

Second Quarter 2004 Financial Statement Announcement

PART 1 – INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS OF QUARTERLY (Q1, Q2 & Q3), HALF-YEAR AND FULL YEAR RESULTS

1(a) An income statement (for the group) together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year.

Consolidated income statement for the six months/second quarter ended 30 June 2004

2004 2003 (Decr) 2004 2003 (Decr) \$1000		Group					
\$\(\) \\$000		1 st Half	1 st Half	Incr /	2 nd Quarter	2 nd Quarter	Incr /
(Loss)/profit on sale of non-current investments (46) 442 nm (541) 187 nm Profit on sale of trading securities 872 153 469.9 232 208 11 Profit/(loss) on sale of investments 826 595 38.8 (309) 395 nn Dividends 2,644 1,601 65.1 2,418 1,419 70 Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 nr Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nr		<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	(Decr)	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	(Decr)
investments (46) 442 nm (541) 187 n Profit on sale of trading securities 872 153 469.9 232 208 11 Profit/(loss) on sale of investments 826 595 38.8 (309) 395 m Dividends 2,644 1,601 65.1 2,418 1,419 70 Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 m Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nr		\$'000	\$'000	%	\$'000	\$'000	%
investments (46) 442 nm (541) 187 n Profit on sale of trading securities 872 153 469.9 232 208 11 Profit/(loss) on sale of investments 826 595 38.8 (309) 395 m Dividends 2,644 1,601 65.1 2,418 1,419 70 Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 m Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nr							
Profit on sale of trading securities 872 153 469.9 232 208 11 Profit/(loss) on sale of investments 826 595 38.8 (309) 395 m Dividends 2,644 1,601 65.1 2,418 1,419 70 Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 n Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 n							
Profit/(loss) on sale of investments 826 595 38.8 (309) 395 nr. Dividends 2,644 1,601 65.1 2,418 1,419 70 Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 nr. Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 n					` ′		nm
Dividends 2,644 1,601 65.1 2,418 1,419 70 Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 nm Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Profit on sale of trading securities	872	153	469.9	232	208	11.5
Other operating income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 nm Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Profit/(loss) on sale of investments	826	595	38.8	(309)	395	nm
Interest income 538 172 212.8 271 89 204 Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 nr Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Dividends	2,644	1,601	65.1	2,418	1,419	70.4
Foreign exchange (loss)/gain (263) 77 nm (192) 39 nm Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Other operating income						
Operating revenue 3,745 2,445 53.2 2,188 1,942 12 Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Interest income	538	172	212.8	271	89	204.5
Operating expenses (958) (580) 65.2 (571) (320) 78 Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Foreign exchange (loss)/gain	(263)	77	nm	(192)	39	nm
Operating profit 2,787 1,865 49.4 1,617 1,622 (0 (Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 m	Operating revenue	3,745	2,445	53.2	2,188	1,942	12.7
(Provision)/writeback of provision for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Operating expenses	(958)	(580)	65.2	(571)	(320)	78.4
for diminution in value of trading securities (56) 473 nm (56) 459 nm	Operating profit	2,787	1,865	49.4	1,617	1,622	(0.3)
<u> </u>	•						
	trading securities	(56)	473	nm	(56)	459	nm
Profit before tax 2,731 2,338 16.8 1,561 2,081 (25)	Profit before tax	2,731	2,338	16.8	1,561	2,081	(25.0)
Tax (56) (216) (74.1) (467) (184) 153	Tax	(56)	(216)	(74.1)	(467)	(184)	153.8
Net profit 2,675 2,122 26.1 1,094 1,897 (42	Net profit	2,675	2,122	26.1	1,094	1,897	(42.3)

nm: not meaningful

 $1(b)(i) \ \ A \ balance \ sheet \ (for \ the \ issuer \ and \ group), \ together \ with \ a \ comparative \ statement \ as \ at \ the \ end \ of \ the \ immediately \ preceding \ financial \ year.$

