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# Pacific Basin Shipping Limited

(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)

(Stock Code: 2343)

## ANNOUNCEMENT OF INTERIM RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED 30 JUNE 2015

The Board of Directors (the “Board”) of Pacific Basin Shipping Limited (“Pacific Basin” or the “Company”) are pleased to announce the unaudited condensed consolidated results of the Company and its subsidiaries (collectively the “Group”) for the six months ended 30 June 2015 as follows:

### BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

#### GROUP

Our results were influenced by:

- one of the weakest ever half-year periods for the dry bulk freight market
- daily TCE earnings that outperformed the Handysize market index by 60%
- a significant turnaround in our Handymax performance
- our intensified efforts to reduce costs

Our core dry bulk business drove the Group’s positive US\$41.5 million EBITDA, and our significantly reduced towage business was profitable

We issued a new US\$125 million convertible bond repayable in 2021

Towage sale proceeds of US\$73 million were received in first half 2015

Our cash position increased to US\$392 million with net gearing down to 34%

Almost US\$500 million of undrawn committed loan facilities exceeds our US\$353 million remaining dry bulk newbuilding capital commitments

#### FLEET

We are now fully focused on dry bulk with substantially all US\$2 billion of long-term assets (including newbuilding commitments) invested in our core Handy dry bulk business (compared to US\$1.6 billion across four business areas in 2012)

We are operating more owned vessels and redelivering expiring medium and long-term chartered ships to further reduce our daily vessel costs while enabling greater control and service quality

At mid-year we operated 197 dry bulk ships of which 81 were owned

17 owned and 8 chartered newbuildings join our core fleet over next two years

58% of our contracted 19,980 Handysize revenue days in second half 2015 is covered at US\$8,740/day net

Our remaining towage assets have a net book value of US\$39 million

Our last RoRo vessel will transfer to Grimaldi in August generating cash proceeds of around US\$31 million

#### MARKET

Negative sentiment has driven increased scrapping, newbuilding cancellations/postponements and very little new ordering, but it will take more time for oversupply to be fully absorbed

Bottoming out commodity prices and restocking are positive for trade

The inflection point is difficult to forecast and will likely be triggered by unexpected demand side events

We anticipate weak market rates in the medium term and continue to manage our business accordingly, prioritising safety and staying power over additional long-term charter commitments

All efforts are going into making the most of our strong dry bulk platform, reducing our costs and delivering maximum contributions in the weak market while safeguarding our positive EBITDA generation and cash position

US\$ Million	Six Months Ended 30 June	
	2015	2014
Revenue #	634.6	910.0
EBITDA*	41.5	46.9
Underlying loss	(14.6)	(21.5)
Profit/(Loss) Attributable to Shareholders	5.8	(90.7)
Basic Earnings per share (HK cents)	2.3	(36.9)

# relates to continuing operations

\* EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation) is calculated as gross profit less general and administrative expenses, excluding: depreciation and amortisation, net unrealised bunker swap contract income and expense and utilisation of provisions for onerous contracts

# CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REVIEW

## FINANCIAL RESULTS

The dry bulk shipping market remained depressed in the first half of 2015. We continue to manage our business for weak market rates in the medium term and have intensified our efforts to reduce costs and generate daily earnings that outperform the market. We have made good progress on both.

The Group made a net profit of US\$5.8 million (2014: US\$90.7 million loss) although the underlying loss was US\$14.6 million (2014: US\$21.5 million loss) for the six months ended 30 June 2015. Basic EPS on continuing operations was a positive HK2.3 cents, and our EBITDA was positive US\$41.5 million (2014: US\$46.9 million).

The Board has declared no dividend for the interim period.

## PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

### DRY BULK

Dry bulk spot market index rates during the half year were among the lowest on record, undermined by reduced dry bulk demand (especially into China) and a cumulative oversupplied global fleet despite only minimal net global fleet growth since the end of January.

We generated average Handysize and Handymax daily TCE earnings of US\$7,940 and US\$9,350 per day net, outperforming the BHSI and BSI indices by 60% and 49% respectively due primarily to our experienced staff and global office network, our fleet scale and our ability to optimise ship and cargo combinations for maximised utilisation.

We maintained good control of our owned vessels' operating costs which averaged US\$4,210 per day. We are implementing new ship management and accounting software and other initiatives to better manage our workflows and our vessel operating and administrative expenses – a major focus in these weak market times.

### TOWAGE & RORO

We sold our 50% share in a New Zealand-based bunker tanker in June and, following the sale of most of our towage business, our remaining towage assets are primarily operating in the Middle East in both the oil and gas and construction sectors.

Only two chartered-in assets remain employed in Australasia. Our remaining owned small tugs and barges in Australia (which are unsuitable for repositioning to the Middle East) are idle and being considered for sale.

Our consolidated towage operations generated a profit of US\$1.4 million in the first half and our remaining towage assets have a net book value of US\$39 million.

Our exit from the RoRo sector remains on schedule following the delivery of our fifth RoRo vessel into Grimaldi's ownership in May. This leaves just one vessel which is due to transfer to Grimaldi in August 2015 generating cash proceeds of around US\$31 million and no significant impact on our results.

## STRATEGY AND POSITION

### INCREASED FOCUS ON DRY BULK

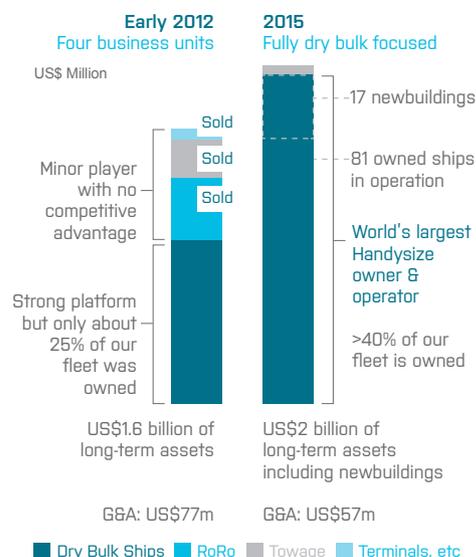
Since I joined Pacific Basin in 2012, we have transformed the Company from an organisation with four business units to one in which both capital and management are now fully focused on our core, world-leading Handy dry bulk business where our strengths lie.

In 2012, we had long-term assets of about US\$1.6 billion of which around US\$600 million was invested in three non-dry bulk business areas (RoRo, towage and terminals) in which we were relative newcomers and minor players. Our dry bulk business was already strong at that time, but we relied too much on chartered-in ships. Our owned ships comprised only about 25% of our fleet and represented about US\$1 billion of long-term assets.

Today, substantially all our long-term assets (about US\$2 billion including newbuilding commitments) are invested where they should be – in our core Handy dry bulk business where we have a strong platform and a competitive edge.

We worked hard to exit our non-core segments. While this crystallised capital losses, it is also generating useful cash for the Company to strengthen our position in our core dry bulk space. It has also contributed to an approximately US\$20 million (or 25% annualised) reduction in our G&A despite our increased assets overall.

### OUR INCREASED FOCUS ON DRY BULK



## EXPANSION OF OUR OWNED FLEET

Dry bulk secondhand vessel values steadily reduced during the three years from 2010 to 2012 and we patiently waited until prices reached historically attractive, 10-year low levels which were below estimated shipbuilders' break-even levels. Starting in the autumn of 2012 and during the first three quarters of 2013, we invested actively in secondhand Japanese-built ships.

In the first half of 2013, we started to sound out shipyards' desire to construct newbuilding vessels given the weak vessel price environment. As secondhand prices increased, we slowed our secondhand acquisitions activity and shifted our investment focus to newbuilding orders.

In all we purchased 33 secondhand ships and 18 newbuildings, and it is important to note a few points about these investments:

- The delivered ships have all contributed positively to our cash flows even in the weak markets;
- All of the ships are of the highest quality, designed and equipped to fit our trades for the long term; and
- All the ships but one are Japanese built with superior reliability, longevity, value retention and fuel efficiency.

## OUR ABILITY TO OUTPERFORM

Pacific Basin's greatest value is in our ability to outperform market index rates.

As illustrated in the graph below, our average Handysize TCE premium over the last five years is about US\$2,400 per day which, multiplied by our over 140 Handysize ships on the water, gives a significant earnings advantage.

This premium is the result of a combination of factors including:

- our experienced staff and global office network;
- our large fleet of high-quality interchangeable ships;
- our cargo contracts, relationships and direct interaction with end users; and in turn
- the high laden ratio (low ballast) and therefore high utilisation we achieve.

This high utilisation is also aided by the onboard cranes and cargo trading diversity that are unique to the Handy dry bulk segments which cannot be replicated in the Capesize or Panamax segments whose trades are characterised by one-way laden transportation.

Operating more owned vessels facilitates greater control and quality of service delivery to our customers. It relieves us of trading, redelivery and slow-steaming constraints and, combined, these factors contribute further to our outperformance of market rates.

To improve our Handymax performance, we have focused our Handymax strategy on key routes and, in spite of a much weaker market, we have turned around a Handymax loss a year ago to a positive contribution in the first half of 2015.

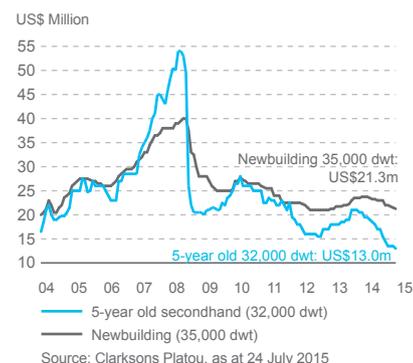
Helped by the above factors, our premium over market rates was particularly strong in the first six months this year at US\$2,970 per day for Handysize and US\$3,080 for Handymax compared to US\$2,040 and US\$1,130 respectively in the first half of 2014. This premium differentiates Pacific Basin from many shipping companies and should underpin our market capitalisation.

