



英皇證券集團有限公司
Emperor Capital Group Limited

於百慕達註冊成立之有限公司 Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability

ANNOUNCES 2014/15 SATISFACTORY ANNUAL RESULTS
NET PROFIT MARGIN REACHES RECORD-HIGH AS 51.5%
NET PROFIT NEARLY DOUBLES TO HK\$430.3 MILLION

Financial Highlights

HK\$'000 (Audited)	For the year ended 30 September		Changes
	2015	2014	
Total revenue	835,077	546,408	+52.8%
Financing	465,762	311,105	+49.7%
Brokerage	151,499	91,616	+65.4%
Placing & Underwriting	180,006	127,910	+40.7%
Corporate Finance	37,810	15,777	+139.7%
Net profit	430,251	220,795	+94.9%
Net profit margin	51.5%	40.4%	+11.1pp
Earnings per share		(Restated)	
Basic	10.21cents	6.21cents	+64.4%
Diluted	10.04cents	5.99cents	+67.6%

(Hong Kong, 9 December 2015) **Emperor Capital Group Limited** (the “Group” or “Emperor Capital Group”) (Stock code: 717), a one-stop comprehensive financial services institution in Hong Kong, today announced its annual results for the year ended 30 September 2015 (the “Year”) with impressive growth in revenue and profitability.

During the Year, the Group’s total revenue achieved a robust growth of 52.8% to HK\$835.1 million (2014: HK\$546.4 million). Such significant growth of revenue is mainly attributable to (1) a significant growth in commission and brokerage fee on dealing in securities as well as interest income of margin and IPO financing; (2) an increase in interest income from loans and advances; and (3) an increase in placing and underwriting commission. Net profit surged by 94.9% to HK\$430.3 million (2014: HK\$220.8 million). Net profit margin widened from 40.4% to 51.5%. Basic earnings per share was HK10.21 cents (2014: HK6.21 cents, restated). The Group proposed a final dividend of HK1.60 cents per share (2014: HK2.00 cents). Together with the interim dividend of HK0.70 cent per share, the total dividend per share for the Year was HK2.30 cents (2014: HK2.60 cents). As at 30 September 2015, the Group’s gearing ratio reduced to 30.1% (as at 30 September 2014: 84.4%).

Notwithstanding a volatile financial landscape, the Group delivered another year of satisfactory growth driven by the diversity of its businesses and strength of its integrated business model, which provides flexibility to promptly respond to changing market situations. The sustained growth reflected the Group's proven success in redefining its long-term vision and prioritising the financing segment, solidifying its position as a leading financial services provider.

Financing

Built on a renowned reputation for delivering professional and personalised loan services, the Group has developed a niche in the loan market, providing corporate and retail clients with tailored liquidity solutions to meet their corporate goals and personal needs. The Group has aggressively accelerated expansion of the financing segment, by strengthening customer relationships, optimising revenue potential and boosting the efficiency of capital allocation. During the Year, the financing segment continued to perform strongly, with enhanced contributions from interest income of short to medium term loans, together with an increase in interest income of margin and IPO financing amid strong investor sentiment. Segmental revenue achieved a remarkable growth of 49.7% to HK\$465.8 million (2014: HK\$311.1 million), accounting for 55.8% (2014: 56.9%) of total revenue.

Brokerage

Growth in number of customers, together with the more active securities turnover involved during the Year, led to revenue from brokerage services growing significantly by 65.4%, to HK\$151.5 million (2014: HK\$91.6 million), accounting for 18.1% (2014: 16.8%) of total revenue.

The Group operates 10 branches in Hong Kong, covering key commercial and popular residential areas with convenient pedestrian access. The Group also runs three liaison offices, in Beijing, Shanghai and Guangzhou. As a dynamic financial institution, the Group continues to expand its product offerings on a timely basis, in response to market opportunities. In November 2014, the Group started to offer Northbound trading services, for customers to access the Shanghai-Hong Kong Stock Connect initiative. To facilitate more hedging activities, the Group launched a SPTrader Pro mobile futures trading platform, enabling customers to seamlessly access the global market around the clock. The Group also extended its futures services to include the trading of FTSE China A50 index options on Singapore Exchange, and USD/CNH futures contracts on the Stock Exchange.

Placing and Underwriting

Amid a favourable performance in secondary equity market, the fund size of the fundraising transactions participated by the Group had increased. As a result, revenue from the placing and underwriting segment grew by 40.7% to HK\$180.0 million (2014: HK\$127.9 million), accounting for 21.6% (2014: 23.4%) of total revenue.

During the Year, the Group acted as Joint Bookrunner and Joint Lead Manager in the share offer for the IPO of Global International Credit Group Limited, which was listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange in December 2014.

Corporate Finance

The division mainly offers advisory services for corporate transactions including IPO, placing, rights issue, corporate restructuring and merger and acquisition. During the Year, revenue from the corporate finance segment increased significantly by 139.7% to HK\$37.8 million (2014: HK\$15.8 million), accounting for 4.5% (2014: 2.9%) of total revenue.

In order to support sustained development and business growth, the Group has taken further steps to strengthen its balance sheet and capital structure. During the Year, the successful equity financing exercises raised funding that allows greater financial flexibility to expand businesses, especially the money lending business, while also helping the Group to further broaden its shareholder base and enhance its shareholders' portfolio.

Ms. Daisy Yeung, Chief Executive Officer of Emperor Capital Group, said, "In view of an increasing demand for loan services from money lenders, the Group remains ambitious in seeking to further expand its financing segment and increase its penetration in the money lending market backed by its solid clientele network, unique market position and strong financial capability. With its enlarged capital base, the Group will also actively explore business opportunities that strategically fit into its existing businesses and thereby unlock further value for shareholders."

In November 2015, the Group announced that it entered into a memorandum of understanding with Harvest Fund Management Co., Ltd and a corporate party to establish a full-licensed joint venture securities company in the PRC for providing full range of securities and financial services in the PRC. The joint venture company, when established, will mark a major milestone for the Group and provide the opportunities for the Group to grasp the enormous potential in the Mainland.

Effective from 1 December 2015, the stocks of the Group has become one of the constituent stocks of MSCI HK Small Cap Index.

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About Emperor Capital Group Limited

Established in 1993, Emperor Capital Group Limited (717.HK) is a renowned Hong Kong based financial institution providing a wide range of financial services including (i) commercial and personal lending as well as margin and IPO financing; (ii) brokerage, wealth management and asset management; (iii) placing and underwriting services for listed issuers; and (iv) corporate finance advisory services. Emperor Capital Group Limited has become one of the constituent stocks of MSCI HK Small Cap Index since 1 December 2015. For more information, please visit its website: www.emperorcgroup.com

Investor/Media Enquiry

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