

EXPLANATORY NOTES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

1. Basis of Preparation

This interim financial report is unaudited and has been prepared in compliance with the Main Market Listing Requirements of Bursa Malaysia Securities Berhad and Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards (“MFRS”) 134, *Interim Financial Reporting* issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board (“MASB”).

This interim financial report contains condensed consolidated financial statements and selected explanatory notes. The notes include an explanation of events and transactions that are significant to an understanding of the changes in financial position and performance of the Company and its subsidiaries (“the Group”) subsequent to 31 December 2023.

The significant accounting policies and methods of computation applied in the unaudited condensed interim financial statements are consistent with those adopted in the most recent audited annual financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2023 except for the following which were adopted at the beginning of the current financial year.

Amendments effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2024

- Amendments to MFRS 16, Leases – Lease Liability in a Sale and Leaseback
- Amendments to MFRS 101, Presentation of Financial Statements – Non-current Liabilities with Covenants and Classification of Liabilities as Current or Non-current
- Amendments to MFRS 107, Statement of Cash Flows and MFRS 7, Financial Instruments: Disclosures – Supplier Finance Arrangements

The following are accounting standards and amendments that have been issued by the Malaysian Accounting Standards Board (“MASB”) but have not been adopted by the Group and the Company:

Amendments effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025

- Amendments to MFRS 121, The Effects of Changes in Foreign Exchange Rates – Lack of Exchangeability

Amendments effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2026

- Amendments to MFRS 9, Financial Instruments and MFRS 7, Financial Instruments: Disclosures – Classification and Measurement of Financial Instruments
- Amendments that are part of Annual Improvements – Volume 11:
 - Amendments to MFRS 1, First-time Adoption of Malaysian Financial Reporting Standards
 - Amendments to MFRS 7, Financial Instruments: Disclosures
 - Amendments to MFRS 9, Financial Instruments
 - Amendments to MFRS 10, Consolidated Financial Statements
 - Amendments to MFRS 107, Statement of Cash Flows

Accounting Standards effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2027

- MFRS 18, Presentation and Disclosure in Financial Statements
- MFRS 19, Subsidiaries without Public Accountability: Disclosures

Amendments effective for annual periods beginning on or after a date yet to be confirmed

- Amendments to MFRS 10, Consolidated Financial Statements and MFRS 128, Investments in Associates and Joint Ventures – Sale or Contribution of Assets between an Investor and its Associate or Joint Venture

The Group and the Company plan to apply the abovementioned accounting standards and amendments:

- from the annual period beginning on 1 January 2025 for the amendments that are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2025;
- from the annual period beginning on 1 January 2026 for the amendments that are effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2026, except for Amendments to MFRS 1 which is not applicable to the Group; and
- from the annual period beginning on 1 January 2027 for the accounting standard that is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2027.

The initial application of the accounting standards and amendments are not expected to have any material financial impacts to the current period and prior period financial statements of the Group and the Company.

2. Seasonality or Cyclicity of Interim Operations

Generally, the Group’s operations are not affected by seasonal or cyclical factors. However, the Group’s share of profit from an associate company which is involved in the job portal business may be negatively impacted in the last quarter of the year as recruitment activities tend to slow down towards year-end and during major holidays.

3. Unusual Items

There were no items or events that arose during the quarter under review, which affected assets, liabilities, equity, net income or cash flows that are unusual by reason of their nature, size or incidence.

4. Changes in Estimates

There were no changes in the nature and amount of estimates reported that have a material effect during the quarter under review.

5. Issuances, Cancellations, Repurchases, Resale and Repayments of Debt and Equity Securities

During the quarter under review, the Company had bought back from the open market 88,600 of its issued ordinary shares (“JcbNext Shares”) at an average buy-back price of approximately RM1.64 per ordinary share. The total consideration paid for the share buy-back of JcbNext Shares by the Company during the quarter under review was RM145,641. The JcbNext Shares bought back are held as treasury shares in accordance with Section 127 Subsection 4(b) of the Companies Act 2016. On 18 December 2024, the Company cancelled all 658,500 treasury shares being JcbNext Shares bought back during the financial year in accordance with Section 127 Subsection 4(a) of the Companies Act 2016.

Other than the aforementioned share-buy-back and cancellations, the Company continued to dispose 104 Corporation shares during the quarter under review as mentioned in Note 12.

Saved as disclosed above, there were no other issuances, cancellations, repurchases, resale and repayments of debt and equity securities during the quarter under review.

6. Dividends Paid

The Company had on 9 December 2024 declared an interim single tier dividend of 7.0 sen per ordinary share in respect of the financial year ended 31 December 2024 amounting to RM9.196 million. The dividend was subsequently paid on 31 December 2024.