	Gre	oup	Compa	
	As at	As at	As at	As at
	30/06/2004	31/12/2003	30/06/2004	31/12/2003
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
N				
Non-current assets			5 000	5 000
Investment in subsidiary Investments	90,923	94,952	5,000 90,923	5,000
nivestments	90,923	94,952	95,923	94,952 99,952
	90,923	94,932	93,923	99,932
Current assets				
Trading securities	5,017	6,025	-	-
Balances/deposits with holding company	14,027	976	11,311	441
Bank balances with fellow subsidiary				
company	12	616	8	613
Balances/deposits with other banks	756	5,977	701	5,645
Amount due from subsidiary company				
(non-trade)	-	-	37	59
Trade debtors	1,979	209	1,842	-
Other assets	357	405	352	401
	22,148	14,208	14,251	7,159
Total assets	113,071	109,160	110,174	107,111
Current liabilities				
Amount due to fellow subsidiary				
company (trade)	261	267	261	267
Amount due to holding company				
(non-trade)	5	-	3	-
Trade creditors	5,396	356	5,189	154
Provision for tax	1,606	2,909	1,432	2,364
Other liabilities	369	311	362	291
	7,637	3,843	7,247	3,076
Net current assets	14,511	10,365	7,004	4,083
Non-current liability				
Provision for deferred tax	132	487	132	487
Total liabilities	7,769	4,330	7,379	3,563
	105,302	104,830	102,795	103,548
Shareholders' equity				
Share capital	39,063	39,063	39,063	39,063
Unrealised surplus on revaluation				
of investments	12,701	13,732	12,701	13,732
Retained profits	53,538	52,035	51,031	50,753
	105,302	104,830	102,795	103,548

1(b)(i) A balance sheet (for the issuer and group), together with a comparative statement as at the end of the immediately preceding financial year. (continued)

Composition of Net Assets

	Group				
	30/06/2004		31/12/2	<u> 2003</u>	
	\$'000	%	\$'000	%	
Quoted equities and warrants	73,353	69.6	75,446	72.0	
Quoted bonds, notes and loan stocks	13,358	12.7	15,367	14.7	
Unquoted bonds, notes and loan stocks	4,212	4.0	4,139	3.9	
Trading securities	5,017	4.8	6,025	5.7	
Cash and net receivables	9,362	8.9	3,853	3.7	
Total	105,302	100.0	104,830	100.0	

Group Total Assets by Currency Mix

	30/06/2004	31/12/2003
	%	%
Singapore Dollar	45.4	41.5
United States Dollar *	20.0	27.4
Hong Kong Dollar	8.9	7.2
Japanese Yen	8.5	4.2
Malaysian Ringgit	4.8	3.1
Korean Won	4.2	4.7
Euro	3.0	4.2
Australian Dollar	2.7	5.0
Taiwan Dollar	1.1	1.5
Others	1.4	1.2
	100.0	100.0

^{*} the USD currency holdings as at 30/06/2004 have been covered against SGD, reducing the exposure from 20.0% to 5.6% (31/12/2003: 27.4% to 15.3%).

Country Mix of Quoted Equities and Warrants

	30/06/2004	31/12/2003
	%	%
Singapore	47.3	54.7
Japan	12.8	5.8
United States	11.4	13.6
Hong Kong & China	9.1	7.6
Malaysia	7.2	3.5
South Korea	5.5	5.9
Europe	2.7	2.5
Australia	2.1	4.3
Taiwan	1.2	1.3
Others	0.7	0.8
	100.0	100.0

1(b)(i) A balance sheet (for the issuer and group), together with a comparative statement as at the end of the immediately preceding financial year. (continued)

Industry Mix of Quoted Equities and Warrants

	30/06/2004	31/12/2003
	%	%
Industrial & Commercial	66.2	60.6
Finance	21.3	26.1
Properties	6.9	7.9
Hotel	5.6	5.4
	100.0	100.0

Ten Largest Investment Holdings as at 30/06/2004

	As % of Group
	Net Assets
Singapore Press Holdings Ltd	5.5
DBS Group Holdings Ltd	4.8
Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Ltd	4.8
Overseas Union Enterprise Ltd	3.9
Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd	3.3
Singapore Airlines Ltd	3.1
City Developments Ltd	2.9
Venture Corporation Ltd	2.2
CDL Properties Ltd Bonds 4.815% due 31/01/2006	1.7
Kimberly-Clark Corporation	1.7

1(b)(ii) Aggregate amount of group's borrowings and debt securities.

