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## IMPORTANT

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**If you are in any doubt** as to any aspect of this circular or as to the action to be taken, you should consult a stockbroker or other registered dealer in securities, bank manager, solicitor, professional accountant, or other professional adviser.

**If you have sold** all your shares in Excel Technology International Holdings Limited, you should at once hand this circular to the purchaser or to the bank, stockbroker or other agent through whom the sale was effected for transmission to the purchaser.

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### **EXCEL TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED (志鴻科技國際控股有限公司)\***

*(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)*

#### **PROPOSED GENERAL MANDATES TO ISSUE SHARES AND REPURCHASE SHARES**

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The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the “Stock Exchange”) takes no responsibility for the contents of this circular, makes no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaims any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this circular.

This circular, for which the directors (the “Directors”) of Excel Technology International Holdings Limited (the “Company”) collectively and individually accept full responsibility, includes particulars given in compliance with the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Growth Enterprise Market of the Stock Exchange for the purpose of giving information with regard to the Company. The directors of the Company, having made all reasonable enquiries, confirm that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, (1) the information contained in this circular is accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading; (2) there are no other matters the omission of which would make any statement herein misleading; and (3) all opinions expressed in this circular have been arrived at after due and careful consideration and are founded on bases and assumptions that are fair and reasonable.

This circular will remain on the “Latest Company Announcements” page of the GEM website for at least seven days from the date of its posting and on the website of the Company at [www.excel.com.hk](http://www.excel.com.hk).

30 March 2004

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LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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**EXCEL TECHNOLOGY INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED**  
**( 志 鴻 科 技 國 際 控 股 有 限 公 司 ) \***

*(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)*

*Executive Directors:*

Zee Chan Mei Chu, Peggy

*(Chairman and Chief Executive Officer)*

Fung Din Chung, Rickie

Leung Lucy, Michele

Wen Pei Sung

*Registered Office:*

Clarendon House

Church Street

Hamilton HM 11

Bermuda

*Non-executive Directors:*

Ip Tak Chuen, Edmond

Quek Cher Teck

*Head Office and Principal Place  
of Business in Hong Kong:*

5th Floor

663 King's Road

North Point

Hong Kong

*Independent Non-executive Directors:*

Cheong Ying Chew, Henry

Chang Ka Mun

Wong Mee Chun

30 March 2004

*To Shareholders of the Company*

Dear Sir or Madam,

**PROPOSED GENERAL MANDATES TO  
ISSUE SHARES AND REPURCHASE SHARES**

**INTRODUCTION**

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Company held on 22 March 2004, the Directors announced the audited combined results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the year ended 31 December 2003. It was also announced on the same day that at the annual general meeting to be held on 26 April 2004 at 2:30 p.m. ("Annual General Meeting"), resolutions to grant to the Directors

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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general mandate to issue shares of the Company (“Shares”) and to repurchase Shares (“Repurchase Mandate”) will be proposed. The purpose of this circular is to provide shareholders of the Company (the “Shareholders”) with details of the proposed general mandate to be dealt with at the Annual General Meeting.

### GENERAL MANDATE

At the Annual General Meeting, separate ordinary resolutions will be proposed to renew the general mandate given to the Directors (1) to allot, issue and otherwise deal with Shares not exceeding 20% of the aggregate nominal amount of the share capital of the Company in issue at the date of the passing of such resolution and shares representing the aggregate nominal amount (up to a maximum of 10% of the aggregate nominal amount of the Company’s then issued share capital as at the date of passing of such resolution) of any Shares repurchased by the Company subsequent to the passing of such resolution; and (2) to repurchase Shares comprising the aggregate nominal amount of which does not exceed 10% of the aggregate nominal amount of the share capital in issue of the Company at the date of passing of such resolution.

Under the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Growth Enterprise Market of the Stock Exchange (the “GEM Listing Rules”), the general unconditional mandates granted on 24 April 2003 will lapse at the conclusion of the coming Annual General Meeting, unless renewed at the Annual General Meeting. Resolutions Nos. 5 and 6 in the notice of Annual General Meeting will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting to renew these mandates. With reference to these resolutions, the Directors wish to state that they have no present intention to repurchase any Shares pursuant to the relevant mandates.

The explanatory statement, required by the GEM Listing Rules to be sent to Shareholders in connection with the proposed Repurchase Mandate is set out in the Appendix to this circular. This contains all the information reasonably necessary to enable the Shareholders to make an informed decision on whether to vote for or against the relevant resolutions.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A notice of the Annual General Meeting is set out in the 2003 Annual Report of the Company which is despatched to the Shareholders with this circular. At the Annual General Meeting, in addition to the ordinary business of the meeting, Resolutions Nos. 5 and 6 will be proposed to approve the general mandate for the issue of Shares and Repurchase Shares as special businesses.

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## LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN

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A copy of the 2003 annual report of the Company incorporating copies of the audited combined results of the Group for the year ended 31 December 2003 and the directors' and auditors' reports therein is despatched to all the Shareholders together with this circular.

