

SHINVEST HOLDING LTD. 3 Kian Teck Crescent Singapore 628881 Tel (65) 6265 1555 Fax (65) 6265 2115 www.shinvest.com.sg

# SHINVEST HOLDING LTD.

(Incorporated in Singapore) (Company Registration No. 198905519R)

# Board of Directors:

Loh Suan Len, FCPA (Non-Executive Independent Chairman) Teo Teck Leong (Managing Director) Dr Chau Sik Ting, PBM, BBM (Independent Director) Teo Eng Thian (Executive Director and Chief Operating Officer) **Registered Office:** 

3 Kian Teck Crescent Singapore 628881

15 December 2021

To: The Shareholders of Shinvest Holding Ltd.

# Dear Sir/Madam

# PROPOSED RENEWAL OF THE SHARE BUYBACK MANDATE

### 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 We refer to (a) the notice of the annual general meeting dated 15 December 2021 (the "**Notice of AGM**"), convening the 2021 annual general meeting ("**2021 AGM**") of Shinvest Holding Ltd. (the "**Company**", and together with its subsidiaries, the "**Group**") to be held by electronic means on Thursday, 30 December 2021 at 10.00 a.m., and (b) ordinary resolution No. 9 under the heading of "Special Business" set out in the Notice of AGM.
- **1.2** The purpose of this Letter is to provide to the shareholders (the "**Shareholders**") with relevant information pertaining to the proposed renewal of the Share Buyback Mandate, details of which are set out in paragraph 2 of this Letter and to seek Shareholders' approval for the resolution in respect thereof to be tabled at the 2021 AGM.
- **1.3** The Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (the "**SGX-ST**") assumes no responsibility for the contents of this Letter. If you are in any doubt as to the course of action you should take, you should consult your stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant, tax adviser or other professional adviser immediately.

#### 2. THE PROPOSED RENEWAL OF THE SHARE BUYBACK MANDATE

2.1 <u>The Share Buyback Mandate.</u> Sections 76B, 76C, 76D, 76DA and 76E of the Companies Act allow a listed company to purchase its own shares. At the annual general meeting held on 30 December 2020 (the "2020 AGM"), Shareholders had approved a mandate to enable the Company to purchase or otherwise acquire its issued Shares. The rationale for, the authority and limitations on, and the financial effects of, the adoption of the mandate (the "2020 Share Buyback Mandate") were set out in the Company's letter to Shareholders dated 15 December

## 2020.

The authority conferred pursuant to the 2020 Share Buyback Mandate may be exercised by the Directors at any time during the period commencing from the date of the 2020 AGM and expiring on the date when the next annual general meeting of the Company is held, or the date by which the next annual general meeting of the Company is required to be held by law, whichever is earlier.

Accordingly, the Directors shall seek the approval of the Shareholders for the renewal of the share buyback mandate (the "**Share Buyback Mandate**") at the upcoming 2021 AGM.

- **2.2** <u>**Rationale.**</u> The rationale for the Company to undertake purchase or acquisition of its Shares and to renew the Share Buyback Mandate is as follows:
  - (a) the Share Buyback Mandate increases Shareholders' value and improves, *inter alia*, the return on equity of the Group. A Share Buyback at the appropriate price level is one of the ways through which the return on equity of the Group may be enhanced;
  - (b) the Share Buyback Mandate provides the Company with a mechanism to facilitate the return of surplus cash over and above its ordinary capital requirements in an expedient, effective and cost-efficient manner. It will also provide the Company with greater flexibility in managing its capital and share capital structure;
  - (c) Share Buybacks by the Company will help mitigate short-term market volatility and bolster Shareholder confidence; and
  - (d) the Share Buyback Mandate may be used to purchase existing Shares which may then be held in treasury, and such Treasury Shares may consequently be transferred for the purposes of or pursuant to the Shinvest Holding Ltd. Performance Share Plan in order to satisfy the awards given thereunder (if any).

The Share Buyback will only be undertaken if the Directors are of the view that it would benefit the Company and Shareholders. Shareholders should note that purchases or acquisitions of Shares pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate may not be carried out at all, or to the full limit as authorised. No purchase or acquisition of Shares will be made in circumstances where there might be a material adverse effect on the financial position of the Group as a whole.

- 2.3 <u>Authority and Limits of the Share Buyback Mandate.</u> The authority and limitations placed on the purchases or acquisitions of Shares by the Company under the Share Buyback Mandate, if renewed at the 2021 AGM, are as follows:
  - 2.3.1 <u>Maximum Number of Shares</u>

Only Shares which are issued and fully paid-up may be purchased or acquired by the Company. The total number of Shares that may be purchased or acquired by the Company pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate shall not exceed ten per cent (10%) of the total number of Shares of the Company as at the date of the forthcoming 2021 AGM when the renewed Share Buyback Mandate is approved ("**Approval Date**"), unless the Company has effected a reduction of the share capital of the Company in accordance with the applicable provisions of the Companies Act, at any time during the Relevant Period, in which event the total number of Shares of the Company as altered. Any Shares which are held as Treasury Shares will be disregarded for the purpose of computing the ten per cent (10%) limit.

