GRANDTOP INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LTD: CAN YOU TOP THIS ONE ?

When <u>Grandtop International Holdings Ltd</u> went public on the Main Board of The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd on November 12, 2002, **TARGET** gave the company a zero rating for a number of reasons.

One of the most important reasons for giving the company a zero rating was that it was – and, still, is – a tightly held, Siu-Family company.

As such, those activities, which would materially benefit the Siu Family, would always be given precedence over those activities that would benefit all of the shareholders of the company.

As proof of this assertion, **TARGET** noted that, at the time of the flotation, the Siu Family collected about \$HK24 million, gross, by selling a chunk of its shareholdings, which was a little bit less than the \$HK28.20 million, net, that the company collected from the Share Placements.

Since going public in the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC) and being awarded the coveted Stock Code Number 2309, the company appears, on paper, at least, to have done reasonably well, as far as the Bottom Line is concerned.

For the Interim Period, ended September 30, 2002, Grandtop International turned in a Net Profit Attributable to Shareholders of about \$HK13.48 million, up by about 30 percent, Year-On-Year.

For the full Financial Year, ended March 31, 2003, Grandtop International reported a Net Profit Attributable to Shareholders of about \$HK24.68 million, which compared favourably with the 2002 Financial Year when the company reported a Bottom Line of about \$HK21.37 million.

Interestingly, however, while the company recommended and paid an Interim Dividend of 1.50 cents per share, there was no recommendation of a Final Dividend.

One wonders as to the reason for this seeming anomaly: Is the company a little concerned about cash flow, for instance?

Recently, this middle-man operation, whereby it acts as a go-between for Hongkong-based garment manufacturers and their customers, overseas, was sued by Strategic Financial Relations Ltd for the seemingly paltry sum of \$HK60,000.

Strategic Financial Relations describes itself as being a public relations company, which allegedly entered into a purported arrangement with Grandtop International to act for the publicly listed company as its consultant.

The arrangement was, initially, for a period from November 18, 2002 – just prior to Grandtop International, obtaining a listing on The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd – to January 17, 2003.

It was agreed, the Statement of Claim alleges in the Writ of Summons, filed recently in the HKSAR District Court, that Grandtop International would pay \$HK30,000 per month, payable in advance, to Strategic Financial Relations.

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