A form of proxy for the Annual General Meeting is also enclosed. Whether or not you intend to be present at the Annual General Meeting, you are requested to complete the form of proxy and return it to the Company's branch share registrar and transfer office in Hong Kong, Computershare Hong Kong Investor Services Limited, Rooms 1712-1716, 17th Floor, Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East, Hong Kong in accordance with the instructions printed thereon not less than 48 hours before the time fixed for the meeting. The completion of a form of proxy will not preclude you from attending and voting at the meeting in person.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Board of Directors is of the opinion that the proposals referred to above are in the best interests of the Company and therefore recommend you to vote in favour of the relevant resolutions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

Yours faithfully,  
**Zee Chan Mei Chu, Peggy**  
*Chairman*

This is an explanatory statement given to all the Shareholders relating to a resolution to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting authorising the Repurchase Mandate.

This explanatory statement contains all the information required pursuant to Rule 13.08 and other relevant provisions of the GEM Listing Rules which is set out as follows:

## **1. REGULATIONS OF THE GEM LISTING RULES**

### **(a) Source of funds**

Repurchase must be funded out of funds which are legally available for the purpose and in accordance with the memorandum of association and bye-laws of the company and the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda (the “Companies Act”). A listed company may not repurchase its own securities on the Stock Exchange for a consideration other than cash or for settlement otherwise than in accordance with the trading rules of the Stock Exchange.

### **(b) Connected parties**

Under the GEM Listing Rules, a company shall not knowingly repurchase shares from a connected person (as defined under the GEM Listing Rules) and a connected person shall not knowingly sell his shares to the company.

## **2. EXERCISE OF THE REPURCHASE MANDATE**

Exercise in full of the Repurchase Mandate, on the basis of 985,050,000 shares of HK\$0.10 each as at 24 March 2004, being the Latest Practicable Date, could result in up to 98,505,000 shares i.e. up to 10% of the shares of the Company in issue, being repurchased by the Company during the period from the passing of Resolution No. 6 as set out in the notice of the Annual General Meeting up to (i) the conclusion of the next annual general meeting of the Company; (ii) the expiration of the period within which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required by the bye-laws of the Company or any applicable laws to be held; or (iii) the revocation, variation or renewal of the Repurchase Mandate by ordinary resolution of the Shareholders in general meeting, whichever occurs first.

## **3. REASONS FOR REPURCHASES**

Repurchases of Shares will only be made when the Directors believe that such a repurchase will benefit the Company and its members. Such repurchases may, depending on market conditions and funding arrangements at the time, lead to an enhancement of the net asset value of the Company and/or its earnings per Share.

**4. FUNDING OF REPURCHASES**

In repurchasing securities, the Company may only apply funds legally available for such purpose in accordance with its memorandum of association and bye-laws, the GEM Listing Rules and the applicable laws of Bermuda. The Company may not purchase securities on GEM for a consideration other than cash or for settlement otherwise than in accordance with the trading rules of the Stock Exchange from time to time.

**5. GENERAL**

There might be a material adverse impact on the working capital or gearing position of the Company (as compared with the position disclosed in the audited financial statements contained in the 2003 annual report of the Company) in the event that the proposed purchases in the Repurchase Mandate were to be exercised in full at any time during the proposed purchase period. However, the Directors do not propose to exercise the Repurchase Mandate to such extent as would, in the circumstances, have a material adverse effect on the working capital requirements of the Group or on its gearing levels which in the opinion of the Directors are from time to time appropriate for the Group.

**6. UNDERTAKING**

The Directors have undertaken to the Stock Exchange that, they will exercise the power of the Company to make purchases in Repurchase Mandate pursuant to the proposed resolutions in accordance with the GEM Listing Rules, the memorandum of association and bye-laws of the Company and the applicable laws of Bermuda.

As at the Latest Practicable Date prior to the printing of this circular and to the best of the knowledge of the Directors who have made all reasonable enquiries, none of the Directors or their associates has a present intention, in the event that the resolution is approved by the shareholders, to sell Shares to the Company or has undertaken not to do so.

**7. TAKEOVER CODE**

If as a result of a repurchase of Shares, a shareholder's proportionate interest in the voting rights of the Company increases, such increase will be treated as an acquisition for the purpose of the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers (the "Code"). As a result, a shareholder, or a group of shareholders acting in concert, depending on the level of increase in the shareholder's interests, could obtain or consolidate control of the Company and become(s) obliged to make a mandatory offer in accordance with Rules 26 and 32 of the Code.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the following shareholders had interests representing 5% or more of the issued share capital of the Company:

Name	Shares held	Percentage of total issued shares
Ms. Zee Chan Mei Chu, Peggy	565,237,197	57.38% <sup>#</sup>
Passion Investment (BVI) Limited	563,679,197	57.22% <sup>#</sup>
Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited	143,233,151	14.54% <sup>*</sup>
Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Company Limited (as trustee of The Li Ka-Shing Unity Trust)	143,233,151	14.54% <sup>*</sup>
Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustcorp Limited (as trustee of another discretionary Trust)	143,233,151	14.54% <sup>*</sup>
Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Corporation Limited (as trustee of The Li Ka-Shing Unity Discretionary Trust)	143,233,151	14.54% <sup>*</sup>
Mr. Li Ka-shing	143,233,151	14.54% <sup>*</sup>
Alps Mountain Agent Limited	71,969,151	7.31%
iBusiness Corporation Limited	67,264,000	6.83%

<sup>#</sup> These shares have been disclosed in the 2003 annual report of the Company as the corporate interest of the director in the paragraph “Directors’ and chief executive’s interests and short positions in securities”.

