



# VICTORY CITY INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED

冠華國際控股有限公司\*

(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 0539)

## INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

### RESULTS

The directors (the “Directors”) of Victory City International Holdings Limited (the “Company”) are pleased to announce the unaudited consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the “Group”) for the six months ended 30 September 2008. The interim results have been reviewed by the Company’s auditors in accordance with Hong Kong Standard on Review Engagements 2410 “Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity” issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The interim results have also been reviewed by the Company’s audit committee.

### CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

		Six months ended 30 September	
	Notes	2008 HK\$'000 (unaudited)	2007 HK\$'000 (unaudited)
Revenue	3	2,244,188	2,166,440
Cost of sales		<u>(1,873,215)</u>	<u>(1,761,645)</u>
Gross profit		370,973	404,795
Other income and gains		23,336	22,502
Selling and distribution costs		(50,792)	(60,466)
Administrative expenses		(135,391)	(120,583)
Share of result of a jointly controlled entity		–	193
Finance costs		<u>(23,716)</u>	<u>(28,672)</u>
Profit before taxation		184,410	217,769
Income tax expense	4	<u>(12,431)</u>	<u>(21,851)</u>
Profit for the period	5	<u>171,979</u>	<u>195,918</u>
Attributable to:			
Equity holders of the Company		152,849	174,750
Minority interests		<u>19,130</u>	<u>21,168</u>
		<u>171,979</u>	<u>195,918</u>
Distributions	6	<u>–</u>	<u>53,417</u>
Earnings per share	7		
Basic		<u>HK22.6 cents</u>	<u>HK26.4 cents</u>
Diluted		<u>HK22.6 cents</u>	<u>HK26.1 cents</u>

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	<i>Notes</i>	<b>30 September 2008 HK\$'000 (unaudited)</b>	31 March 2008 HK\$'000 (audited)
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Property, plant and equipment	8	2,419,215	2,283,968
Prepaid lease payments		21,516	21,283
Investment properties	9	2,470	2,470
Goodwill		6,185	6,185
Deposit paid for acquisition of property, plant and equipment		9,710	8,735
		<u>2,459,096</u>	<u>2,322,641</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Inventories		1,441,273	1,495,200
Trade receivables	10	1,080,545	906,442
Deposits, prepayments and other receivables		121,629	114,773
Prepaid lease payments		489	479
Structured deposits		96,386	39,399
Derivative financial instruments		15,633	33,972
Bank balances and cash		431,337	470,139
		<u>3,187,292</u>	<u>3,060,404</u>
Asset classified as held for sale		–	225,391
		<u>3,187,292</u>	<u>3,285,795</u>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade payables	11	434,721	450,563
Other payables		89,730	91,882
Dividend payable		46,195	237
Taxation payable		69,738	55,251
Bank borrowings – amount due within one year		1,311,546	1,160,339
Structured borrowings – amount due within one year		14,829	17,168
Derivative financial instruments		1,642	12,190
		<u>1,968,401</u>	<u>1,787,630</u>
Liabilities associated with asset classified as held for sale		–	69,082
		<u>1,968,401</u>	<u>1,856,712</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>1,218,891</u>	<u>1,429,083</u>
		<u><b>3,677,987</b></u>	<u><b>3,751,724</b></u>
<b>Capital and reserves</b>			
Share capital		6,755	6,758
Reserves		2,495,846	2,384,881
Equity attributable to equity holders of the Company		<u>2,502,601</u>	<u>2,391,639</u>
Minority interests		135,958	117,426
Total equity		<u>2,638,559</u>	<u>2,509,065</u>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Bank borrowings – amount due after one year		994,746	1,190,960
Structured borrowings – amount due after one year		44,486	51,503
Deferred taxation		196	196
		<u>1,039,428</u>	<u>1,242,659</u>
		<u><b>3,677,987</b></u>	<u><b>3,751,724</b></u>

Notes:

## 1. BASIS OF PREPARATION

The condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the applicable disclosure requirements of Appendix 16 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Listing Rules”) and with Hong Kong Accounting Standard 34 (HKAS 34), Interim Financial Reporting.

## 2. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

The accounting policies used in the condensed consolidated financial statements are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the Group’s annual financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2008.