## SMALLER, EFFICIENT MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION

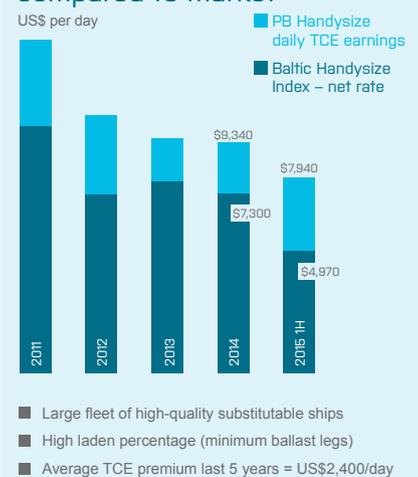
Thanks to our refocus on only dry bulk, we have been able to reduce the size and cost of our senior staff overheads while maintaining great depth and strength in our dry bulk management team. The top nine people in our management team have been with the Company for an average of 14 years and in the shipping industry for an average of 26 years. We added even more shipping experience to our Board last year by appointing Irene Waage Basili as an Independent Non-executive Director and we have recently started a process to recruit an additional independent director.

In summary, we are satisfied with the refocus on our strong Handy dry bulk business, the structure and organisation of the Company and our performance relative to the market and our peers. We are of course not satisfied with our absolute financial results and the very weak state of the dry bulk market overall.

### Handysize Vessel Values



### Our TCE outperformance compared to market



## CHALLENGING MARKET DEVELOPMENTS

It is worth reflecting on how the market developed in these past three years to where it is now.

New ship deliveries from shipyards started to slow down in the summer of 2012 while cargo demand remained strong. From spring 2013 to spring 2014, cargo demand growth outstripped net fleet growth to drive slightly higher and more volatile freight rates. The oversupply of dry bulk ships started to be absorbed and optimistic sentiment fuelled by brokers and the influx of private equity into the dry bulk market led to increased secondhand values and newbuilding orders in late 2013 and early 2014.

While global fleet growth has continued to slow down as expected, the market has faced negative surprises on the demand side including reduced bauxite and nickel trades due to the Indonesian ban on the export of unprocessed minerals introduced early 2014 (and still in force) and, of even greater negative influence, the larger than expected reduction in coal imports to China starting in the second half of 2014.

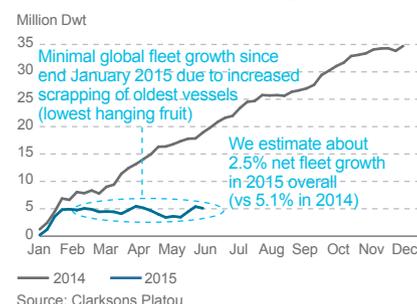
Low bunker prices are also a threat as they support a greater tendency to increase vessel operating speeds – thus increasing dry bulk shipping supply – when stronger freight rates return.

Combined, these factors led to a reversal of sentiment by the end of 2014, from positive to negative with freight rates and secondhand values falling to new lows. The negative sentiment is leading to increased scrapping, cancellations and postponements of newbuildings and very little new ordering.

Bottoming out commodity prices are a positive factor for trade by supporting a switch from stock drawing to stock building.

These factors will eventually lead to a stronger supply/demand balance, but the inflection point is very difficult to forecast and will likely be triggered by unexpected demand side events.

## Net Dry Bulk Fleet Change



## Total Dry Bulk Supply & Demand



## MANAGING FOR A CONTINUED WEAK MARKET IN THE MEDIUM TERM

In this uncertain market, and having invested significantly during the previous downturn in 2013, we are managing our business for a continued weak market in the medium term and are prioritising safety and staying power over additional long-term charter commitments. However, the market difficulties may present acquisition opportunities which we would carefully consider.

We are gradually lowering our charter-in costs by redelivering expiring medium and long-term chartered ships and are instead using shorter-term and index-linked charters.

All efforts are going into making the most of our strong dry bulk platform, reducing our costs and delivering maximum contributions in the weak market while safeguarding the Company's positive EBITDA generation and cash position.

Planning for known and potential convertible bond repayments coming up next year, we have effectively extended the maturity of our US\$124 million convertible bond repayable in 2018 (or 2016 if put options are exercised) by issuing a new US\$125 million convertible bond repayable in 2021 (or 2019 if put options are exercised). Our cash position increased from US\$363 million at the end of 2014 to US\$392 million as at 30 June 2015. We also have almost US\$500 million of committed but undrawn loan facilities which exceeds the US\$353 million of remaining payments due on our 17 Japanese newbuildings still to deliver.

We continue to enjoy good access to capital due to a combination of factors including our ability to outperform index rates especially in weak markets, our Hong Kong listing, our transparent reporting and our track record. Our net debt to net book value reduced from 40% to 34% during the period, and our TCE earnings, operating costs and G&A per day stand up well in benchmarking against our peers.

We are well positioned to navigate this very weak market and to benefit from a cyclical upturn when it comes. We thank you for your continued support.

Hong Kong, 30 July 2015

## PACIFIC BASIN BENEFITS

- Fully focused on our core world-leading Handy dry bulk business – now well structured and out of non-core
- Business model is consistently delivering a vessel earnings premium over market rates
- Large, high-quality fleet of predominantly Japanese-built ships
- Depth and experience of staff and offices around the world
- Large portfolio of customer relationships and contracts
- Hong Kong listing and transparent reporting facilitating access to capital
- ➡ Well positioned in a cyclical business

**Mats Berglund**  
Chief Executive Officer

# MARKET & BUSINESS REVIEW

## DRY BULK MARKET REVIEW

### FREIGHT MARKET SUMMARY

The downward trend that characterised the weak dry bulk freight market in 2014 continued into 2015 resulting in a record low half year for bulk carrier earnings. In February, the Baltic Dry Index (BDI) fell below the previous all-time low in August 1986.

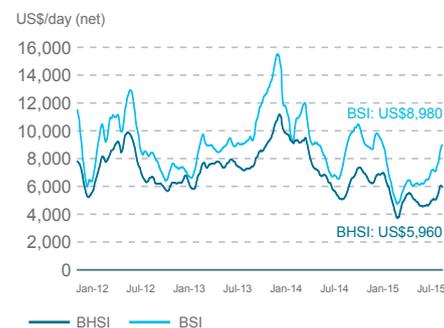
Handysize and Handymax spot market rates averaged US\$4,970 and US\$6,270 per day net respectively in the first half of 2015, representing a 40% and 36% decline in average earnings year on year.

The largest bulk carriers suffered the most – averaging earnings well below Handysize ships – although rates improved in mid-June mainly on seasonal strength.

While freight market movements in the year to date have largely reflected seasonal patterns, the overall weakness in the market continues to be driven by a supply surplus and reduced cargo demand led by a slowdown in Chinese raw materials imports, especially coal.

The Pacific market underperformed the Atlantic during the period largely due to slower Chinese imports.

### Baltic Handysize Index (BHSI) & Baltic Supramax Index (BSI)



US\$ freight rates are net of 5% commission  
Source: Baltic Exchange, data as at 27 July 2015

### KEY SUPPLY DEVELOPMENTS

The global fleet of 25,000-40,000 dwt Handysize ships grew 0.8% net during the half year and there has been very little net growth in the dry bulk fleet overall since the end of January – a phenomenon not seen since the late 1990s. New ship deliveries representing 3.5% of existing dry bulk capacity (the lowest rate in 15 years) were substantially unchanged from the same period last year. However, scrapping exceeded expectations with ship owners opting to delete 2.5% of overall capacity (the highest scrapping rate since 1986 when annualised) and 4% of Handysize capacity, rather than continue to trade their older ships in such depressed trading conditions.

Dry bulk new ship ordering in the first half of the year fell to about 0.9% of existing capacity – the lowest level since 1997 – which is further increasing pressure on mainly Chinese shipyards to exit an over-crowded shipbuilding sector (the number of Chinese shipyards delivering dry bulk ships having already shrunk from 122 to 69 between 2012 and 2014).

Positive as these developments are, the market continues to be weighed down by the cumulative oversupply of mainly larger dry bulk ships.

Slow steaming has not materially changed during the period.

### SHIP VALUES

Clarksons Platou value their benchmark five year old Handysize at US\$13.0 million (down 33% in 12 months) and Handysize newbuildings at US\$21.25 million (down 11%).

The widening gap between secondhand and newbuilding ship values favours buying secondhand ships and discourages new ship ordering. The valuation gap is also widening between high-quality vessel designs from reputable shipyards and poor-quality units for which buying interest is very limited.

### KEY DEMAND DEVELOPMENTS

Dry bulk transportation demand in the first quarter of 2015 is estimated by Clarksons Platou to have reduced by 3.1% year on year (following a 1.1% reduction in the last quarter of 2014), weighed down especially by reduced Chinese imports.

Chinese coal imports in January-June declined by 60 million tonnes or 38% year on year due to slower economic growth, increased use of hydro-electric power and actions to protect China's domestic coal industry. Conversely, Indian thermal coal imports have been growing – at 34% (22 million tonnes) year on year according to Macquarie – but not enough to offset the reductions in other coal trades.

Chinese imports of iron ore in the first six months declined 1%, which was exacerbated by a shift in trade flows away from Brazil in favour of Australian exports to further reduce tonne-mile demand.

Chinese imports of seven key minor bulks reduced by 2.6 million tonnes or 7% year on year reflecting a general reduction in import requirements while drawing on existing inventory at a time of declining commodity prices. Since the Indonesian ban on bauxite and nickel ore exports took effect in early 2014, China has sourced these commodities from other countries, but demand has not returned to pre-2014 levels. However, influential imports of soybean into China continued to grow year on year.

On a positive note, SSY project a gradual 6% increase in cargo volumes in the second half of 2015 compared to the first half.

