



## “Directors of the Year Awards 2018” Now Accepting Nominations

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### Main theme for this year “Leadership in Times of Change”

(Hong Kong, 6 June 2018, Hong Kong) – **The Hong Kong Institute of Directors** (“HKIoD”) has announced that the 18<sup>th</sup> annual “Directors Of The Year Awards 2018” is accepting nominations starting today. This year, its main theme is “Leadership in Times of Change”, which aims to recognise the leaders who uphold good corporate governance, lead their teams to the forefront of the digital era and effectively face the opportunities and challenges in the “new normal” economy, amidst the challenging times.

**Mr Henry Lai, Chairman of the Council of HKIoD**, said, “In the lead-up to the 18th Directors of the Year Awards organised by HKIoD, we have witnessed the collision of emerging and legacy technologies creating and reshaping the operational model and rules of the commercial world. A parallel reform of corporate governance is becoming a key to success in the business world. An example can be seen in risk management, an important duty in good corporate governance. While the security of the corporate cloud network is part of risk management, so the board of directors of a company should regard the risk from this upgrade as its own duty and should not rely solely on digital and technological experts. Leaders who hold fast to corporate governance as they strive to cope with the new economy should be commended. How to drive further company expansion with new approaches and new insights is a topic deserving consideration for the new generation leaders. We hope the Awardees of Directors Of The Year Awards 2018 can bring a fresh perspective on corporate governance to these new leaders.”

**Mr William Lo, Chairman of the Awards Organising Committee**, said, “In the current digital era, technologies are evolving, advancing almost every second and have changed the old patterns of society starting long ago. Such a disruption has definitely presented big challenges to the leaders in their governance. Standing still is no longer an option for leaders in heading the company or they will be eventually ousted by the march of time. The reason for the Organising Committee to set this year’s theme for the Awards as ‘Leadership in Times of Change’ is to establish standards and provide incentives for Hong Kong’s business sector to review the whole operation and governance system.”

**Dr Carlye Tsui, CEO of HKIoD**, said, “Nurturing successful leaders is not something which can be accomplished in a single day. Therefore, we have been keeping pace with the market trends and have designed specific courses and training for directors. We hope to encourage them to adhere to their corporate governance principles despite the disruption of the new economy and at the same time come up with creative ideas to align with the current operation models.”

Nomination for the Awards will close on 31 July 2018. The Panel of Judges consists of outstanding business leaders, professionals and regulators in Hong Kong. Director Of The Year Awards 2018 recognises excellence in the following categories:

<b>Company Categories:</b>	<b>Director Categories:</b>
1. Listed Companies (SEHK – Hang Seng Indexes Constituents)	1. Executive Directors
2. Listed Companies (SEHK – Non-Hang Seng Indexes Constituents)	2. Non-Executive Directors
3. Private Companies	3. Boards
4. Statutory/Non-profit-distributing Organisations	

The selection criteria for winners in the Individual Director Categories include their effectiveness in performing strategic corporate business functions, contribution to board effectiveness, contribution towards managing change, risk and succession, leadership and other attributes and qualities, including continuing professional development for directors, business ethics and other outstanding achievements. As for the Collective Board Categories, judging criteria include board composition, skill mix and competencies of directors, effectiveness in performing strategic corporate business functions, development and implementation of strategic plans and monitoring of performance, managing compliance and accountability, managing change, risk and succession, development of the board, including continuing professional development for directors, effectiveness of board committees and business ethics as well as any other achievements.

The Awards nomination form and related information are available on The Hong Kong Institute of Directors website at [www.hkiod.com](http://www.hkiod.com).

#### **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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