

# **GLOBAL INVESTMENTS LIMITED**

# SGX Quarterly Report 31 March 2015

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STAM, as manager of GIL is entitled to fees for so acting. STAM and its related corporations, together with their respective officers and directors, may hold shares in GIL from time to time.

This financial report has been prepared to enable the directors to comply with their obligations under the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited Listing Rules and where relevant, to satisfy the requirements of the International Financial Reporting Standards. The responsibility for the preparation of the financial report and any financial information contained in this financial report rests solely with the directors of GIL.

# UNAUDITED FINANCIAL REPORT For the quarter ended 31 March 2015

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#### PERFORMANCE REVIEW

#### **QUARTER ENDED 31 MARCH 2015**

The Company and its subsidiaries ("the Group") reported a total comprehensive income of \$\$9.0 million in first quarter 2015, 91.3% higher than \$\$4.7 million recorded in the same quarter last year. Profit after tax was \$\$5.6 million in the current quarter as compared to \$\$8.2 million in the same quarter last year.

#### **REVENUE**

Revenue for 1Q 2015 was S\$8.1 million as compared to S\$7.4 million in 1Q 2014. The higher revenue was mainly due to higher gain on sale of investments and higher fair value gain on financial assets designated as fair value through profit or loss, offset partially by lower interest income and the absence of net foreign exchange gain.

#### **EXPENSES**

Expense in 1Q 2015 was S\$2.5 million as compared to S\$0.3 million in 1Q 2014. The higher expense during the current quarter was due mainly to the net foreign exchange loss of S\$1.6 million arising from the weakening of EUR and AUD against USD. On the other hand, the strengthening of USD against SGD was reflected as translation gain of S\$4.4 million in the other comprehensive income.

#### SHARE OF PROFIT OF ASSOCIATED COMPANY

As Ascendos Investments Limited ("Ascendos") was reclassified from an associated company to an available-for-sale ("AFS") financial asset in 4Q 2014, no share of profit from associated company was recorded during the current quarter, as compared to the S\$1.2 million recorded in 1Q 2014. Instead, dividend income received from Ascendos was recognised as part of revenue.

#### OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

Other comprehensive income for the Group amounted to \$\$3.5 million in 1Q 2015. The income in the current quarter was mainly due to a translation gain of \$4.4 million as a result of the strengthening of USD against SGD as well as fair value gain in the AFS revaluation reserve of \$\$3.5 million due mainly to listed equities. The above income was partially offset by the reclassification of fair value gain to profit and loss following the sale of listed equities during the quarter of \$\$4.5 million. In the same guarter last year, other comprehensive loss of \$\$3.5 million was registered.

#### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

# **LOANS AND RECEIVABLES**

The loans and receivables as at 31 March 2015 was S\$68.5 million as compared to S\$69.6 million as at 31 December 2014. The slight decrease was mainly due to the net sale of EUR denominated collateralised loan obligations during the quarter.

#### **AVAILABLE-FOR-SALE FINANCIAL ASSETS**

The AFS financial assets of S\$152.1 million as at 31 March 2015 comprised investments in listed equities, bonds, collateralised loan obligations and investment in Ascendos. The increase of S\$17.9 million from S\$134.2 million as at 31 December 2014 was mainly due to the net purchase of bonds during the quarter.

#### FINANCIAL ASSETS AT FAIR VALUE THROUGH PROFIT OR LOSS

The financial assets at fair value through profit or loss as at 31 March 2015 was \$\$49.7 million as compared to \$\$49.6 million as at 31 December 2014. It comprised investments in a portfolio of bonds.

#### **CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

The lower cash and cash equivalents of S\$30.4 million as at 31 March 2015 as compared to S\$31.3 million as at 31 December 2014 was mainly due to a net purchase of investments.

#### **NET ASSET VALUE PER SHARE**

The net asset value per share of the Group as at 31 March 2015 was 21.3 Singapore cents. If the FY2014 final dividend was declared in FY2014 instead of FY2015, the net asset value per share as at 31 December 2014 would have been 20.6 Singapore cents instead of 21.3 Singapore cents per share and the increase in net asset value per share would be 3.4% for the period ended 31 March 2015.