### ORDERBOOK

The pro-forma bulk carrier orderbook currently stands at 18% which remains an obstacle to restoring a healthier supply/demand balance even if actual deliveries are falling short of the scheduled orderbook deliveries at the start of the year.

There was very little dry bulk new ship ordering in the period due to the weak freight market and poor outlook at a time when secondhand ships represented better investment value than newbuildings.

The majority of dry bulk capacity on order is from Chinese shipyards, and we expect current market pressures to result in actual deliveries continuing to fall well short of the orderbook schedule.

## PACIFIC BASIN DRY BULK PERFORMANCE

Our Pacific Basin Dry Bulk business generated a net loss of US\$15.4 million (2014: net loss US\$11.4 million) in what was among the weakest ever half-year periods on record for dry bulk market rates.

Our positive EBITDA of US\$39.3 million in this challenging market was again driven by our ability to generate daily earnings that outperformed the market and our continued good control of our owned vessel operating costs.

## DRY BULK OPERATING PERFORMANCE

US\$ Million	Six months ended 30 June		Change
	2015	2014	
Handysize Contribution	(0.6)	26.2	-102%
Handymax Contribution	10.4	(10.7)	+197%
Post-Panamax Contribution	2.7	2.7	—
Dry Bulk operating performance before overheads	12.5	18.2	-31%
Direct overheads	(24.6)	(24.7)	+0%
Indirect overheads	(3.3)	(4.9)	+33%
<b>Dry Bulk net loss</b>	<b>(15.4)</b>	<b>(11.4)</b>	<b>-35%</b>
Dry Bulk EBITDA	39.3	49.5	-21%
Dry Bulk vessel net book value	1,535.0	1,545.0	-1%

+/- Note: In our tabulated figures, positive changes represent an improving result; negative changes represent a worsening result

## KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

### Performance vs Market

#### Handysize

60% 1H2015 outperformance compared to market



#### Handymax

49% 1H2015 outperformance compared to market

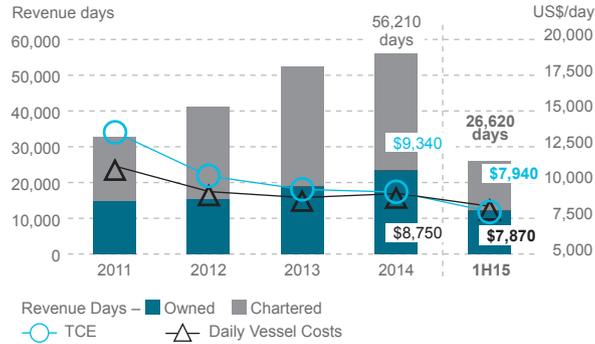


- Our 60% and 49% outperformance in first half 2015 compared to spot market indices reflects the value of our fleet scale and cargo book, and our ability to optimise cargo combinations and match the right ships with the right cargoes

## Profitability

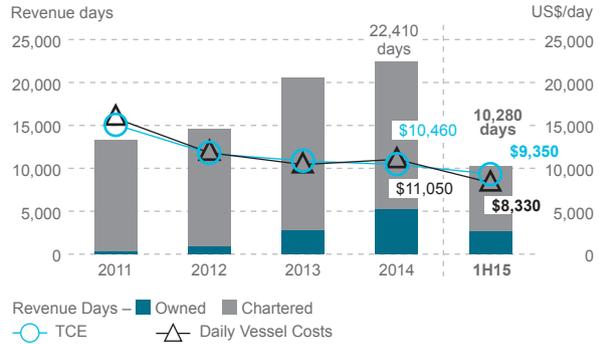
### Handysize

US\$(0.6)m



### Handymax

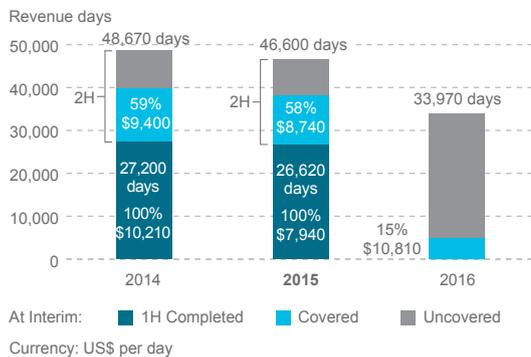
US\$10.4m



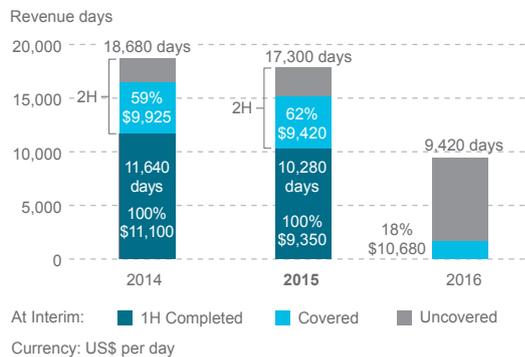
- We generated Handysize daily earnings of US\$7,940 with daily costs of US\$7,870 on 26,620 revenue days
- We achieved a significant turnaround in our Handymax performance by focusing on key routes to generate a positive US\$10.4 million Handymax contribution in the first half of 2015 (despite the much weaker market) from a US\$10.7 million loss in the first half of 2014
- Our Handysize results were under pressure in the weak market resulting in a small negative Handysize contribution despite our strong premium
- We operated an average of 149 Handysize and 57 Handymax ships resulting in 2% and 12% year-on-year reductions in our Handysize and Handymax revenue days
- Our capacity has reduced as we are redelivering expiring medium and long-term chartered vessels to gradually lower our charter-in costs, relying instead on our growing fleet of owned ships and low-cost shorter-term and index-linked charters

## Future Earnings and Cargo Cover

### Handysize



### Handymax



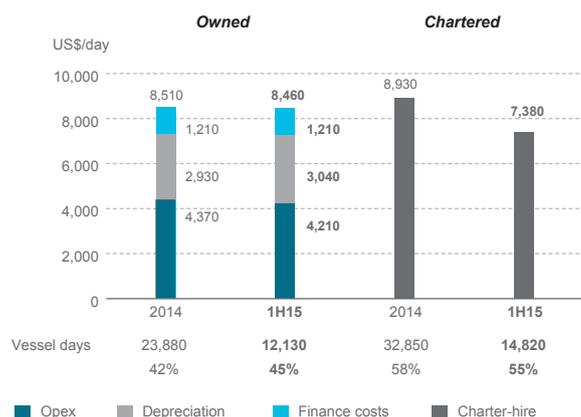
- We have covered 58% and 62% of our 19,980 Handysize and 7,020 Handymax revenue days currently contracted for the second half of 2015 at US\$8,740 and US\$9,420 per day respectively (cargo cover excludes revenue days related to inward-chartered vessels on variable, index-linked rates)
- While ship operators such as ourselves typically face significant exposure to the spot market, our contract cover provides a degree of earnings visibility

## ANALYSIS OF DAILY VESSEL COSTS

### Handysize Daily Vessel Costs

Blended US\$7,870 (FY2014: US\$8,750)

(excluding direct overheads)



The cost of owning and operating dry bulk ships is the major component of our Group's total costs, and our ability to maintain good control of these "daily vessel costs" has a significant bearing on our operating margins and our financial performance overall. We provide below a short analysis of our daily vessel costs for a better understanding of their components and development.

**Opex** – The daily opex element of our vessel costs decreased 4% for Handysize and 9% for Handymax mainly due to the quality and increased number of our owned ships leading to reduced repair and maintenance costs and increased procurement efficiencies.

**Depreciation** – Daily depreciation (including capitalisation of dry-docking costs) increased due to the delivery of our newer, larger vessels.

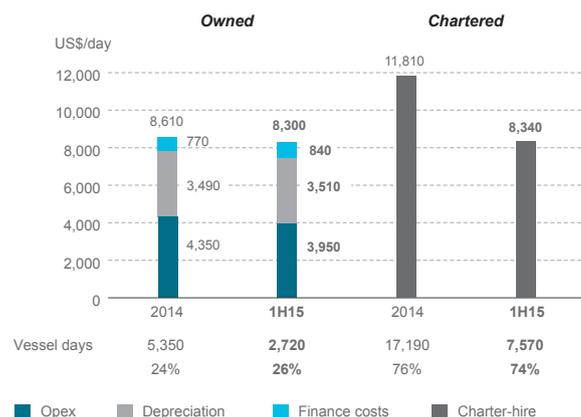
**Finance costs** – Handysize daily finance costs were substantially unchanged compared to 2014. Handymax daily finance costs increased due to the allocation of higher finance costs to this vessel type.

**Charter-hire** – Chartered-in days represented 55% and 74% of our total Handysize and Handymax vessel days respectively. Our Handysize chartered-in days decreased 7% to 14,820 days (2014: 16,010 days) while our Handymax chartered-in days decreased 17% to 7,570 days (2014: 9,170 days). We reduced our use of chartered vessels with the delivery of our vessel purchases.

### Handymax Daily Vessel Costs

Blended US\$8,330 (FY2014: US\$11,050)

(excluding direct overheads)



**Daily cash cost** – Our average owned and chartered daily cash cost excluding direct overheads was US\$6,730 (2014: US\$7,890) for our Handysize fleet and US\$7,880 (2014: US\$11,140) for our Handymax fleet. With the delivery of our committed newbuildings, the number of Handysize and Handymax owned vessel days in 2015 are expected to increase to 24,970 and 5,650 respectively.

**Direct overheads** – Our chartering, operations and technical staff overheads and office costs related to our dry bulk ships amounted to US\$24.6 million (2014: US\$24.7 million). Spread across our vessel days, the aggregate overhead translated into a 6% increase in daily cost to US\$660 per day (2014: US\$620 per day). The increased daily cost was due to the higher proportion of owned ships and the subsequent increase in in-house technical staff costs.

