

Lenovo Group Limited 聯想集團有限公司

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability) (Stock Code: 992)

2004/05 Third Quarter Results Announcement

This announcement is made pursuant to Rule 13.09 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

QUARTERLY RESULTS

The board of directors (the "Board") of Lenovo Group Limited (the "Company") are pleased to announce that the unaudited results of the Company and its subsidiaries (the "Group") for the nine months ended 31 December 2004 together with comparative figures for the corresponding period of last year, are as follows:

CONSOLIDATED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT

	Notes	3 months ended 31 December 2004 31 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended 1 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	3 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Turnover	3	6,308,795	17,841,503	6,552,281	18,141,421
Earnings before interest, taxation, depreciation and amortisation expenses Depreciation expenses Amortisation of intangible assets Impairment of assets Gains on disposal of investments Finance income		370,392 (43,380) (5,250) (5,189) 23,905	978,506 (145,268) (21,141) (51,364) 159,193 65,551	310,947 (51,704) (10,254) 45,375 34,218	913,117 (149,040) (25,488) 51,377 74,267
Profit from operations Finance costs	4	340,478 (2,283)	985,477 (5,783)	328,582 (391)	864,233 (391)
		338,195	979,694	328,191	863,842
Share of losses of jointly controlled entities Share of profits of		(1,180)	(11,290)	(25,514)	(39,053)
associated companies		3,948	3,702	10,932	16,311
Profit before taxation Taxation	5	340,963 (17,864)	972,106 (42,769)	313,609 421	841,100 1,747
Profit after taxation Minority interests		323,099 4,149	929,337 24,782	314,030 11,121	842,847 21,722
Profit attributable to shareholders		327,248	954,119	325,151	864,569
Dividend	6	N/A	179,378	N/A	149,436
Earnings per share – basic	7	4.37 HK cents	12.76 HK cents	4.35 HK cents	11.57 HK cents
Earnings per share – fully diluted	7	4.36 HK cents	12.74 HK cents	4.31 HK cents	11.50 HK cents

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

	As at 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 31 March 2004 (audited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Non-current assets Intangible assets Tangible fixed assets Construction-in-progress Investments in jointly controlled entities Investments in associated companies Investment securities Deferred tax assets	548,628 890,835 261,589 192,152 52,977 70,454 42,519	646,986 987,272 260,377 124,124 112,682 75,982 34,718
Current assets	2,059,154	2,242,141
Inventories Trade receivables Notes receivable Deposits, prepayments and other receivables Tax recoverable Cash and cash equivalents	782,515 1,746,140 918,891 889,253 	1,393,018 1,230,944 520,321 301,513 4,033 2,650,071
Current liabilities Trade payables	7,916,015 2,931,476	6,099,900 2,155,057
Notes payable Accruals and other payables Amounts due to jointly controlled entities Tax payable	461,684 666,722 107,561 4,914	356,531 616,897 108,471 5,031
Short-term bank loan Current portion of long-term liabilities	225,000 145,763	55,453
Net current assets	4,543,120 3,372,895	3,297,440 2,802,460
Total assets less current liabilities	5,432,049	5,044,601
Financed by:	196.954	107 000
Share capital Reserves	186,854 4,857,308	186,890 4,301,834
Shareholders' funds Minority interests Long-term liabilities	5,044,162 26,650 361,237	4,488,724 29,330 526,547
2	5,432,049	5,044,601

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED CASH FLOW STATEMENT

	9 months ended 31 December 2004 31 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Net cash inflow from operating activities Net cash outflow from investing activities Net cash outflow from financing activities	1,409,304 (299,160) (180,875)	695,805 (157,352) (769,742)
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	929,269	(231,289)
Effect of foreign exchange rate changes Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the period	(124) 2,650,071	276 2,808,323
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	3,579,216	2,577,310

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Share capital (unaudited) HK\$'000	Share premium (unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000	Surplus arising on consolidation (unaudited) HK\$'000	Exchange reserve (unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000	Investment revaluation reserve (unaudited) HK\$'000	Share redemption reserve (unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000	Retained earnings/ (Accumulated losses) (unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000	Total (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Balance as at 1 April 2004 Surplus in fair market value of	186,890	4,762,526	27,871	4,581	(5,976)	2,898	(490,066)	4,488,724
investment securities Exchange differences		-		(236)	3,114	-	-	3,114 (236)
Net gains and losses not recognised in the consolidated profit and								
loss account Profit for the period Reserves written off on disposal of	-	-	-	(236)	3,114	-	- 954,119	2,878 954,119
subsidiaries Reserves realised on disposal of	-	-	-	(2,377)	-	-	-	(2,377)
investment securities Impairment of investments	-	-	-	-	(12,908) 19,601	-	-	(12,908) 19,601
Exercise of share options Repurchase of shares Dividend paid	152 (188)	13,636 (16,093)	-				(403,570)	13,788 (16,093) (403,570)
As at 31 December 2004	186,854	4,760,069	27,871	1,968	3,831	3,086	60,483	5,044,162
Balance as at 1 April 2003 Surplus in fair market value of	186,934	4,734,055	27,871	4,311	(14,496)	2,589	(752,743)	4,188,521
investment securities Exchange differences	-	-	-	276	12,157	-	-	12,157 276
Net gains and losses not recognised in the consolidated profit and								
loss account Profit for the period	-	-	-	276	12,157	-	- 864,569	12,433 864,569
Reserves realised on disposal of investment securities Exercise of share options	- 115	12,081	-	-	(11,623)	-	-	(11,623) 12,196
Repurchase of shares Dividend paid	(234)		-	-	-	234	(20,124) (761,814)	(20,124) (761,814)
As at 31 December 2003	186,815	4,746,136	27,871	4,587	(13,962)	2,823	(670,112)	4,284,158