**For illustrative purposes only**, based on the existing issued and paid-up Share capital of the Company as at the latest practicable date of 30 November 2021 (the "**Latest Practicable Date**") comprising 29,905,222 Shares (excluding treasury shares) and assuming that no further Shares are issued on or prior to the 2021 AGM, no more than 2,990,522 Shares (representing approximately ten per cent (10%) of the Shares

as at the Approval Date) may be purchased or acquired by the Company pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate.

#### 2.3.2 Duration of Authority

Purchases or acquisitions of Shares may be made, at any time and from time to time, on and from the Approval Date, up to the earliest of:

- (a) the date on which the next annual general meeting of the Company is held or required by law to be held;
- (b) the date on which the purchases or acquisitions of Shares by the Company pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate are carried out to the full extent mandated; or
- (c) the date on which the authority conferred by the Share Buyback Mandate is revoked or varied by Shareholders in a general meeting.

The Share Buyback Mandate may be renewed at each annual general meeting or other general meetings of the Company.

#### 2.3.3 Manner of Purchases or Acquisitions of Shares

Purchases or acquisitions of Shares may be made by way of:

- (a) on-market purchase(s) ("<u>Market Purchase</u>"), transacted on the SGX-ST or, as the case may be, any other stock exchange on which the Shares may be for the time being be listed and quoted, through one or more duly licensed stock brokers appointed by the Company for that purpose; and/or
- (b) off-market purchase(s) ("<u>Off-Market Purchase</u>") effected pursuant to an equal access scheme in accordance with Section 76C of the Companies Act.

The Directors may impose such terms and conditions which are not inconsistent with the Share Buyback Mandate, the Listing Manual and the Companies Act, as they consider fit in the interests of the Company in connection with or in relation to any equal access scheme or schemes.

Under the Companies Act, an equal access scheme must satisfy all the following conditions:

- offers for the purchase or acquisition of Shares shall be made to every person who holds Shares to purchase or acquire the same percentage of their Shares;
- (ii) all of the abovementioned persons shall be given a reasonable opportunity to accept the offers made; and
- (iii) the terms of all the offers shall be the same, except that there shall be disregarded:
  - (aa) differences in consideration attributable to the fact that offers may relate to Shares with different accrued dividend entitlements;
  - (bb) (if applicable) differences in consideration attributable to the fact that the offers relate to Shares with different amounts remaining unpaid; and
  - (cc) differences in the offers introduced solely to ensure that each person is left with a whole number of Shares.

In addition, the Listing Manual provides that in making an Off-Market Purchase, the Company must issue an offer document to all Shareholders which must contain at least the following information:

- (1) the terms and conditions of the offer;
- (2) the period and procedures for acceptances;
- (3) the reasons for the proposed Share purchase;
- (4) the consequences, if any, of Share purchases by the Company that will arise under the Take-over Code or other applicable take-over rules;
- (5) whether the Share purchase, if made, could affect the listing of the Company's equity securities on the SGX-ST;
- (6) details of any Share purchase made by the Company in the previous 12 months (whether Market Purchases of Off-Market Purchases in accordance with an equal access scheme), giving the total number of Shares purchased, the purchase price per share or the highest and lowest prices paid for the purchases, where relevant, and the total consideration paid for the purchases; and
- (7) whether the Shares purchased by the Company will be cancelled or kept as Treasury Shares.

#### 2.3.4 Maximum Purchase Price

The purchase price (excluding brokerage, commission, applicable goods and services tax and other related expenses) to be paid for the Shares will be determined by the Directors. The purchase price to be paid for the Shares as determined by the Directors must not exceed:

- (a) in the case of a Market Purchase, one hundred and five per cent (105%) of the Average Closing Price (as defined hereinafter) of the Shares; and
- (b) in the case of an Off-Market Purchase pursuant to an equal access scheme, one hundred and twenty per cent (120%) of the Average Closing Price of the Shares,

in each case, excluding related expenses of the purchase, or acquisition (the "Maximum Price").

For the above purposes:

"Average Closing Price" means the average of the closing market prices of a Share over the last five (5) Market Days on which the Shares are transacted on the SGX-ST or, as the case may be, such securities exchange on which the Shares are listed or quoted, immediately preceding the date of the Market Purchase by the Company or, as the case may be, the date of the making of the offer pursuant to the Off-Market Purchase, and deemed to be adjusted, in accordance with the rules of the SGX-ST, for any corporation action that occurs after the relevant five-day period;

"date of the making of the offer" means the date on which the Company makes an offer for the purchase or acquisition of Shares from holder of Shares, stating therein the relevant terms of the equal access scheme for effecting the Off-Market Purchase.

2.4 <u>Status of the Purchased Shares.</u> A Share purchased or acquired by the Company is deemed cancelled immediately on purchase or acquisition (and all rights and privileges attached to the Share will expire on such cancellation) unless such Share is held by the Company as a Treasury Share. Accordingly, the total number of issued Shares will be diminished by the number of

Shares purchased or acquired by the Company and which are not held as Treasury Shares.