During the period, we secured 4,470 Handysize vessel days (2014: 6,090 days) and 750 Handymax vessel days (2014: 1,350 days) via variable-rate, inward charters with rates linked to the Baltic Handysize and Supramax indices. These index-linked vessels represented 30% and 10% of our chartered Handysize and Handymax vessel days respectively.

Our fleet of owned and finance-leased dry bulk vessels experienced an average 0.9 days (FY2014: 0.4 days) unplanned technical off-hire per vessel during the period.

## DRY BULK BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

A key focus during the period was, as always, for our commercial team around the world to work closely with customers to generate cargo contracts that strengthen our cargo systems. Despite weak forward market pricing, we continued to secure several multi-year cargo contracts at reasonable long-term freight rates for us and our customers alike.

In managing our business for a continued weak market in the medium term, we are redelivering all expiring medium and long-term chartered ships which is gradually lowering our charter-in costs. Instead, we are making fullest use of our growing fleet of owned ships (with 17 committed newbuildings still to deliver) which we supplement with shorter-term and index-linked chartered ships. Operating more owned vessels facilitates greater control and quality of service delivery to our customers and it also relieves us of trading, redelivery and slow-steaming constraints that characterise chartered-in ships.

We have focused our Handymax strategy on key routes and, in spite of a much weaker market, we have turned around a Handymax loss in the first half of 2014 to a positive contribution in the first half of 2015.

Initiatives include new speed and consumption optimisation matrices, a new lubrications procurement contract and new technical management and accounting software for more efficient routines.

We maintained good control of our operating costs and have intensified our efforts through several initiatives to reduce costs without compromising safety and customer service.

Our commercial dry bulk offices across six continents allow us to develop and nurture strong customer relationships and develop new cargo opportunities providing short, medium and long-term employment cover for our fleet.

In March, we restructured our global commercial ship operations organisation for improved efficiency and effectiveness and implemented a refined framework of values and practices, all of which are already generating tangible results.

Combined, these factors contribute further to our outperformance of market rates.

## OUTLOOK

### DRY BULK MARKET OUTLOOK

#### Opportunities

- Chinese re-stocking of dry bulk commodities
- New Chinese economic stimulus supporting growth in minor bulk imports
- Continued US economic growth providing stimulus to global trade
- Bottoming out commodity prices stimulating greater demand, industrial output and dry bulk exports
- Market pressures driving much reduced new ship ordering and causing newbuilding deliveries to fall significantly short of scheduled deliveries
- Continued high level of ship scrapping

#### Threats

- Further reduction in Chinese economic growth
- Lower commodity prices shutting out smaller producers often using Handysize or Handymax ships
- Greater national protectionism favouring domestic supplies over foreign imports
- Low fuel prices support a greater tendency to increase vessel operating speeds (thus increasing dry bulk shipping supply) when stronger freight rates return
- Shipyard overcapacity and below-cost newbuilding prices may lead to increased new ship ordering

### OUTLOOK & STRATEGY FOR OUR DRY BULK BUSINESS

We anticipate weak market rates in the medium term and we continue to manage our business accordingly.

The health of dry bulk shipping is undermined by an oversupplied global fleet and reduced growth in dry bulk commodity demand – especially coal into China. While traditionally improved seasonal cargo flows in the second half may benefit from China's need for some restocking, we expect it will take longer for a healthier market to be restored.

Low bunker fuel prices are a negative factor as they lower the freight rate level at which ships will speed up and thus increase shipping supply.

We remain focused on the Handy segments of the dry bulk sector which is where our strengths lie and where we are global leaders.

We will continue our efforts to reduce costs and to optimise our teams and our fleet and cargo combinations in order to:

- generate daily earnings that outperform the market;
- deliver positive contributions even in weak market conditions; and
- generate strong EBITDA and safeguard our cash position.

We are redelivering long and medium-term chartered-in ships to further reduce our costs, relying instead on our growing fleet of owned ships which we supplement with low-cost shorter-term and index-linked chartered ships.

We will continue to nurture our customer base and develop deeper relationships with existing and new customers, seeking to optimise our cargo volumes on all our core routes and striving always to provide market-leading service reliability and customer care.

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### PB TOWAGE BUSINESS HIGHLIGHTS

Following the sale of our harbour towage business and our shareholding in OMSA at the end of 2014, our significantly reduced towage activities generated a net profit of US\$1.4 million and a positive EBITDA of US\$2.2 million in the first half of 2015.

Most of our remaining towage assets are operating in the oil and gas and construction sectors in the Middle East. Charter rates in the oil and gas sector have declined due to the pressures of the low oil price environment, but this has been partly offset by continued demand for tug and barge activity from offshore construction and land reclamation projects in the UAE and Qatar.

In Australasia, we are left with only two chartered-in vessels which we will redeliver later in the year. Our remaining small tugs and

barges in Australia (with total net book value of US\$5.7 million) are idle, unsuitable for repositioning to the Middle East, and are being marketed for sale in what has become an increasingly oversupplied market. Most of these assets were previously deployed on our barging project for Western Desert Resources (WDR) which entered into voluntary liquidation in September 2014. The administrators' efforts to sell the operation have been unsuccessful and WDR's bankruptcy was announced in April 2015 with no likelihood of returns to unsecured creditors.

We sold our 50% share in a New Zealand-based bunker tanker to our joint venture partner generating a disposal gain of about US\$3.7 million benefitting the Group's consolidated results.

## FUNDING

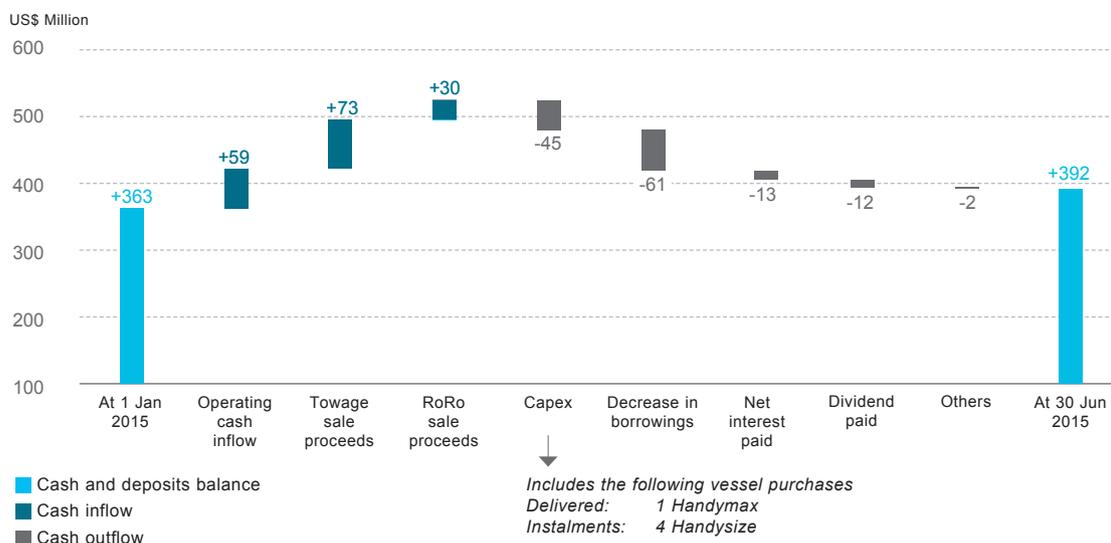
### CASH FLOW AND CASH

The Group's four main sources of funds are operating cash flows, bank loans, convertible bonds and equity. The major factors influencing future cash balances are operating cash flows, purchases of dry bulk vessels, sale of assets, and drawdown and repayment of borrowings.

As part of the ordinary activities of the Group, the Treasury function actively manages the cash and borrowings of the Group to ensure sufficient funds are available to meet the Group's commitments and an appropriate level of liquidity is maintained during different stages of the shipping cycle.

Over the long-term, the Group aims to maintain a conservative consolidated net gearing of no greater than 50% – defined as the ratio of net borrowings to net book value of property, plant and equipment – which we believe is sustainable over all stages of the shipping cycle.

**Sources and Uses of Group Cash Flow in 1H 2015**



### CURRENT POSITION AND OUTLOOK

In the first half of 2015:

- Borrowings decreased by US\$61 million, reflecting:
  - We repaid US\$217 million of bank borrowings.
  - We put in place US\$134 million of new bank borrowing facilities secured by our unmortgaged dry bulk vessels, of which US\$61 million has been drawn down. Such new bank borrowings included the refinancing of US\$89 million of bank loans due in the same period.
  - We issued US\$125 million, 3.25% p.a. coupon, guaranteed convertible bonds maturing in July 2021.
  - We bought back and cancelled the 2016 convertible bonds with a face value of US\$27.8 million in aggregate for the purpose of saving related coupon payments in the period before maturity.
- Towage sale proceeds of US\$73 million were received.
- Proceeds of US\$30 million from the sale of the penultimate RoRo vessel were received.

As at 30 June 2015:

- The Group had cash and deposits of US\$392 million resulting in a 34% net gearing ratio.
- The Group had undrawn committed bank borrowing facilities of US\$498 million including the US\$350.2 million of Japanese export credit facilities for our newbuildings.
- We expect to receive sale proceeds in August 2015 amounting to about US\$31 million from the sale of the last RoRo vessel.
- The remaining unmortgaged vessels of the Group are towage assets with a net book value of US\$39.0 million and one dry bulk vessel.
- The cash and deposits, undrawn committed bank borrowing facilities and operating cash flows will enable us to fund the following payment obligations:
  - US\$157 million of our bank borrowings due between the second half of 2015 and 2017.
  - The 2016 convertible bonds principal repayment of US\$182 million due in April 2016.
  - The 2018 convertible bonds principal repayment of US\$124 million in October 2016 if all bondholders exercise their rights to redeem the bonds at 100% of the principal amount.
  - Our newbuilding commitments of US\$352.7 million payable in the second half of 2015 through to the end of 2017 (drawing on our Japanese export credit facilities of US\$350.2 million).