Amount repayable in one year or less, or on demand

As at 30/06/2004		As at 31/12/2003		
Secured	Unsecured	Secured	Unsecured	
0	0	0	0	

Amount repayable after one year

As at 30/06/2004		As at 31/12/2003		
Secured	Unsecured	Secured	Unsecured	
0	0	0	0	

Details of any collateral

Not applicable

1(c) A cash flow statement (for the group), together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year.

Consolidated cash flow statement for the six months/second quarter ended 30 June 2004

	-	Gı	roup	
	1 st Half	1 st Half	2 nd Quarter	2 nd Quarter
	<u>2004</u>	2003	2004	2003
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Profit before tax	2,731	2,338	1,561	2,081
Adjustment for:				
Loss/(profit) on sale of non-current investments	46	(442)	541	(187)
Dividend income	(2,644)	(1,601)	(2,418)	(1,419)
Interest income	(538)	(172)	(271)	(89)
Provision/(writeback of provision) for diminution				
in value of trading securities	56	(473)	56	(459)
Dividend received	2,607	1,832	2,357	1,497
Interest received	562	184	300	73
Operating cash flow before working				
capital changes	2,820	1,666	2,126	1,497
Changes in working capital:				
Trading securities	952	(1,151)	1,161	(1,221)
Trade debtors and other assets	132	(545)	329	(545)
Amount due to holding & fellow subsidiary				
companies	(1)	233	(7)	5
Trade creditors and other liabilities	62	50	238	27
Cash generated from/(used in) operations	3,965	253	3,847	(237)
Income tax paid	(1,354)	(743)	(1,325)	(711)
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating				
activities	2,611	(490)	2,522	(948)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of non-current investments	(15,059)	(22,131)	(5,234)	(18,107)
Proceeds from sale of non-current investments	20,846	22,353	13,680	20,202
Net cash inflow from investing activities	5,787	222	8,446	2,095
Cash flows from financing activities				
Dividend paid	(1,172)	(1,172)	(1,172)	(1,172)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	(1,172)	(1,172)	(1,172)	(1,172)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	7,226	(1,440)	9,796	(25)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial period	7,569	11,926	4,999	10,511
Cash and cash equivalents at the end				
of the financial period	14,795	10,486	14,795	10,486

1(d)(i) A statement (for the issuer and group) showing either (i) all changes in equity or (ii) changes in equity other than those arising from capitalisation issues and distributions to shareholders, together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year.

	Share	Unrealised surplus on revaluation	Retained	
	<u>capital</u> \$'000	of investments \$'000	<u>profits</u> \$'000	<u>Total</u> \$'000
Group				
Balance at 1 January 2004	39,063	13,732	52,035	104,830
Revaluation surplus	-	495	-	495
Deferred tax on revaluation	-	173	-	173
Net gain not recognised in income statement	-	668	_	668
Net profit	-	-	1,581	1,581
Total recognised gains for the financial period	-	668	1,581	2,249
Balance at 31 March 2004	39,063	14,400	53,616	107,079
D.1	20.052	11.100	50 (1)	105.050
Balance at 1 April 2004	39,063	14,400	53,616	107,079
Revaluation deficit	-	(1,885)	-	(1,885)
Deferred tax on revaluation	-	186	_	186
Net loss not recognised in income statement	-	(1,699)	-	(1,699)
Net profit	_	_	1,094	1,094
Total recognised gains and losses		(1, (00)	1.004	(605)
for the financial period	-	(1,699)	1,094	(605)
Dividend for 2003	-		(1,172)	(1,172)
Balance at 30 June 2004	39,063	12,701	53,538	105,302