#### Treasury Shares

A company incorporated in Singapore may also hold any share which is purchased by such company as a Treasury Share.

Under the Companies Act, the number of shares of a company held as Treasury Shares cannot at any time exceed ten per cent (10%) of the total number of its issued shares. If a company holds shares as Treasury Shares, the company shall be entered in the register of members as the member holding the shares but the company is not permitted to exercise any rights in respect of those shares (including any right to attend and vote at meetings) and no dividend or other distribution (whether in cash or otherwise) shall be paid or made to the company in respect of such shares. However, the allotment of shares as fully paid bonus shares in respect of Treasury Shares is allowed. Further, a subdivision or consolidation of any Treasury Share into Treasury Shares of a smaller amount is allowed so long as the total value of the Treasury Shares after the subdivision or consolidation is the same as before.

No acquisition by a company of its own shares whether to be held as Treasury Shares or for cancellation may be effected if, on the date on which the acquisition is to be effected, there are reasonable grounds for believing that the company is, or after the acquisition would be, unable to pay its liabilities as they become due.

A company that acquires its own shares to be held as Treasury Shares may:

- (a) hold all or any of the Treasury Shares;
- (b) dispose of or transfer all or any of the Treasury Shares for cash;
- (c) cancel all or any of the Treasury Shares;
- (d) transfer the Treasury Shares for the purposes of or pursuant to employee share schemes;
- (e) transfer the Treasury Shares as consideration for the acquisition of shares in or assets of another company or assets of a person;
- (f) sell, transfer or otherwise use the Treasury Shares for such other purposes as the Minister for Finance may by order prescribe.
- **2.5** <u>Sources of Funds.</u> The Company may not purchase or acquire its Shares on the SGX-ST for a consideration other than cash or for settlement otherwise than in accordance with the trading rules of the SGX-ST.

Any purchases or acquisitions of Shares may be made only if the Company is solvent and out of the Company's capital or profits. It is an offence for a Director or manager of the Company to approve or authorise the purchase or acquisition of Shares, knowing that the Company is not solvent. For this purpose, pursuant to the Companies Act, a company is solvent if:

- 2.5.1 there is no ground on which the company could be found to be unable to pay its debts;
- 2.5.2 if
  - (i) it is intended to commence winding up of the company within the period of 12 months immediately after the date of the payment, the company will be able to pay its debts in full within the period of 12 months after the date of commencement of the winding up; or
  - (ii) it is not intended so to commence winding up, the company will be able to pay its debts as they fall due during the period of 12 months immediately after the date of the payment; and

2.5.3 the value of the company's assets is not less than the value of its liabilities (including contingent liabilities) and will not, after the proposed purchase or acquisition, become less than the value of its liabilities (including contingent liabilities).

The Company may use internal resources or external borrowings or a combination of both to fund purchases of Shares pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate. However, in considering the option of external financing, the Directors will consider particularly the prevailing gearing level of the Group.

The Directors will only make purchases or acquisitions pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate in circumstances which they believe will not result in any material adverse effect to the financial position of the Company or the Group.

**2.6** <u>**Financial Effects.**</u> The financial effects on the Company and the Group arising from purchases or acquisitions of Shares which may be made pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate will depend on, *inter alia*, the number of Shares purchased or acquired and the price paid for such Shares and the manner in which the purchase is funded.

Where the consideration paid by the Company for the purchase of Shares is made out of profits, the amount available for the distribution of cash dividends by the Company will be correspondingly reduced. Where the consideration paid by the Company for the purchase of Shares is made out of capital, the amount available for the distribution of cash dividends by the Company will not be reduced.

The financial effects on the Company and the Group, based on the audited financial statements of the Company and the Group for the financial year ended 31 August 2021, are based on the assumptions set out below:

#### 2.6.1 <u>Number of Shares purchases or acquired</u>

Based on the issued and paid-up ordinary share capital of the Company as at the Latest Practicable Date and assuming no further Shares are issued on or prior to the 2021 AGM, the purchase by the Company of up to the maximum limit of ten per cent (10%) of its issued Shares will result in the purchase or acquisition of 2,990,522 Shares.

#### 2.6.2 <u>Maximum price paid for Shares purchased or acquired</u>

In the case of Market Purchases by the Company and assuming that the Company purchases or acquires 2,990,522 Shares at the Maximum Price of S\$3.44 for one Share (being the price equivalent to five per cent (5%) above the average of the closing market prices of the Shares over the last five (5) Market Days preceding the Latest Practicable Date on which transactions in the Shares were recorded), the maximum amount of funds required for the purchase or acquisition of 2,990,522 Shares is S\$10,299,358.

In the case of an Off-Market Purchase by the Company and assuming that the Company purchases or acquires 2,990,522 Shares at the Maximum Price of S\$3.94 for one Share (being the price equivalent to twenty per cent (20%) above the highest price transacted for a Share as recorded on the Market Day on which there were trades in the Shares immediately preceding the Latest Practicable Date), the maximum amount of funds required for the purchase or acquisition of 2,990,522 Shares is S\$11,770,695.