## CASH AND DEPOSITS

The split of current and long-term cash, deposits and borrowings is analysed as follows:

US\$ Million	30 June 2015	31 December 2014	Change
Cash and deposits	379.7	361.7	
Restricted bank deposits			
– non-current	0.1	0.1	
– current	12.4	1.6	
<b>Total cash and deposits</b>	<b>392.2</b>	<b>363.4</b>	<b>+8%</b>
Current portion of long-term borrowings	(258.5)	(179.1)	
Long-term borrowings	(671.5)	(820.6)	
<b>Total borrowings</b>	<b>(930.0)</b>	<b>(999.7)</b>	<b>+7%</b>
Net borrowings	(537.8)	(636.3)	+15%
Net borrowings to net book value of property, plant and equipment <b>KPI</b>	34.1%	40.1%	
Net borrowings to shareholders' equity	54.1%	63.5%	
Net working capital	143.5	294.7	-51%

+/- Note: In our tabulated figures, positive changes represent an improving result; negative changes represent a worsening result

Treasury is permitted to invest in a range of cash and investment products subject to limits specified in the Group Treasury Policy. These include overnight and term deposits, money market funds, liquidity funds, certificates of deposit, structured notes, and currency-linked deposits.

Treasury enhances Group income by investing in a mix of financial products, based on the perceived balance of risk, return and liquidity. Cash, deposits and investment products are placed with a range of leading banks, mainly in Hong Kong.

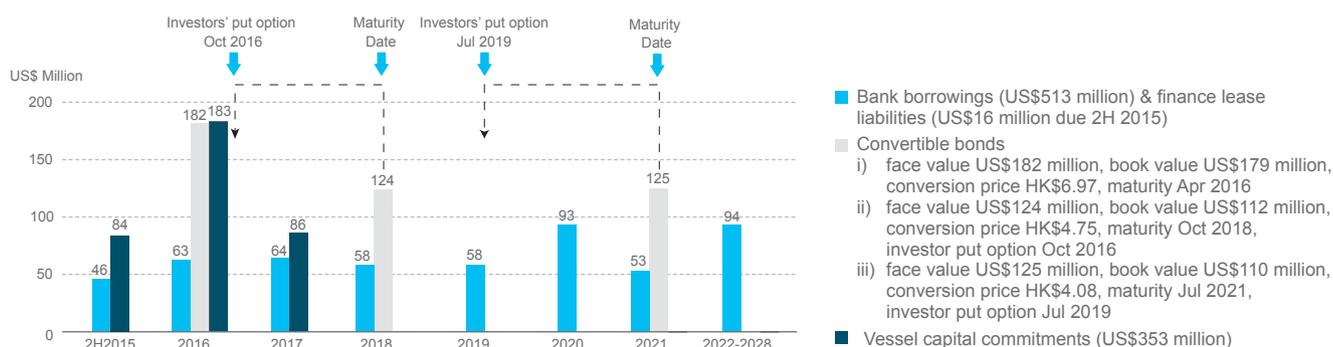
The Group's cash and deposits at 30 June 2015 comprised US\$382.8 million in United States Dollars and US\$9.4 million in other currencies. They are primarily placed in liquid deposits of three months or less and saving accounts to maintain the liquidity to meet the Group's vessel purchase commitments and working capital needs.

Restricted bank deposits primarily relate to additional collateral for certain bank borrowings.

During the period, Treasury achieved a 1.0% return on Group cash. Interest income is benchmarked against a target yield of 0.8% being 50 basis point above 3-month USD LIBOR.

## BORROWINGS

### Schedule of Repayments and Vessel Capital Commitments



The Group's Treasury function arranges financing by leveraging the Group's balance sheet to optimise the availability of cash resources of the Group. Borrowings comprise:

- bank borrowings;
- the debt element of convertible bonds; and
- finance lease liabilities.

The aggregate borrowings of the Group amounted to US\$930.0 million (31 December 2014: US\$999.7 million) and are denominated in United States Dollars.

## BANK BORROWINGS

Bank borrowings (net of deferred loan arrangement fees) at 30 June 2015 were US\$513.1 million (31 December 2014: US\$668.0 million) and are in the functional currency of the business segment to which they relate. The overall reduction in bank borrowings is mainly due to loan amortisation.

During the period, we put in place total new bank borrowing facilities of US\$134.4 million – secured on 22 vessels – which included the refinancing of US\$89 million of loans that become due in the first half of 2015. These new bank borrowings have consistent terms with our existing facilities, including the requirement to satisfy the loans-to-asset value requirements and for the Company to remain listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. In 2014, the Group secured additional Japanese export credit facilities totalling US\$350.2 million for 18 newbuildings. The loans under these facilities will be drawn after the delivery of the vessels, starting with US\$94.3 million which is expected to be drawn in the second half of 2015.

The Group monitors the loans-to-asset value requirements on its bank borrowings. If the market values of the Group's mortgaged assets fall below the level prescribed by our lenders, the Group pledges additional cash or offers additional unmortgaged vessels as collateral.

As at 30 June 2015:

- The Group's bank borrowings were secured by mortgages over 80 (31 December 2014: 69) vessels with a total net book value of US\$1,410.4 million (31 December 2014: US\$1,246.1 million) and an assignment of earnings and insurances in respect of these vessels.
- The remaining unmortgaged vessels of the Group are towage assets with a net book value of US\$39.0 million and one dry bulk vessel.
- The Group was in compliance with all its loans-to-asset value requirements.
- The Group had undrawn committed bank borrowing facilities of US\$497.7 million (31 December 2014: US\$350.2 million).

## FINANCE LEASE LIABILITIES

Finance lease liabilities at 30 June 2015 were US\$15.8 million (31 December 2014: US\$18.3 million) relating to three Handysize vessels with a total net book value of US\$15.9 million (31 December 2014: US\$19.1 million) whose bareboat charters expire in December 2015. The liability amount decreased following scheduled repayments during the period. The fixed, equal, quarterly charter-hire payments are accounted for as a combination of repayments of finance lease liabilities on the balance sheet and finance charges in the income statement. Finance charges can be expressed as interest rates, fixed for the period of the leases.

Upon the expiry of the bareboat charters, the vessels will be returned to the lessors. The vessels will be treated as disposed by the Group at their net book values and the related finance lease liabilities of the same amounts will be extinguished simultaneously.

## CONVERTIBLE BONDS

In June 2015, the Group issued US\$125 million, 3.25% p.a. coupon, guaranteed convertible bonds maturing in July 2021. The new bonds are convertible into ordinary shares of the Company at a current conversion price of HK\$4.08. The issue of the new convertible bonds enabled the Group to pro-actively manage its upcoming liabilities, including the potential exercise by bondholders of the 2018 convertible bonds in October 2016 of their rights to redeem the bonds at 100% of the principal amount.

At 30 June 2015, the debt components of the 1.75% p.a. coupon April 2016 convertible bonds, 1.875% p.a. coupon October 2018 convertible bonds and the 2021 convertible bonds are US\$178.5 million, US\$112.2 million and US\$110.4 million respectively (31 December 2014: US\$202.8 million, US\$110.6 million and nil). The decrease in the debt component of the 2016 convertible bonds is mainly due to the buyback and cancellation with an aggregate face value of US\$27.8 million for the purpose of saving related coupon payments in the period before maturity. At 30 June 2015, the remaining outstanding principal amount of the 2016 convertible bonds was US\$181.8 million.

P/L impact:

The decrease in interest (after capitalisation) to US\$11.2 million (2014: US\$13.8 million) was mainly due to a decrease in average bank borrowings to US\$574.2 million (2014: US\$679.5 million). Certain bank borrowings are subject to floating interest rates but the Group manages these exposures by using interest rate swap contracts.

P/L impact:

Finance charges of US\$0.6 million (2014: US\$0.7 million) represent interest payments on Handysize vessels under finance leases.

P/L impact:

The US\$7.7 million (2014: US\$7.6 million) interest expense of the convertible bonds is calculated at an effective interest rate of 4.9% (2014: 4.9%).

## FINANCE COSTS

### FINANCE COSTS BY NATURE

US\$ Million	Average interest rate		Balance at 30 June 2015	Finance costs		(Increase)/ decrease in finance costs
	P/L	Cash		1H 2015	1H 2014	
Bank borrowings (including realised interest rate swap costs)	3.7%	3.7%	513.1	11.2	13.8	18%
Finance lease liabilities	6.6%	6.6%	15.8	0.6	0.7	22%
Convertible bonds	4.9%	1.9%	401.1	7.7	7.6	(1%)
	4.3%	3.1%	930.0	19.5	22.1	12%
Unrealised interest rate swap income				(0.7)	(0.8)	
Other finance charges				0.7	0.4	
Total finance costs				19.5	21.7	10%
Interest coverage				2.1x	1.8x	

The KPIs on which management focuses to assess the cost of borrowings are average interest rates for the sources of borrowings and the Group's interest coverage (see table above).

For 2014 onwards, all financing and associated costs for existing vessel commitments and future vessel acquisitions, net of interest income, have been allocated to the business segments. Consequently, the Treasury segment has nil net finance cost.

The Group aims to achieve a balance between floating and fixed interest rates on its long-term borrowings. This is adjusted from time to time, depending on the interest rate cycle, using interest rate swap contracts where appropriate. During the period, US\$3.6 million of interest rate swap contract costs were realised and US\$0.7 million of unrealised gains arose resulting in a net US\$2.9 million swap contract charge. As at 30 June 2015, 7% (31 December 2014: 12%) of the Group's long-term borrowings were subject to floating interest rates. As at 31 December 2015 and 2016, we expect about 20% and 30% of the Group's existing and committed long-term borrowings will be subject to floating interest rates.