1(d)(i) A statement (for the issuer and group) showing either (i) all changes in equity or (ii) changes in equity other than those arising from capitalisation issues and distributions to shareholders, together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year. (continued)

			Unrealised		
			surplus/		
		Investment	,		
	Share	fluctuation		Retained	
	<u>capital</u>	<u>reserve</u>	of investments	<u>profits</u>	<u>Total</u>
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Group					
Balance at 1 January 2003	39,063	24,391	(285)	23,942	87,111
Revaluation deficit	-	-	(2,675)	-	(2,675)
Deferred tax on revaluation	-	-	(17)	-	(17)
Net loss not recognised					
in income statement	-	-	(2,692)	-	(2,692)
Net profit	-	-	-	225	225
Total recognised gains and losses					
for the financial period	-	-	(2,692)	225	(2,467)
Balance at 31 March 2003	39,063	24,391	(2,977)	24,167	84,644
Balance at 1 April 2003	39,063	24,391	(2,977)	24,167	84,644
Revaluation surplus	_	_	8,358	_	8,358
Deferred tax on revaluation	_	_	(1,073)	_	(1,073)
Net gain not recognised in			(1,0,0)		(1,070)
income statement	-	-	7,285	-	7,285
Net profit	-	_	-	1,897	1,897
Total recognised gains				•	
for the financial period	-	-	7,285	1,897	9,182
Transfer to retained profits *	-	(24,391)	-	24,391	-
Dividend for 2002	_	_		(1,172)	(1,172)
Balance at 30 June 2003	39,063		4,308	49,283	92,654

^{*} Following the repeal of Division 1 of Part XI of the Companies Act, Cap. 50, relating to Investment Companies which took effect on 15 May 2003, the balance in the Investment Fluctuation Reserve (IFR) account was transferred to Retained Profits. The IFR account was maintained to record the Company's net realised profits from the sale of investments held as non-current assets prior to 1 January 1994.

1(d)(i) A statement (for the issuer and group) showing either (i) all changes in equity or (ii) changes in equity other than those arising from capitalisation issues and distributions to shareholders, together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year. (continued)

<u>Company</u>	Share <u>capital</u> \$'000	Unrealised surplus on revaluation of investments \$'000	Retained profits \$'000	<u>Total</u> \$'000
	20.062	12 722	50.752	102 540
Balance at 1 January 2004	39,063	13,732	50,753	103,548
Revaluation surplus	_	495	-	495
Deferred tax on revaluation		173	-	173
Net gain not recognised in income statement	-	668	-	668
Net profit		-	438	438
Total recognised gains for the financial period	-	668	438	1,106
Balance at 31 March 2004	39,063	14,400	51,191	104,654
Balance at 1 April 2004	39,063	14,400	51,191	104,654
Revaluation deficit	-	(1,885)	-	(1,885)
Deferred tax on revaluation Net loss not recognised in		186	-	186
income statement	-	(1,699)	-	(1,699)
Net profit		-	1,012	1,012
Total recognised gains and losses for the financial period	-	(1,699)	1,012	(687)
Dividend for 2003	-	-	(1,172)	(1,172)
Balance at 30 June 2004	39,063	12,701	51,031	102,795

1(d)(i) A statement (for the issuer and group) showing either (i) all changes in equity or (ii) changes in equity other than those arising from capitalisation issues and distributions to shareholders, together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year. (continued)

