-out method. Net realisable value represents the estimated selling price for inventories less all estimated costs of completion and cost necessary to make the sale.

(m) Provision and contingent liabilities

Provisions are generally recognised when the Group has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, and it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required to settle the obligation and a reliable estimate can be made. Provisions are stated at the present value of the expenditures expected to settle the obligation.

All provisions are reviewed at each reporting date and adjusted to reflect the current best estimate.

Where it is not probable that an outflow of economic benefits will be required, or the amount cannot be estimated reliably, the obligation is disclosed as a contingent liability, unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote. Possible obligations, whose existence will only be confirmed by the occurrence or non-occurrence of one or more future uncertain events not wholly within the control of the Group, are also disclosed as contingent liabilities unless the probability of outflow of economic benefits is remote.

(n) Financial instruments

(i) Financial assets

A financial asset (unless it is a trade receivable without a significant financing component) is initially measured at fair value plus, for an item not at fair value through profit or loss, transaction costs that are directly attributable to its acquisition or issue. A trade receivable without a significant financing component is initially measured at the transaction price.

All regular way purchases and sales of financial assets are recognised on the trade date, that is, the date that the Group commits to purchase or sell the asset.

Financial assets with embedded derivatives are considered in their entirety when determining whether their cash flows are solely payment of principal and interest.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(n) Financial instruments *(Continued)*

(i) Financial assets *(Continued)*

Debt instruments

Subsequent measurement of debt instruments depends on the Group's business model for managing the asset and the cash flow characteristics of the asset. There are two measurement categories into which the Group classifies its debt instruments:

Debt instrument, including trade and other receivables, amounts due from fellow subsidiaries and bank balances and cash, that are held for collection of contractual cash flows where those cash flows represent solely payments of principal and interest are measured at amortised cost. Financial assets at amortised cost are subsequently measured using the effective interest rate method.

Fair value through profit or loss ("FVTPL") representing the assets that do not meet the criteria for amortised cost or financial assets at fair value through other comprehensive income are measured at fair value through profit or loss.

(ii) Impairment of financial assets

The Group recognises loss allowances for expected credit loss ("ECL") on trade receivables, financial assets measured at amortised cost and debt investments measured at FVOCI. The ECLs are measured on either of the following bases: (1) 12 months ECLs: these are the ECLs that result from possible default events within the 12 months after the reporting date; and (2) lifetime ECLs: these are ECLs that result from all possible default events over the expected life of a financial instrument. The maximum period considered when estimating ECLs is the maximum contractual period over which the Group is exposed to credit risk.

ECLs are a probability-weighted estimate of credit losses. Credit losses are measured as the difference between all contractual cash flows that are due to the Group in accordance with the contract and all the cash flows that the Group expects to receive. The shortfall is then discounted at an approximation to the assets' original effective interest rate.

The Group measure loss allowances for trade receivables using simplified approach and has calculated ECLs based on lifetime ECLs. The ECL on these assets are assessed individually for debtors which are assessed to be credit-impaired and collectively for other debtors using a provision matrix that is based on the Group's historical credit loss experience, adjusted for forward-looking factors specific to the debtors and the economic environment.

For other debt financial assets, the ECLs are based on the 12-months ECLs. However, when there has been a significant increase in credit risk since origination, the allowance will be based on the lifetime ECLs.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

4. MATERIAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES *(Continued)*

(n) Financial instruments *(Continued)*

(ii) Impairment of financial assets *(Continued)*

When determining whether the credit risk of a financial asset has increased significantly since initial recognition and when estimating ECL, the Group considers reasonable and supportable information that is relevant and available without undue cost or effort. This includes both quantitative and qualitative information analysis, based on the Group's historical experience and informed credit assessment and including forward-looking information.

The Group assumes that the credit risk on a financial asset has increased significantly if it is more than 30 days past due, unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information that demonstrates otherwise.

The Group considers a financial asset to be credit-impaired when: (1) the borrower is unlikely to pay its credit obligations to the Group in full, without recourse by the Group to actions such as realising security (if any is held); or (2) the financial asset is more than 90 days past due, unless the Group has reasonable and supportable information that a more lagging default criterion is more appropriate.

Interest income on credit-impaired financial assets is calculated based on the amortised cost (i.e. the gross carrying amount less loss allowance) of the financial asset. For non credit-impaired financial assets, interest income is calculated based on the gross carrying amount.

(iii) Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities at amortised cost including trade and other payables, bank and other borrowings, amounts due to related parties, fellow subsidiaries, a director and an ultimate holding company. Gains or losses are recognised in profit or loss when the liabilities are derecognised as well as through the amortisation process.

(iv) Derivative financial instruments

Derivative financial instruments are initially recognised at fair value on the date a contract is entered into and are subsequently remeasured to their fair value at the end of each reporting period. The changes in fair value are recognised in profit or loss in the period in which they arise.

(v) Derecognition

The Group derecognises a financial asset when the contractual rights to the future cash flows in relation to the financial asset expire or when the financial asset has been transferred and the transfer meets the criteria for derecognition in accordance with IFRS 9.

Financial liabilities are derecognised when the obligation specified in the relevant contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY

In the application of the Group's accounting policies, which are described in note 4, the directors of the Company are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.

The following are the key assumptions concerning the future, and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the end of the reporting period which may have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets within the next financial year.

(a) Estimated impairment of non-current assets

The Group assesses whether there are any indicators of impairment for all non-current assets at the end of each reporting period. An impairment exists when the carrying amount of an asset or a cash-generating unit exceeds its recoverable amount, which is the higher of its fair value less costs of disposal and its value-in-use. The calculation of the fair value less costs of disposal is based on an estimate of the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When value-in-use calculations are undertaken, management must estimate the expected future cash flows from the asset or cash-generating unit and choose a suitable discount rate in order to calculate the present value of those cash flows.

(b) Estimated allowance of trade and other receivables

The Group estimates impairment losses of trade and other receivables are based on assumptions about risk of default and expected credit loss rate according to the accounting policies stated in note 4. The Group adopts judgement in making these assumptions and selecting inputs for computing such impairment loss, broadly based on the available counterparties' historical default rates, existing market conditions including forward looking estimates at end of reporting period.

(c) Estimated provision for inventories

The Group makes allowance for inventories based on an assessment of the net realisable value of inventories. Allowances are applied to inventories where events or changes in circumstances indicate that the net realisable value is lower than the cost of inventories. The identification of slow-moving stock and obsolete inventories requires the use of judgement and estimates on the conditions and usefulness of the inventories. Estimation of the net realisable value of inventories takes into account the selling prices, movements, conditions, ageing analysis and subsequent usage of the relevant inventories.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY *(Continued)*

(d) Income taxes and deferred taxation

The Group is subject to corporate income taxes in Mainland China, Switzerland and Hong Kong. Significant judgements are required in determining the provision for income taxes. There are many transactions and calculations for which the ultimate determination is uncertain during the ordinary course of business. Where the final tax outcome of these matters is different from the amounts that were initially recorded, such difference will impact the income tax and deferred tax provision in the year in which such determination is made.

(e) Leases – estimating the incremental borrowing rate

The Group uses its incremental borrowing rate (“**IBR**”) to measure lease liabilities. The IBR is the rate of interest that the Group would have to pay to borrow over a similar term, and with a similar security, the funds necessary to obtain an asset of a similar value to the right-of-use asset in a similar economic environment. The IBR therefore reflects what the Group ‘would have to pay’, which requires estimation when no observable rates are available or when they need to be adjusted to reflect the terms and conditions of the lease. The Group estimates the IBR using observable inputs (such as market interest rates) when available and is required to make certain entity-specific estimates.

(f) Estimated impairment of goodwill

The Group tests on an annual basis whether goodwill has suffered any impairment in accordance with the accounting policy stated in note 4(c). The recoverable amount of the CGU has been determined based on value-in-use calculations or fair value less costs of disposal, whichever is higher. The value-in-use calculations require the use of judgement and estimates of the future cash flows expected to arise from the CGU, the timeframe for the cash flows forecast and the suitable discount rates in order to calculate the present value. In the process of estimating expected future cash flows, management makes assumptions about future revenues and profits. These assumptions relate to future events and circumstances. The actual results may vary and may cause a material adjustment to the carrying amount of goodwill within the next financial year. Determining the appropriate discount rate involves estimating the appropriate adjustment for market risk and for asset specific risk factors. Details in impairment assessment are set out in note 18 to the consolidated financial statements.

(g) Fair value measurement

A number of assets and liabilities included in the Group’s financial statements require measurement at, and/or disclosure of, fair value. The fair value measurement of the Group’s financial and non-financial assets and liabilities utilises market observable inputs and data as far as possible. Inputs used in determining fair value measurements are categorised into different levels based on how observable the inputs used in the valuation technique utilised are (the “**fair value hierarchy**”):

- Level 1: unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2: observable inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1; and
- Level 3: unobservable inputs are inputs for which market data are not available.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

5. KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY *(Continued)*

(g) Fair value measurement *(Continued)*

The classification of an item into the above levels is based on the lowest level of the inputs used that has a significant effect on the fair value measurement of the item. Transfers of items between levels are recognised in the period they occur.

For more detailed information in relation to the fair value measurement of the items above, please refer to the respective notes.

6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION

Revenue represents the amount received or receivable for the sales of watches products and smart watches components, less returns and trade discounts. The revenues of the Group are recognised at point in time.

The Group's principal activities were manufacturing and sales of watches. During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group expanded its business into the Smart Watch Manufacturing business. Information reported to the chief operating decision makers, being the executive directors of the Company, for resources allocation and performance assessment, is based on the Group's overall performance, which are considered as two operating segments. Segment revenue and results are therefore not the same as the respective amounts presented in the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income.

The Group's operating businesses are structured and managed separately according to the nature of the operations. Each of the Group's reportable operating segments represents a strategic business unit that is subject to risks and returns that are different from other reportable operating segment.

The Group's reportable and operating segments are as follows:

- Watches business segment: manufacturing and sales of watches; and
- Smart Watch Manufacturing business segment: designing, development and manufacturing of stainless-steel alloy watches cases, smartwatches cases on ODM and OEM basis.