## DELIVERED VESSELS

As at 30 June 2015, the Group had delivered vessels with a net book value of US\$1,513 million as follows:

		Number	Average size (dwt tonnes)	Average age (years)	Average net book value (US\$ Million)	Total net book value (US\$ Million)
Dry Bulk	Handysize	67	31,500	9.5	15.7	1,053
Dry Bulk	Handymax	16	55,500	6.4	23.3	373
Dry Bulk	Post-Panamax	1	115,500	4.0	48.3	48
Towage	Tugs & Barges	19	N/A	6.8	2.0	39

Precise vessel market values are difficult to determine when buying interest is limited in uncertain shipping markets. Latest estimated fair market values published by Clarksons Platou are US\$13.0 million and US\$15.0 million for 5-year old 32,000 dwt Handysize and 56,000 dwt Handymax vessels respectively.

Tugs and barges are denominated in their functional currency of the Australian Dollar, and hence their US Dollar carrying values and commitments are subject to exchange rate fluctuations.

## VESSEL COMMITMENTS

As at 30 June 2015, the Group had vessel commitments of US\$352.7 million. These vessels are scheduled to deliver to the Group between July 2015 and April 2017.

These commitments, along with future potential vessel acquisitions, will be financed by a combination of cash generated by the Group's operations, existing cash and committed long-term borrowings.

US\$ Million	Number of vessels	2H15	2016	2017	Total
<b>Contracted and authorised commitments</b>					
Handysize vessels	12	80.6	123.0	34.7	238.3
Handymax vessels	5	2.9	59.9	51.6	114.4
	17	83.5	182.9	86.3	352.7
<b>Funding</b>					
Planned drawdown of committed Japanese export credit facilities		(94.3)	(153.6)	(102.3)	(350.2)

## VESSEL PURCHASE OPTIONS

Certain lease agreements provide the Group with options to purchase the related vessels at predetermined times and prices during the lease periods. The average price of the Group's existing purchase options in the earliest years in which these options may be exercised, along with the number of vessels and the average age of such vessels in those years, are as follows:

Earliest year in which options may be exercised	Vessel type	Number of vessels at 30 June 2015	Average age of vessels (years)	Average purchase option exercise price <sup>1</sup> (US\$ Million)
2015	Handysize	1	7	13.3
2016	Handysize	2	5	24.9
	Handymax	1	5	30.0
	Post-Panamax	1	5	43.1
2017	Handysize	2	9	17.0
2020	Handysize	4	5	22.8
2021	Handysize	1	7	24.0
	Handymax	1	5	28.4
2022	Handysize	1	5	23.0
	Handymax	1	7	27.0
2025	Handysize	1	7	27.0
Total		16		

Note 1: Includes certain purchase options priced in Japanese Yen.

## VESSEL OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

Vessel operating lease commitments stood at US\$763.4 million (31 December 2014: US\$877.8 million), comprising US\$512.0 million for Handysize, US\$212.1 million for Handymax, US\$39.1 million for Post-Panamax and US\$0.2 million for tugs.

Our Handysize operating lease committed days decreased 14.0% to 48,640 days (31 December 2014: 56,560 days) while our Handymax operating lease committed days decreased 10.8% to 17,310 days (31 December 2014: 19,410 days).

The Group wrote back US\$6.1 million and US\$4.9 million for Handysize and Handymax onerous contract provisions in the first six months of 2015 following the utilisation of this element of the charters. At 30 June 2015, there remains a provision of US\$50.0 million for Handysize and US\$39.9 million for Handymax time charter contracts substantially expiring in a five-year period and whose charter rates are higher than the expected earnings for the remaining charter periods. The provisions will be released back to the income statement in the periods in which the charter payments for these vessels are due, as follows:

Year	Onerous Contract Provision		US\$ Million
	Handysize	Handymax	Total
2H15	6.2	4.1	10.3
2016	13.0	11.5	24.5
2017	10.6	9.4	20.0
2018	10.6	8.3	18.9
2019	9.6	6.6	16.2
Total	50.0	39.9	89.9

## COMMITMENTS EXCLUDING INDEX-LINKED VESSELS

The following table shows the average contracted daily charter rates and the annual total number of vessel days of our chartered-in Handysize and Handymax vessels during their remaining operating lease terms by year, assuming the purchase options will not be exercised until the expiry of the charter-hire agreements.

Year	Handysize			Handymax		
	Vessel days	Average daily rate		Vessel days	Average daily rate	
		Before provision write-back (US\$)	After provision write-back (US\$)		Before provision write-back (US\$)	After provision write-back (US\$)
2H15	6,620	9,480	8,540	3,660	9,790	8,670
2016	9,010	10,200	8,760	3,340	12,530	9,070
2017	8,290	10,370	9,100	2,920	12,970	9,760
2018	6,940	10,930	9,400	2,770	13,140	10,130
2019	6,520	11,000	9,530	2,190	13,180	10,170
2020+	11,260	10,990		2,430	12,890	
<b>Total</b>	<b>48,640</b>			<b>17,310</b>		
Aggregate operating lease commitments		US\$512.0m			US\$212.1m	

## COMMITMENTS INCLUDING INDEX-LINKED VESSELS

Our fixed, after provision, rate and variable rate index-linked lease commitments showing first six months completed and 2015 and 2016 outstanding lease periods can be analysed as follows:

	1H2015		2H2015		2016	
	Vessel Days	Average daily rate (US\$)	Vessel Days	Average daily rate (US\$)	Vessel Days	Average daily rate (US\$)
<b>Handysize</b>						
Long-term (> 1 year)	5,420	8,860	5,560	8,730	8,830	8,280
Short-term	4,930	7,110	1,060	7,520	180	8,800
Index-linked	4,470	5,870	2,320	<b>Market rate</b>	2,180	<b>Market rate</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,820</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>8,940</b>		<b>11,190</b>	
<b>Handymax</b>						
Long-term (> 1 year)	1,820	10,210	2,030	10,280	3,300	9,090
Short-term	5,000	7,870	1,630	6,660	40	6,930
Index-linked	750	6,940	270	<b>Market rate</b>	–	<b>Market rate</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,570</b>	<b>8,340</b>	<b>3,930</b>		<b>3,340</b>	

Index-linked vessel operating lease commitments refer to leases with market-linked variable charter rates. The variable charter rates are linked to the Baltic Handysize Index or Baltic Supramax Index (as applicable) and adjusted – usually upwards – to reflect differences in the vessels' characteristics compared to Baltic indices reference vessels. Vessels we chartered are typically larger and more fuel efficient than index reference vessels.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## GROUP PERFORMANCE REVIEW

### Six months ended 30 June

US\$ Million	2015	2014	Change
Revenue	<b>634.6</b>	910.0	-30%
Cost of services	<b>(623.6)</b>	(908.2)	+31%
Gross profit	<b>11.0</b>	1.8	>100%
Pacific Basin Dry Bulk	<b>(15.4)</b>	(11.4)	-35%
PB Towage	<b>1.4</b>	(9.2)	+115%
Others	<b>(0.6)</b>	(0.9)	+33%
Underlying loss	<b>(14.6)</b>	(21.5)	+32%
Unrealised derivative income/(expenses)	<b>16.7</b>	(0.3)	>100%
Sale of interest in bunker barge joint venture	<b>3.7</b>	-	+100%
Towage impairments and provisions	<b>-</b>	(63.9)	+100%
RoRo exchange loss	<b>-</b>	(5.0)	+100%
Profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders	<b>5.8</b>	(90.7)	+106%
EBITDA	<b>41.5</b>	46.9	-12%
Net profit margin	<b>1%</b>	-10%	+11%
Return on average equity employed	<b>1%</b>	-14%	+15%

+/- Note: *In our tabulated figures, positive changes represent an improving result; negative changes represent a worsening result*

Management analyses the Group's performance in two reporting segments, Pacific Basin Dry Bulk and the remaining elements of PB Towage.

The main drivers of our results in the first six months of 2015 were as follows:

- Revenue and cost of services decreased by 30% and 31% respectively mainly due to
  - one of the weakest ever half year periods for the dry bulk freight market;
  - a decrease in our dry bulk revenue days, particularly Handymax;
  - redelivery of expensive chartered-in vessels and the use of lower cost short-term chartered-in vessels; and
  - the loss of revenue and costs from the disposal of our Australian towage operation last year.
- Profit attributable to shareholders was impacted by:
  - an unrealised derivative income of US\$16.7 million mainly from an increase in average oil price when compared to the end of 2014 which affected our bunker fuel swap contracts; and
  - a gain of US\$3.7 million from the disposal of our interest in the bunker tanker joint venture in New Zealand.

EBITDA was US\$41.5 million (2014: US\$46.9 million) contributing to a positive operating cash flow and cash and deposits at the period end of US\$392.2 million (31 December 2014: US\$363.4 million).

## UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED INCOME STATEMENT

	Note	Six months ended 30 June	
		2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
<b>Continuing operations</b>			
Revenue		634,556	909,970
Cost of services		(623,616)	(908,132)
Gross profit		10,940	1,838
General and administrative expenses		(3,320)	(4,927)
Vessel impairment and provision		–	(53,784)
Other income and gains		16,153	3,880
Other expenses		(1,196)	(7,848)
Finance income		2,960	6,081
Finance cost		(19,461)	(21,684)
Share of profits less losses/impairment of joint ventures		178	(8,032)
Profit/(loss) before taxation	4	6,254	(84,476)
Taxation	5	(499)	(703)
Profit/(loss) for the period		5,755	(85,179)
<b>Discontinued operations</b>			
Loss for the period		–	(5,484)
Profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders		5,755	(90,663)
Dividends	6	–	–
Basic and diluted earnings per share for profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders (in US cents)	7		
From continuing operations		0.30	(4.47)
From discontinued operations		–	(0.29)
From profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders		0.30	(4.76)

Please see Note 3(a) for detailed income statement segment information.

## UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	Six months ended 30 June	
	2015 US\$'000	2014 US\$'000
Profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders	5,755	(90,663)
<b>Other comprehensive income – items that may be reclassified to income statement:</b>		
Cash flow hedges		
– fair value losses	(15,559)	(1,471)
– transferred to finance cost in income statement	3,333	4,303
Currency translation differences	(1,864)	9,584
Fair value losses on available-for-sale financial assets	(1,102)	(718)
Release of exchange (gains)/losses from reserves to income statement for foreign operations upon:		
– disposal of a joint venture	(355)	–
– disposal of property, plant and equipment	–	5,022
Total comprehensive income attributable to shareholders	(9,792)	(73,943)

# UNAUDITED CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	Note	30 June 2015 US\$'000	31 December 2014 US\$'000
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment		1,578,046	1,584,924
Investment properties		2,542	2,605
Land use rights		2,829	2,894
Goodwill		25,256	25,256
Interests in a joint venture		–	682
Available-for-sale financial assets		2,687	4,126
Derivative assets		232	46
Trade and other receivables	8	8,993	8,936
Restricted bank deposits		59	89
		1,620,644	1,629,558
Current assets			
Inventories		68,265	79,524
Derivative assets		5,797	3,670
Assets held for sale		–	5,749
Trade and other receivables	8	107,278	225,679
Restricted bank deposits		12,436	1,605
Cash and deposits		379,717	361,731
		573,493	677,958
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>2,194,137</b>	<b>2,307,516</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Capital and reserves attributable to shareholders			
Share capital		194,599	191,781
Retained profits		227,756	231,086
Other reserves		572,574	578,879
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>994,929</b>	<b>1,001,746</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Non-current liabilities			
Derivative liabilities		31,272	22,326
Long-term borrowings		671,433	820,645
Provision for onerous contracts		66,466	79,582
		769,171	922,553
Current liabilities			
Derivative liabilities		12,256	23,524
Trade and other payables	9	133,945	157,698
Current portion of long-term borrowings		258,549	179,099
Taxation payable		1,860	1,572
Provision for onerous contracts		23,427	21,324
		430,037	383,217
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>1,199,208</b>	<b>1,305,770</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>143,456</b>	<b>294,741</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>1,764,100</b>	<b>1,924,299</b>

See Note 3(b) for detailed balance sheet segment information.

Notes:

## **1. GENERAL INFORMATION AND BASIS OF PREPARATION**

The Company was incorporated in Bermuda on 10 March 2004 as an exempted company with limited liability under the Companies Act 1981 of Bermuda.

The Company is listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Stock Exchange").

These unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Hong Kong Accounting Standard ("HKAS") 34 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. These unaudited condensed consolidated interim financial statements should be read in conjunction with the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014, which have been prepared in accordance with the Hong Kong Financial Reporting Standards ("HKFRS").

## **2. ADOPTION OF NEW/REVISED HKAS**

The accounting policies adopted are consistent with those of the annual financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2014.

Certain new standards, amendments and improvements to standards are mandatory for the accounting period beginning 1 January 2015. However, the adoption of these new standards, amendments and improvements to standards does not result in any substantial change to the Group's accounting policies.

## **3. SEGMENT INFORMATION**

The Group manages its businesses by division. Reports are presented to the heads of divisions as well as the Board for the purpose of making strategic decisions, allocation of resources and assessing performance. The reportable operating segments in this note are consistent with how information is presented to the heads of divisions and the Board.

The Group's revenue is primarily derived from the provision of dry bulk shipping services internationally, and towage services to the offshore sectors in Australia and Middle East.

"Treasury" manages the Group's cash and borrowings.

Geographical segment information is not presented as the Directors consider that the nature of the provision of shipping services, which are carried out internationally, precludes a meaningful allocation of operating profit to specific geographical segments.

### 3. SEGMENT INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

#### (a) Income statement segment information

For the period ended 30 June 2015 US\$'000	Pacific Basin Dry Bulk	PB Towage	All Other Segments	Total Segments	Unallocated		Total	Reclass- ification	Per Financial Statements
					Treasury	Others			
<b>Continuing operations</b>									
Revenue	623,272	11,513	261	635,046	–	234	635,280	(724)	634,556
Freight and charter-hire	623,272 <sup>1</sup>	9,605	–	632,877	–	234 <sup>1</sup>	633,111	304 <sup>1</sup>	633,415
Maritime management services	–	1,908	261	2,169	–	–	2,169	(1,028) <sup>2</sup>	1,141
Bunker & port disbursements	(309,997) <sup>3</sup>	(448)	–	(310,445)	–	15,740 <sup>3</sup>	(294,705)	294,705 <sup>3</sup>	–
Time charter equivalent earnings	313,275	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Cost of services	(307,962)	(9,936)	–	(317,898)	–	–	(317,898)	(305,718)	(623,616)
Bunker & port disbursements	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	(294,705) <sup>3</sup>	(294,705)
Charter-hire expenses for vessels	(174,116)	(1,637)	–	(175,753)	–	–	(175,753)	(11,013) <sup>4</sup>	(186,766)
Vessel operating costs	(61,859)	(4,452)	–	(66,311)	–	–	(66,311)	–	(66,311)
Depreciation of vessels	(47,385)	(1,308)	–	(48,693)	–	–	(48,693)	–	(48,693)
Direct overheads	(24,602)	(2,539)	–	(27,141)	–	–	(27,141)	–	(27,141)
Gross profit	5,313	1,129	261	6,703	–	15,974	22,677	(11,737)	10,940
General and administrative expenses	–	–	–	–	–	(3,320) <sup>5</sup>	(3,320)	–	(3,320)
Other income and expenses	(146)	27	(338)	(457)	–	3,677 <sup>6</sup>	3,220	11,737 <sup>1,2,4</sup>	14,957
Finance costs, net	(17,207)	22	–	(17,185)	–	684 <sup>7</sup>	(16,501)	–	(16,501)
Share of profits less losses of a joint venture	–	178	–	178	–	–	178	–	178
Profit/(loss) before taxation	(12,040)	1,356	(77)	(10,761)	–	17,015	6,254	–	6,254
Taxation	–	–	(499)	(499)	–	–	(499)	–	(499)
Profit/(loss) for the period	(12,040)	1,356	(576)	(11,260)	–	17,015	5,755	–	5,755
<b>Discontinued operations</b>									
Loss for the period	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders	(12,040)	1,356	(576)	(11,260)	–	17,015	5,755	–	5,755

- (1) Net unrealised forward freight agreement benefits and expenses are under “Unallocated Others”. Net realised benefits and expenses are under “Pacific Basin Dry Bulk”. For the presentation of the financial statements, both realised and unrealised benefits and expenses are reclassified to other income and other expenses. The related derivative assets and liabilities are under “Unallocated Others”.
- (2) Adjustment to the result on the sale of interest in OMSA joint venture is allocated under “PB Towage”. For the presentation of the financial statements, the above is reclassified to other income.
- (3) Net unrealised bunker swap contract benefits and expenses are under “Unallocated Others”. Net realised benefits and expenses are under “Pacific Basin Dry Bulk”. For the presentation of the financial statements, bunkers & port disbursements are reclassified to cost of services. The related derivative assets and liabilities are under “Unallocated Others”.
- (4) Provision for onerous contracts utilised during the period 30 June 2015 is allocated under “Pacific Basin Dry Bulk”. For the presentation of the financial statements, the above is reclassified to other income.
- (5) “Unallocated Others” represents mainly corporate overheads.
- (6) “Unallocated Others” mainly represents gain on disposal of our interest in the bunker barge joint venture.
- (7) “Unallocated Others” represents net unrealised interest rate swap contract benefits of US\$0.7 million (2014: US\$0.8 million).
- (8) “Unallocated Others” in 2014 represents the non-cash impairment charges for i) PB Towage vessels of US\$51.6 million, ii) PB Towage interest in its joint ventures of US\$10.1 million and iii) other provisions of US\$2.2 million. This impairment was not allocated to the PB Towage segment results as this did not relate to the underlying operations of the segment. For the presentation of the financial statements, the impairment of PB Towage interest in joint ventures was reclassified to share of profits less losses/impairment of joint ventures. The related vessels and interest in joint ventures were under “PB Towage”.
- (9) “Others” in 2014 represents the release from foreign exchange reserve amounting to US\$5.0 million in relation to one RoRo vessel whose bareboat charter to the purchaser commenced during the period end 30 June 2014.