On the basis of the assumptions set out above and the following:

- (a) purchases of Shares are made to the extent as aforesaid;
- (b) such purchases of Shares are funded wholly by internal resources within the Group;
- (c) the Company had purchased 2,990,522 Shares on the Latest Practicable Date (representing ten per cent (10%) of the Shares in issue as at the Latest Practicable Date),

the financial effects on the audited financial statements of the Company and the Group for the financial year ended 31 August 2021 pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate:

- (i) by way of purchases made entirely out of capital and held as Treasury Shares; and
- (ii) by way of purchases made entirely out of capital and cancelled, would have been as follows;

# (A) Market Purchases

### Purchases made entirely out of profits

	GROUP			COMPANY			
	Before Share Purchase	9		Before After Market Purchase Share Purchase			
		Purchased Shares Cancelled	Purchased Shares held as Treasury Shares		Purchased Shares Cancelled	Purchased Shares held as Treasury Shares	
As at 31 August 2021	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Share capital	26,700	16,401	26,700	26,700	16,401	26,700	
Retained earnings	149,646	149,646	149,646	152,344	152,344	152,344	
Warrants Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	176,346	166,047	176,346	179,044	168,745	179,044	
Treasury Shares	-	-	(10,299)	-	-	(10,299)	
Total Shareholders' funds <sup>(1)</sup>	176,346	166,047	166,047	179,044	168,745	168,745	
NTA <sup>(2)</sup>	174,699	164,400	164,400	179,044	168,745	168,745	
Current assets	45,424	35,125	35,125	32,136	21,837	21,837	
Current liabilities	4,709	4,709	4,709	2,637	2,637	2,637	
Working Capital	40,715	30,416	30,416	29,499	19,200	19,200	
Total borrowings	5,203	5,203	5,203	514	514	514	
Cash and cash equivalents	28,535	18,236	18,236	27,303	17,004	17,004	
Net profit/(loss) after tax from continuing operations	34,718	34,718	34,718	35,124	35,124	35,124	
Net profit/(loss) after tax from discontinuing operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Number of Shares (in '000)	29,905	26,915	26,915	29,905	26,915	26,915	
Weighted average number of Shares (in '000)	29,905	26,915	26,915	29,905	26,915	26,915	
Financial Ratios							
NTA per Share (cent) (3)	584.176	610.817	610.817	598.705	626.961	626.961	
Gearing ratio (times) <sup>(4)</sup>	0.03	0.03	0.03	0	0	0	
Current ratio (times) (5)	9.65	7.46	7.46	12.19	8.28	8.28	
EPS (cent) from continuing operations	116.094	128.991	128.991	117.452	130.500	130.500	
EPS (cent) from discontinuing operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	

# (B) Off-Market Purchase

# Purchases made entirely out of profits

	GROUP			COMPANY			
	Before Share Purchase	After Market Purchase		Before After Market Purchase Share Purchase			
		Purchased Shares Cancelled	Purchased Shares held as Treasury Shares		Purchased Shares Cancelled	Purchased Shares held as Treasury Shares	
As at 31 August 2021	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
Share capital	26,700	14,929	26,700	26,700	14,929	26,700	
Retained earnings	149,646	149,646	149,646	152,344	152,344	152,344	
Warrants Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Other Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	176,346	164,575	176,346	179,044	167,273	179,044	
Treasury Shares	-	-	(11,771)	-	-	(11,771)	
Total Shareholders' funds <sup>(1)</sup>	176,346	164,575	164,575	179,044	167,273	167,273	
NTA <sup>(2)</sup>	174,699	162,928	162,928	179,044	167,273	167,273	
Current assets	45,424	33,653	33,653	32,136	20,365	20,365	
Current liabilities	4,709	4,709	4,709	2,637	2,637	2,637	
Working Capital	40,715	28,944	28,944	29,499	17,728	17,728	
Total borrowings	5,203	5,203	5,203	514	514	514	
Cash and cash equivalents	28,535	16,764	16,764	27,303	15,532	15,532	
Net profit/(loss) after tax from continuing operations	34,718	34,718	34,718	35,124	35,124	35,124	
Net profit/(loss) after tax from discontinuing operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Number of Shares (in '000)	29,905	26,915	26,915	29,905	26,915	26,915	
Weighted average number of Shares (in '000)	29,905	26,915	26,915	29,905	26,915	26,915	
Financial Ratios							
NTA per Share (cent) (3)	584.176	605.351	605.351	598.705	621.494	621.494	
Gearing ratio (times) <sup>(4)</sup>	0.03	0.03	0.03	0	0	0	
Current ratio (times) <sup>(5)</sup>	9.65	7.15	7.15	12.19	7.72	7.72	
EPS (cent) from continuing operations	116.094	128.991	128.991	117.452	130.500	130.500	
EPS (cent) from discontinuing operations	-	-	-	-	-	-	

#### Notes:

1. Total shareholders' funds exclude non-controlling interests.

2. NTA refers to net assets less intangible assets and non-controlling interests.

3. NTA per Share is computed based on the NTA (i.e. net assets less intangible assets and non-controlling interests) divided by the number of Shares issued.

