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22 October 2008

## Takeovers Panel Chairman takes leave of absence

Following today's announcement by the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) (Note 1) The Honourable Henry H L Fan has requested a leave of absence as Chairman and member of the Takeovers and Mergers Panel, member of the Takeovers Appeal Committee and ex officio member of the Nominations Committee in order to avoid any perception of conflict or potential conflict of interest.

The duties of the Chairman will be taken up by Mr Stephen Clark who is one of the Deputy Chairmen of the Panel with immediate effect until further notice.

End

Note:

1. Please see SFC press release dated 22 October 2008 for details.

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