DICKSON GROUP HOLDINGS LTD: AND THE LEGAL CLAIMS CONTINUE TO PILE UP

Since the beginning of this year, various subsidiaries of Dickson Group Holdings Ltd (德信集團控股有限公司) (Code: 313, Main Board, The Stock Exchange of Hongkong Ltd) have amassed no fewer than 69 legal claims in various Courts of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) of the People's Republic of China (PRC), with the aggregate amount of those claims, being at least \$HK26 million.

According to the database of **TOLFIN** (The Computerised Online Financial Intelligence Service and Web-Based, Credit-Checking Provider), the cases were:

| Name of Court | Number of Cases | Aggregate Amount of Claims |
|------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| High | 8 | \$HK12,725,807.21 |
| District | 39 | \$HK10,289,900.79 |
| Small Claims Tribunal* | 17 | \$HK850,000 (maximum) |
| Labour Tribunal | 3 | Not Stated |
| Magistrates (Criminal) | 2 | Not Stated |
| TOTAL | 69 | Not Less Than \$HK26 million |

*The maximum permitted amount of a single claim, lodged in the Small Claims Tribunal, is \$HK50,000

The latest 'hit' on this construction company has come from Fai Lung Exploitation Ltd, which has sued Dickson Construction Company Ltd (德信建築有限公司), a wholly owned subsidiary of Dickson Group Holdings Ltd, for \$HK486,760.50.

Fai Lung is claiming that it was issued 2 cheques, drawn on The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Ltd (香港上海匯豐銀行有限公司) by Dickson Construction, both cheques, dated October 31, 2005.

When the cheques were presented for payment, both of them were dishonoured.

Today, Fai Lung wants its money, plus interest and costs of the Action.

In respect of the 2 claims, lodged by the HKSAR Government in Magistrates' Courts, these were for alleged breaches of existing legislation, to wit: '*Failing to take adequate steps to prevent persons from falling*'(沒有採取足 夠的步驟防止有人墮下) and '*Mosquito Breeding (on a Construction site)* (蚊子滋生(建築地盤))'.

In the 2004 calendar year, from January to December, a total of 10 cases were brought against Dickson Construction Company Ltd for failing to take adequate steps to prevent persons from falling, according to **TOLFIN**.

TOLFIN's records show, also, that the 2005 Financial Year of Dickson Group Holdings was, relatively, a good one for the company, with the Bottom Line, coming in at about \$HK9.66 million on a Turnover of about \$HK1.03 billion.

That result compared with the 2004-Year when the company reported a Net Profit Attributable to Shareholders of about \$HK8.59 million on a Turnover of about \$HK1.39 billion.

The previous 3 Financial Years, however, were all losers, the aggregate amount of the losses, being about \$HK60.91 million.

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