4. Gearing ratio equals to total borrowings divided by shareholders' funds.

5. Current ratio equals to current assets divided by current liabilities.

Shareholders should note that the financial effects set out above, based on the respective aforementioned assumptions, are for illustrative purposes only. In particular, it is important to note that the above analysis is based on audited consolidated financial statements for the financial year ended 31 August 2021 and are not necessarily representative of future financial performance of the Group.

The Company will take into account both financial factors (for example, cash surplus, debt position and working capital requirement) and non-financial factors (for example, share market conditions and the performance of the Shares) in assessing the relative impact of a Share buyback before execution.

Purchases of Shares by the Company pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate will only be made in circumstances where it is considered to be in the best interests of the Company. It should be noted that purchases pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate may not necessarily be carried out to the full ten per cent (10%) as mandated. Further, the Directors do not propose to exercise the Share Buyback Mandate to such an extent as would have a material adverse effect on the working capital requirements of the Company or the gearing levels which, in the opinion of the Directors, are from time to time appropriate for the Company.

#### 2.7 <u>Mainboard Rules relating to the acquisition of Shares</u>

- 2.7.1 The Mainboard Rules provide that a listed company shall report all purchases or acquisitions of its Shares to SGX-ST not later than 9.00 a.m.:
  - (a) in the case of a Market Purchase, on the Market Day following the day of purchase or acquisition of any of its Shares; and
  - (b) in the case of an Off-Market Purchase under an equal access scheme, on the second Market Day after the close of acceptances of the offer.

Such announcement must include details of the total number of Shares purchased and the purchase price per Share or the highest and lowest prices paid for such Shares, as applicable.

- 2.7.2 While the Mainboard Rules do not expressly prohibit any buyback of shares by a listed company of its own shares during any particular time or times, because the listed company would be regarded as an "insider" in relation to any proposed purchase of its issued shares, the Company will not undertake any buyback of Shares pursuant to the proposed Share Buyback Mandate at any time after any matter or development of a price sensitive nature has occurred or has been the subject of a decision until such price sensitive information has been publicly announced. In particular, in line with the best practices guide on securities dealings issued by SGX-ST, the Company will not purchase or acquire any shares pursuant to the proposed Share Buyback Mandate during the period commencing two (2) weeks immediately preceding the announcement of the Company's financial statements for each of the first three quarters of its financial year and one (1) month immediately preceding the announcement of the relevant results.
- 2.7.3 The Mainboard Rules also require a listed company to ensure that at least ten per cent (10%) of its Shares is at all times held by the public Shareholders. The "public", as defined under the Mainboard Rules, are persons other than the directors, substantial shareholders, chief executive officers or controlling shareholders of the company and its subsidiaries, as well as Associates of such persons.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, 15,849,056 Shares representing 53% of the issued share capital of the Company are held by public Shareholders. In the event that the Company purchases the maximum of ten per cent (10%) of its issued ordinary share capital from such public Shareholders, the resultant percentage of the issued Shares held by the public Shareholders would be reduced to approximately 48%. Accordingly, the Company is of the view that there is, at present, a sufficient number of Shares in

public hands that would permit the Company to potentially undertake buybacks of the Shares up to the full ten per cent (10%) limit pursuant to the proposed Share Buyback Mandate without affecting adversely the listing status of the Shares on SGX-ST.

**2.8** <u>**Tax Implications.**</u> Shareholders who are in doubt as to their respective tax positions or any tax implications arising from the Share Buyback Mandate, or who may be subject to tax in a jurisdiction outside Singapore, should consult their own professional advisers.

### 2.9 <u>Takeover Implications under the Singapore Code of Takeovers and Mergers</u>

An increase of a Shareholder's proportionate interest in the voting rights of the Company resulting from a Share Buyback by the Company will be treated as an acquisition for the purposes of Rule 14 of the Singapore Code of Takeovers and Mergers (the "**Code**").

#### 2.9.1 Obligation to make a Take-over Offer

Under Rule 14 of the Code, a Shareholder and persons acting in concert with the Shareholder will incur an obligation to make a mandatory takeover offer if, *inter alia*, he and persons acting in concert with him increase their voting rights in the Company to thirty per cent (30%) or more or, if they, together hold between thirty per cent (30%) and fifty per cent (50%) of the Company's voting rights, increase their voting rights in the Company by more than one per cent (1%) in any period of six (6) months.