In the current interim period, the Group has applied, for the first time, the following new amendments and interpretations (“new HKFRSs”) issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

HKAS 39 & HKFRS 7 (Amendments)	Reclassification of Financial Assets
HK(IFRIC) – INT 12	Service Concession Arrangements
HK(IFRIC) – INT 14	HKAS 19 – The Limit on a Defined Benefit Asset, Minimum Funding Requirements and their Interaction

The adoption of these new HKFRSs had no material effect on the results or financial position of the Group for the current or prior accounting periods. Accordingly, no prior period adjustment has been recognised.

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

HKFRSs (Amendments)	Improvements to HKFRSs <sup>1</sup>
HKAS 1 (Revised)	Presentation of Financial Statements <sup>2</sup>
HKAS 23 (Revised)	Borrowing Costs <sup>2</sup>
HKAS 27 (Revised)	Consolidated and Separate Financial Statements <sup>3</sup>
HKAS 32 & 1 (Amendments)	Puttable Financial Instruments and Obligations Arising on Liquidation <sup>2</sup>
HKAS 39 (Amendment)	Eligible Hedged Items <sup>3</sup>
HKFRS 1 & HKAS 27 (Amendments)	Cost of an Investment in a Subsidiary, Jointly Controlled Entity or Associate <sup>2</sup>
HKFRS 2 (Amendment)	Vesting Conditions and Cancellations <sup>2</sup>
HKFRS 3 (Revised)	Business Combinations <sup>3</sup>
HKFRS 8	Operating Segments <sup>2</sup>
HK(IFRIC) – INT 13	Customer Loyalty Programmes <sup>4</sup>
HK(IFRIC) – INT 15	Agreements for the Construction of Real Estate <sup>2</sup>
HK(IFRIC) – INT 16	Hedges of a Net Investment in a Foreign Operation <sup>5</sup>
HK(IFRIC) – INT 17	Distributions of Non-cash Assets to Owners <sup>3</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009 except the amendments to HKFRS 5, effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2009
- <sup>2</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2009
- <sup>3</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2009
- <sup>4</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 July 2008
- <sup>5</sup> Effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 October 2008

The adoption of HKFRS 3 (Revised) may affect the accounting for business combination for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after 1 July 2009. HKAS 27 (Revised) will affect the accounting treatment for changes in a parent's ownership interest in a subsidiary that do not result in a loss of control, which will be accounted for as equity transactions. The directors of the Company anticipate that the application of the other new or revised standards or interpretation will have no material impact on the results and the financial position of the Group.

### 3. SEGMENT INFORMATION

#### Business segments

The Group is currently engaged in two business activities: (i) production and sale of knitted fabric and dyed yarn; and (ii) production and sale of garment products. These activities are the basis on which the Group reports its primary segment information.

Segment information about these businesses is presented below:

#### *Six months ended 30 September 2008*

	<b>Knitted fabric and dyed yarn</b>	<b>Garment products</b>	<b>Consolidated</b>
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
REVENUE			
External sales	<u>1,547,197</u>	<u>696,991</u>	<u>2,244,188</u>
RESULTS			
Segment results	<u>166,953</u>	<u>41,839</u>	208,792
Unallocated corporate income			6,570
Unallocated corporate expenses			(7,236)
Finance costs			<u>(23,716)</u>
Profit before taxation			184,410
Income tax expense			<u>(12,431)</u>
Profit for the period			<u>171,979</u>

Six months ended 30 September 2007

	Knitted fabric and dyed yarn <i>HK\$'000</i>	Garment products <i>HK\$'000</i>	Consolidated <i>HK\$'000</i>
REVENUE			
External sales	<u>1,421,194</u>	<u>745,246</u>	<u>2,166,440</u>
RESULTS			
Segment results	<u>186,427</u>	<u>47,030</u>	233,457
Unallocated corporate income			17,266
Unallocated corporate expenses			(4,475)
Share of result of a jointly controlled entity			193
Finance costs			<u>(28,672)</u>
Profit before taxation			217,769
Income tax expense			<u>(21,851)</u>
Profit for the period			<u>195,918</u>

#### 4. INCOME TAX EXPENSE

	Six months ended 30 September	
	2008	2007
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
The tax charge comprises:		
Current tax:		
Hong Kong Profits Tax	8,177	7,111
Enterprise income tax in the People's Republic of China (the "PRC") attributable to the subsidiaries	5,022	11,549
Overseas income tax	<u>340</u>	<u>—</u>
	13,539	18,660
Deferred tax:		
Current period	<u>(1,108)</u>	<u>3,191</u>
	<u>12,431</u>	<u>21,851</u>