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For the year ended 31 December 2023

6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Segment revenue and results

For the year ended 31 December 2023

	Watches HK\$'000	Smart Watch Manufacturing HK\$'000	Unallocated HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Segment revenue				
Revenue	111,983	53,011	-	164,994
Segment results				
Unallocated corporate incomes and expenses, net	(18,048)	52,085	-	34,037
Finance cost	-	-	(7,259)	(7,259)
	(7,720)	(675)	(900)	(9,295)
(Loss)/profit before income tax	(25,768)	51,410	(8,159)	17,483
Income tax (expense)/credit	(640)	2,028	-	1,388
(Loss)/profit after income tax	(26,408)	53,438	(8,159)	18,871
Segment assets				
Watches				453,787
Smart Watch Manufacturing				202,155
Unallocated assets				
- Bank balances and cash				62
Total assets				656,004
Segment liabilities				
Watches				337,721
Smart Watch Manufacturing				125,047
Unallocated liabilities				25,444
Total liabilities				488,212
Other segment information				
Interest income	94	90	-	184
Provision for impairment loss of trade receivables, net	(6,816)	(10)	-	(6,826)
Reversal of inventories allowance	38	-	-	38
Impairment loss on goodwill	-	(13,389)	-	(13,389)
Fair value gain on financial assets/financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	-	65,192	-	65,192
Depreciation and amortisation	(9,470)	(14,770)	-	(24,240)
Additions to non-current assets	2,694	749	-	3,443

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6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Segment revenue and results *(Continued)*

For the year ended 31 December 2022

	Watches HK\$'000	Smart Watch Manufacturing HK\$'000	Unallocated HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Segment revenue				
Revenue	137,368	–	–	137,368
Segment results				
Unallocated corporate incomes and expenses, net	4,544	–	–	4,544
Finance cost	–	–	(5,383)	(5,383)
	(10,410)	–	(872)	(11,282)
Loss before income tax	(5,866)	–	(6,255)	(12,121)
Income tax credit	53	–	–	53
Loss after income tax	(5,813)	–	(6,255)	(12,068)
Segment assets				
Watches				447,716
Unallocated assets				
– Bank balances and cash				229
Total assets				447,945
Segment liabilities				
Watches				321,948
Unallocated liabilities				18,155
Total liabilities				340,103
Other segment information				
Interest income	6	–	–	6
Reversal of impairment loss of trade receivables, net	249	–	–	249
Reversal of inventories allowance	4,433	–	–	4,433
Depreciation	11,723	–	–	11,723
Additions to non-current assets	2,486	–	–	2,486

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

6. REVENUE AND SEGMENT INFORMATION *(Continued)*

Geographical information

The following table set out information about the geographical location of (i) the Group's revenue from external customers based on the location of customers, and (ii) the Group's non-current assets (which excluding deferred tax assets and financial instruments) based on the location of the assets.

	Revenue from external customers	
	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
The PRC	131,849	131,795
Vietnam	18,351	–
Hong Kong and Macau	5,592	3,338
Korea	3,670	–
South East Asia	3,437	903
Others	2,095	1,332
	164,994	137,368

	Non-current assets (excluding deferred tax assets and financial instruments)	
	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
The PRC	132,560	8,592
Hong Kong	1,803	4,316
Switzerland	10,073	10,185
	144,436	23,093

Information about major customers

During the year, revenue from a customer amounted to HK\$16,708,000 was contributing over 10% of total revenue of the Group (2022: nil).

REVENUE

An analysis of revenue is as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Watches	111,983	137,368
Smart Watch Manufacturing	53,011	–
	164,994	137,368

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7. OTHER GAINS AND LOSSES, NET

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Exchange gain/(loss), net	470	(1,670)
Loss on lease modification	–	(149)
Impairment loss on goodwill (note 18)	(13,389)	–
(Provision for)/reversal of impairment loss of trade receivable, net	(6,826)	249
Fair value gain on financial assets/financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss (note 21)	65,192	–
Fair value loss on life insurance policy (note 16)	(157)	–
Loss on written off of property, plant and equipment	(1,093)	–
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	33	270
	44,230	(1,300)

8. OTHER INCOME

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Bank interest income	184	6
Government subsidies	128	2,207
Income from sale of steel slag	1,307	–
Sundry income	497	107
	2,116	2,320

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the government subsidies represent a one-off subsidy under various scheme launched by the Government of the PRC. For the year ended 31 December 2022, the government subsidies represent a one-off subsidies under Employment Support Scheme launched by the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and a financial compensation received under the scheme of "Reduction of Working Hours" from the Government of Switzerland.

9. FINANCE COSTS

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Interest charged on:		
Bank and other borrowings	1,855	1,330
Loan from related parties	275	–
Loan from fellow subsidiaries	6,404	9,305
Loan from an ultimate holding company	–	25
Loan from a director	–	97
Lease liabilities	761	525
	9,295	11,282

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

10. PROFIT/(LOSS) BEFORE TAX

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Profit/(loss) before tax has been arrived at after charging/(crediting):		
Auditors' remuneration		
– Audit services	1,100	830
– Non-audit services	932	–
Cost of inventories recognised as expenses, including:	77,932	62,214
– Reversal of allowance	(38)	(4,433)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	15,782	11,723
Amortisation of intangible assets	8,458	–
Short-term lease rental	1,247	292
Staff costs (including directors' emoluments):		
– Salaries and other benefits	51,149	35,435
– Retirement benefits scheme contributions	5,892	3,991
Total staff costs	57,041	39,426

Note: Cost of inventories sold includes HK\$23,632,000 (2022: HK\$8,647,000) relating to staff costs and depreciation expenses.

11. INCOME TAX CREDIT

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Current tax:		
– Switzerland Income Tax	(231)	(221)
Deferred tax credit	1,619	274
Income tax credit for the year	1,388	53

Hong Kong Profits Tax is calculated at 16.5% on the estimated assessable profit for both years. No provision for Hong Kong profits tax has been made for both years as the Group has no assessable profits arising in Hong Kong.

Switzerland Income Tax is calculated at certain tax rates on the assessable income for both years. Under the relevant Tax Laws in Switzerland, the Group's subsidiaries incorporated in Switzerland were subjected to Direct Federal Tax ("DFT") of 8.50% (2022: 8.50%) and Cantonal Communal Tax ("CCT") calculated at 7.20% (2022: 10.13%).

Swiss Federal withholding tax is levied at a rate of 35% on the distribution of the profit (if any) of the subsidiaries incorporated in Switzerland for both years.

Under the laws of the PRC on Enterprise Income Tax (the "EIT Law") and Implementation Regulation of EIT Law, the tax rate of PRC subsidiary is 25% (2022: 25%). No provision for Enterprise Income Tax has been made for both years as the Group has no assessable profits arising in the PRC.

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11. INCOME TAX CREDIT *(Continued)*

The income tax credit for the year can be reconciled to the profit/(loss) before tax per the consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Profit/(loss) before tax	17,483	(12,121)
Tax credit at the rates applicable to tax jurisdictions concerned	1,570	(2,879)
Tax effect of income not taxable for tax purposes	(11,109)	(903)
Tax effect of expenses not deductible for tax purposes	3,883	915
Tax effect of tax losses not recognised	3,317	2,954
Tax effect of temporary differences not recognised	951	(140)
Income tax credit for the year	(1,388)	(53)

12. DIRECTORS' AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S EMOLUMENTS

a. Directors

Directors' remuneration for the year, disclosed pursuant to the applicable Listing Rules and Hong Kong Companies Ordinance, is as follows:

	Fees HK\$'000	Salaries and other benefits HK\$'000	Retirement benefits scheme contributions HK\$'000	Total emoluments HK\$'000
For the year ended 31 December 2023				
Executive directors				
Mr. Teguh Halim	-	-	-	-
Ms. Lam Lai	-	-	-	-
Non-executive directors				
Mr. Xiong Ying	50	-	-	50
Independent non-executive directors				
Ms. Chan Lai Wa	120	-	-	120
Mr. To Chun Kei	120	-	-	120
Mr. Zhang Bin <i>(note iii)</i>	82	-	-	82
Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick <i>(note iv)</i>	39	-	-	39
	411	-	-	411

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12. DIRECTORS' AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S EMOLUMENTS *(Continued)*

a. Directors *(Continued)*

	Fees HK\$'000	Salaries and other benefits HK\$'000	Retirement benefits scheme contributions HK\$'000	Total emoluments HK\$'000
For the year ended 31 December 2022				
Executive directors				
Mr. Shang Jianguang <i>(note i)</i>	–	16	1	17
Mr. Teguh Halim	–	–	–	–
Ms. Lam Lai	–	800	12	812
Non-executive directors				
Mr. Xiong Ying	50	–	–	50
Mr. Tao Li <i>(note ii)</i>	18	–	–	18
Independent non-executive directors				
Ms. Chan Lai Wa	120	–	–	120
Mr. To Chun Kei	120	–	–	120
Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick <i>(note iv)</i>	120	–	–	120
	428	816	13	1,257

Mr. Teguh Halim and Ms. Lam Lai waived emoluments of HK\$1,300,000 (2022: HK\$1,300,000) and HK\$1,300,000 (2022: HK\$500,000) respectively for the year ended 31 December 2023. Except for them, no other directors waived or agreed to waive any emoluments for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022.

Notes:

- Mr. Shang Jianguang resigned an executive director of the Company with effect from 5 January 2022.
- Mr. Tao Li resigned a non-executive director of the Company with effect from 5 January 2022.
- Mr. Zhang Bin appointed as an independent non-executive director of the Company with effect from 26 April 2023.
- Mr. Hui Cheuk Kit Frederick resigned an independent non-executive director of the Company with effect from 26 April 2023.

b. Five highest paid individuals

No director of the Company included in the five highest paid employees of the Group during the year (2022: one). Details of the remuneration for the year of the remaining five (2022: four) highest paid employees, who are not a director of the Company, are as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Salaries and other benefits	4,423	3,738
Retirement benefits scheme contributions	84	72
	4,507	3,810

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12. DIRECTORS' AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT'S EMOLUMENTS *(Continued)*

b. Five highest paid individuals *(Continued)*

The number of the highest paid employees who are not the directors of the Company whose emoluments fell within the following bands is as follows:

	2023 No. of individuals	2022 No. of individuals
HK\$500,001 – HK\$1,000,000	4	2
HK\$1,000,001 – HK\$1,500,000	1	2

No emolument was paid by the Group to the directors or the five (2022: four) highest paid individual as an inducement to join or upon joining the Group, or as compensation for loss of office (2022: nil).

c. Emoluments to members of senior management

The emoluments to members of senior management (excluding the remunerations to directors which have been disclosed in note 12a above) were within the following bands:

	2023 No. of individuals	2022 No. of individuals
HK\$500,001 – HK\$1,000,000	1	–
HK\$1,000,001 – HK\$1,500,000	1	1

13. DIVIDEND

No dividend was paid or proposed during the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022, nor has any dividend been proposed since the end of the reporting period.

14. EARNINGS/(LOSS) PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share (2022: loss per share) for the year ended 31 December 2023 is based on the profit attributable to owners of the Company of HK\$18,871,000 (2022: loss attributable to owners of the Company of HK\$12,068,000) and on the weighted average number of 356,148,000 (2022: 347,437,000) ordinary shares in issue during the year.

There are no potential dilutive ordinary shares outstanding for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022 and thus the diluted earnings/(loss) per share is the same as the basic earnings/(loss) per share.