#### 2.9.2 Persons Acting in Concert

Under the Code, persons acting in concert comprise individuals or companies who, pursuant to an agreement or understanding (whether formal or informal) co-operate, through the acquisition by any of them of shares in a company to obtain or consolidate control of that company. Unless the contrary is established, the following persons will, *inter alia*, be presumed to be acting in concert:

- (a) a company with its parent company, subsidiaries, its fellow subsidiaries, any associated companies of the above companies and any company whose associated companies include any of the above companies;
- (b) a company with any of its directors, together with their close relatives, related trusts and any companies controlled by its directors, their close relatives and related trusts;
- (c) a company with any of its pension funds and employee share schemes;
- (d) a person with any investment company, unit trust or other fund in respect of the investment account which such person manages on a discretionary basis;
- (e) a financial or other professional adviser, with its clients in respect of the shareholdings of the adviser and the persons controlling, controlled by or under the same control as the adviser and all the funds which the adviser manages on a discretionary basis, where the shareholdings of the adviser and any of those funds in the client total ten per cent (10%) or more of the client's equity share capital;
- (f) directors of a company, together with their closed relatives, related trusts and companies controlled by any of them, which is subject to an offer or where they have reason to believe a *bona fide* offer for their company may be imminent;
- (g) partners;
- (h) an individual, his close relatives, his related trusts, and any person who is accustomed to act according to instructions and companies controlled by any of the above and any person who has provided financial assistance (other than a bank in the ordinary course of business) to any of the above for the purpose

of voting rights;

 any person who has provided financial assistance (other than a bank in its ordinary course of business) to any of the above for the purchase of voting rights.

For this purpose, ownership or control of at least twenty per cent (20%) but not more than fifty per cent (50%) of the voting rights of a company will be regarded as the test of associated company status.

The circumstances under which Shareholders (including Directors) and persons acting in concert with them will incur an obligation to make a takeover offer under Rule 14 of the Code after a purchase or acquisition of Shares by the Company are set out in Appendix 2 of the Code ("Appendix 2").

#### 2.9.3 Effect of Rule 14 and Appendix 2

In general terms, the effect of Rule 14 and Appendix 2 is that:

- (a) unless exempted, directors of a company and persons acting in concert with them will incur an obligation to make a takeover offer under Rule 14 if, as a result of the Company purchasing or acquiring its Shares, the voting rights of such directors and their concert parties would increase to thirty per cent (30%) or more, or if the voting rights of such directors and their concert parties fall between thirty per cent (30%) and fifty per cent (50%) of the Company's voting rights, the voting rights of such directors and their concert parties would increase by more than one per cent (1%) in any period of six (6) months; and
- (b) a Shareholder who is not acting in concert with directors will not be required to make a takeover offer under Rule 14 if, as a result of the Company purchasing or acquiring its Shares, the voting rights of such Shareholder in the Company would increase to thirty per cent (30%) or more, or if the voting rights of such directors and their concert parties fall between thirty per cent (30%) and fifty per cent (50%) of the company's voting rights, the voting rights of such Shareholder would increase by more than one per cent (1%) in any period of six (6) months. Such Shareholder need not abstain from voting in respect of the resolution authorising the Share Buyback Mandate.

#### 2.9.4 Application of the Singapore Code on Takeovers and Mergers

As at the Latest Practicable date, Mr. Teo Teck Leong is the controlling Shareholder of the Company holding 3,290,020 Shares, representing 11.001% interest in the issued and paid up share capital of the Company. Mr. Teo Eng Thian, the Executive Director of the Company and Chief Operating Officer of the Company's subsidiary, Sin Hong Hardware Pte. Ltd., is a Shareholder of the Company holding 1,537,500 Shares, representing approximately 5.141% of the issued and paid-up share capital of the Company. Mr. Teo Eng Shing, nephews of Mr. Teo Teck Leong, each hold 1,925,000 Shares, representing approximately 6.437% of the issued and paid-up share capital of the Company.

Definition 1(b) of the Code provides that a company with any of its directors (together with their close relatives, related trusts as well as companies controlled by any of the directors, their close relatives and related trusts) will be presumed to be persons acting in concert with each other unless the contrary is established. Accordingly, Mr. Teo Teck Leong, Mr. Teo Eng Thian, Mr. Teo Eng Hwee and Mr. Teo Eng Shing are presumed to be persons acting in concert with each other (collectively the "**Concert Parties**"), unless the contrary is established.

As at the Latest Practicable Date, the Concert Parties collectively hold an aggregate of 8,677,520 Shares representing approximately 29.017% of the total number of issued Shares of the Company.

Assuming that the Company purchases the maximum of 2,990,522 Shares (being ten per cent (10%) of its issued Shares excluding Treasury Shares and subsidiary holdings) pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate and that such Shares are cancelled upon purchase, and assuming further that there is no change in the number of Shares held by the Concert Parties, the aggregate interests of the Concert Parties would increase from 29.017% to 32.241% of the issued share capital of the Company.

Accordingly, under the Take-over Code, the Concert Parties, unless exempted, will become obliged to make a general offer under the Take-over Code for the Shares not owned by them, if as a result of the exercise of the Share Buyback Mandate, their interest in the voting rights of the Company increase by more than one (1%) within a six (6) month period.

#### 2.9.5 <u>Exemption under Appendix 2 of the Take-over Code and conditions for exemption from</u> having to make a general offer under Rule 14 of the Take-over Code

Section 3(a) of Appendix 2 of the Take-over Code sets out the conditions for exemption from the obligation to make a general offer under Rule 14 of the Take-over Code in the case of directors and persons acting in concert with them incurring such an obligation as a result of a listed company making a market acquisition under Section 76E of the Companies Act or an off-market acquisition on an equal access scheme under Section 76C of the Companies Act.