Hong Kong Profits Tax is recognised based on management's best estimate of the weighted average annual income tax rate expected for the full financial year. On 26 June 2008, the Hong Kong Legislative Council passed the Revenue Bill 2008 which includes the reduction in corporate profit tax rate by 1% to 16.5% effective from the year of assessment 2008-2009. The effect of such decrease has been reflected in measuring the current tax for the six months ended 30 September 2008. The estimated average annual tax rate used is 16.5% (2007: 17.5%) for the six months ended 30 September 2008.

The newly promulgated Enterprise Income Tax Law imposes withholding tax upon the distribution of the profits earned by the PRC entities on or after 1 January 2008 to their shareholders. There was no significant deferred tax in respect of the temporary differences attributable to such undistributed profits.

Taxation arising in other jurisdictions is calculated at the rates prevailing in the respective jurisdictions.

## 5. PROFIT FOR THE PERIOD

	<b>Six months ended</b>	
	<b>30 September</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	2007
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Profit for the period has been arrived at after charging (crediting):		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	<b>93,285</b>	79,585
Release of prepaid lease payment	<b>246</b>	286
Gain on fair value changes of derivative financial instruments	<b>(769)</b>	(9,218)
Gain on fair value changes of structured borrowings	<b>(745)</b>	(930)
Gain on fair value changes of structured deposits	<b>(827)</b>	–
Gain on fair value changes of investment properties	–	(270)
Interest income	<b>(1,663)</b>	(133)
Gain on disposal of property, plant and equipment	<b>(12,549)</b>	–

## 6. DISTRIBUTIONS

On 28 August 2008, the Company approved a final dividend of HK\$45,958,000 representing HK6.8 cents per share in respect of the financial year ended 31 March 2008. On 30 August 2007, the Company approved a final dividend of HK\$45,032,000 representing HK6.8 cents per share in respect of the financial year ended 31 March 2007. The amounts of these final dividends recommended were in cash with a scrip option.

No dividends were paid, declared or proposed during the six months period ended 30 September 2008. The Directors do not recommend the payment of an interim dividend.

In respect of the six months ended 30 September 2007, the Directors determined that an interim dividend of HK\$53,417,000 representing HK8.0 cents per share, which would be in cash with a scrip option, should be paid to shareholders of the Company whose names appeared in the Company's Register of Members on 17 January 2008.

## 7. EARNINGS PER SHARE

The calculation of the basic and diluted earnings per share attributable to the ordinary equity holders of the Company is based on the following data:

	<b>Six months ended</b>	
	<b>30 September</b>	
	<b>2008</b>	2007
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
Earnings		
Profit for the period attributable to equity holders of the Company for the purposes of basic and diluted earnings per share	<u><b>152,849</b></u>	<u>174,750</u>
	<i>'000</i>	<i>'000</i>
Number of shares		
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of basic earnings per share	<b>675,822</b>	661,667
Effect of dilutive potential ordinary shares in respect of share options	<u>—</u>	<u>6,626</u>
Weighted average number of ordinary shares for the purposes of diluted earnings per share	<u><b>675,822</b></u>	<u>668,293</u>

## 8. MOVEMENTS IN PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

During the period, the Group spent approximately HK\$167 million (six months ended 30 September 2007: HK\$257 million) on additions to property, plant and equipment.

## 9. MOVEMENTS IN INVESTMENT PROPERTIES

The investment properties of the Group were valued at 30 September 2008 by Savills (Hong Kong) Limited, an independent qualified professional valuers not connected with the Group. The valuation, which conforms to International Valuation Standards, was arrived at by reference to market prices for similar properties. In the current period, there was no material changes in fair value of the investment properties. For the six months ended 30 September 2007, a surplus of HK\$270,000 was credited to the condensed consolidated income statement.

On 17 October 2007, the Group entered into a provisional sales agreement with an independent third party to dispose certain investment properties amounted to HK\$219,664,000. Accordingly, the amount was transferred to asset classified as held for sale as at 31 March 2008 and subsequently disposed in the current period.

At 31 March 2008, certain investment properties of the Group with an aggregate carrying value of approximately HK\$173,100,000 were pledged to banks as security for the credit facilities granted to the Group. The security was released upon the completion of the disposal of investment properties during the period.