### 3. SEGMENT INFORMATION (CONTINUED)

#### (a) Income statement segment information (continued)

For the period ended 30 June 2014 US\$'000	Pacific Basin Dry Bulk	PB Towage	All Other Segments	Total Segments	Unallocated			Total	Reclass- ification	Per Financial Statements
					Treasury	PB RoRo	Others			
<b>Continuing operations</b>										
Revenue	865,513	43,947	183	909,643	–	–	(1,700)	907,943	2,027	909,970
Freight and charter-hire	865,513 <sup>1</sup>	42,508	–	908,021	–	–	(1,700) <sup>1</sup>	906,321	2,027 <sup>1</sup>	908,348
Maritime management services	–	1,439	183	1,622	–	–	–	1,622	–	1,622
Bunker & port disbursements	(453,252) <sup>3</sup>	(3,800)	–	(457,052)	–	–	601 <sup>3</sup>	(456,451)	456,451 <sup>3</sup>	–
Time charter equivalent earnings	412,261	–	–	412,261	–	–	–	412,261	–	412,261
Cost of services	(402,720)	(48,961)	–	(451,681)	–	–	–	(451,681)	(456,451)	(908,132)
Bunker & port disbursements	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	(456,451) <sup>3</sup>	(456,451)
Charter-hire expenses for vessels	(273,028)	(6,395)	–	(279,423)	–	–	–	(279,423)	–	(279,423)
Vessel operating costs	(61,083)	(27,816)	–	(88,899)	–	–	–	(88,899)	–	(88,899)
Depreciation of vessels	(43,890)	(5,710)	–	(49,600)	–	–	–	(49,600)	–	(49,600)
Direct overheads	(24,719)	(9,040)	–	(33,759)	–	–	–	(33,759)	–	(33,759)
Gross profit	9,541	(8,814)	183	910	–	–	(1,099)	(189)	2,027	1,838
General and administrative expenses	–	–	–	–	–	–	(4,927) <sup>5</sup>	(4,927)	–	(4,927)
Vessel impairment and provision	–	–	–	–	–	–	(63,859) <sup>8</sup>	(63,859)	10,075 <sup>8</sup>	(53,784)
Other income and expenses	–	(1,941)	–	(1,941)	–	–	–	(1,941)	(2,027) <sup>1</sup>	(3,968)
Finance costs, net	(16,082)	(273)	–	(16,355)	–	–	752 <sup>7</sup>	(15,603)	–	(15,603)
Share of profits less losses/ impairment of joint ventures	–	2,043	–	2,043	–	–	–	2,043	(10,075) <sup>8</sup>	(8,032)
(Loss)/profit before taxation	(6,541)	(8,985)	183	(15,343)	–	–	(69,133)	(84,476)	–	(84,476)
Taxation	–	(153)	(550)	(703)	–	–	–	(703)	–	(703)
Loss for the period	(6,541)	(9,138)	(367)	(16,046)	–	–	(69,133)	(85,179)	–	(85,179)
<b>Discontinued operations</b>										
Loss for the period	–	–	–	–	–	(462)	(5,022) <sup>9</sup>	(5,484)	–	(5,484)
Loss attributable to shareholders	(6,541)	(9,138)	(367)	(16,046)	–	(462)	(74,155)	(90,663)	–	(90,663)



## 4. (PROFIT)/LOSS BEFORE TAXATION

(Profit)/loss before taxation is stated after charging/(crediting) the following:

US\$'000	Six months ended 30 June	
	2015	2014
Bunkers consumed	149,936	280,756
Depreciation		
– owned vessels	45,427	46,285
– finance leased vessels	3,266	3,315
– other owned property, plant and equipment	864	904
– investment properties	34	34
Amortisation of land use rights	37	37
Utilisation of provision of onerous contracts	(11,013)	(656)
Gain on disposal of a joint venture	(3,677)	–
Lubricating oil consumed	3,351	4,001
Interest on borrowings		
– bank loans	8,182	9,628
– convertible bonds	7,662	7,578
– finance leases	580	739
Provision for/(write-back of) impairment losses		
– trade receivables	894	(306)
– available-for-sale financial assets	337	–
– vessels	–	51,581
Net gains on bunker swap contracts	(5,858)	(515)
Net losses on interest rate swap contracts	2,893	3,496
Net losses on forward freight agreements	304	2,027

## 5. TAXATION

Shipping income from dry bulk international trade is either not subject to or exempt from taxation according to the tax regulations prevailing in the countries in which the Group operates. Shipping income from towage and RoRo and non-shipping income are subject to tax at prevailing rates in the countries in which these businesses operate.

The amount of taxation charged/(credited) to the consolidated income statement represents:

US\$'000	Six months ended 30 June	
	2015	2014
Current taxation		
– Hong Kong profits tax, provided at the rate of 16.5% (2014:16.5%)	263	288
– Overseas tax, provided at the rates of taxation prevailing in the countries	236	456
Adjustments in respect of prior year	–	(41)
Tax charges	499	703

## 6. DIVIDENDS

No interim dividends in respect of the periods ended 30 June 2015 and 2014 were declared. The 2014 final dividend of HK 5 cents or US 0.6 cents per share, totalling US\$12,368,000 was paid during the period.

## 7. EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share are calculated by dividing the Group's profit attributable to shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period, excluding the shares held by the trustee of the Company's 2013 Share Award Scheme "SAS" and previous Long Term Incentive Scheme "LTIS" and unvested restricted shares.

Diluted earnings per share are calculated by dividing the Group's profit attributable to shareholders by the weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue during the period, excluding the shares held by the trustee of the Company's SAS and LTIS but after adjusting for the number of potential dilutive ordinary shares from convertible bonds, share options and unvested restricted shares where dilutive.

		Six months ended 30 June		
		Basic EPS 2015	Diluted EPS 2015	Basic & Diluted EPS 2014
Profit/(loss) from continuing operations	(US\$'000)	5,755	5,755	(85,179)
Loss from discontinued operations	(US\$'000)	–	–	(5,484)
Profit/(loss) attributable to shareholders	(US\$'000)	5,755	5,755	(90,663)
Weighted average number of ordinary shares in issue	('000)	1,909,570	1,946,175	1,903,878
Earnings per share				
– continuing operations	(US cents)	0.30	0.30	(4.47)
– discontinued operations	(US cents)	–	–	(0.29)
	(US cents)	0.30	0.30	(4.76)
Equivalent to				
– continuing operations	(HK cents)	2.34	2.29	(34.70)
– discontinued operations	(HK cents)	–	–	(2.23)
	(HK cents)	2.34	2.29	(36.93)

Diluted earnings per share for the period ended 30 June 2014 is the same as basic earnings per share because the potential ordinary shares from convertible bonds, share options and unvested restricted shares have no dilution effect.

## 8. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

### (a) Trade Receivables

Included in trade and other receivables are net trade receivables and their ageing based on invoice date is as follows:

US\$'000	30 June 2015	31 December 2014
≤ 30 days	16,209	30,446
31-60 days	6,667	5,543
61-90 days	5,172	3,192
> 90 days	2,773	4,279
	<b>30,821</b>	43,460

Trade receivables consist principally of voyage-related trade receivables. It is industry practice that 95% to 100% of freight is paid upon completion of loading, with any balance paid after completion of discharge and the finalisation of port disbursements, demurrage claims or other voyage-related charges. The Group will not normally grant any credit terms to its customers and trade receivables at the balance sheet date are all past due.

### (b) Other receivables from disposal of RoRos

The net sale proceeds of US\$26.9 million (31 December 2014: 58.0 million) for the last one RoRo vessel (31 December 2014: two) is expected to be settled in the second half of 2015. These balances represent the fair value based on their cash flows discounted at a borrowing rate of 6%. The discount rate represents the Euro borrowing rate at inception including the appropriate credit spread.

The receivables are denominated in Euros which are hedged by forward foreign exchange contracts.

## 9. TRADE AND OTHER PAYABLES

Included in trade and other payables are trade payables and their ageing based on due date is as follows:

US\$'000	30 June 2015	31 December 2014
≤ 30 days	44,394	48,247
31-60 days	290	987
61-90 days	1,663	1,279
> 90 days	2,298	3,945
	<b>48,645</b>	54,458

## **PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF SECURITIES**

The Group bought back a total of 2,776 units of the Group's US\$230,000,000 1.75% p.a. coupon guaranteed convertible bonds due 2016 (the "2016 CB") at face value of US\$10,000 each during the period at an average price of US\$9,780.30 per unit. The purchase involved a total cash outlay of US\$27,150,100 excluding accrued interest of US\$161,706 and was made to save related coupon payments on the convertible bonds in the period before maturity. The buyback and the subsequent cancellation of the convertible bonds has resulted in a reduction of long-term liabilities and a loss in the income statement. The remaining outstanding principal amount of the 2016 CB was reduced to US\$181,840,000, representing 79% of the principal amount of the 2016 CB originally issued.

Save as disclosed above and other than for satisfying restricted awards granted under the Company's 2013 Share Award Scheme, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries had purchased, sold or redeemed any of the share capital or convertible bonds of the Company during the period.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT REGARDING DIRECTORS' SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS**

The Board of Directors has adopted the Model Code for Securities Transactions by Directors of Listed Issuers, as set out in Appendix 10 of the Listing Rules (the "Model Code").

The Board confirms that, having made specific enquiry, the Directors have complied in full with the required standards set out in the Model Code and its code of conduct regarding Directors' securities transactions during the six months ended 30 June 2015.

## **COMPLIANCE WITH THE CORPORATE GOVERNANCE CODE**

Throughout the six months ended 30 June 2015, the Group has complied with all code provisions of the Corporate Governance Code as set out in Appendix 14 of the Listing Rules.

## **REVIEW OF AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee of the Company has reviewed this interim results announcement and the 2015 Interim Report of the Company for the six months ended 30 June 2015.

## **INTERIM DIVIDEND AND BOOK CLOSURE**

As the Board has not declared an interim dividend, the register of members will not be closed for this purpose.

## **INTERIM REPORT AND DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION ON STOCK EXCHANGE'S WEBSITE**

The announcement of interim results containing all the information required by paragraphs 46(1) to 46(9) of Appendix 16 of the Listing Rules has been published on the Stock Exchange's website at [www.hkexnews.hk](http://www.hkexnews.hk) and on the Company's website at [www.pacificbasin.com](http://www.pacificbasin.com).

The Company's 2015 Interim Report is printed in English and Chinese languages, and will be available on our website on or around 19 August 2015 when it is sent to those shareholders who have elected to receive a printed copy.

## **DIRECTORS**

As at the date of this report, the executive Directors of the Company are David Muir Turnbull, Mats Henrik Berglund, Andrew Thomas Broomhead and Chanakya Kocherla, and the Independent Non-executive Directors of the Company are Patrick Blackwell Paul, Robert Charles Nicholson, Alasdair George Morrison, Daniel Rochfort Bradshaw and Irene Waage Basili.

*Note: The English text of this announcement shall prevail over the Chinese text in case of any inconsistency.*

*Shareholders and investors are reminded that this announcement of interim results for the six months ended 30 June 2015 is based on the Group's internal records and management accounts. Shareholders and investors are cautioned not to rely unduly on this announcement of interim results and are advised to exercise caution when dealing in the shares of the Company.*