#### **INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO**

GIL was incorporated in Bermuda on 24 April 2006 and is formed as a mutual fund company. Its objective is to invest in a diversified portfolio of assets except for direct investments in properties and commodities.

The Group's investment portfolio at 31 March 2015 comprised the following assets:

#### **OPERATING LEASES**

#### Ascendos Investments Limited ("Ascendos")

The Group has a 40.56% interest in Ascendos, a Guernsey company. Ascendos holds 100% of Ascendos Rail Leasing S.à r.l. which currently owns and leases a portfolio of rail equipment, consisting of passenger train fleets, locomotives, and freight wagons in mainland Europe.

#### LOAN PORTFOLIO AND SECURITISATION ASSETS

#### Residential Mortgage-Backed Securities ("RMBS")

The Group is invested in a portfolio of Australian RMBS, which are securitisation vehicles that hold Australian residential mortgage loans.

#### Collateralised Loan Obligation ("CLO") Securities

The Group is invested in a portfolio of USD and EUR denominated CLO. The CLO investments are in mezzanine and subordinated notes which are issued by securitisation vehicles that hold collateral consisting of mainly senior secured corporate loans.

# LISTED EQUITIES

GIL is invested in a portfolio of listed equities traded on various exchanges including Hong Kong, Singapore, China, Korea, US and Europe.

#### **BONDS**

The Group is invested in a portfolio of bonds denominated in SGD, EUR, USD and CNH.

#### BUSINESS OUTLOOK<sup>1</sup>

#### MACROECONOMIC OUTLOOK

The International Monetary Fund ("IMF") reduced its outlook for global economic growth in 2015 to 3.5% from the earlier forecast of 3.8%, and a 3.7% growth in 2016 from an earlier forecast of 4.0%, citing uneven growth prospects across major economies as well as weaker growth in some major oil export dependent economies because of the sharp drop in oil prices. It believes that the legacies of the financial and euro area crisis still weigh on spending and growth in some countries. These include weak banks and high levels of debt across governments, corporations and households. Furthermore, it noted that the combination of an aging population, lower investments and sluggish advances in productivity will lead to lower growth prospects in world economies.

In the US, GDP growth in recent months has been disappointing. The economy expanded by 0.2% quarter-on-quarter ("q-o-q") in 1Q 2015 after a 2.2% gain in 4Q 2014. The ISM Manufacturing Purchasing Manager Index ("PMI") declined from 55.1 in December 2014 to 51.5 in March 2015. Retail sales declined 0.8% month-on-month ("m-o-m") in January and 0.5% m-o-m in February before improving 0.9% m-o-m in March 2015. There was a steady improvement in the job market with the unemployment rate declining from 5.6% in December 2014 to 5.5% in March 2015. However, the monthly change in total nonfarm payrolls dropped from 329,000 in December 2014 to 126,000 in March 2015. Inflation fell from 0.8% year-on-year ("y-o-y") in December 2014 to negative 0.1% y-o-y in March 2015, largely due to weak oil and commodity prices. The US Federal Reserve ("the Fed") also dropped its pledge to remain "patient" in lifting rates as it recognized that inflation has declined in recent months. The timing of rate hike would appear to be solely data dependent with the Fed saying it will take into account a wide range of information, including measures of labour market conditions, indicators of inflation pressures and inflation expectations, and readings on financial and international developments.