<sup>\*</sup> Mr. Li Ka-shing is the settlor of each of The Li Ka-Shing Unity Discretionary Trust (“DT1”) and another discretionary trust (“DT2”). Each of Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Corporation Limited (“TDT1”, which is the trustee of DT1) and Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustcorp Limited (“TDT2”, which is the trustee of DT2) holds units in The Li Ka-Shing Unity Trust (“UT1”) but is not entitled to any interest or shares in any particular property comprising the trust assets of the said unit trust. The discretionary beneficiaries of each of DT1 and DT2 are, inter alia, Mr. Li Tzar Kuoi, Victor, his wife and children and Mr. Li Tzar Kai, Richard. Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Company Limited (“TUT1”) as trustee of UT1 together with certain companies which TUT1 as trustee of UT1 is entitled to exercise or control the exercise of one-third or more of the voting power at their general meetings hold more than one-third of the issued share capital of Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited (“CKH”).

The entire issued share capital of each of TUT1, TDT1 and TDT2 are owned by Li Ka-Shing Unity Holdings Limited (“Unity Holdco”). Each of Mr. Li Ka-shing, Mr Li Tzar Kuoi, Victor and Mr. Li Tzar Kai, Richard is interested in one-third of the entire issued share capital of Unity Holdco. TUT1 is only interested in the shares of CKH by reason only of its obligation and power to hold interests in those shares in its ordinary

course of business as trustee and, when performing its functions as trustee, exercise its power to hold interests in the shares of CKH independently without any reference to Unity Holdco or any of Mr. Li Ka-shing, Mr. Li Tzar Kuoi, Victor and Mr. Li Tzar Kai, Richard as a holder of the shares of Unity Holdco as aforesaid.

Mr. Li Ka-shing may be regarded as a founder of each of DT1 and DT2 for the purpose of the Securities and Futures Ordinance.

In the event that the Directors exercise in full the power to repurchase shares in accordance with the terms of the ordinary resolutions to be proposed at the Annual General Meeting, the total interests of the above substantial shareholders in the Shares of the Company would be increased to:

Name	Percentage of total issued shares
Ms. Zee Chan Mei Chu, Peggy	63.76% <sup>#</sup>
Passion Investment (BVI) Limited	63.58% <sup>#</sup>
Cheung Kong (Holdings) Limited	16.16%*
Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Company Limited (as trustee of The Li Ka-Shing Unity Trust)	16.16%*
Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustcorp Limited (as trustee of another discretionary trust)	16.16%*
Li Ka-Shing Unity Trustee Corporation Limited (as trustee of The Li Ka-Shing Unity Discretionary Trust)	16.16%*
Mr. Li Ka-shing	16.16%*
Alps Mountain Agent Limited	8.12%
iBusiness Corporation Limited	7.59%

and the Substantial Shareholders will not be obliged to make a mandatory offer under Rules 26 and 32 of the Code in this respect.

**8. PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES**

During the previous six months preceding the Latest Practicable Date, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries has purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities.

**9. CONNECTED PERSON**

No connected person (as defined in the GEM Listing Rules) has notified the Company that he has a present intention to sell Shares to the Company, or has undertaken not to do so, in the event that the Repurchase Mandate is approved by the Shareholders and the Company authorised to make purchases of shares.

**10. SHARE PRICES**

The highest and lowest prices at which the Shares were traded on GEM during each of the previous twelve months preceding the Latest Practicable Date were as follows:

	<b>Highest</b> <i>HK\$</i>	<b>Shares</b>	<b>Lowest</b> <i>HK\$</i>
<b>2003</b>			
March	0.130		0.118
April	0.100		0.099
May	0.090		0.072
June	0.093		0.070
July	0.090		0.077
August	0.115		0.092
September	0.233		0.112
October	0.200		0.146
November	0.184		0.120
December	0.190		0.115
<b>2004</b>			
January	0.168		0.120
February	0.175		0.136
1 March – 24 March	0.169		0.145

**11. PROXY**

A form of proxy for use at the Annual General Meeting is also enclosed. Whether or not you intend to attend the meeting, you are requested to complete and return the form of proxy to the Company's branch share registrar and transfer office of the Company in Hong Kong as soon as possible and in any event not less than 48 hours before the time appointed for the holding of the meeting. Completion and return of the form of proxy will not preclude the Shareholders from attending and voting in person at the Annual General Meeting should the Shareholders so desire.