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15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	Right-of-use assets HK\$'000	Freehold Land and building outside Hong Kong HK\$'000	Leasehold improvement HK\$'000	Furniture, fixtures and equipment HK\$'000	Machinery HK\$'000	Motor vehicles HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
COST							
At 1 January 2022	25,255	40,656	9,186	152,700	5,807	1,228	234,832
Additions	–	–	8	2,478	–	–	2,486
Written off	–	–	–	(43,866)	–	–	(43,866)
Disposal	–	(13,091)	–	–	–	–	(13,091)
Effect of modification to lease terms	(1,180)	–	–	–	–	–	(1,180)
Exchange realignment	(551)	(427)	(148)	(2,201)	(53)	(53)	(3,433)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	23,524	27,138	9,046	109,111	5,754	1,175	175,748
Additions	–	–	130	2,989	186	–	3,305
Written off	–	–	(1,298)	(10,508)	–	–	(11,806)
Disposal	–	–	–	(248)	–	–	(248)
Effect of modification to lease terms	22,532	–	–	–	–	–	22,532
Acquisition of subsidiaries (note 30)	338	–	–	1,535	22,933	–	24,806
Exchange realignment	(286)	2,636	348	562	(63)	(17)	3,180
At 31 December 2023	46,108	29,774	8,226	103,441	28,810	1,158	217,517
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION							
At 1 January 2022	13,542	24,277	7,808	143,229	5,362	1,194	195,412
Provided for the year	4,656	1,012	436	5,509	76	34	11,723
Written off	–	–	–	(43,866)	–	–	(43,866)
Disposal	–	(7,619)	–	–	–	–	(7,619)
Effect of modification of lease	(838)	–	–	–	–	–	(838)
Exchange realignment	(208)	(227)	(57)	(1,566)	(46)	(53)	(2,157)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	17,152	17,443	8,187	103,306	5,392	1,175	152,655
Provided for the year	6,963	1,076	454	4,189	3,100	–	15,782
Written off	–	–	(893)	(9,820)	–	–	(10,713)
Disposal	–	–	–	(193)	–	–	(193)
Exchange realignment	(119)	1,759	365	452	435	(17)	2,875
At 31 December 2023	23,996	20,278	8,113	97,934	8,927	1,158	160,406
NET BOOK VALUE							
At 31 December 2023	22,112	9,496	113	5,507	19,883	–	57,111
At 31 December 2022	6,372	9,695	859	5,805	362	–	23,093

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15. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT *(Continued)*

Right-of-use assets	Land and buildings leased for own use HK\$'000	Motor vehicles leased for own use HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
Carrying amounts as at 1 January 2022	11,136	577	11,713
Depreciation	(4,413)	(243)	(4,656)
Effect of modification to lease terms	(169)	(173)	(342)
Exchange realignment	(328)	(15)	(343)
Carrying amounts as at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	6,226	146	6,372
Depreciation	(6,817)	(146)	(6,963)
Effect of modification to lease terms	22,532	–	22,532
Acquisition of subsidiaries (note 30)	338	–	338
Exchange realignment	(167)	–	(167)
Carrying amounts as at 31 December 2023	22,112	–	22,112

During the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023, the Group entered into various lease agreements for retail shops. The leases for retail shops have remaining non-cancellable lease terms of between 1 to 3 years. All leases held by the Group comprise fixed payments over the lease term or contingent rent based on monthly turnover of the respective retail shops.

The directors have performed an impairment assessment on property, plant and equipment at 31 December 2023 and 2022 based on valuations performed by an independent professional valuer.

Property, plant and equipment with net carrying amount of HK\$16,211,000 (2022: HK\$23,093,000) are attributable to the cash generating unit of the watch business ("**Watch CGU**"). The recoverable amount of property, plant and equipment in Watch CGU is determined based on value-in-use calculations. That calculations use cash flow projections based on financial budgets approved by the management of the Group covering a five-year period, followed by an extrapolation of expected cash flow at zero growth rate which do not exceed the long-term growth rate for the business in which the Watch CGU operates and a discount rate of 20.42% (2022: 20.20%) per annum. The discount rate used is pre-tax and reflect specific risks related to the Watch CGU. The key assumptions for the value-in-use calculation are the budgeted revenue and operating expenses which are determined based on recent performance of the Watch CGU. Management also believes that any reasonably possible change in the key assumptions on which the Watch CGU's recoverable amount is based would not cause Watch CGU's carrying amount to exceed its recoverable amount.

Property, plant and equipment with the net carrying amount of HK\$40,900,000 (2022: nil) is attributable to the cash-generating unit of Smart Watch Manufacturing business ("**Gold Vantage CGU**") with which the goodwill is recognised. Details of the impairment assessment are set out in note 18 to the consolidated financial statements.

Based on the result of the assessment, no impairment loss for the property, plant and equipment would be recognised for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022.

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16. LIFE INSURANCE POLICY

During the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group entered into a life insurance policy with an insurance company to insure an executive director with the insured sum of USD200,000 (equivalent to HK\$1,568,000). As at 31 December 2023, the fair value of the life insurance policy is USD180,000 (equivalent to HK\$1,411,000). The fair value loss on life insurance policy of USD20,000 (equivalent to HK\$157,000) was recognised in the profit or loss during the year.

Under the policy, the beneficiary and policy holder are Ernest Borel (Far East) Company Limited, a subsidiary of the Group. The Group is required to pay an upfront payment for the policy. The Group may request a partial surrender or full surrender of the policy at any time and receive cash back based on the value of the policy at the date of withdrawal, which is determined by the gross premium paid at inception plus accumulated guaranteed interest earned and minus insurance premium charged (the “**Cash Value**”). If such withdrawal is made at any time during the policy year, as appropriate, a pre-determined specified surrender charge would be imposed on the Group.

At the inception dates, the upfront payment is separated into deposit placed and prepayment of life insurance premium. The prepayment of life insurance premium is amortised to profit or loss over the insured period and the deposit placed is carried at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The insurance company will pay the Group guaranteed interest rates plus a premium determined by the insurance company during the tenures of the policy. The effective interest rate on initial recognition was determined by discounting the estimated future cash receipts through the expected life of the insurance policy, excluding the financial effect of surrender charge.

The carrying amount of the life insurance policy as at 31 December 2023 approximated the Cash Value of the insurance policy and the expected life of the insurance policy remained unchanged from the initial recognition. The entire balance of the life insurance policies is denominated in United States Dollar (“**USD**”), being a currency other than the functional currency of the relevant group entity.

At the end of reporting period, the life insurance policy was pledged to a bank to secure general banking facilities granted to the Group (note 26(a)).

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17. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Computer software HK\$'000	Technical knowhow HK\$'000	Customer relationship HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
COST				
As at 1 January 2022, 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	–	–	–	–
Addition	138	–	–	138
Acquisition of subsidiaries (<i>note 30</i>)	828	46,050	22,333	69,211
Exchange realignment	(20)	(1,092)	(530)	(1,642)
As at 31 December 2023	946	44,958	21,803	67,707
ACCUMULATED AMORTISATION				
As at 1 January 2022, 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	–	–	–	–
Charge for the year	66	3,171	5,221	8,458
Exchange realignment	–	(18)	(124)	(142)
As at 31 December 2023	66	3,153	5,097	8,316
CARRYING AMOUNTS				
As at 31 December 2023	880	41,805	16,706	59,391
As at 31 December 2022	–	–	–	–

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18. GOODWILL

	HK\$'000
COST	
As at 1 January 2022, 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	–
Acquisition of subsidiaries (<i>note 30</i>)	42,178
Exchange realignment	(855)
	<hr/>
As at 31 December 2023	41,323
	<hr/>
ACCUMULATED IMPAIRMENT LOSSES	
As at 1 January 2022, 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	–
Impairment loss for the year	13,389
	<hr/>
As at 31 December 2023	13,389
	<hr/>
CARRYING AMOUNTS	
As at 31 December 2023	27,934
	<hr/>
As at 31 December 2022	–
	<hr/>

For the purpose of impairment testing, goodwill has been allocated to Gold Vantage CGU which was acquired by the Group during the year ended 31 December 2023, and being the Smart Watch Manufacturing segment.

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18. GOODWILL *(Continued)*

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the recoverable amount of Gold Vantage CGU is determined by the management of the Group with reference to a valuation report issued by an independent professional valuer. The recoverable amount of Gold Vantage CGU has been determined from value-in-use calculation. The calculation used cash flow projections based on latest financial budgets approved by the management covering a period of five-year period, followed by an extrapolation of expected cash flow at zero growth rate which do not exceed the long-term growth rate for the business in which Gold Vantage CGU operates and a pre-tax discount rate of 20.15%. Cash flow projections during the budget period are based on the budgeted gross margins and growth rate, which have been determined based on past performance and the Group management's expectations for the market development and future performance of Gold Vantage CGU. The discount rate used is pre-tax and reflect specific risks related to Gold Vantage CGU. The performance of Gold Vantage CGU cannot achieve the expected budget. In accordance with the value-in-use calculation, the recoverable amount is lower than the carrying amount of Gold Vantage CGU. As a result, impairment loss of HK\$13,389,000 has been recognised during the year.

19. INVENTORIES

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Raw materials	48,147	141,466
Work-in-progress	135,680	153,605
Finished goods	140,957	27,206
	324,784	322,277

A reversal of provision of HK\$38,000 (2022: HK\$4,433,000), was recognised in cost of sales and consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, which made in prior years against the carrying value of raw materials and finished goods have been reversed due to an increase in the estimated net realisable value of certain products as a result of the increase in the demand of products as well as the production needs.

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20. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Non-current:		
Rental deposits	1,485	881
Current:		
Trade receivables, gross	139,540	96,151
Less: impairment loss allowance	(14,115)	(18,230)
Trade receivables, net	125,425	77,921
Other receivables	3,020	2,875
Other tax recoverable	339	957
Prepayments	2,007	5,646
Deposits	2,414	1,521
	7,780	10,999
Total current trade and other receivables	133,205	88,920
Total trade and other receivables	134,690	89,801

Included in the trade and other receivables, amounts of HK\$12,853,000 (2022: HK\$2,977,000) are due from the fellow subsidiaries of the Company.

The Group allows a credit period ranging from 30 to 360 days (2022: 30 to 120 days) to its trade customers. The following is an ageing analysis of trade receivables, net of impairment loss allowance, presented based on the invoice date which approximates the respective revenue recognition date:

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
0–90 days	48,375	52,336
91–180 days	15,087	12,901
181–270 days	22,373	9,324
Over 270 days	39,590	3,360
	125,425	77,921

Before accepting any new customer, the Group assesses the potential customer's credit worthiness and defines credit limits for each customer. Limits attributed to customers are reviewed annually.

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20. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES *(Continued)*

Movement in the impairment loss allowance for trade receivables

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Balance at beginning of the year	18,230	19,550
Provision for impairment losses allowance recognised	10,573	428
Reversal of impairment losses allowance recognised	(3,747)	(677)
Written off of impairment losses allowance recognised	(10,421)	–
Exchange realignment	(520)	(1,071)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Balance at the end of the year	14,115	18,230

Included in the impairment loss allowance as at 31 December 2023 are individually impaired trade receivables with an aggregate credit impaired balance of HK\$12,166,000 (2022: HK\$18,138,000) which has been fully impaired and expected credit loss allowance assessed on collective basis of HK\$1,949,000 (2022: HK\$92,000). The Group does not hold any collateral over these balances.

21. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss		
– 2023 Profit Compensation (as defined in note 30) <i>(note i)</i>	32,410	–
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss		
– 2024 Profit Compensation (as defined in note 30) <i>(note ii)</i>	26,592	–
– 2025 Profit Compensation (as defined in note 30) <i>(note iii)</i>	18,313	–
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	44,905	–

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

21. FINANCIAL ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS (Continued)

Notes:

- (i) The directors of the Company estimated that the audited profit after tax of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 would be less than HK\$30,000,000. The balance represented the fair value of the financial assets in relation to 2023 Profit Compensation and the directors have engaged an independent professional valuer to assist them to estimate the fair values as at 19 April 2023 (being the completion date of the acquisition) and 31 December 2023. The fair value gain of HK\$44,000,000 has been recognised in the other gains and losses for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- (ii) For the year ending 31 December 2024, the directors of the Company estimated that Gold Vantage Group cannot achieve the profit target based on a profit forecast. The balance represented the fair value of the financial liabilities in relation to 2024 Profit Compensation and the directors have engaged an independent professional valuer to assist them to estimate the fair values as at 19 April 2023 (being the completion date of the acquisition) and 31 December 2023. The fair value gain of HK\$8,871,000 has been recognised in the other gains and losses for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- (iii) For the year ending 31 December 2025, the directors of the Company estimated that Gold Vantage Group cannot achieve the profit target based on a profit forecast. The balance represented the fair value of the financial liabilities in relation to 2025 Profit Compensation and the directors have engaged an independent professional valuer to assist them to estimate the fair values as at 19 April 2023 (being the completion date of the acquisition) and 31 December 2023. The fair value gain of HK\$12,321,000 has been recognised in the other gains and losses for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- (iv) Subsequent to the reporting date, regarding the settlement of 2023 Profit Compensation, the Company has agreed with Fair Future Industrial Limited ("**Fair Future**"), an associate of ultimate holding company that the balance shall be set off by the followings:
 - a) HK\$5,270,000 advance from Fair Future during the year ended 31 December 2023 and included as amount due to a related party as at 31 December 2023;
 - b) HK\$10,000,000 advance from Fair Future in January 2024;
 - c) the outstanding cash consideration of the first installment of HK\$13,333,333.3 in relation to the acquisition as set out in note 30; and
 - d) the current account with fellow subsidiaries.

22. PLEDGED BANK DEPOSITS AND BANK BALANCES AND CASH

As at 31 December 2023, the bank deposits of HK\$5,000,000 (2022: HK\$6,500,000) are pledged to secure the short term banking facilities granted to the Group.

Bank balances carried market interest rates in the range of 0.00% to 0.25% (2022: 0.01% to 0.5%) per annum for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Included in bank balances and cash of the Group are the amount of approximately HK\$2,424,000 (2022: HK\$748,000) denominated in RMB which are placed with the banks in the PRC. RMB is not freely convertible into other currencies. Under the PRC's Foreign Exchange Control Regulations and Administration of Settlement, Sale and Payment of Foreign Exchange Regulations, the Group is permitted to exchange RMB into foreign currencies through the banks authorised to conduct foreign exchange business.

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23. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Trade payables	37,231	23,860
Other payables	18,517	2,529
Accruals	11,225	6,962
Contract liabilities arising from sales of goods	274	338
	67,247	33,689

The following is an ageing analysis of trade payables presented based on the invoice date at the end of the reporting period:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
1–30 days	13,958	1,541
31–60 days	4,169	1,791
Over 60 days	19,104	20,528
	37,231	23,860

The credit period for trade purchases ranges from 30 to 90 days.

Movement of contract liabilities

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Balance as at 1 January	388	947
Decrease in contract liabilities as a result of recognising revenue during the year	(388)	(947)
Increase in contract liabilities as receipt in advance	274	338
Balance as at 31 December	274	388

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24. AMOUNTS DUE TO RELATED PARTIES, FELLOW SUBSIDIARIES, A DIRECTOR AND AN ULTIMATE HOLDING COMPANY

As at 31 December 2023, amounts due to related parties of HK\$2,500,000 were unsecured, interest bearing at 5% annum and repayable on demand and RMB6,814,000 (equivalent to HK\$7,478,000) and HK\$3,577,000 were unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand. The related parties included the spouse of the executive director of the Company and the associate companies of ultimate holding company.

As at 31 December 2022, amount due to a related party of amount RMB645,000 (equivalent to HK\$728,000) was unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand. The related party is a key management personnel of the Group and the amount is fully repaid during the year ended 31 December 2023.

As at 31 December 2023, amounts due to fellow subsidiaries of aggregate amount of RMB225,994,000 (equivalent to HK\$247,984,000) and HK\$18,615,000 (2022: RMB217,190,000 (equivalent to HK\$244,990,000)) were unsecured, interest bearing at ranging from 0% to 4% (2022: 5% to 6%) per annum and repayable on demand.

As at 31 December 2023, amount due to a director of aggregate amount of HK\$2,424,000 (2022: HK\$2,503,000) were unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand. As at 31 December 2022, amount due to a director of aggregate amount HK\$1,000,000 was unsecured, interest bearing at 5% per annum and repayable within one year.

As at 31 December 2023, amount due to an ultimate holding company of principal amount of HK\$3,400,000 (2022: Nil) was unsecured, interest free and repayable on demand.

25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME

Hong Kong

Defined contribution plan

The Group operates the MPF Scheme for all qualifying employees in Hong Kong under the rules and regulations of the Mandatory Provident Fund Authority. The assets of the MPF Scheme are held separately from those of the Group, in funds under the control of trustees. Contributions are made based on a percentage of the participating employees' relevant income from the Group and are charged to profit or loss as they become payable in accordance with the rules of the MPF Scheme.

The Group participates in defined contribution schemes which are registered under the MPF Scheme established under the Mandatory Provident Fund Schemes Ordinance (Chapter 485 of the Laws of Hong Kong) ("**MPFSO**") for the benefits of its employees in Hong Kong. The assets of the schemes are held, separately from those of the Group, in funds under the control of independent trustees. In accordance with the statutory limits prescribed by the MPFSO, for each employee under the MPF Scheme, the Group contributes 5% (2022: 5%) of the relevant income to the MPF Scheme, subject to a cap of monthly contribution at HK\$1,500 per employee (2022: HK\$1,500), which contribution is matched by the employee. Contributions to the MPF Scheme for the Group's employees are fully and immediately vested in the employees once the contributions are made.

There were no contributions forfeited by the Group on behalf of its employees who leave the MPF Scheme (as the case may be) for the year ended 31 December 2023 (2022: Nil).

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25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME *(Continued)*

People's Republic of China

Defined contribution plan

According to the relevant laws and regulation in the PRC, the PRC subsidiary is required to contribute a certain percentage of the salaries of its employees to the state-managed retirement benefit scheme. The only obligations of the Group with respect to the retirement benefit scheme is to make the required contributions under the scheme.

Pursuant to the relevant laws and regulations in the PRC, the Group has joined defined contribution retirement schemes for the employees in the PRC arranged by local government labour and security authorities ("**PRC Retirement Schemes**"). The Group makes contributions to the PRC Retirement Schemes at the applicable rates based on the amounts stipulated by the local government authorities. Upon retirement, the local government labour and security authorities are responsible for the payment of the retirement benefits to the retired employees.

There were no contributions forfeited by the Group on behalf of its employees who leave the PRC Retirement Schemes (as the case may be).

Switzerland

Defined benefit scheme

The subsidiary in Switzerland contributes to a mandatory post-employment defined benefit plan, funded by contributions from both employees and employer (the "**Defined Benefit Scheme**"). The plan is operated by an insurance company in the form of a multi-employer scheme (Swiss Life Collective BVG Foundation).

The Defined Benefit Scheme exposes the Group to actuarial risks such as investment risk, interest rate risk, longevity risk and salary risk.

Investment risk	The present value of the defined benefit obligations is calculated using a discount rate determined by reference to high quality corporate bond yields; if the return on plan asset is below this rate, it will create a plan deficit. Due to the long-term nature of the plan liabilities, the board of the pension fund may consider it appropriate that a reasonable portion of the plan assets should be invested in equity securities and in real estate to leverage the return generated by the fund.
Interest risk	A decrease in the bond interest rate will increase the plan liability; however, this will be partially offset by an increase in the return on the Plan's debt investments.
Longevity risk	The present value of the defined benefit obligations is calculated by reference to the best estimate of the mortality of Scheme participants both during and after their employment. An increase in the life expectancy of the plan participants will increase the plan's liability.
Salary risk	The present value of the defined benefit obligations is calculated by reference to the future salaries of plan participants. As such, an increase in the salary of the plan participants will increase the plan's liability.

The valuations of the plan assets and the present value of the defined benefit obligations were estimated by the directors with reference to the actuarial valuation carried out at 31 December 2023 and 2022 by Swiss Life Pension Services AG, an independent qualified professional actuary and a member of the Swiss Associate of Actuaries in Switzerland. The present value of the defined benefit obligations and the related current service cost were measured using the projected unit credit method.

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25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME *(Continued)*

Switzerland *(Continued)*

Defined benefit scheme *(Continued)*

The principal actuarial assumptions used at the end of the reporting period are as follows:

	2023	2022
Price inflation	1.2%	1.2%
Discount rate	1.5%	2.3%
Long term rate of return on plan assets	1.5%	2.1%
Expected rate of salary increase	1.6%	1.2%
Average longevity at retirement age for current pensioners and employees	47.67	48.1

The actuarial valuation showed that the market value of plan assets was HK\$7,329,000 (2022: HK\$6,944,000) at 31 December 2023 and that the actuarial value of these assets represented 80% (2022: 88%) of the benefits that had accrued to members. The shortfall of HK\$1,836,000 (2022: HK\$915,000) is to be cleared over the estimated remaining service period of 10.6 years (2022: 10.7 years).

The overall expected rate of return is a weighted average of the expected returns of the various categories of Defined Benefit Scheme assets held.

Amounts recognised in consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income in respect of the Defined Benefit Scheme are as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Service costs:		
Current service cost	366	470
Past service cost	(6)	(150)
Net interest expense	22	8
Components of defined benefit cost recognised in profit or loss	382	328
Remeasurement on the net defined benefit obligations:		
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net interest expense)	154	(169)
Actuarial loss arising from experience adjustments	(2,146)	(2,880)
Deferred tax arising on remeasurement of the net defined benefit liability <i>(note 27)</i>	134	457
Components of defined benefit reversal recognised in other comprehensive income	(1,858)	(2,592)
Total amounts recognised in consolidated statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income	(1,476)	(2,264)

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25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME *(Continued)*

Switzerland *(Continued)*

Defined benefit scheme *(Continued)*

The expense is included as employee benefits expense and partially included in cost of sales.

The remeasurement of net defined benefit obligations is included in other comprehensive income.