## 10. TRADE RECEIVABLES

The Group allows a credit period of 90 – 120 days to its trade customers.

The following is an aged analysis of trade receivables net of allowance for doubtful debts at the balance sheet date:

	<b>30 September 2008 HK\$'000</b>	31 March 2008 HK\$'000
0 – 60 days	745,402	723,767
61 – 90 days	205,529	115,703
91 – 120 days	76,780	36,931
Over 120 days	<u>52,834</u>	<u>30,041</u>
	<b><u>1,080,545</u></b>	<b><u>906,442</u></b>

## 11. TRADE PAYABLES

The following is an aged analysis of trade payables at the balance sheet date:

	<b>30 September 2008 HK\$'000</b>	31 March 2008 HK\$'000
0 – 60 days	334,874	376,486
61 – 90 days	59,120	33,050
Over 90 days	<u>40,727</u>	<u>41,027</u>
	<b><u>434,721</u></b>	<b><u>450,563</u></b>



## **INTERIM DIVIDEND**

The Directors have resolved not to declare any interim dividend for the year ending 31 March 2009 (2008: HK8.0 cents).

## **BUSINESS REVIEW AND PROSPECTS**

The operation environment were full of challenges and difficulties for the textile and garment industry in the first half of the financial year. The continuous inflation in Renminbi exerted pressures on general expenses, the new PRC labour law launched in January 2008 gave additional pressure to labour costs and the uprising oil and coal prices largely increased the fuel costs. On top of these, the outbreak of the US subprime crisis has grown into a global financial tsunami which had high negative impact to the global economy and the consumer markets, affecting the purchase orders from the export customers. Against such a backdrop, the Group managed to persevere and attained satisfactory results during the period under review.

For the six months ended 30 September 2008, the Group's total revenue was HK\$2.24 billion, representing an increase of 3.6% on the level of HK\$2.17 billion for the same period last year. Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company dropped by 12.5% to HK\$152.8 million. Basic earnings per share decreased from HK26.4 cents to HK22.6 cents for the period under review.

Production and sales of knitted fabric and dyed yarn remained as the principal operation of the Group and accounted for 69% of the consolidated revenue. Revenue of this business segment reached HK\$1.55 billion, signifying an increase of 9% as compared with the previous period. The continuous increase in operating costs and further stringent environmental regulations exerted pressure on all players in the industry. The expedited consolidation of the textile industry enabled us to increase our market share in both export and domestic PRC markets. Although the Group managed to increase the average selling price of the textile products, the uprising fuel and labour costs brought adverse effect to the profit margins.

Revenue of the garment segment was HK\$697 million, accounted for 31% of the consolidated revenue. During the period under review, difficult trading environment as well as volatile purchase orders stemmed from the global financial tsunami continued to cloud the garment industry and affected the profit margins. The management will continue to exercise stringent cost controls and efficient order schedulings and production plannings so as to improve the profit margins in the second half of the financial year. Taking into account that the elimination of export quotas from PRC to the US in 2009 and together with the strong growth in the domestic PRC market, the Directors are confident that the garment business will continue to play an important role in the corporate development of the Group in the coming years.

It is anticipated that the global trading environment will remain tough and difficult. The macro uncertainty triggered by the global financial tsunami continues to haunt the textile and garment industry. In view of all these challenges, the Group will maintain its vigilance to further tighten its cost control measures as well as to enhance its production efficiency and effectiveness. Backing up by the vertically-integrated set-up together with the environmental-conscious facilities, the Group is well-positioned to increase its market share following the consolidation of the textile and garment supply chain and when market demand gradually recovers in the next couples of years. The management will strive to sustain profitability so as to bring high returns to shareholders of the Company.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Liquidity and Financial Resources**

As at 30 September 2008, the Group had total assets of HK\$5,646,388,000 (31 March 2008: HK\$5,608,436,000) which were financed by current liabilities of HK\$1,968,401,000 (31 March 2008: HK\$1,856,712,000), long term liabilities of HK\$1,039,428,000 (31 March 2008: HK\$1,242,659,000) and shareholders' equity of HK\$2,502,601,000 (31 March 2008: HK\$2,391,639,000). The current ratio was approximately 1.6 (31 March 2008: 1.8) and the gearing ratio, being the ratio of total borrowings (excluding bills discounted and debts factored, and net of bank balances and cash) to shareholders' funds was 57% (31 March 2008: 71%). All of the Group's borrowings were at floating rate basis.