Macroeconomic data in the Eurozone area surprised on the upside in recent months, reflecting increased optimism on the effects of quantitative easing measures and declining oil prices. The Markit Eurozone Composite PMI, which tracks sentiment among purchasing managers, rose from 51.4 in December 2014 to 54.0 in March 2015. The Consumer Confidence Indicator improved from -10.9 in December 2014 to -3.7 in March 2015. The European Central Bank ("ECB")'s quarterly bank lending survey pointed to further easing in credit conditions and rising demand. Improvement in financial conditions has been passed on from banks to households in the form of lower borrowing rates and easier bank lending standards. The unemployment rate still remained high at 11.3% in March 2015 compared to 11.4% in December 2014 though there has been a drop in the numbers unemployed in the last few months. Inflation was minus 0.1% y-o-y in March 2015 compared to minus 0.2% y-o-y in December 2014, indicating that deflationary pressures remain fueled by low oil and commodity prices. The ECB commenced its quantitative easing program in March 2015 with a monthly target of 60 billion euros of public and private euro area bond purchases till September 2016. Further purchases beyond that will depend on whether the inflation outlook is consistent with the ECB's inflation objective of below but close to 2.0%. The consequent depreciation of the Euro currency, as well as on-going decline in oil prices, is expected to gradually feed through the economy going forward, thus lifting expectations and supporting job creation. One potential threat to the improving economic upturn is the negative tail risk associated with Greece. It is uncertain whether Greece's newly elected anti-austerity government is committed to the reform program agreeable to "the Troika" (a group of bailout creditors consisting of the IMF, European Commission and ECB).

In China, gradual economic slowdown continues. The HSBC Manufacturing PMI reading in March 2015 is still below the 50-threshold at 49.6, indicating that growth is decelerating. The country's GDP in 1Q 2015 slowed to 7.0% growth y-o-y from 7.3% y-o-y in 4Q 2014, which was the slowest since 2009. In March, the National People's Congress ("NPC") has set its 2015 GDP growth rate target at around 7.0%, lowered from the 7.5% target in the last three years. In the NPC's report, Premier Li acknowledged that the ongoing structural changes, including the local government debt restructuring and state-owned enterprises' reforms amidst the challenges of sluggish investments, subdued property markets and excess capacity in mining and manufacturing sectors, were generating growth headwinds in the short term despite benefits in the long term. This signaled the authorities' recognition for more policy support to cushion the impact of the current economic slowdown. In the end of March, China announced further housing policy relaxation with the lowering of the minimum down payment ratio for second-home mortgages to 40% from 60-70%, and the exemption of the property transactions tax for properties held for more than 2 years. The People's Bank of China ("PBOC") cut the required reserve ratio ("RRR") by 50 basis points in February before slashing interest rates in early March to help boost flagging growth. Most recently in May, the PBOC cut interest rate the third time in 6 months by reducing the one year lending rate 0.25% to 5.1% and one year deposit rate by the same amount to 2.25%. Additional monetary policy easing and fiscal policy support measures are expected in the near term to prevent any further deterioration in economic growth.

#### **TARGETED ASSET CLASSES**

#### **Operating Lease Assets**

In Europe, demand for rail equipment remains challenged. Low oil prices enhance the competitiveness of road freight, putting further pressure on rail equipment lease rates. Demand for freight transport remains flat, with euro area imports declining 3.0% y-o-y in the first two months of 2015, while exports rose 2.0% y-o-y. The weaker Euro is expected to increase manufacturing and export activity in the coming months, providing some support for lease rates.

#### **Loan Portfolio and Securitisation Assets**

Australia's residential property values increased in 1Q 2015. According to the CoreLogic RP Data Home Value Index for capital cities, house prices rose 3.0% during the first three months of 2015. The 12-month housing price growth rate for capital cities at the end of March has fallen to 7.4% from 12.5% one year ago, and is at its lowest level since September 2013. Unemployment rose to 6.4% in January, but fell back to 6.1% by the end of March. The Reserve Bank of Australia cut its benchmark cash rate to 2.25% in February, keeping housing loans affordable and providing support to the housing market.

Prices of global corporate loans rebounded in 1Q 2015 due to a reduction in loan issuance and a decline in loan fund investment outflows. CLO issuance continues to be robust. The low interest rate environment, supported by the announcement of quantitative easing measures by the ECB, continues to keep global default rates low. Moody's Global Speculative-Grade Corporate Default Rate ended 1Q 2015 at 2.3%, up from 2.1% at the end of 2014. Moody's lowered its expectation of the default rate at the end of 2015 from 2.7% to 2.6%.

