



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards 2009 Accepts Nominations Now**

***Companies invited to showcase success in weathering financial turmoil  
through solid corporate governance practices***

**(Hong Kong, June 8, 2009)** The Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards 2009, jointly organized by The Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies (CHKLC) and the Centre for Corporate Governance and Financial Policy of Hong Kong Baptist University is open for nominations/applications starting today till September 30, 2009. Open to all companies listed in Hong Kong, the awards recognizes companies that exhibit a holistic approach to corporate governance and business ethics.

“Amidst the financial tsunami, it is most important for companies to steadfastly uphold solid corporate governance principles and implement best practices. Only this will see them through crises and market turmoil, enabling them to continue to drive business and retain investors’ and stakeholders’ goodwill,” said Dr. K.S. Lo, Chairman of CHKLC. “The Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards 2009 is an excellent opportunity to showcase the success of companies in dealing with adverse market conditions through strategic corporate governance practices.”

A judging panel which includes distinguished experts from the fields of regulation, financial, accounting, legal and academic, will select winners based on their performance in eight key corporate governance aspects. Special attention will be given to the following three areas: innovation and significant improvements in corporate governance made over the last three years; efforts made to internalize and pursue the highest principles of corporate governance over-and-beyond compliance with requirements; and the ability to show positive business impact of the corporate governance spirit and practices.



“Corporate governance is the set of disciplines, systems and processes that are there to enhance a company’s long term value and protect stakeholders’ interests, and these are of paramount importance especially in challenging times,” said Dr. Lo. “Through organizing the awards, the Chamber provides an opportunity for companies to reflect on their success and identify ways of further improving their pursuit of excellence in corporate governance.”

Companies are invited to participate under three categories: Constituents of Hang Seng Index, Constituents of Hang Seng Composite Index, Other Main Board and GEM Board companies. An overall winner may be selected from winners of these three categories. Special awards or honourable mentions will be given to companies with a special commitment and achievement in individual areas of corporate governance.

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For press enquiries, please contact:

**The Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies**

Amy Leung      Tel: 2970 0886      Email: amyleung@chkcl.org

#### **About the Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies**

Incorporated in September 2002, CHKLC is a non-profit organization serving listed companies in Hong Kong. The Chamber strives to promote sound corporate governance, function as an effective communication channel between listed companies and regulatory authorities, strengthen the commercial linkage and foster co-operation among listed companies from Hong Kong and China and uphold Hong Kong’s position as an international trade, commercial and financial centre. Since 2007, the Chamber organises the annual “Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards” jointly with the Hong Kong Baptist University to advocate best practices of corporate governance and recognize excellence, and from 2008 organises the annual “Listed Companies Conference” to provide a forum of discussion of stock market issues.

#### **About the Centre for Corporate Governance & Financial Policy of Hong Kong Baptist University**

The Centre aspires to be a “Centre of Excellence” on corporate governance in the region. It promotes quality policy and academic research on corporate governance and related financial policy issues covering Hong Kong, China and the Asia-Pacific economies, with the aim to improve the quality of corporate governance practices. Additionally, the Centre provides professional executive education activities to disseminate knowledge and advance the highest ideals of responsible business leadership. Through consultancy projects, the Centre also assists organizations to design, improve and assess their corporate governance systems and structures.



## Notes to Editors:

### About the Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards

The Hong Kong Corporate Governance Excellence Awards are conferred annually since 2007 by the Chamber of Hong Kong Listed Companies and the Centre for Corporate Governance and Financial Policy, Hong Kong Baptist University and are designed to promote and award excellence in corporate governance (CG) of listed companies in Hong Kong. The Awards Programme provides recognition and prestige for listed companies in achieving outstanding commitments to shareholder rights, compliance, integrity, fairness, responsibility, accountability, transparency, board independence & leadership, and corporate social responsibility.

There are 3 award categories, namely the Hang Seng Index Constituent Companies; Hang Seng Composite Index Constituent Companies and other Main Board & GEM Board Companies. In addition to other special prizes/honorable mentions, an overall winner may be selected from amongst the winners.

The judging panel includes: Dr. Anthony Neoh, SC, former Chairman of SFC and ex-Chief Advisor to the China Securities Regulatory Commission, Professor Stephen Cheung, Dean, School of Business and Professor (Chair) of Finance at the Hong Kong Baptist University, Mr. C.Y. Leung, Partner, Baker & McKenzie, Mr. David Sun, Chairman and Managing Partner, Ernst & Young Far East Area and Past President of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, and Mr. Alec Tsui, Chairman, WAG Worldsec Corporate Finance Limited and former Chief Executive Officer of the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong.

The Awards Programme is supported by the Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau, Securities and Futures Commission, Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited, the Hong Kong Chinese Enterprises Association, and the Hong Kong Investment Funds Association. Grant Thornton is Champagne Sponsor of the event, Bloomberg is exclusive regional sponsor while Hong Kong Economic Journal and irasia.com Limited are Sole Chinese Newspaper Sponsor and Online Media Partner respectively.

All Hong Kong listed companies can self-nominate or be nominated for the Awards. Entry forms can be downloaded from <http://www.chkcl.org>. Results of the awards will be announced at the prize presentation gala dinner to be held on December 2, 2009.