

Appendix 18

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT RELATING TO INDEPENDENCE

To: The Listing Division
The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

...../...../.....

We,, (the "Firm") are a / the *[cross out whichever is not applicable]* sponsor appointed by (the "Company") for the purpose referred to in rule 3A.02 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Listing Rules") and have offices located at

Pursuant to rule 3A.08 we declare to The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited that as regards the Firm's relationship with the Company *[clearly strike out whichever of the following does not apply]*:

- (a) pursuant to rule 3A.07, the Firm is and expects to be independent; *[or]*
- (b) pursuant to rule 3A.07, the Firm is not or does not expect to be independent because:
[describe in some detail the circumstances that give rise to the lack of independence]

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APPENDIX 18

Signature:

Name:

For and on behalf of: *[insert the name of sponsor]*

Dated:

- Notes:**
1. Sponsors are reminded that rule 3A.09 requires, amongst other things, that where a sponsor becomes aware of a change to the information set out in this statement, it must notify the Exchange as soon as possible upon that change occurring.
 2. Each and every director of the sponsor firm, and any officer or representative of the sponsor firm supplying information sought in this form, should note that this form constitutes a record or document which is to be provided to the Exchange in connection with the performance of its functions under "relevant provisions" (as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the *Securities and Futures Ordinance*, Cap 571) and is likely to be relied upon by the Exchange. In relation to this, you should be aware that giving to the Exchange any record or document, which is false or misleading in a material particular, will render relevant persons liable for prosecution for an offence under subsection 384(3) of the *Securities and Futures Ordinance*. If you have any queries you should consult the Exchange or your professional adviser immediately.