The Group services its debts primarily through cash earned from its operations. The Directors believe that the Group has maintained sufficient working capital for its operation and future expansion. Should other opportunities arise requiring additional funding, the Directors believe that the Group is in a good position to obtain financing on favourable terms.

### **Foreign Exchange and Interest Rate Risks**

The Group continued to adopt a strict and prudent policy in managing its interest rate and currency exchange risks. The major interest-bearing bank borrowings of the Group were HIBOR based Hong Kong dollar borrowings with maturity due within five years. To reduce the interest rate risks, the Group had entered into derivative financial instrument contracts with international banks.

The Group's monetary assets and liabilities were principally denominated in Hong Kong dollars, Chinese Renminbi and US dollars. The fluctuations in the US dollars and Renminbi have always been the concern of the Group. In order to mitigate the foreign currency risk, the Group had entered into appropriate hedging arrangements in accordance with the Group's risk management policies.

## **Capital Expenditure**

During the period, the Group invested approximately HK\$167 million (six months ended 30 September 2007: HK\$257 million) on additions to property, plant and equipment.

As at 30 September 2008, the Group had capital commitments of approximately HK\$97 million in respect of acquisition of new machinery and construction of new factory plants, which are financed by long-term bank borrowings.

## **Charges on Assets**

As at 30 September 2008, no significant assets were pledged (31 March 2008: approximately HK\$133 million).

## **Employee Information**

As at 30 September 2008, total number of employees of the Group were approximately 230 in Hong Kong and Macau, approximately 5 in the United States and Canada, approximately 530 in Jordan, approximately 1,220 in Indonesia and approximately 8,060 in the PRC. Remuneration packages are generally structured by reference to market terms and individual qualifications. Salaries and wages are normally reviewed on an annual basis based on performance appraisals and other relevant factors. Bonuses are normally paid to management staff based on individuals' merits as well as the results of the Group. Other benefits to the staff include a provident fund scheme as well as medical insurance.

The Company maintains a share option scheme, pursuant to which share options are granted to selected eligible executives, with a view to provide senior management with an appropriate incentive interest in the growth of the Group.

## **SUBSEQUENT EVENT**

As announced by the Company on 3 December 2008, a right issue is being conducted. (Details of such rights issue are set out in the announcement and prospectus of the Company dated 3 December 2008 and 23 December 2008 respectively.)

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

During the period under review, the Company repurchased 316,000 shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited at an aggregate price of HK\$506,200. The share buyback reflected management's confidence in the future development of the Group's business. Furthermore, it also enhanced earnings per share of the Company.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE ON CORPORATE GOVERNANCE PRACTICES**

The Company had complied throughout the six months ended 30 September 2008 with the code provisions set out in the Code on Corporate Governance Practices contained in Appendix 14 to the Listing Rules.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE MODEL CODE FOR SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS BY DIRECTORS OF LISTED ISSUERS**

The Company has adopted a code of conduct (“Code of Conduct”) regarding Directors’ securities transactions on terms no less exacting than the required standard set out in the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers contained in Appendix 10 to the Listing Rules. Having made specific enquiry of all Directors, all Directors have confirmed that they had complied with the required standard set out in the Code of Conduct during the six months ended 30 September 2008.

## **PUBLICATION OF INTERIM RESULTS AND INTERIM REPORT**

This interim results announcement is available for viewing on the website of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited at [www.hkexnews.hk](http://www.hkexnews.hk) under “Latest Listed Company Information” and on the website of the Company at [www.victorycity.com.hk](http://www.victorycity.com.hk). The interim report for the six months ended 30 September 2008 will be despatched to the shareholders of the Company and will be published on the above websites in due course.

By Order of the Board of Directors of  
**Victory City International Holdings Limited**  
**Li Ming Hung**  
*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 23 December 2008

*As at the date of this announcement, the executive Directors are Mr. Li Ming Hung (Chairman), Mr. Chen Tien Tui (Chief Executive Officer), Mr. So Kam Wah, Mr. Lee Yuen Chiu Andy and Mr. Choi Lin Hung and the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. Kan Ka Hon, Mr. Phaisalakani Vichai and Mr. Kwok Sze Chi.*

\* *for identification purposes only*