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The Hong Kong Institute of Directors Announces Winners of Directors Of The Year Awards 2013

(Hong Kong, 3 December 2013) – **The Hong Kong Institute of Directors** (“HKIoD”) announced and honoured winners of the Directors Of The Year Awards (“DYA”) 2013 today at the Annual Dinner of the Institute held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. More than 600 guests from different industries and sectors were at the occasion to celebrate the winners’ achievements in corporate governance excellence.

The evening was hosted by Dr Kelvin Wong, Chairman of The Hong Kong Institute of Directors, with Professor K C Chan, Secretary for Financial Services and the Treasury, as the Guest of Honour.

In its thirteenth year, the Awards carry the special theme of “Promoting ESG Policies – Adding Corporate Value by the Board” to recognise outstanding boards and directors committed to promoting environmental, social and governance (“ESG”) policies that contribute to enhancing corporate governance standards and creating added value to their organization and to the society as a whole.

Professor K C Chan said, “As we shift towards an information and service-based economy, intangible assets represent an increasing weight in evaluating company value. Notably, there has been growing importance perceived in ESG performance and reporting globally. In order to stay competitive and uphold our status as an international financial centre, businesses in Hong Kong are encouraged to devise ESG policies of the highest standards which are also relevant and supportive to their core business development and sustainability. Boards and directors play an important role in driving these policies”.

Dr Kelvin Wong said, “HKIoD wishes to honour boards and directors who have demonstrated outstanding performance and corporate social responsibility by integrating ESG practices into their operations. In our response to the consultation paper published by the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited which sought comments to the proposed Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide for issuers, HKIoD had expressed our support to improving corporations’ awareness of the importance of ESG reporting. We believe a dedicated effort in implementing ESG policies contributes to achieving a high standard of corporate governance and creating sustainable value to the organization and beyond. In addition, we have introduced a new commendation this year to recognise a board awardee that demonstrates excellence in board diversity”.

Mr Liu Tingan, Chairman of the Awards Organising Committee of DYA 2013 said,

“Congratulations to all winners of the Awards who have undergone our rigorous selection process and proven themselves to be exemplars in leading organizations to accomplish a higher corporate governance standard through ESG initiatives. We are delighted to see more and more corporations putting in efforts in the pursuit of excellence in ESG policies in addition to existing corporate governance requirements. We hope that they will serve as role models to other organizations and continue to promote the importance of ESG policies to create greater value for their stakeholders and society at large”.

Dr Carlye Tsui, CEO of HKIoD said, “HKIoD continues to advocate the importance of strengthening corporate governance standards and we believe promoting ESG policies is an important step forward. We strongly believe that the Board should formulate ESG policies, set suitable performance indicators for measurement, and use ESG reporting as a tool to better communicate strategies and performance.”

The winners of the DYA 2013 in the various award categories are listed below.

Listed Companies (SEHK - Hang Seng Indexes Constituents)	
Executive Director	Mr Gao Guofu Chairman, China Pacific Insurance (Group) Company Limited
Board	Board of Directors, China Pacific Insurance (Group) Company Limited
Listed Companies (SEHK – Non Hang Seng Indexes Constituents)	
Executive Director	Mr Liang Xinjun Vice Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Fosun International Limited
Executive Director	Mr Robert Xu Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, Kingdee International Software Group Company Limited
Non-Executive Director	Mr SETO, John Gin Chung Independent Non-Executive Director, China Everbright Limited
Private Companies	
Executive Director	Dr Cheung Kwong Ming Managing Director, Tsuen Lee Group (Holdings) Ltd
Statutory/Non-profit-distributing Organisations	
Board	Construction Industry Council
Board	Board of Directors, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited
Board	Board of Directors, Hong Kong Education City Limited
Recognition of Excellence in Board Diversity	
Board of Directors, Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited	

Directors of the Year Awards 2013 is organised by HKIoD and co-organised by Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau of HKSAR Government, the Securities and Futures Commission and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. China Taiping Insurance Group Ltd. is the Lead Sponsor of the event. The awards project also enjoys the support from Joint Sponsors including China Merchants Finance Holdings Company Limited, China Resources (Holdings) Co., Ltd., Wing Lung Bank Limited and Guotai Junan International Holdings Limited and from Co-sponsors consisting a host of other renowned companies. Supporting Organisations include Government bureaus, the media, service organizations, professional institutes and Chambers of Commerce.

Mr Anthony Yeung, Chairman of the Awards Organising Committee of DYA 2014

said: "Apart from announcing this year's awardees, we are delighted to announce the theme of the Directors Of The Year Awards 2014 as 'Effective Leadership: Key to Corporate Success'."

About Directors Of The Year Awards

First launched in 2001, Directors Of The Year Awards were the first ever such Awards organised in Asia. The project has now become an annual project of impact in the community. The objectives are to recognise directors and board of directors for outstanding director practices and corporate governance, to publicise the significance of good corporate governance and to promote awareness of good corporate governance and director professionalism in Hong Kong. Nominations are open to the public. As good corporate governance is vital to all types of organisations, and professional director practices are encouraged from directors in all board roles, the Awards recognise excellence in categories by company types, including listed companies, private companies and statutory/non-profit-distributing organisations, and categories by roles, including Executive Directors, Non-Executive Directors and Boards. For more details on the previous years' Awards, please visit: <http://www.hkiod.com/dya-awardees.html>

About The Hong Kong Institute of Directors

The Hong Kong Institute of Directors is Hong Kong's premier body representing directors to foster the long-term success of companies through advocacy and standards-setting in corporate governance and professional development for directors. A non-profit-distributing organisation with membership consisting of directors from listed and non-listed companies, HKIoD is committed to providing directors with educational programmes and information service and establishing an influential voice in representing directors. With international perspectives and a multi-cultural environment, HKIoD conducts business in biliteracy and trilingualism. Website: <http://www.hkiod.com>.

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