7. Operating Segments

The information reported to the Group’s chief operating decision maker, who is also the Group’s Chief Executive Officer, for the purposes of resource allocation and assessment of performance is segregated according to the following segments:

Investment holding	Includes equity investments, property investments, treasury investments, investment in associates, and property leasing
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Others *	Includes online advertising and contract staffing
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* The reporting on the performance of contract staffing ceased on 1 July 2023, following the Company's disposal of a 60% equity interest in Greenfield Japan Kabushiki Kaisha on 30 June 2023.

Cumulative Quarter Ended 31/12/2024
(The figures have not been audited)

	Investment holding RM’000	Others RM’000	Eliminations RM’000	Consolidated RM’000
Segment revenue				
Revenue from external customers	1,334	-	-	1,334
Inter segment revenue	5	-	(5)	-
Dividends	19,822	-	(9,861)	9,961
Interest income	3,259	-	(20)	3,239
Investment distribution income	83	-	-	83
Revenue for the year	<u>24,503</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(9,886)</u>	<u>14,617</u>
Segment profit/(loss)				
Operating profit/(loss) for reportable segments	16,675	(157)	(9,772)	6,746
Interest expense	(30)	-	20	(10)
Changes in fair value of an investment property	500	-	-	500
Gain on disposal of investment in an associate	34,025	-	-	34,025
Gain on financial assets classified as fair value through profit or loss	881	-	-	881
Impairment loss on amount due from subsidiaries	(30)	-	30	-
Share of profit of equity-accounted associates	9,636	-	-	9,636
Profit before tax	<u>61,657</u>	<u>(157)</u>	<u>(9,722)</u>	<u>51,778</u>
Income tax expense	(656)	-	-	(656)
Profit for the year	<u>61,001</u>	<u>(157)</u>	<u>(9,722)</u>	<u>51,122</u>
Segment assets	<u>557,483</u>	<u>128</u>	<u>(148,315)</u>	<u>409,296</u>
<i>Included in the measure of segment assets are:</i>				
Investment in associates	78,869	-	-	78,869
Non-current assets other than financial instruments and deferred tax assets	18,632	-	-	18,632
Additions to non-current assets other than financial instruments and deferred tax assets	138	-	-	138
Other segment information				
Depreciation of property and equipment	22	-	-	22
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	64	-	-	64

Cumulative Quarter Ended 31/12/2023
(The figures have not been audited)

	Investment holding RM'000	Others RM'000	Eliminations RM'000	Consolidated RM'000
Segment revenue				
Revenue from external customers	1,332	201	-	1,533
Inter segment revenue	5	-	(5)	-
Dividends	20,764	-	(12,900)	7,864
Interest income	1,496	-	-	1,496
Investment distribution income	15	-	-	15
Revenue for the year	<u>23,612</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>(12,905)</u>	<u>10,908</u>
Segment profit/(loss)				
Operating profit/(loss) for reportable segments	20,678	(152)	(13,080)	7,446
Interest expense	(11)	-	-	(11)
Changes in fair value of investment properties	412	-	-	412
Gain on disposal of a subsidiary	88	-	-	88
Gain on disposal of investment in an associate	18,474	-	-	18,474
Gain on financial assets classified as fair value through profit or loss	1,467	-	-	1,467
Impairment loss on amount due from subsidiaries	(339)	-	339	-
Share of profit of equity-accounted associates	13,440	-	-	13,440
Profit before tax	<u>54,209</u>	<u>(152)</u>	<u>(12,741)</u>	<u>41,316</u>
Income tax expense	(5,827)	(3)	-	(5,830)
Profit for the year	<u>48,382</u>	<u>(155)</u>	<u>(12,741)</u>	<u>35,486</u>
Segment assets	<u>474,810</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>(103,311)</u>	<u>371,655</u>
<i>Included in the measure of segment assets are:</i>				
Investment in associates	114,227	-	-	114,227
Non-current assets other than financial instruments and deferred tax assets	18,084	-	-	18,084
Additions to non-current assets other than financial instruments and deferred tax assets	18	-	-	18
Other segment information				
Depreciation of property and equipment	28	-	-	28
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	62	-	-	62

8. Subsequent Events

There were no material events subsequent to the end of the current quarter under review that have not been reflected in the financial statements for the current quarter.

9. Changes in the Composition of the Group

There were no changes in the composition of the Group during the quarter under review.

10. Changes in contingent assets and contingent liabilities

There were no material contingent liabilities or contingent assets as at 17 February 2025 (being the latest practicable date not earlier than 7 days from the date of issue of this interim financial report).

