



THE STRAITS TRADING COMPANY LIMITED

(A member of The Tecity Group)

PAYMENT OF SPECIAL DIVIDEND

NOTICE OF BOOKS CLOSURE DATE

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 **Special Dividend.** The Board of Directors (the "**Board**") of The Straits Trading Company Limited (the "**Company**") refers to the special cash dividend of S\$1.00 (the "**Special Dividend**") per ordinary share in the Company ("**Share**") to be paid to holders of Shares ("**Shareholders**") as at the Books Closure Date (as defined herein).

1.2 **Shareholders' Approval.** Shareholders have, at the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on 19 December 2008, approved the payment of the Special Dividend and any financial assistance, which may be deemed to have been given by the Company, directly or indirectly, within the meaning of Section 76 of the Companies Act, Chapter 50 of Singapore (the "**Companies Act**"), for the purpose of, or in connection with, the acquisition of Shares by any person, in connection with the payment of the Special Dividend (the "**Financial Assistance**").

1.3 **Financial Assistance Notice Period.** The Board wishes to announce that, based on the results of the searches conducted with the High Court of the Republic of Singapore (the "**Court**"), no application has been made to the Court opposing the Financial Assistance during the 21-day statutory notice period which commenced on 23 December 2008 (being the date following the publication of the notice setting out the terms of the Financial Assistance in a daily newspaper circulating generally in Singapore, pursuant to Section 76(10) of the Companies Act) and ended on 12 January 2009.

2. NOTICE OF BOOKS CLOSURE DATE

2.1 **Books Closure Date.** Notice is hereby given that **the Register of Members and Share Transfer Books of the Company will be closed on 12 February 2009 (Thursday) (the "Books Closure Date") up to and including 16 February 2009 (Monday)**, to determine Shareholders' entitlements to the Special Dividend.

2.2 **Entitled Shareholders.** Persons registered in the Register of Members of the Company and Depositors whose Securities Accounts are credited with Shares as at the Books Closure Date will be entitled to receive the Special Dividend for each Share held as at the Books Closure Date.

Duly completed transfers received by the Company's Share Registrar at the following address:

Tricor Barbinder Share Registration Services
(a division of Tricor Singapore Pte. Ltd.)
8 Cross Street, #11-00
PWC Building
Singapore 048424,

up to the close of business at 5.00 p.m. on 12 February 2009 (Thursday) will be registered to determine entitlements to the Special Dividend.

3. PAYMENT TO SHAREHOLDERS

3.1 **Instalment Payments.** Payment of the Special Dividend will be made in two instalments as follows:

- (a) the first instalment of the Special Dividend, being an amount of S\$0.80 per Share (the “**First Instalment**”) will be paid on 6 March 2009 (Friday); and
- (b) the second instalment of the Special Dividend, being S\$0.20 per Share (the “**Second Instalment**”) will be paid on 30 April 2009 (Thursday).

3.2 **Mode of Payment.** As stated in the circular to Shareholders dated 25 November 2008, Shareholders with Shares standing to the credit of their Securities Account as at the Books Closure Date will have the cheques for payment of their entitlements to the First Instalment and the Second Instalment despatched to them by ordinary post at their own risk or, in the case where such Shareholders have designated their bank accounts for direct crediting of their dividends and other distributions, have the payments directly credited to their designated bank accounts. Shareholders (other than the Central Depository (Pte) Limited) whose names are registered in the Register of Members of the Company as at the Books Closure Date will have the cheques for payment of their entitlements to the First Instalment and the Second Instalment despatched to them by ordinary post at their own risk.

4. IMPORTANT EVENTS AND DATES

Shareholders should note the following events and dates:

| Event | Date |
|---|---|
| Last day for trading ‘cum’ entitlements to the Special Dividend | 9 February 2009 (Monday) at 5.00 p.m. |
| First day for trading ‘ex’ entitlements to the Special Dividend | 10 February 2009 (Tuesday) at 9.00 a.m. |
| Books Closure Date | 12 February 2009 (Thursday) |
| Payment Date for the First Instalment | 6 March 2009 (Friday) |
| Payment Date for the Second Instalment | 30 April 2009 (Thursday) |

Shareholders and investors should take note that the last date and time of trading of the Shares ‘cum’ entitlements to the Special Dividend is 9 February 2009 (Monday) at 5.00 p.m.

Shareholders and investors should also note that Shares traded from 10 February 2009 (Tuesday) at 9.00 a.m. will not be entitled to the Special Dividend. This means that purchasers of Shares from Shareholders from 9.00 a.m. on 10 February 2009 (Tuesday) will not be entitled to and be paid the Special Dividend.

For illustrative purposes, Shareholder X who held 1,000 Shares as at the close of trading on 9 February 2009 (Monday) will be entitled to receive an aggregate amount of S\$1,000 in respect of the Special Dividend, of which S\$800 will be paid on 6 March 2009 (Friday) and S\$200 will be paid on 30 April 2009 (Thursday). However, a purchaser of Shares from Shareholder X at or after 9.00 a.m. on 10 February 2009 (Tuesday) will not receive any Special Dividend at all.

Shareholders who are in any doubt as to the action they should take should consult their stockbroker, bank manager, solicitor, accountant or other professional immediately.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Emily Teo
Company Secretary

The Straits Trading Company Limited
(Registration No. 188700008D) on 28/1/2009 to the SGX

This Announcement will be available at the Company's website at <http://www.stc.com.sg/>

About The Straits Trading Company Limited

The Company is more than 120 years old with its business interests spanning the Asia Pacific region. The Group engages in tin mining and smelting, investments in other metals and mineral resources, hotel investment and management and property operations. Its mining and smelting operations are carried out through its 73% listed subsidiary in Malaysia, Malaysia Smelting Corporation Berhad, whilst the hotels are managed under the RENDEZVOUS or MARQUE brandings through its 80% subsidiary, Rendezvous Hotels International Private Limited group of companies.