The amount included in the consolidated statements of financial position arising from the Group's obligations in respect of the Scheme is as follows:

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Present value of defined benefit obligations	(9,193)	(7,859)
Fair value of plan assets	7,330	6,944
Net liability arising from defined benefit obligations	(1,863)	(915)

Movements of the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Opening present value of defined benefit obligations	7,859	10,308
Current service cost	366	470
Past service cost	(6)	(150)
Interest cost	187	20
Remeasurement gains:		
Actuarial gains arising from experience adjustments	(2,146)	(2,880)
Benefits paid	(1,074)	(251)
Contribution paid by employees	6	155
Contribution paid by plan participants	382	358
Exchange differences on foreign plans	3,619	(171)
Closing present value of defined benefit obligations	9,193	7,859

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25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME *(Continued)*

Switzerland *(Continued)*

Defined benefit scheme *(Continued)*

Movements of the fair value of planned assets were as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Opening fair value of plan assets	6,944	6,185
Interest income	165	12
Remeasurement gains:		
Return on plan assets (excluding amounts included in net interest expense)	(154)	169
Contributions from employers	382	358
Benefits paid	(1,074)	(251)
Contributions paid by plan participants	382	358
Contributions paid by employees	6	155
Exchange differences on foreign plans	679	(42)
Closing fair value of plan assets	7,330	6,944

The fair value of the plan assets at the end of the reporting period for each category are as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Time deposits, fixed interest and cash and cash equivalents	4,871	4,615
Real estate	1,199	1,136
Mortgages and other claims	565	535
Others	695	658
	7,330	6,944

The fair values of real estate, mortgages and other claims, and others are not based on quoted market price in active markets.

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25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME *(Continued)*

Switzerland *(Continued)*

Defined benefit scheme *(Continued)*

Significant actuarial assumptions for the determination of the defined obligations are discount rate, expected salary increase and mortality. The sensitivity analyses below have been determined based on reasonably possible changes of the respective assumptions occurring at the end of the reporting period, while holding all other assumptions constant.

- If the discount rate is 0.5% higher/(lower), the defined benefit obligations would decrease by approximately HK\$735,000 (2022: HK\$629,000) (increase by approximately HK\$855,000 (2022: HK\$731,000)).
- If the expected salary growth increases/(decreases) by 0.5%, the defined benefit obligations would increase by approximately HK\$46,000 (2022: HK\$39,000) (decrease by approximately HK\$46,000 (2022: HK\$39,000)).
- If the life expectancy increases/(decreases) by 1 year, the defined benefit obligations would increase by approximately HK\$92,000 (2022: HK\$79,000) (decrease by approximately HK\$92,000 (2022: HK\$79,000)).

The sensitivity analysis presented above may not be representative of the actual change in the defined benefit obligations as it is unlikely that the change in assumptions would occur in isolation of one another as some of the assumptions may be correlated.

Furthermore, in presenting the above sensitivity analysis, the present value of the defined benefit obligations has been calculated using the projected unit credit method at the end of the reporting period, which is the same as that applied in calculating the defined benefit obligations liability recognised in the consolidated statements of financial position.

The Group's subsidiary in Switzerland funded the cost of the entitlements of employees on a yearly basis. Employees pay approximately 8% of pensionable salary. The residual contribution (including back service payments) is paid by the subsidiary of the Group. The funding requirements are based on the local actuarial measurement framework. In this framework, the discount rate is set on a risk free rate. Furthermore, premiums are determined based on current salary level. Additional liabilities stemming from past service due to salary increases (back-service liabilities) are paid immediately to the Defined Benefit Scheme.

The average duration of the defined benefit obligation at 31 December 2023 is expected to be 18.5 years (2022: 17.1 years).

The Group expects to make a contribution of HK\$385,000 (2022: HK\$394,000) to the defined benefit plan during the next financial year ending 31 December 2024.

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25. RETIREMENT BENEFIT SCHEME *(Continued)*

Switzerland *(Continued)*

Defined benefit scheme *(Continued)*

The following are the expected benefits to be paid by the defined benefit plan in future years:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Within the next 12 months (next annual reporting period)	385	394
Between 2 to 5 years	1,224	1,660
Between 5 to 10 years	2,780	2,457
	4,389	4,511

26. BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Bank borrowings <i>(note a)</i>	15,706	16,870
Other borrowings <i>(note b)</i>	17,533	15,979
	33,239	32,849
Less: Current portion	(30,925)	(29,390)
Non-current portion	2,314	3,459

(a) Bank borrowings

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Bank loans, secured <i>(note)</i>	9,220	13,000
Import trade loans, secured <i>(note)</i>	6,486	3,870
	15,706	16,870
Less: Current portion	(13,392)	(13,411)
Non-current portion	2,314	3,459

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26. BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS *(Continued)*

(a) Bank borrowings *(Continued)*

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
The borrowing repayable based on scheduled repayment date set out in the loan agreements, are as follows:		
Within one year or on demand	13,392	13,411
More than two years, but not exceeding five years	2,314	3,459
	15,706	16,870

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
The carrying amounts of bank borrowings that contain a repayment on demand clause (shown under current liabilities) but repayable:		
Within one year or on demand	9,220	13,000

The exposure of the Group's borrowings are as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Variable-rate borrowings	9,220	13,000

The Group's variable-rate borrowings carry interest at Hong Kong Interbank Offered Rate ("**HIBOR**") plus certain basis points.

The ranges of effective interest rate on the Group's borrowings are as follow:

	2023	2022
Effective interest rate:		
Variable-rate borrowings	7.67% to 8.63%	6.97% to 8.88%

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26. BANK AND OTHER BORROWINGS *(Continued)*

(a) Bank borrowings *(Continued)*

Notes:

- (i) As at 31 December 2023, the bank borrowings of HK\$12,220,000 (2022: HK\$13,000,000) were secured by:
- the value of the deposits charged shall at all times be not less than HK\$5,000,000 (2022: HK\$6,500,000) or its equivalent in other currencies;
 - an assignment of insurance policy in the bank's standard form executed by a subsidiary as policy holder and beneficiary to assign by way of security to the bank all the rights title, interests and benefits in and to a policy in the amount of USD200,000 and Teguh Halim as the insured party issued by an insurance company acceptable to the bank, and the proceeds of such policy, free from all encumbrances (2022: nil);
 - corporate guarantee provided by certain subsidiaries within the Group as at 31 December 2023 and 2022; and
 - an assignment of insurance policy in the bank's standard form executed by a fellow subsidiary as policy holder to assign by way of security to the bank all the rights title, interests and benefits in and to a policy in the amount of USD5,371,116 (2022: USD5,371,116) and Teguh Halim as the insured party issued by an insurance company acceptable to the bank, and the proceeds of such policy, free from all encumbrances.
- (ii) At the reporting date, the bank borrowings of HK\$6,486,000 (2022: HK\$3,870,000) were secured by guarantee provided by the Government of Switzerland.

(b) Other borrowings

As at 31 December 2023, the loan from Mr. Shang Jianguang, an ex-director of the Company of aggregate amount of HK\$15,227,000 (2022: HK\$15,189,000) was unsecured, interest bearing at 6% (2022: 5%) per annum and repayable on demand.

As at 31 December 2023, the other borrowings from certain third parties, amount of RMB700,000 (equivalent to HK\$768,000) (2022: RMB700,000 (equivalent to HK\$790,000)) was unsecured, interest bearing at range from 0% to 6% (2022: 0% to 6%) per annum and repayable within one year and amount of RMB1,402,000 (equivalent to HK\$1,538,000) were unsecured, interest-free and repayable on demand.

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27. DEFERRED TAXATION

The following are the major deferred tax (liabilities)/assets recognised by the Group and movements thereon during the current and prior years:

	Tax losses HK\$'000	Fair value adjustment arising from business combination HK\$'000	Accelerated tax depreciation HK\$'000	Defined benefit pension scheme HK\$'000	Others HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At 1 January 2022	-	-	(1,448)	611	(13,232)	(14,069)
Charged to profit or loss (<i>note 11</i>)	-	-	(1,830)	(5)	2,109	274
Credit to actuarial gain and loss reserve (<i>note 25</i>)	-	-	-	(457)	-	(457)
Exchange realignment	-	-	15	(21)	139	133
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	-	-	(3,263)	128	(10,984)	(14,119)
Charged to profit or loss (<i>note 11</i>)	(85)	2,113	(2,008)	4	1,595	1,619
Acquisition of subsidiaries (<i>note 30</i>)	7,690	(17,096)	-	-	-	(9,406)
Credit to actuarial gain and loss reserve (<i>note 25</i>)	-	-	-	(134)	-	(134)
Exchange realignment	(243)	83	(315)	2	(499)	(972)
At 31 December 2023	7,362	(14,900)	(5,586)	-	(9,888)	(23,012)

Note: Others represent the temporary difference arising from the special deduction made on the inventories and accruals held by subsidiaries.

The following is the analysis of the deferred tax balances in the consolidated statements of financial position for financial reporting purposes:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Deferred tax assets	7,362	-
Deferred tax liabilities	(30,374)	(14,119)
	(23,012)	(14,119)

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27. DEFERRED TAXATION *(Continued)*

At the end of the reporting period, no deferred tax asset has been recognised in respect of such deductible temporary differences of HK\$3,800,000 (2022: HK\$16,627,000) which were associated with unrealised profit generated on intra-group transactions due to unpredictability of future profit streams.

At the end of the reporting period, the Group has estimated unutilised tax losses of HK\$509,987,000 (2022: HK\$493,467,000) available for offset against future profits. No deferred tax asset has been recognised in respect of these estimated unutilised tax losses due to unpredictability of future profit streams. Included in estimated unrecognised tax losses are losses of HK\$59,117,000 (2022: HK\$38,904,000) that will expire during the period from 2024 to 2028 (2022: 2023 to 2027). Other estimated unutilised tax losses may be carried forward indefinitely.

28. CAPITAL AND RESERVES

(i) Share capital

	Number of ordinary shares '000	Par value HK\$	Share capital HK\$'000
Authorised:			
Balance at 1 January 2022, 31 December 2022, 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023	10,000,000	0.01	100,000
Issued and fully paid:			
Balance at 1 January 2022, 31 December 2022, 1 January 2023	347,437	0.01	3,474
Issue of consideration shares <i>(Note)</i>	12,821	0.01	129
Balance at 31 December 2023	360,258	0.01	3,603

All shares issued rank pari passu.

Note:

In April 2023, the Company issued 12,820,512 ordinary shares to Fair Future Industrial Limited, being the Vendor of Gold Vantage Group, as the first instalment of the consideration shares for acquisition of Gold Vantage Group. The details of the acquisition are set out in note 30 to the consolidated financial statements.

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28. CAPITAL AND RESERVES *(Continued)*

(ii) Reserves

The Group

Details of the movements of the Group's reserves are set out in the consolidated statements of changes in equity.

