

## **GUIDANCE NOTE NO. 14/2007**

### **TRADING HALT**

**Issued in relation to Rule 16.03A of the Listing Requirements;**

**And**

**Pursuant to Rule 2.09 of the Listing Requirements.**

#### **1.0 Introduction**

- 1.1 Pursuant to Rule 16.03A of the Listing Requirements, a trading halt may be imposed on the listed company's securities by the Exchange upon release of a material announcement by the listed company before or during trading hours.
- 1.2 The purpose of trading halt is to enable dissemination of the material information disclosed and facilitate the evaluation of such information.
- 1.3 This Guidance Note sets out the following :-
  - (a) the types of material announcements which may warrant trading halt; and
  - (b) the periods of trading halt.
- 1.4 Nothing in this Guidance Note shall be read to restrict the powers of the Exchange to suspend the trading of the listed company's securities pursuant to Rule 16.02 of the Listing Requirements.

#### **2.0 Material announcement which may warrant trading halt**

- 2.1 For the purpose of Rule 16.03A of the Listing Requirements, the types of announcement which will be regarded as a material announcement includes any announcement relating to any of the following matters :-
  - (a) interim financial reports;
  - (b) bonus issues or fund raising exercises;
  - (c) a subdivision of shares or consolidation by the listed company;
  - (d) a transaction requiring an announcement to be made under Chapter 10 of the Listing Requirements;
  - (e) declaration of a dividend or distribution;
  - (f) a change in the controlling shareholder of the listed company;
  - (g) a notice of take-over being served on a listed company;
  - (h) commencement of winding-up proceedings against the listed company or any of its subsidiaries or major associated companies;
  - (i) rejection of the corporate proposals previously announced by the shareholders or regulatory authorities;
  - (j) the prospects, revenue or profit estimate, forecast, projection or internal targets of the listed company and any circumstances or development which are likely to materially affect the results or outcome thereof,

- (k) any clarifying announcement pursuant to Chapter 9 of the Listing Requirements including the response to a rumour or report or unusual market activity; or
- (l) any other announcements which the Exchange considers material pursuant to Rule 9.03(2) of the Listing Requirements.

### **3.0 Periods of trading halt**

3.1 The periods of trading halt that may be imposed by the Exchange are as follows :-

- (a) where the material announcement is released during trading hours, the trading halt imposed will be for the remaining period of the morning or afternoon trading session, as the case may be; and
- (b) where the material announcement is released before 9.00 a.m., between 1.00 p.m. to 2.30 p.m and after 6.30 p.m., the trading halt imposed will be for whole morning or afternoon trading session, as the case may be.

3.2 However, a trading halt will not be imposed where the material announcement is released during the trading session break from 12.30 p.m. to 1.00 p.m.

3.3 Notwithstanding paragraphs 3.1 and 3.2 above, the Exchange may, at its discretion, suspend the trading of the listed company's securities for the entire day or such period as the Exchange deems it appropriate.

3.4 For the avoidance of doubt, the periods of trading halt as stated herein shall not be applicable to the securities of a listed company suspended pursuant to a request for suspension under Rule 16.03 of the Listing Requirements and Guidance Note No. 12/2006. Hence, the securities of a listed company which is suspended will not be quoted on the same day of the release of the relevant announcement.

### **4.0 Effective Date**

4.1 This Guidance Note takes effect on 3 September 2007.