



星雅集团
STRACO

MEDIA RELEASE

Straco reports double-digit growth in revenue and earnings for 3Q

Financial Highlights (S\$'mil)	3 months to 30 September			9 months to 30 September		
	2014	2013	% change	2014	2013	% change
Revenue	38.57	30.52	26.4	72.90	58.21	25.2
Profit before tax	29.04	22.59	28.6	50.02	41.63	20.1
Profit attributable to shareholders	19.52	15.24	28.1	33.26	28.46	16.9
Earnings per share (Scts)	2.30	1.81	27.1	3.93	3.38	16.3
Net asset value per share (Scts)	-	-	-	21.05	18.23	15.5

- 3Q revenue grew 26.4% to \$38.57 million
- Strong cash balance of \$134.32 million
- Debt free since 2008

SINGAPORE, 14 November 2014:- Mainboard-listed Straco Corporation (“Straco” or “the Group”), a developer and operator of tourism-related attractions, reported that net profit grew 28.1% over 3Q2013 to \$19.52 million for the third quarter ended 30 September 2014. Group revenue was \$38.57 million for the quarter, an increase of 26.4% compared to 3Q2013, mainly attributable to the strong growth in visitor numbers at its two major attractions- Shanghai Ocean Aquarium (“SOA”) and Underwater World Xiamen (“UWX”).

For the quarter under review, combined visitor numbers to SOA and UWX increased 30.6% over 3Q2013 to 1.65 million visitors.

Cumulatively, Group revenue for the nine months period registered growth of 25.2% year on year while Group profit increased 16.9% over the corresponding period to \$33.26 million. Current period net profit was hit by an exchange loss of \$1.45 million from a weaker Chinese Yuan against Singapore Dollar, as opposed to an exchange gain of \$1.70 million recorded in the corresponding period. Taking away the foreign exchange differences in both period and the one-off gain on the disposal of a Land Use Rights in last year, Group profit for the current period would have increased approximately 32% over the corresponding period in FY2013.

Commenting on the results, Straco's Executive Chairman, Mr Wu Hsioh Kwang said: "We are delighted with this quarter's result as both revenue and net profit achieved double-digit growth compared to the corresponding period. Increased visitations were registered at both SOA and UWX. We expect that domestic travel in China will continue rising in line with the government's initiatives for the tourism industry."

Mr Wu added: "We generated net operating cash flow of \$30.14 million for the quarter, an increase of 45.3% compared to that of 3Q2013. Our Group's cash balance increased 24.3% from the beginning of the year to \$134.32 million."

The National Bureau of Statistics of China reported that the Chinese economy grew 7.3% in the third quarter of 2014 from a year earlier, amid structural reforms and weak domestic demand and industrial production. For the first nine months of 2014, the Chinese economy was stable with GDP growth of 7.4% from the same period last year.

Despite slower economic growth, China plans to boost the country's tourism industry through a series of new measures and spending, according to guidance released by the State Council in August. This augurs well for the Group.

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About Straco Corporation

Straco Corporation Limited ("Straco"), listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange in 2004, is a leading developer and operator of aquatic-related facilities and tourism-related assets in China. Straco's main operating assets include Shanghai Ocean Aquarium, situated in the New Pudong Area, next to Shanghai's landmark Oriental Pearl Tower; Lixing cable car service at Mount Lishan in Lishan in Lintong District, Shaanxi province; and Underwater World Xiamen on the scenic Gulangyu Island, a key tourist attraction of Xiamen City. Apart from owning and operating tourist attractions, Straco also has an interest in the performing arts through its 51% owned Straco Creation Pte Ltd ("SCPL"), a joint venture company between Straco and Mr Carl Clerico of the Clerico family, the famous music-hall family that has managed the Lido and Moulin Rouge in Paris for more than 60 years.

Straco has been constantly sourcing for tourism projects to tap into the expected tourism boom in Asia. The Group will leverage on its experience and track record in the China market to form strategic investment alliances to develop and operate tourism resources in China and the region.