The Company

	Share premium HK\$'000	Accumulated losses HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
At and 1 January 2022	182,099	(93,118)	88,981
Total comprehensive income for the year	–	(5,212)	(5,212)
At 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	182,099	(98,330)	83,769
Issue of consideration shares	30,640	–	30,640
Total comprehensive income for the year	–	(7,240)	(7,240)
At 31 December 2023	212,739	(105,570)	107,169

29. LEASE LIABILITIES

The amount included in the consolidated statements of financial position in respect of the carrying amounts of lease liabilities and the movements during the year is as follows:

	Land and buildings leased for own use HK\$'000	Motor vehicles leased for own use HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
As at 1 January 2022	12,956	581	13,537
Interest expense	507	18	525
Effect of modification to lease terms	(193)	–	(193)
Lease payments	(5,245)	(441)	(5,686)
Exchange realignment	(356)	(10)	(366)
As at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	7,669	148	7,817
Interest expense	758	3	761
Acquisition of subsidiaries <i>(note 30)</i>	373	–	373
Effect of modification to lease terms	22,532	–	22,532
Lease payments	(8,086)	(149)	(8,235)
Exchange realignment	(178)	(2)	(180)
As at 31 December 2023	23,068	–	23,068

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29. LEASE LIABILITIES *(Continued)*

Future lease payments are due as follows:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Minimum lease payment due		
– Within one year	8,400	5,206
– In the second to fifth years, inclusive	16,654	2,905
	25,054	8,111
Less: future interest expenses	(1,986)	(294)
Present value of lease liabilities	23,068	7,817

The present value of future lease payments are analysed as:

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Current liabilities	7,625	4,935
Non-current liabilities	15,443	2,882
	23,068	7,817

	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Short-term leases expenses	1,247	292
Aggregate undiscounted commitments for short term leases	67	88

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30. ACQUISITION OF SUBSIDIARIES

Acquisition of Gold Vantage Group

On 19 April 2023, the Group completed the acquisition of the entire equity interest of Gold Vantage at the consideration of HK\$108,456,000 from Fair Future. Gold Vantage Group are principally engaged in the business of design, development and manufacturing of stainless-steel alloy watches cases, smart watch cases on ODM or OEM basis.

Pursuant to the sales and purchase agreement, the consideration shall be settled by way of issuing 38,461,538 consideration shares and HK\$40,000,000 by cash in different timeslots from 2023 to 2026. The number of consideration shares and the amount of cash consideration for the settlement shall be subject to the adjustment pursuant to the profit guarantee, in which Fair Future guarantees to the Company that the net profit after tax of Gold Vantage Group for each of financial years ending 31 December 2023, 31 December 2024 and 31 December 2025 shall not be less than HK\$30,000,000 (the **"Profit Target"**). If there is any shortfall of the Profit Target in any such year, an amount equal to 1.5 times the amount by which the actual net profit after tax is less than the Profit Target (the **"Profit Compensation"**) shall be payable by the vendor to the Company. In the event that Gold Vantage Group recorded loss in its consolidated financial statements, Fair Future shall still compensate the Company 1.5 times of the difference between the net loss after tax and HK\$30,000,000.

The consideration shall be reduced by the amount of the Profit Compensation firstly by the reduction of the outstanding consideration shares for the instalment and then the balance of the Profit Compensation shall be reduced by the outstanding cash consideration for the instalment. If the unpaid instalment is not sufficient to set off the Profit Compensation, the difference between the Profit Compensation and the unpaid instalment shall be paid in cash by Fair Future to the Company within 30 business days after the issuance of the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the respective financial year.

The first instalment of 12,820,512 consideration shares has been issued to Fair Future at the completion date on 19 April 2023. The first instalment of cash consideration of HK\$13,333,333.3 shall be paid to Fair Future (i) on 1 April 2024 if the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 has been issued on or before 31 March 2024 or (ii) within 30 business days after the issuance of annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 if the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2023 is issued after 31 March 2024.

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30. ACQUISITION OF SUBSIDIARIES *(Continued)*

Acquisition of Gold Vantage Group *(Continued)*

The second instalment of 12,820,513 consideration shares shall be issued to Fair Future (i) on 1 April 2025 if the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2024 has been issued on or before 31 March 2025 or (ii) within 30 business days after the issuance of annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2024 if the annual financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2024 is issued after 31 March 2025. Payment for the second instalment of cash consideration of HK\$13,333,333.3 is subject to the net profit after tax for the six months ending 30 June 2024 attained by Gold Vantage Group ("**2024 H1 Profit**"):

- (i) If the 2024 H1 Profit is not less than HK\$14,000,000, an amount up to HK\$13,333,333.3 shall be paid to Fair Future on 1 September 2024.
- (ii) If the 2024 H1 Profit is HK\$12,000,000 or more but less than HK\$14,000,000, an amount of HK\$12,000,000.00 shall be paid to Fair Future on 1 September 2024. If the 2024 H1 Profit is HK\$10,000,000 or more but less than HK\$12,000,000, an amount of HK\$10,000,000.00 shall be paid to Fair Future on 1 September 2024. The respective shortfall between HK\$13,333,333.3 of the second instalment cash consideration and the amount of cash paid under the aforesaid scenarios shall be paid to Fair Future (i) on 1 April 2025 if the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2024 has been issued on or before 31 March 2025; or (ii) within 30 business days after the issuance of the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2024 if the annual financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2024 is issued after 31 March 2025.
- (iii) If the 2024 H1 Profit is less than HK\$10,000,000, an amount up to HK\$13,333,333.3 shall be paid to Fair Future (i) on 1 April 2025 if the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2024 has been issued on or before 31 March 2025; or (ii) within 30 business days after the issuance of the annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2024 if the annual financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2024 is issued after 31 March 2025.

The third instalment of 12,820,513 consideration shares of shall be issued to Fair Future and the third instalment cash consideration of HK\$13,333,333.4 shall be paid to Fair Future (i) on 1 April 2026 if the Annual Financial Statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2025 has been issued on or before 31 March 2026 or (ii) within 30 business days after the issuance of annual financial statements of Gold Vantage Group for the year ending 31 December 2025 if the annual financial statements for the year ending 31 December 2025 is issued after 31 March 2026.

The fair value of the consideration is determined as follows:

	HK\$'000
Issuance of first instalment consideration shares at the completion	30,769
Derivative financial liabilities in relation to 2023 Profit Compensation	11,590
Derivative financial liabilities in relation to 2024 Profit Compensation	35,463
Derivative financial liabilities in relation to 2025 Profit Compensation	30,634
Total consideration	108,456

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

30. ACQUISITION OF SUBSIDIARIES *(Continued)*

Acquisition of Gold Vantage Group *(Continued)*

Details of the net assets acquired as at the acquisition date are as follows:

	HK\$'000
Total consideration	108,456
Less: Fair value of net assets acquired	(66,278)
Goodwill	42,178

The goodwill of HK\$42,178,000 arising from the acquisition is attributable to the growth and profit potential in the expansion of smart watches business. None of the goodwill recognised is expected to be deductible for income tax purposes.

The fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities arising from the acquisition of Gold Vantage Group as at the date of acquisition:

	Fair value HK\$'000
Property, plant and equipment (note 15)	24,806
Intangible assets (note 17)	69,211
Deferred tax assets (note 27)	7,690
Inventories	7,679
Trade receivables	11,067
Prepayments, deposits and other receivables	2,755
Cash and cash equivalents	12,186
Deferred tax liabilities (note 27)	(17,096)
Trade payables	(10,506)
Bank borrowings	(5,336)
Lease liabilities (note 29)	(373)
Other payables and accruals	(35,805)
Fair value of net assets acquired	66,278

	HK\$'000
Net cash inflow from acquisition of subsidiaries:	
Cash and cash equivalents in subsidiaries acquired	12,186

Gold Vantage Group contributed revenue of approximately HK\$53,011,000 and profit after tax of approximately HK\$7,929,000 to the Group from the date of acquisition to 31 December 2023.

Had the business combination taken place on 1 January 2023, revenue of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 would have been increase by approximately HK\$18,435,000 and net profit would have decreased by HK\$8,454,000. The pro-forma information is for illustrative purposes only and is not necessarily an indication of revenue and results of the operations of the Group that actually would have been achieved had the acquisition of Gold Vantage Group been completed on 1 January 2023 nor are they intended to be a projection of future results.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

31. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE COMPANY

	<i>Notes</i>	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
ASSETS AND LIABILITIES			
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Investment in subsidiaries	36	32,641	32,641
Amount due from subsidiaries		66,814	37,504
		99,455	70,145
CURRENT ASSETS			
Other receivables		103	105
Amount due from a subsidiary		36,612	37,339
Bank balances and cash		46	66
		36,761	37,510
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Other payable and accruals		1,246	1,719
Amount due to a related party		5,270	–
Amount due to fellow subsidiaries		300	–
Amount due to a subsidiary		1	1
Amount due to a director		–	3,503
Amount due to an ultimate holding company		3,400	–
Other borrowings		15,227	15,189
		25,444	20,412
NET CURRENT ASSETS		11,317	17,098
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		110,772	87,243
NET ASSETS		110,772	87,243
EQUITY			
Share capital	28	3,603	3,474
Reserves	28	107,169	83,769
TOTAL EQUITY		110,772	87,243

Approved and authorised for issued by the board of directors on 27 March 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Teguh Halim
Director

Lam Lai
Director

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

32. CAPITAL RISK MANAGEMENT

The Group manages its capital to ensure that the Group will be able to continue as a going concern while maximising the return to shareholders through the optimisation of the debt and equity balance. The Group's overall strategy remained unchanged from the prior year.

The capital structure of the Group consists of debt, which includes amounts due to related parties, fellow subsidiaries, an ultimate holding company, a director and bank and other borrowings as disclosed in notes 24 and 26 respectively, net of cash and cash equivalents, and equity comprising issued share capital and reserves.

The directors of the Group review the capital structure regularly. As part of this review, the directors consider the cost of capital and the risks associated with capital, and will balance its overall capital structure through payments of dividends, new share issues as well as issue of new debts or redemption of the existing debts.

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

(a) Categories of financial instruments

	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Financial assets		
Amortised cost	139,462	94,422
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	33,821	–
	173,283	94,422
Financial liabilities		
Amortised cost	398,033	316,276
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	44,905	–
	442,938	316,276

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Group's major financial instruments include trade and other receivables, pledged bank deposit, bank balances and cash, trade and other payables, bank and other borrowings, amounts due to related parties, fellow subsidiaries, an ultimate holding company and a director. Details of these financial instruments are disclosed in respective notes. The risks associated with these financial instruments include market risk (foreign currency risk and interest rate risk), credit risk, liquidity risk and fair value. The policies on how to mitigate these risks are set out below. The management manages and monitors these exposures to ensure appropriate measures are implemented on a timely and effective manner.

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33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Market risk

(i) Foreign currency risk

The Group undertakes certain transactions denominated in foreign currencies, which expose the Group to foreign currency risk. The Group currently does not have a foreign currency hedging policy, but the management will consider hedging significant foreign currency exposure as necessary. The Group manages the foreign currency risk by closely monitoring the movement of the foreign currency exchange rates.