# **Listed Equities and Bonds**

Equity and bond markets registered good performance in 1Q 2015, driven by news of quantitative easing announced by the ECB and further monetary easing and policy support measures by the Chinese government. A dovish statement by the Fed led investors to believe that the possibility of the Fed pushing back the hike in interest rate has increased. Monetary policy remains supportive for equities and bonds in the near term, with the central banks across emerging markets and some developed markets continuing monetary easing in the absence of inflationary pressures. Key risks to markets are uncertainty in election outcomes in Europe, rapid deceleration in China's growth, earlier or faster Fed tightening and geo-political conflicts in the Middle East.

#### **Summary**

Global growth remains tepid though recovery in major economies has been uneven. Most central banks have cut policy interest rates and long dated yields have fallen to unprecedented levels in the Eurozone. In the near term, deflationary pressures due to weak global demand and low commodity prices will push major central bankers in maintaining easy monetary policies in order to support growth and create employment. The abnormally low interest rates have contributed to strong performance in most financial markets; however, it has also created a risk of financial instability and greater volatility in the market.

While the monetary policies of major economies remain favorable for financial markets in general, the Company is mindful of the risks and volatility in the market and will be cautious in its investment strategy.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> Sources include research publications by brokerage house, banks, information service providers, associations and media.

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Group Quarter ended 31 Mar 15 S\$'000	Group Year to date 31 Mar 15 S\$'000	Group Quarter ended 31 Mar 14 S\$'000	Group Year to date 31 Mar 14 S\$'000
Revenue				
Dividend income	551	551	226	226
Interest income	2,735	2,735	3,685	3,685
Net foreign exchange gains	-	-	1,216	1,216
Net gain on sale of investments	3,582	3,582	1,884	1,884
Net gain on financial assets designated as fair value through profit or loss	1,263	1,263	436	436
Total revenue	8,131	8,131	7,447	7,447
Expenses				
Management fees	(462)	(462)	(406)	(406)
Incentive fees	-	-	596	596
Net foreign exchange losses	(1,592)	(1,592)	-	-
Finance costs	(1)	(1)	-	-
Other operating expenses	(444)	(444)	(524)	(524)
Total expenses	(2,499)	(2,499)	(334)	(334)
Share of profit of associate (net of tax)	-	-	1,174	1,174
Profit before tax	5,632	5,632	8,287	8,287
Income tax expense	(79)	(79)	(103)	(103)
Profit after tax	5,553	5,553	8,184	8,184
Other comprehensive income/(loss) Items that may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss				
Available-for-sale financial assets				
- Fair value gains/(losses)	3,510	3,510	(1,468)	(1,468)
Reclassification to profit or loss     Currency translation differences arising from consolidation	(4,460)	(4,460)	(1,724)	(1,724)
- Gains/(Losses)	4,435	4,435	(268)	(268)
Other comprehensive income/loss for the period after tax	3,485	3,485	(3,460)	(3,460)
Total comprehensive income for the period attributable to shareholders	9,038	9,038	4,724	4,724
Basic earnings per share (cents per share)	0.42	0.42	0.69	0.69
Diluted earnings per share (cents per share)	0.42	0.42	0.69	0.69

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	Group As at 31 Mar 15 S\$'000	Group As at 31 Dec 14 S\$'000	Company As at 31 Mar 15 S\$'000	Company As at 31 Dec 14 S\$'000
ASSETS				
Non-current assets				
Investments in subsidiaries	-	-	107,597	110,100
Loans and receivables	68,480	69,584	-	-
Available-for-sale financial assets	42,057	35,692	23,151	15,117
Financial assets at fair value through profit or				
loss	49,692	49,635	49,692	49,635
-	160,229	154,911	180,440	174,852
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	30,408	31,252	23,606	25,809
Available-for-sale financial assets	110,014	98,503	101,749	84,253
Other assets	4,857	1,403	1,488	1,372
_	145,279	131,158	126,843	111,434
Total Assets	305,508	286,069	307,283	286,286
LIABILITIES				
Intercompany payables	-	-	12,304	298
Other liabilities	21,757	1,347	11,228	1,266
Total Liabilities	21,757	1,347	23,532	1,564
Net assets attributable to shareholders	283,751	284,722	283,751	284,722
EQUITY				
Share capital	521,393	521,393	521,393	521,393
Capital reserve	(65,846)	(65,846)	(65,846)	(65,846)
Available-for-sale financial assets revaluation Reserve	13,779	14,729	6,749	581
Translation reserve	10,735	6,300	-,: -	-
Accumulated losses	(196,310)	(191,854)	(178,545)	(171,406)
Total Equity	283,751	284,722	283,751	284,722
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# **CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**