11. Capital Commitments

	As at 31.12.2024 RM’000
Investment in unquoted shares	
Contracted but not provided for:	296 =====

12. Review of Performance for the Quarter

For the quarter ended 31 December 2024, consolidated revenue amounted to RM2.90 million, which was 127.1% higher than the revenue in the corresponding quarter in the preceding year of RM1.28 million. The increase was mainly due to the higher dividend income from quoted investments as well as higher interest income from the Group’s bank deposits.

The Group reported foreign exchange gains of RM4.76 million in the current quarter compared with foreign exchange losses of RM0.58 million in Q4 2023. The foreign exchange gains consisted primarily of unrealised foreign exchange gains on the Group’s US Dollar and Singapore Dollar denominated bank deposits as the Ringgit weakened from USD1:RM4.125 and SGD1:RM3.2215 at the end of September 2024 to USD1:RM4.477 and SGD1:RM3.2885 respectively at the end of December 2024. In the corresponding quarter of 2023, the foreign exchange losses consisted mainly of unrealised foreign exchange losses on the Group’s US Dollar and Hong Kong Dollar denominated bank deposits.

During the quarter under review, the Company had continued to dispose shares in an associate, 104 Corporation, and in the process the Group recorded gains on disposal of the said shares amounting to RM7.12 million, an increase of 25.3% compared with gains of RM5.68 million recorded in Q4 2023. Following the disposals, the Company continued to hold 13.45% equity interest in 104 Corporation as at 31 December 2024.

Our share of profit from equity accounted associates decreased by 33.0% year-over-year to RM2.03 million in Q4 2024 from RM3.03 million in the corresponding quarter of 2023. 104 Corporation, a leading provider of integrated human resource services in Taiwan, posted a marginally higher net profit of NT\$79.47 million in the current quarter compared with NT\$78.32 million in Q4 2023. Its revenue increased to NT\$619.37 million in Q4 2024 from NT\$569.70 million in Q4 2023. The Group’s share of its profits decreased from RM2.28 million in Q4 2023 to RM1.59 million in the current quarter in view of the lower equity interest in 104 Corporation of 13.45% compared to 18.65% at the end of Q4 2023. Our other associate, Innity Corporation Berhad registered a lower net profit of RM2.07 million in the current quarter under review

compared with RM3.57 million in Q4 2023 on the back of a decrease in revenue from RM29.83 million in Q4 2023 to RM28.64 million in Q4 2024 in the current quarter.

The Group’s profit before tax (“PBT”) increased by 88.5% to RM16.33 million in Q4 2024 from RM8.66 million in Q4 2023 mainly attributable to the foreign exchange gains and higher gains on disposal of shares in 104 Corporation mentioned above. In addition, increase in the fair value of an investment property amounting to RM0.50 million was taken up in Q4 2024, contributing to the higher PBT. Excluding the gains on disposal of shares, the adjusted PBT for Q4 2024 amounted to RM9.21 million compared with the adjusted PBT for Q4 2023 of RM2.98 million.

13. Comparison with previous quarter's results

	Q4 2024 <u>Current Quarter</u> RM'000	Q3 2024 <u>Preceding Quarter</u> RM'000
Revenue	2,902	5,556
Profit before tax	16,327	7,407

For the current quarter under review, the Group posted a lower revenue of RM2.90 million compared with RM5.56 million reported in the preceding quarter mainly due to the lower dividend from quoted investments and lower interest income from the Group’s bank deposits.

Despite the lower revenue, the Group recorded a higher PBT in the current quarter mainly due to the foreign exchange gains of RM4.76 million compared with foreign exchange losses of RM8.99 million in Q3 2024 and an increase in the fair value of investment property by RM0.50 million which was taken up during the current quarter. The foreign exchange gains and a gain on fair value of investment properties were partially offset by a lower share of profits from associates amounting to RM2.03 million compared with RM2.56 million in the preceding quarter and lower gains on disposal of shares in an associate of RM7.12 million in Q4 2024 compared with RM9.39 million in Q3 2024.

14. Prospects for the Year 2025

The Group’s future prospects will depend on the performance of its associated companies in Taiwan and Malaysia, equity investments, foreign exchange rates and operating activities in Malaysia. The Group will derive income primarily from dividend income from its quoted investments and rental income from its investment property. The Board and management will endeavour to identify and evaluate new businesses and/or assets to be acquired by the Company which can contribute to the financial performance of the Group. The Group has a healthy cash position, receives good cash flow from its investments and does not have any material debt.