As at 31 December 2023 and 2022, except for the followings, the Group does not have significant financial assets or financial liabilities denominated in foreign currencies other than the functional currencies of the respective group companies. The carrying amounts of the Group's foreign currency denominated monetary assets and monetary liabilities at the end of each reporting period are as follows:

	Liabilities		Assets	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Third parties				
RMB	665	–	1,649	–
Intra-group balances				
RMB	71	3,424	–	–
CHF	54,173	71,398	–	–

Sensitivity analysis

As at 31 December 2023 and 2022, financial assets and liabilities denominated in USD belongs to group companies of which their functional currency is HK\$. As HK\$ is pegged to USD, the Group consider the risk arising from transactions denominated in USD is insignificant. The Group is mainly exposed to the foreign currency risk of RMB against the functional currency of each group entity.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Market risk *(Continued)*

(i) Foreign currency risk *(Continued)*

Sensitivity analysis *(Continued)*

The Group is also exposed to currency risk concerning intra-group current accounts of trade nature, which are denominated in currencies other than the functional currency of each group entity.

The following table indicates the approximate change in the Group's profit (2022: loss) for the year in response to 5% (2022: 5%) increase or decrease in the functional currency of each group entity against RMB and CHF respectively to which the Group has significant exposure at the end of the reporting period. A sensitivity rate of 5% (2022: 5%) on RMB and 10% (2022: 10%) on CHF represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in foreign currency exchange rates.

	RMB impact		CHF impact	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	Increase/ (decrease) in profit HK\$'000	Increase/ (decrease) in loss HK\$'000	Increase/ (decrease) in profit HK\$'000	Increase/ (decrease) in loss HK\$'000
Increase in foreign exchange rate	(4)	171	(5,417)	7,140
Decrease in foreign exchange rate	4	(171)	5,417	(7,140)

In management's opinion, the sensitivity analysis is unrepresentative of the inherent foreign exchange risk as the year end exposure at the end of the reporting period does not reflect the exposure during the year.

(ii) Interest rate risk

The Group is exposed to fair value interest rate risk in relation to fixed-rate loan from an ultimate holding company, fellow subsidiaries, a director and related parties for both the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023 (see note 24 for details).

The Group is also exposed to cash flow interest rate risk due to fluctuations in the prevailing market interest rate on bank balances in 2023 and pledged bank deposits, bank balances and variable-rate bank borrowings in 2022. For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group's cash flow interest rate risk mainly concentrates on the fluctuation of HIBOR arising from the Group's Hong Kong dollar denominated borrowings. For the years ended 31 December 2022 and 2023, the management considers the exposure to interest rate risk in relation to pledged bank deposits and bank balances is insignificant due to the present low interest rate situation. The Group currently does not use any derivative contract to hedge its exposure to interest rate risk. However, the management of the Group, will consider hedging significant interest rate exposure should the need arise.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Market risk *(Continued)*

(ii) Interest rate risk *(Continued)*

The sensitivity analysis below has been determined based on the exposure to interest rates for variable-rate bank borrowings and prevailing market interest rate on bank balances for the years ended 31 December 2023 and 2022. The analysis is prepared assuming the amount of liability outstanding at the end of the reporting period existed for the whole year. A 100 basis point increase or decrease represents management's assessment of the reasonably possible change in interest rates.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, if interest rates had been 100 basis point higher/lower and all other variables were held constant, the Group's profit would (decrease)/increase by HK\$91,000.

For the year ended 31 December 2022, if interest rates had been 100 basis point higher/lower and all other variables were held constant, the Group's loss would increase/(decrease) by HK\$63,000.

Credit risk

As at 31 December 2023 except for the 2023 Profit Compensation (note 21), the Group's maximum exposure to credit risk which will cause a financial loss to the Group due to failure to discharge an obligation by the counterparties is arising from the carrying amount of the respective recognised financial assets as stated in the consolidated statement of financial position.

The Group's credit risk is primarily attributable to its trade and other receivables, pledged bank deposits and bank balances. Management has a credit policy in place and exposure to credit risk are monitored on an ongoing basis.

For the trade receivables, the Group carries out regular review on these balances and follow-up action on any overdue amounts to minimise exposures to credit risk. The Group measures the lifetime expected credit losses based on the outstanding balances and historical credit loss experience adjusted to reflect the Group's view of current and forecast economic conditions that may affect the ability of the debtors to settle receivables.

For other receivables, the Group considers the probability of default upon initial recognition of assets and whether there has been a significant increase in credit risk on an ongoing basis throughout each reporting period. To assess whether there is a significant increase in credit risk, the Group compares the risk of a default occurring on the assets as at the reporting date with the risk of default as at the date of initial recognition.

In determining expected credit loss, management considers available reasonable and supportive forward looking information. Especially the following indicators are incorporated:

- external credit rating (as far as available)
- actual or expected significant adverse changes in business, financial or economic conditions that are expected to cause a significant change to the counterparty's ability to meet its obligations
- actual or expected significant changes in the operating results of the counterparty
- significant expected changes in the performance and behaviour of the counterparty, including changes in the payment status of counterparties in the group and changes in the operating results of the counterparty

Notes to the Consolidated

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Credit risk *(Continued)*

A default on a financial asset is when the counterparty fails to make contractual payments when they fall due.

Financial assets are written off when there is no reasonable expectation of recovery.

Included in the impairment loss allowance for trade receivables are individually impaired trade receivables with an aggregate credit-impaired balance of HK\$12,166,000 (2022: HK\$18,138,000) which has been fully impaired and expected credit loss allowance of HK\$1,949,000 as at 31 December 2023 (2022: HK\$92,000). The group does not hold any collateral over these balances.

The loss allowance as at 31 December 2023 was determined for trade receivables (after excluding credit-impaired balance) as follows:

	Expected credit loss rate – weighted average (%)	Gross carrying amount (after excluding credit-impaired balance) HK\$'000	Loss allowance HK\$'000	Net amount HK\$'000
Not yet past due	0.36%	87,252	31	87,221
Overdue within 90 days	0.20%	15,438	31	15,407
Overdue 91 to 180 days	2.67%	7,962	213	7,749
Overdue over 180 days	10.01%	16,722	1,674	15,048
		127,374	1,949	125,425

The loss allowance as at 31 December 2022 was determined for trade receivables (after excluding credit-impaired balance) as follows:

	Expected credit loss rate – weighted average (%)	Gross carrying amount (after excluding credit-impaired balance) HK\$'000	Loss allowance HK\$'000	Net amount HK\$'000
Not yet past due	0.00%	48,795	–	48,795
Overdue within 90 days	0.10%	22,016	22	21,994
Overdue 91 to 180 days	0.50%	3,795	19	3,776
Overdue over 180 days	1.50%	3,407	51	3,356
		78,013	92	77,921

Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Credit risk *(Continued)*

For the other receivables, balances mainly comprise of rental deposits. Management considers rental deposits do not have significant increase in credit risk since initial recognition, and the deposits are refundable from landlords upon end of lease term or recoverable by the Group through using the leased property. The management performed assessment over the expected credit loss for the other receivables and considered the expected credit loss for the other receivables is immaterial.

The credit risk on pledged bank deposits and bank balances is limited because the majority of the counterparties are banks with good reputation. No impairment had been provided under 12-month expected credit loss assessment.

For the year ended 31 December 2023, the Group has concentration of credit risk as 39.5% and 11.3% (2022: 47.5% and 14.8%) of the total trade receivables are due from the Group's five largest and largest trade customers.

Other than those described above, the Group has no significant concentration of credit risk, with exposure spread over a number of counterparties and customers.

Liquidity risk

The management of the Group has built an appropriate liquidity risk management framework for the management of the Group's short, medium and long-term funding and liquidity management requirements. The management manages liquidity risk by closely monitoring the Group's cash flow position.

The liquidity of the Group is primarily dependent on the undertakings from (i) an ultimate holding company to provide adequate continuing financial support to the Group and (ii) fellow subsidiaries not to demand repayment of debts due to them until such time when repayment will not affect the Group's ability to repay other creditors in the normal course of business.

The following table details the Group's remaining contractual maturity for its non-derivative financial liabilities based on the agreed repayment terms. The table has been drawn up based on the undiscounted cash flows of financial liabilities based on the earliest date on which the Group can be required to pay. The table includes both interest and principal cash flows. To the extent that interest flows are floating rate, the undiscounted amount is derived from interest rate at the end of the reporting period.

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Liquidity risk *(Continued)*

Specifically, bank loans with a repayment on demand clause are included in the earliest time band regardless of the probability of the banks choosing to exercise their rights. The maturity analysis for other non-derivative financial liabilities is prepared based on the scheduled repayment dates.

	Weighted average effective interest rate %	Repayable on demand or less than 3 months HK\$'000	3 months to 1 year HK\$'000	1 year to 2 years HK\$'000	2 years to 5 years HK\$'000	Total undiscounted cash flows HK\$'000	Carrying amount HK\$'000
At 31 December 2023							
Non-derivative financial liabilities							
Trade and other payables	-	55,748	-	-	-	55,748	55,748
Variable interest rate bank borrowings <i>(note)</i>	8.48	121	12,626	-	-	12,747	12,220
Other borrowings	1.35	17,770	-	-	-	17,770	17,533
Bank borrowing guaranteed by Swiss Government	1.50	411	392	784	1,957	3,544	3,486
Amount due to an ultimate holding company	-	3,400	-	-	-	3,400	3,400
Amount due to a director	-	2,424	-	-	-	2,424	2,424
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	0.74	268,575	-	-	-	268,575	266,599
Amounts due to related parties	0.23	13,584	-	-	-	13,584	13,555
Lease liabilities	4.30	2,457	5,209	4,778	12,611	25,055	23,068
		364,490	18,227	5,562	14,568	402,847	398,033
At 31 December 2022							
Non-derivative financial liabilities							
Trade and other payables	-	26,389	-	-	-	26,389	26,389
Variable interest rate bank borrowings <i>(note)</i>	8.13	2,941	11,116	-	-	14,057	13,000
Other borrowings	3.67	15,746	819	-	-	16,565	15,979
Bank borrowing guaranteed by Swiss Government	-	-	411	3,459	-	3,870	3,870
Amount due to a director	1.43	3,553	-	-	-	3,553	3,503
Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	4.95	142,297	114,820	-	-	257,117	244,990
Amount due to a related party	-	728	-	-	-	728	728
Lease liabilities	5.00	1,299	3,868	2,944	-	8,111	7,817
		192,953	131,034	6,403	-	330,390	316,276

Note: Bank borrowings with a repayment on demand clause are included in the repayable on demand or less than 3 months' time band category in the above maturity analysis. At 31 December 2023, the aggregate undiscounted principal amounts of these bank borrowings amounted to HK\$12,747,000 (2022: HK\$14,057,000). Taking into account the Group's financial position, the directors of the Company do not believe that it is probable that the banks will exercise their discretionary rights to demand immediate repayment. The directors of the Company believe that such bank borrowings will be repaid by monthly instalments which will be wholly repayable in accordance with the scheduled repayment dates set out in the loan agreements. At that time, the aggregate principal and interest cash outflows will amount to HK\$12,220,000 (2022: HK\$13,000,000).