	Group Quarter ended 31 Mar 15 S\$'000	Group Year to date 31 Mar 15 S\$'000	Group Quarter ended 31 Mar 14 S\$'000	Group Year to date 31 Mar 14 S\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities				
Operating costs paid	(1,116)	(1,116)	(2,955)	(2,955)
Interest income received	2,828	2,828	3,558	3,558
Dividend income received	447	447	558	558
Income tax paid	(79)	(79)	(103)	(103)
Net cash inflow from operating activities _	2,080	2,080	1,058	1,058
Cash flows from investing activities				
Purchase of financial assets	(39,915)	(39,915)	(18,394)	(18,394)
Loan repayments received	642	642	423	423
Proceeds from disposal of financial assets	36,023	36,023	35,870	35,870
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from investing activities	(3,250)	(3,250)	17,899	17,899
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(1,170)	(1,170)	18,957	18,957
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	31,252	31,252	20,346	20,346
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	326	326	110	110
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	30,408	30,408	39,413	39,413

# CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY

Changes in shareholders' equity of the Group for the quarter ended 31 March 2015	Share capital S\$'000	Capital reserve <sup>1</sup> S\$'000	Available-for- sale financial assets revaluation reserve S\$'000	Translation reserve S\$'000	losses	Total S\$'000
Total equity at 1 January 2015	521,393	(65,846)	14,729	6,300	(191,854)	284,722
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2015	-	-	(950)	4,435	5,553	9,038
Transactions with equity holders in their capacity as equity holders:						
Dividends for the period	-	-	-	-	(10,009)	(10,009)
Total equity at 31 March 2015	521,393	(65,846)	13,779	10,735	(196,310)	283,751
Changes in shareholders' equity	Share	Capital reserve <sup>1</sup>	Available-for- sale financial assets revaluation		Accumulated	Total
of the Group for the quarter ended 31 March 2014	capital S\$'000	s\$'000	reserve S\$'000	reserve S\$'000	losses S\$'000	Total S\$'000
Total equity at 1 January 2014	502,870	(65,846)	19,652	1,743	(188,674)	269,745
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2014	-	-	(3,192)	(268)	8,184	4,724
Transactions with equity holders in their capacity as equity holders:						
Dividends for the period	-	-	-	-	(17,880)	(17,880)
Total equity at 31 March 2014	502,870	(65,846)	16,460	1,475	(198,370)	256,589

<sup>1.</sup> Following the change in the Company's functional currency from United States Dollar to Singapore Dollar on 1 January 2012, cumulative currency translation differences which had arisen up to the date of the change of functional currency were reallocated to capital reserve and accumulated losses.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY OF THE COMPANY

			ailable-for-sale inancial assets		
Changes in shareholders' equity of the Company for the quarter ended 31 March 2015	Share capital S\$'000	Capital reserve <sup>1</sup> S\$'000	revaluation reserve S\$'000	Accumulated losses S\$'000	Total S\$'000
Total equity at 1 January 2015	521,393	(65,846)	581	(171,406)	284,722
Total comprehensive income for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2015	-	-	6,168	2,870	9,038
Transactions with equity holders in their capacity as equity holders:					
Dividends for the period	-	-	-	(10,009)	(10,009)
Total equity at 31 March 2015	521,393	(65,846)	6,749	(178,545)	283,751