The global economy is stable, but growth rates vary significantly across countries. The U.S. economy is exceeding expectations with stronger domestic demand, while Europe faces sluggish growth and persistently high energy prices. Emerging markets show resilience, with China set for a modest recovery. The International Monetary Fund (“IMF”) projected global growth at 3.3% in January 2025, largely unchanged from its October 2024 forecast of 3.2%.

In the medium term, risks to the outlook are skewed to the downside. In contrast, near-term risks could reinforce divergences among countries. An intensification of protectionist policies, for instance, in the form of a new wave of tariffs, could exacerbate trade tensions, lower investment, reduce market efficiency, distort trade flows, and again disrupt supply chains. Growth could suffer in both the near and medium term, but at varying degrees across economies.

The tenant for Wisma JobNext will move out at the end of their tenancy on 31 August 2025. The Group has already engaged the services of real estate agents to procure new tenants.

15. Profit Forecast

No profit forecast was announced hence there is no comparison between actual results and forecast.

16. Taxation

The taxation charge/(credit) for the current quarter includes the following:

	Individual Quarter Ended		Cumulative Quarter Ended	
	31.12.2024	31.12.2023	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
	RM’000	RM’000	RM’000	RM’000
Estimated current tax payable	89	48	1,805	2,096
Deferred taxation	281	386	(1,149)	3,734
	<u>370</u>	<u>434</u>	<u>656</u>	<u>5,830</u>

17. Investments

The Group’s investments during the current quarter and financial year-to-date are as follows:-

	Individual Quarter Ended 31.12.2024	Cumulative Quarter Ended 31.12.2024
	RM’000	RM’000
Associate companies		
Share of results and changes in equity in associates and exchange differences	4,405	(13,868)
Sales proceeds	(11,992)	(55,515)
Gain on disposal of shares	7,115	34,025
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Long term:		
Purchase consideration	22,524	61,118
Sale proceeds	(4,502)	(6,274)
Changes in fair value	2,743	20,577
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Short term:		
Purchase consideration	10,959	16,318
Sale proceeds	(8,100)	(32,301)
Changes in fair value	169	881
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The Group’s investments at fair value through other comprehensive income, investments in the quoted securities of associate companies and other short-term investments at fair value through profit or loss as at 31 December 2024 are summarized below:

At cost	RM’000
At carrying value/book value	263,805
At market value	303,405 [^]
	<u>368,689</u>

Other than the above, there was no purchase or disposal of quoted securities during the financial period under review.

^ Carrying value of investments in associate companies represents the Group’s proportionate share of net assets in the associate companies.

18. Status of Corporate Proposals

Proposed disposal of ordinary shares in JS E-Recruitment Ltd

The Company had on 24 June 2009 entered into a Share Sale Agreement (the “SSA”) with Daffodil Computers Limited, a company incorporated in Bangladesh (“Daffodil”) for the disposal of 60,000 ordinary shares of BDT 10 each in the share capital of JS E-Recruitment Ltd. (“JSE”) to Daffodil, representing 60% equity interest in the issued and paid-up share capital of JSE for a total cash consideration of USD1.00 (equivalent to RM3.549 based on the exchange rate as at 23 June 2009 of USD1:RM3.549).

19. Material Litigation

The Group is not engaged in any material litigation either as plaintiff or defendant and the directors do not have any knowledge of any proceedings pending or threatened against the Group as at the date of this report.

20. Dividend

No dividend has been declared during the quarter under review in line with the discontinuation of the previous dividend policy with effect from 22 February 2016.

21. Earnings Per Share

Basic earnings per share

The basic earnings per share is calculated by dividing the Group’s net profit attributable to owners of the Company by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period.

	Individual Quarter Ended		Cumulative Quarter Ended	
	31.12.2024	31.12.2023	31.12.2024	31.12.2023
Net profit attributable to owners of the Company (RM’000)	15,957	8,229	51,122	35,490
Weighted average number of shares in issue (‘000)	131,389	132,030	131,671	132,030
Basic earnings per share (sen)	12.15	6.23	38.83	26.88

Fully diluted earnings per share

No diluted earnings per share is disclosed in the financial statements as there are no dilutive potential ordinary shares.

22. Profit for the Period

	Individual Quarter Ended		Cumulative Quarter Ended	
	31.12.2024	31.12.2023	31.12.2024	31.12.2024
	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000	RM'000
Profit for the period is arrived at after (charging)/ crediting: -				
Interest income	689	570	3,229	1,485
Depreciation of property and equipment	(5)	(5)	(22)	(28)
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	(17)	(16)	(64)	(62)

Save as disclosed above and in the Condensed Consolidated Income Statement, the other items as required under Appendix 9B, Part A (16) of the Main Market Listing Requirements are not applicable.

23. Authorisation for Issue

The interim financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board of Directors.