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Fair value measurements

The fair values of the Group's financial assets and financial liabilities are determined as follows:

- the fair values of unlisted investment in insurance policy is determined based on amount value as stated in cash surrender value statement issued by insurer.
- the fair values of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss as set out in note 21 is determined by the directors of the Company with reference to actual result of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023.
- the fair values of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss as set out in note 21 is determined by the directors of the Company with reference to forecast result of Gold Vantage Group for the years ending 31 December 2024 or 2025.

IFRS 13 introduced a three-level hierarchy for fair value measurement disclosures and additional disclosures about the relative reliability of fair value measurements.

The hierarchy groups financial assets and financial liabilities into three levels based on the relative reliability of significant inputs used in measuring the fair value of these financial assets and financial liabilities. The fair value hierarchy has the following levels:

- Level 1: unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2: observable direct and indirect inputs other than quoted prices included within Level 1; and
- Level 3: unobservable inputs are inputs for which market data are not available

The financial assets and financial liabilities measured at fair value in the consolidated statement of financial position are grouped into the fair value hierarchy as follows:

	Level 1 HK\$'000	Level 2 HK\$'000	Level 3 HK\$'000	Total HK\$'000
As at 31 December 2023				
Assets				
Life insurance policy	–	1,411	–	1,411
Financial assets at fair value through profit or loss	–	–	32,410	32,410
	–	1,411	32,410	33,810
Liabilities				
Financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss	–	–	44,905	44,905

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Fair value measurements *(Continued)*

There have been no significant transfers between Levels 1 and 2 in the reporting period.

The level in the fair value hierarchy within which the financial assets and financial liabilities are categorised in its entirety is based on the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement.

The fair value of 2023 Profit Compensation (refer to note 21) classified as financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is Level 3 recurring fair value measurement. A reconciliation of the opening and closing fair value balances are provided as below.

	2023 HK\$'000
Opening balance (Level 3 recurring fair value)	–
Derivative financial liabilities in relation in 2023 Profit Compensation arising from the business acquisition <i>(note 30)</i>	(11,590)
Fair value change during the year	44,000
Closing balance (Level 3 recurring fair value)	32,410

One of the key significant unobservable inputs to determine the fair value of derivative financial assets at fair value through profit or loss is the actual result of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023.

A better actual financial result of Gold Vantage Group for the year ended 31 December 2023 would result in a decrease in the fair value of financial assets at fair value through profit or loss, and vice versa.

The fair values of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss is Level 3 recurring fair value measurement. A reconciliation of the opening and closing fair value balances are provided as below.

	2023 HK\$'000
Opening balance (Level 3 recurring fair value)	–
Derivative financial liabilities in relation in 2024 and 2025 Profit Compensation arising from the business acquisition <i>(note 30)</i>	(66,097)
Fair value change during the year	21,192
Closing balance (Level 3 recurring fair value)	(44,905)

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

33. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS *(Continued)*

(b) Financial risk management objectives and policies *(Continued)*

Fair value measurements *(Continued)*

One of the key significant unobservable inputs to determine the fair values of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss is the forecast result of Gold Vantage Group for the years ended 31 December 2024 or 2025.

A better forecast financial result of Gold Vantage Group for the years ended 31 December 2024 or 2025 would result in increase in the fair values of financial liabilities at fair value through profit or loss, and vice versa.

34. NOTE TO THE CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities

	Lease liabilities	Bank and other borrowings	Amount due to a director	Amount due to related parties	Amounts due to fellow subsidiaries	Amount due to an ultimate holding company	Total
	HK\$'000 <i>(note 29)</i>	HK\$'000 <i>(note 26)</i>	HK\$'000 <i>(note 24)</i>	HK\$'000 <i>(note 24)</i>	HK\$'000 <i>(note 24)</i>	HK\$'000 <i>(note 24)</i>	HK\$'000
Balance at 1 January 2022	13,537	15,707	17,215	1,590	248,444	-	296,493
Cash flows:							
- Repayment	-	(26,841)	-	(1,498)	13,141	(5,000)	(20,198)
- Advances/drawdown	-	28,350	1,477	728	-	5,000	35,555
- Interest paid	(525)	(831)	(97)	-	(5,696)	(25)	(7,174)
- Lease payments	(5,161)	-	-	-	-	-	(5,161)
Non-cash movements:							
- Reclassification of amount due to a director <i>(note 24)</i>	-	15,189	(15,189)	-	-	-	-
- Interest expenses	525	1,330	97	-	9,305	25	11,282
- Effect of modification of lease term	(193)	-	-	-	-	-	(193)
- Exchange realignment	(366)	(55)	-	(92)	(20,204)	-	(20,717)
Balance at 31 December 2022 and 1 January 2023	7,817	32,849	3,503	728	244,990	-	289,887
Cash flows:							
- Repayment	-	(32,768)	(1,482)	(6,575)	(6,966)	-	(47,791)
- Advances/drawdown	-	25,989	556	17,173	10,537	3,400	57,655
- Interest paid	-	(1,844)	(47)	-	-	-	(1,891)
- Lease payments	(8,235)	-	-	-	-	-	(8,235)
Non-cash movements:							
- Interest expenses	761	1,855	-	275	6,404	-	9,295
- Acquisition of subsidiaries <i>(note 30)</i>	373	7,088	-	2,036	18,315	-	27,812
- Effect of modification of lease term	22,532	-	-	-	-	-	22,532
- Exchange realignment	(180)	70	(106)	(82)	(6,681)	-	(6,979)
Balance at 31 December 2023	23,068	33,239	2,424	13,555	266,599	3,400	342,285

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

35. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

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

Name of related party	Relationship	Nature of transaction	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
Guangdong Juxin Watch Co., Limited (廣東鉅信鐘錶連鎖有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	7	23
Liaoning Hengjia Horologe Co., Limited (遼寧恆嘉鐘錶有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	384	925
Shenzhen Permanence Commerce Co., Limited (深圳市恆譽嘉時貿易有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	2,832	4,305
		Assembly service expense	6	4
Corum Watches Malaysia SND BHD	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	1,025	298
Corum Watches Singapore Pte. Ltd	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	1,680	–
Corum (Hong Kong) Limited	Fellow subsidiary	Purchases of goods	–	180
Guangzhou Five Goat Watch Company Ltd. (廣州五羊錶業有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	–	20
Jilin Dayou Watch Limited (吉林大有鐘錶有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	1,604	697
EBOHR Luxuries International Co., Limited (依波精品(深圳)有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	15	52
		Loan interest expenses	279	712
聖坦尼爾貿易(上海)有限公司	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	3	–
帝福時鐘表(深圳)有限公司	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	2	–
Montres Corum Sarl	Fellow subsidiary	Sales of goods	2	453
Zhuhai Rossini Watch Industry Limited (珠海羅西尼表業有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Loan interest expenses	3,661	4,674
		Sales of goods	727	1,058
Actor Investments Limited (安達投資有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Loan interest expenses	768	788

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For the year ended 31 December 2023

35. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS *(Continued)*

Name of related party	Relationship	Nature of transaction	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000
PAMA Precision Manufacturing Ltd. (深圳市帕瑪精品製造有限公司)	Fellow subsidiary	Loan interest expenses	1,696	3,131
		Purchases of goods	579	188
Fair Future Industrial Limited (俊光實業有限公司)	Related company	Sales of goods	2,208	–
寶科精密製品(深圳)有限公司	Related company	Loan interest expenses	25	–
豪度錶業(深圳)有限公司	Related company	Loan interest expenses	171	–
Citychamp Watch & Jewellery Group Limited	Ultimate holding company	Loan interest expenses	–	25
Mr. Teguh Halim	Director of the Company	Loan interest expenses	–	97
Ms. Hon Ki Kuen	Spouse of the Director of the Company	Loan interest expenses	79	–

- (i) The details for balances with related parties are disclosed in notes 20 and 24 to the consolidated financial statements.
- (ii) The compensation to key management personnel comprises only the directors' emoluments, details of which are disclosed in note 12.

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36. PARTICULARS OF PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARIES OF THE COMPANY

Name of subsidiary	Place of incorporation/ registration/operation	Issued and fully paid/ registered share capital	Ownership interest held by the Company		Principal activities
			Directly	Indirectly	
Boillat Les Bois S.A.	Switzerland	CHF100,000	–	100%	Development, manufacturing and marketing of watches
Ernest Borel S.A.	Switzerland	CHF100,000	–	100%	Manufacturing and sales of watches
Ernest Borel (Far East) Company Limited	Hong Kong	HK\$20,000	–	100%	Assembling and sales of watches
Ernest Borel (Guangzhou) Trading Co., Ltd. (依波路 (廣州)貿易有限公司) (Note)	PRC	RMB20,000,000	–	100%	Distribution and sales of watches
Ernest Borel (Hong Kong) Limited	Hong Kong	HK\$1,000	–	100%	Investment holding
Ernest Borel Watch Company Limited	British Virgin Islands ("BVI")	USD100	100%	–	Investment holding
Swissmount Holdings Limited	BVI	USD100	100%	–	Investment holding
Gold Vantage Industrial Limited	Hong Kong	HK\$10,000	–	100%	Investment holding
Gold Choice Investments Limited	Hong Kong	HK\$100	–	100%	Distribution of stainless steel alloy watches and timepieces
東莞冠熹精密五金製品 有限公司 (Note)	PRC	RMB50,000,000	–	100%	Design, development and manufacturing of stainless- steel alloy watches cases, smartwatches cases

Note: It is a wholly-owned foreign enterprise established in the PRC with limited liability.

FIVE-YEAR FINANCIAL SUMMARY

A summary of the published results and assets, liabilities and total equity of the Group as at 31 December 2023 and for the last four financial years, as extracted from the Group's audited financial statements, is set out below. This summary does not form part of the Group's audited consolidated financial statements.

Results	2023 HK\$'000	For the year ended 31 December			
		2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000	2020 HK\$'000	2019 HK\$'000
Revenue	164,994	137,368	149,252	122,596	141,518
Profit/(loss) before tax	17,483	(12,121)	(32,773)	(5,224)	(78,739)
Income tax credit/(expense)	1,388	53	950	6,551	(308)
Profit/(loss) for the year	18,871	(12,068)	(31,823)	1,327	(79,047)
Earnings/(loss) per share					
Basic (HK cents)	5.30	(3.47)	(9.16)	0.38	(22.75)
Financial position		As at 31 December			
	2023 HK\$'000	2022 HK\$'000	2021 HK\$'000	2020 HK\$'000	2019 HK\$'000
Total assets	656,004	447,945	467,383	474,696	415,314
Total liabilities	488,212	340,103	(354,608)	(322,852)	(274,886)
Total equity	167,792	107,842	112,775	151,844	140,428