Changes in shareholders' equity of the Company for the quarter ended 31 March 2014	Share capital S\$'000	= =	vailable-for-sale financial assets revaluation reserve S\$'000	Accumulated losses S\$'000	Total S\$'000
Total equity at 1 January 2014	502,870	(65,846)	3,392	(170,671)	269,745
Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the 1st quarter ended 31 March 2014	-	-	(1,689)	6,413	4,724
Transactions with equity holders in their capacity as equity holders:					
Dividends for the period	-	-	-	(17,880)	(17,880)
Total equity at 31 March 2014	502,870	(65,846)	1,703	(182,138)	256,589

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1.</sup> Refer to note on page 10

# ACCOUNTING POLICIES APPLICATION

Accounting policies and methods of computation applied in preparation of these figures that are not stated in this report are the same as those used in the most recently audited annual financial statements of the Group and the Company.

# **DIVIDENDS**

No dividend has been declared in respect of the current period and the same period last year.

#### **CHANGES IN SHARE CAPITAL**

There is no movement in the number of issued and fully paid-up ordinary shares for the first quarter ended 31 March 2015.

Pursuant to the Scrip Dividend Scheme ("the Scheme") announced on 17 February 2015, on 22 April 2015 the Company issued and allotted 56,382,672 new ordinary shares in the capital of the Company to eligible shareholders who had elected to participate in the Scheme. The issue price of each new ordinary share is 13 Singapore cents.

# **NET ASSET VALUE**

	Group As at 31 Mar 15	Company As at 31 Mar 15	Group As at 31 Dec 14	Company As at 31 Dec 14
Total net asset value (S\$'000)	283,751	283,751	284,722	284,722
Total number of ordinary shares in issue used in calculation of net asset value per share ('000)	1,334,473	1,334,473	1,334,473	1,334,473
Net asset value per ordinary share (S\$ per share)	0.213	0.213	0.213	0.213

Net asset value per ordinary share is derived by dividing the net assets as disclosed in the statement of financial position of the Company and the Group by the number of ordinary shares in issue as at the end of the accounting period.

<sup>\*</sup> The net asset value per share of the Group as at 31 March 2015 was 21.3 Singapore cents. If the FY2014 final dividend was declared in FY2014 instead of FY2015, the net asset value per share as at 31 December 2014 would have been 20.6 Singapore cents instead of 21.3 Singapore cents per share and the increase in net asset value per share would be 3.4% for the period ended 31 March 2015.

# **EARNINGS PER SHARE**

	Group Quarter ended 31 Mar 15	Group Year to date 31 Mar 15	Group Quarter ended 31 Mar 14	Group Year to date 31 Mar 14
Basic earnings per share				
Earnings used in calculation of basic earnings per share (S\$'000)	5,553	5,553	8,184	8,184
Weighted average number of shares in issue used in calculation of basic				
earnings per share ('000)	1,334,473	1,334,473	1,191,983	1,191,983
Basic earnings per share (cents per share)	0.42	0.42	0.69	0.69
Diluted earnings per share Earnings used in calculation of diluted earnings per share (\$\$'000)	5,553	5,553	8,184	8,184
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue used in calculation of diluted earnings per share ('000)	1,334,473	1,334,473	1,191,983	1,191,983
Diluted earnings per share (cents per share) 1	0.42	0.42	0.69	0.69

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In future period, shares may be issued to the Manager in lieu of management fees otherwise payable in cash. This will have a dilutive effect on earnings per share.

# **AUDIT OR REVIEW**

The figures in this report have not been audited or reviewed.

# INTERESTED PERSON TRANSACTION

The Company has not obtained a general mandate from shareholders for Interested Person Transactions.

# CONFIRMATION OF THE BOARD PURSUANT TO RULE 705(5) OF THE LISTING MANUAL

On behalf of the Board of Directors of Global Investments Limited, we, the undersigned hereby confirm to the best of our knowledge that nothing has come to the attention of the Board of Directors of the Company which may render the financial statements for the quarter ended 31 March 2015 to be false or misleading in any material respect.

On behalf of the Board of Directors	
Boon Swan Foo Chairman 13 May 2015	Jason See Yong Kiat Manager Nominated Director 13 May 2015