Shareholders should therefore note that by voting for the Share Buyback Mandate, they are waiving their rights to a take-over offer by the Concert Parties in the circumstances set out above. Such take-over offer, if required to be made and had not been exempted by the Securities Industry Council (the "SIC"), would have to be made in cash or be accompanied by a cash alternative at the higher of, excluding stamp duty and commission, (a) the highest price paid by the Concert Parties for any Shares within the preceding six (6) months or (b) the highest price paid by the Company for its own Shares in the preceding six (6) months.

According, directors and persons acting in concert with them will be exempted from the obligation to make a general offer under Rule 14 of the Take-over Code as a result of a listed company making a market acquisition under Section 76E of the Companies Act or an off-market acquisition on an equal access scheme under Section 76C of the Companies Act, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) the circular to Shareholders on the resolution to authorise the Share Buyback Mandate to contain advice to the effect that by voting for the Share Buyback Mandate resolution, Shareholders are waiving their right to a general offer at the required price from directors and parties acting in concert with them who, as a result of the company buying back its Shares, would increase their voting rights to thirty per cent (30%) or more, or, if they together hold between thirty per cent (30%) and fifty per cent (50%) of the company's voting rights, would increase their voting rights by more than one per cent (1%) in any period of six (6) months, and the names of such directors and persons acting in concert with them, their voting rights at the time of the resolution and after the proposed Share Buyback to be disclosed in the same circular;
- (b) the resolution to authorise the Share Buyback Mandate to be approved by a majority of those Shareholders present and voting at the meeting on a poll who could not become obliged to make an offer as a result of the Share Buyback;
- (c) directors and/or persons acting in concert with them to abstain from voting for and/or recommending Shareholders to vote in favour of the resolution to authorise the Share Buyback Mandate;
- (d) within seven (7) days after the passing of the resolution to authorise a Share Buyback, each of the directors to submit to the SIC a duly signed form as prescribed by the SIC;

- (e) directors and/or persons acting in concert with them not to have acquired and not to acquire any shares between the date on which they know that the announcement of the Share Buyback Mandate is imminent and the earlier of:
  - (i) the date on which the authority of the Share Buyback Mandate expires; and
  - the date on which the company announces it has bought back such number of shares as authorised by Shareholders at the latest general meeting or it has decided to cease buying back its shares, as the case may be,

if such acquisitions, taken together with the buy-back, would cause their aggregate voting rights to increase to thirty per cent (30%) or more; and

- (f) directors and/or persons acting in concert with them, together holding between thirty per cent (30%) and fifty per cent (50%) of the company's voting rights, not to have acquired and not to acquire any shares between the date on which they know that the announcement of the share buy-back proposal is imminent and the earlier of:
  - (i) the date on which the authority of the share buy-back expires; and
  - the date on which the company announces it has bought back such number of shares as authorised by Shareholders at the latest general meeting or it has decided to cease buying back its shares, as the case may be,

if such acquisitions, taken together with the buy-back, would cause their aggregate voting rights to increase by more than one per cent (1%) in the preceding six (6) months.

It follows that where the aggregate voting rights held by a director and persons acting in concert with him increase by more than one per cent (1%) solely as a result of the share buyback and none of them has acquired any shares during the Relevant Period defined above, then such director and/or persons acting in concert with him would be eligible for the SIC's exemption from the requirement to make a general offer under Rule 14 of the Code, or where such exemption had been granted, would continue to enjoy the exemption.

#### 2.9.6 <u>Waiver</u>

Shareholders should note that by voting for the Share Buyback Mandate, they are waiving their rights to a takeover offer by the Concert Parties in the circumstances set out above. Such a takeover offer, if required to be made and had not been exempted by SIC or such exemption granted is subsequently invalidated, would have to be made in cash or be accompanied by a cash alternative at the higher of (a) the highest price paid by the directors and/or persons acting in concert with them for any Share in the preceding six (6) months or (b) the highest price paid by the Company for its own Shares in the preceding six (6) months.

#### 2.9.7 Voting to be on a poll

Appendix 2 of the Code requires that the resolution to authorise the Share Buyback Mandate be approved by a majority of those Shareholders present and voting at the meeting on a poll who could not become obliged to make an offer under the Take-over Code as a result of the Share Buyback Mandate. Accordingly, the ordinary resolution relating to the Share Buyback Mandate set out in the Notice of AGM is proposed to be taken on a poll and the Concert Parties shall abstain from voting on the ordinary resolution. Save as disclosed above, as at the Latest Practicable Date, the Directors confirm that they are not aware of any facts or factors which suggest or imply that any particular person(s) and/or Shareholder(s) are, or may be regarded as, parties acting in concert such that their respective interests in voting shares in the capital of the Company should or ought to be consolidated, and consequences under the Code would ensue as a result of a purchase of Shares by the Company pursuant to the Share Buyback Mandate.

Shareholders are advised to consult their professional advisers and/or the SIC and/or other relevant authorities at the earliest opportunity as to whether an obligation on their part, if any, to make a mandatory take-over offer under the Take-over Code would arise by reason of any Share Buyback by the Company.