	Share capital \$'000	Investment fluctuation reserve \$'000	Unrealised surplus/ (deficit) on revaluation of investments \$'000	Retained profits \$'000	<u>Total</u> \$'000
Company					
Balance at 1 January 2003	39,063	24,391	(285)	24,006	87,175
Revaluation deficit	-	-	(2,675)	-	(2,675)
Deferred tax on revaluation	-	-	(17)	-	(17)
Net loss not recognised in income statement	-	-	(2,692)	_	(2,692)
Net profit	_	_	-	264	264
Total recognised gains and losses for the financial period	-	-	(2,692)	264	(2,428)
Balance at 31 March 2003	39,063	24,391	(2,977)	24,270	84,747
Balance at 1 April 2003	39,063	24,391	(2,977)	24,270	84,747
Revaluation surplus	_	_	8,358	_	8,358
Deferred tax on revaluation	_	_	(1,073)	-	(1,073)
Net gain not recognised in income statement	-	-	7,285	-	7,285
Net profit	_	-	-	1,198	1,198
Total recognised gains for the financial period	-	-	7,285	1,198	8,483
Transfer to retained profits *	-	(24,391)	-	24,391	-
Dividend for 2002			-	(1,172)	(1,172)
Balance at 30 June 2003	39,063	-	4,308	48,687	92,058

^{*} Following the repeal of Division 1 of Part XI of the Companies Act, Cap. 50, relating to Investment Companies which took effect on 15 May 2003, the balance in the Investment Fluctuation Reserve (IFR) account was transferred to Retained Profits. The IFR account was maintained to record the Company's net realised profits from the sale of investments held as non-current assets prior to 1 January 1994.

1(d)(ii) Details of any changes in the company's share capital arising from rights issue, bonus issue, share buy-backs, exercise of share options or warrants, conversion of other issues of equity securities, issue of shares for cash or as consideration for acquisition or for any other purpose since the end of the previous period reported on. State also the number of shares that may be issued on conversion of all the outstanding convertibles as at the end of the current financial period reported on and as at the end of the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year.

Nil

2. Whether the figures have been audited or reviewed and in accordance with which auditing standard or practice.

The figures have not been audited or reviewed.

3. Where the figures have been audited or reviewed, the auditors' report (including any qualifications or emphasis of matter).

Not applicable.

4. Whether the same accounting policies and methods of computation as in the issuer's most recently audited annual financial statements have been applied.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the same accounting policies and methods of computation adopted in the audited financial statements of the previous financial year.

5. If there are any changes in the accounting policies and methods of computation, including any required by an accounting standard, what has changed, as well as the reasons for, and the effect of, the change.

Not applicable.

6. Earnings per ordinary share of the group for the current period reported on and the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year, after deducting any provision for preference dividends.

		Group			
		1 st Half	1 st Half	2 nd Quarter	2 nd Quarter
		<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>2003</u>
Ear	nings per share *	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
(a)	Based on the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue	13.70	10.86	11.20	19.43
(b)	On a fully diluted basis	13.70	10.86	11.20	19.43

^{*} Annualised

7. Net asset value (for the issuer and group) per ordinary share based on issued share capital of the issuer at the end of the (a) current period reported on; and (b) immediately preceding financial year.

	Gro	Group		Company		
	30/06/2004	31/12/2003	30/06/2004	31/12/2003		
	\$	\$	\$	\$		
Net asset value per share	2.70	2.68	2.63	2.65		

- 8. A review of the performance of the group, to the extent necessary for a reasonable understanding of the group's business. It must include a discussion of the following:-
 - (a) any significant factors that affected the turnover, costs, and earnings of the group for the current financial period reported on, including (where applicable) seasonal or cyclical factors; and
 - (b) any material factors that affected the cash flow, working capital, assets or liabilities of the group during the current financial period reported on.

First Half 2004 vs First Half 2003

The Group recorded an after-tax profit of \$2.7 million for the first half of 2004, an increase of \$0.6 million or 26.1% over the profit of \$2.1 million for the same period last year. The improvement in profit was attributed mainly to higher dividend and interest income as well as higher profit on sale of investments. These were partially offset by provision for diminution in value of dealing securities made by subsidiary as against a write-back in the corresponding period last year and higher operating expenses due mainly to expenses incurred on the proposed merger with United International Securities Limited. Consequently, annualised earnings per share rose to 13.70 cents from 10.86 cents in first half of 2003.