#### 2.10 Share Buybacks in the previous twelve (12) months

The Company has not purchased any Shares within the twelve months preceding the Latest Practicable Date.

# 3. INTEREST OF DIRECTORS AND SUBSTANTIAL SHAREHOLDERS

As at the Latest Practicable Date, all the Directors have direct or indirect interests in the issued and paid up share capital of the Company as per the Register of Directors' Shareholdings maintained pursuant to Section 164 of the Companies Act.

The interests of Substantial Shareholders in the issued and paid-up share capital of the Company as recorded in the Register of Substantial Shareholders maintained pursuant to Section 88 of the Companies Act are as follows:

Name	Direct In	terest	Indirect Interest		Total Interest
	Number of	%	Number of	%	(%)
	Shares		Shares		
Teo Eng Thian <sup>(6)</sup>	1,537,500	5.141	-	-	5.141
Loh Suan Len	526,375	1.760	202,400 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.677	2.437
Teo Teck Leong	903,020	3.019	2,387,000 <sup>(2)</sup>	7.982	11.001
Chau Sik Ting @ Chao Sik Ting	115,400	0.386	20,000	0.067	0.453

Substantial	Direct In	terest	Indirect Interest		Total Interest
Shareholder	Shareholder Number of		Number of	%	(%)
	Shares		Shares		
SHK Investment	2,375,000 <sup>(3)</sup>	7.942	-	-	7.942
Pte. Ltd.					
Low Chin Kwee	_	_	2,370,000 <sup>(4)</sup>	7.925	7.925
and Ng Ban Low	-	_	2,370,000	1.325	1.325
Teo Eng Hwee <sup>(6)</sup>	1,925,000	6.437	-	-	6.437
Teo Eng Shing <sup>(6)</sup>	1,925,000	6.437	-	-	6.437
Lim Tai Woon	-	-	2,144,471 <sup>(5)</sup>	7.171	7.171

(1) Held by Mr. Loh Suan Len's wife.

(2) 2,375,000 Shares are held in the name of SHK Investments Pte. Ltd. and 12,000 Shares are held in the name of Mr. Teo Teck Leong's wife.

- (3) 2,375,000 Shares are held for Mr. Teo Teck Leong.
- (4) Held by DBS Nominees Pte Ltd.
- (5) 1,095,758 Shares are held by DBS Nominees Pte Ltd and 1,048,713 Shares are held by Citibank Noms Spore Pte Ltd.

(6) Mr. Teo Eng Thian, Mr. Teo Eng Hwee, and Mr. Teo Eng Shing are the siblings or nephews of Mr. Teo Teck Leong.

Save as disclosed above, none of the Directors and Substantial Shareholders of the Company has any interests, direct or indirect, in the proposed Share Buyback Mandate, (other than in his capacity as Director or Shareholder of the Company).

# 4. DIRECTORS' RECOMMENDATION

The Directors are of the opinion, based on the rationale for and the terms of the proposed Share Buyback Mandate as set out in this Letter, that the proposed Share Buyback Mandate is in the best interests of the Shareholders and the Company, and accordingly unanimously recommend Shareholders to vote in favour of the ordinary resolution relating thereto to be proposed at the 2021 AGM as set out in the Notice of the AGM.

# 5. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2021 AGM of the Company, notice of which is sent to shareholders solely by electronic means via publication on our corporate website and the SGX website, will be convened and held by way of electronic means on Thursday, 30 December 2021 at 10.00 a.m. for the purpose of *inter alia* considering, and it thought fit, passing with or without modifications, the resolution on the renewal of the Share Buyback Mandate as set out in the Notice of AGM.

# 6. ABSTENTIONS FROM VOTING

Pursuant to the conditions under Appendix 2 of the Take-over Code as set out in paragraph 2.9 of this Letter, the Concert Parties will abstain from voting at the 2021 AGM on the ordinary resolution relating to the proposed Share Buyback Mandate.

# 7. DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITY STATEMENT

The Directors collectively and individually accept full responsibility for the accuracy of the information given in this Letter and confirm after making all reasonable enquiries, that to the best of their knowledge and belief, this Letter constitutes full and true disclosure of all material facts about the proposed Share Buyback Mandate, the Company and its Subsidiaries, and the Directors are not aware of any facts the omission of which would make any statement in this Letter misleading. Where information in this Letter has been extracted from published or otherwise publicly available sources or obtained from a named source, the sole responsibility of the Directors has been to ensure that such information has been accurately and correctly extracted from those sources and/or reproduced in this Letter in its proper form and context.

# 8. DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE FOR INSPECTION

Copies of the following documents are available for inspection at the registered office of the Company during normal business hours from the date of this Letter up to and including the date of the 2021 AGM:

- (a) the Constitution of the Company; and
- (b) the annual report of the Company for financial year ended 31 August 2021 ("Annual Report").

This Letter and the Annual Report may also be accessed at https://www.shinvest.com.sg/agm-egm.

Yours faithfully, For and on behalf of the Board of Directors of **Shinvest Holding Ltd.** 

Teo Teck Leong Managing Director 15 December 2021