Group shareholders' funds increased by \$0.5 million from \$104.8 million as at last year-end to \$105.3 million due to the current year profit which was partially offset by unrealised revaluation loss on non-current investments and a dividend payment made in the first half of 2004. As such, Group net asset value per share increased by 0.7% to \$2.70 from \$2.68 as at last year-end. Without taking into account the dividend payment of \$1.2 million in May 2004, the net asset value would have been a higher \$2.73 per share, representing an increase of 1.9% over last year-end.

Second Quarter 2004 vs Second Quarter 2003

The Group recorded a lower after-tax profit of \$1.1 million for the second quarter of 2004 as compared to \$1.9 million for the second quarter of 2003. The decline in profit of \$0.8 million or 42.3% was due mainly to the loss on sale of investments, the provision for diminution in value of dealing securities made by subsidiary as against a write-back in the same quarter last year, loss on foreign exchange, and higher tax and operating expenses. These were, however, partially offset by higher dividend income.

9. Where a forecast, or a prospect statement, has been previously disclosed to shareholders, any variance between it and the actual results.

No forecast was made previously.

10. A commentary at the date of the announcement of the significant trends and competitive conditions of the industry in which the group operates and any known factors or events that may affect the group in the next reporting period and the next 12 months.

The main factors affecting financial markets in the coming month will be the prospect for further monetary tightening in the US and whether the Chinese authorities can successfully engineer a moderate slowing down of the overheated economy. Further serious acts of terrorism can also introduce price volatility and destabilise markets.

At the meeting of shareholders of the Company ("Shareholders") convened by the order of the High Court of Singapore held on 24 April 2004, the Shareholders have by the requisite majority voted in favour of the merger with United International Securities Limited ("UIS") by way of a scheme of arrangement (the "Scheme") under Section 210 of the Companies Act, Chapter 50.

The shareholders of UIS have also, at their extraordinary general meeting held on 24 April 2004, approved the merger with the Company via the Scheme.

The Scheme was sanctioned by the High Court of Singapore on 6 July 2004. Subject to an office copy of the order of the High Court being lodged with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority, the Scheme is expected to become effective on 12 August 2004, whereupon the Company will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of UIS. Thereafter, the Company's shares are expected to be delisted from the SGX-ST on 13 August 2004. Please refer to the announcement by the Company today for further details on other key events and dates.

11. Dividend

(a) Current Financial Period Reported On

Any dividend declared for the current financial period report on?

None

(b) Corresponding Period of the Immediately Preceding Financial Year

Any dividend declared for the corresponding period of the immediate preceding financial year? Yes

Name of Dividend Interim
Dividend Type Cash

Dividend Rate 4% per ordinary share (less tax)

Par Value of Shares S\$1.00 Tax Rate 22%

(c) Date payable

Not applicable.

(d) Books closure date

Not applicable.

12 If no dividend has been declared/recommended, a statement to that effect.

No dividend has been declared or recommended for the period ended 30 June 2004.

PART II – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR FULL YEAR ANNOUNCEMENT (This part is not applicable to Q1, Q2 & Q3 or Half Year Results)

13. Segmented revenue and results for business or geographical segments (of the group) in the form presented in the issuer's most recently audited annual financial statements, with comparative information for the immediately preceding year.

Not applicable to Q1, Q2 & Q3 results.

14. In the review of performance, the factors leading to any material changes in contributions to turnover and earnings by the business or geographic segments.

Not applicable to Q1, Q2 & Q3 results.

15. A breakdown of sales.

Not applicable to Q1, Q2 & Q3 results.

16. A breakdown of the total annual dividend (in dollar value) for the issuer's latest full year and its previous full year.

Not applicable to Q1, Q2 & Q3 results.

Total Annual Dividend

	Latest Full Year (\$'000)	Previous Full Year (\$'000)
Ordinary		
Preference		
Total		

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Mrs Jeannie Tng Company Secretary Dated this 23rd day of July 2004