Notes:

1. Basis of preparation

The Board is responsible for the preparation of the Group's unaudited quarterly financials. These unaudited quarterly financials have been prepared in accordance with Statement of Standard Accounting Practice No. 25 "Interim Financial Reporting" issued by the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants. These condensed accounts should be read in conjunction with the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2004.

2. Principal accounting policies

The principal accounting policies and methods of calculation used in the preparation of these unaudited quarterly financials are consistent with those used in the annual accounts for the year ended 31 March 2004.

3. Turnover, revenue and segment information

3A. Primary reporting format – business segments

(i) For the nine months ended 31 December 2004:

	Corporate IT business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Consumer IT business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Handheld device business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Other business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Total (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Profit and loss account					
Turnover	10,141,922	5,763,339	1,605,649	330,593	17,841,503
Segment operating results	549,831	362,566	(23,803)	(62,461)	826,133
Amortisation of goodwill Impairment of assets Gains on disposal of investments Finance income Finance costs					(14,036) (51,364) 159,193 65,551 (5,783)
Contribution to operating profit Share of losses of jointly controlled entities Share of profits of associated companies					979,694 (11,290) 3,702
Profit before taxation Taxation					972,106 (42,769)
Profit after taxation Minority interests					929,337 24,782
Profit attributable to shareholders					954,119

(ii) For the nine months ended 31 December 2003:

	Corporate IT business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Consumer IT business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Handheld device business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Other business (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	Total (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Profit and loss account					
Turnover	9,555,984	6,068,837	1,432,363	1,084,237	18,141,421
Segment operating results	576,670	332,821	(63,431)	(89,340)	756,720
Amortisation of goodwill Gains on disposal of investments Finance income Finance costs					(18,131) 51,377 74,267 (391)
Contribution to operating profit Share of losses of jointly controlled entities Share of profits of associated companies					863,842 (39,053) 16,311
Profit before taxation Taxation					841,100 1,747
Profit after taxation Minority interests					842,847 21,722
Profit attributable to shareholders					864,569

3B. Secondary reporting format – geographical segments

As over 90% of the Group's business operations are located in the People's Republic of China, no geographical segment analysis is presented.

		3 months ended 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	3 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
(a)	Turnover	6,308,795	17,841,503	6,552,281	18,141,421
	Cost of sales	(5,436,507)	(15,265,377)	(5,630,012)	(15,494,813)
	Gross profit	872,288	2,576,126	922,269	2,646,608
	Finance income	23,905	65,551	34,218	74,267
	Gains on disposal of investments	(5,189)	159,193	45,375	51,377
	Impairment of assets	-	(51,364)	-	_
	Distribution expenses	(386,376)	(1,204,788)	(439,476)	(1,271,638)
	Administrative expenses	(86,703)	(257,319)	(112,157)	(293,349)
	Other operating expenses	(72,197)	(280,781)	(111,393)	(317,544)
	Amortisation of intangible assets	(5,250)	(21,141)	(10,254)	(25,488)
	Total operating expenses (see (b))	(550,526)	(1,764,029)	(673,280)	(1,908,019)
	Profit from operations	340,478	985,477	328,582	864,233
(b)	Analysis of operating expenses by nature:				
	Selling expenses	(150,965)	(436,759)	(130,222)	(422,174)
	Promotional and advertising				
	expenses	(80,228)	(264,369)	(110,518)	(299,863)
	Staff costs	(203,014)	(637,363)	(242,320)	(700,816)
	Other expenses	(111,069)	(404,397)	(179,966)	(459,678)
	Amortisation of intangible assets	(5,250)	(21,141)	(10,254)	(25,488)
	Total operating expenses	(550,526)	(1,764,029)	(673,280)	(1,908,019)

5. Taxation

	3 months ended 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	3 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	9 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited) <i>HK</i> \$'000
Taxation outside Hong Kong	24,999	49,833	5,702	17,256
Deferred taxation	(7,739)	(7,801)	(6,325)	(19,422)
	17,260	42,032	(623)	(2,166)
Share of taxation attributable to:				
jointly controlled entities	134	145	-	84
associated companies	470	592	202	335
	17,864	42,769	(421)	(1,747)

6. Dividend

	9 months ended	9 months ended
	31 December 2004	31 December 2003
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Interim dividend of 2.4 HK cents (2003/04: 2.0 HK cents) per share	179,378	149,436

No dividends have been declared for this quarter (same period last year: nil)

7. Earnings per share

The calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share is based on the following data:

	9 months ended 31 December 2004 (unaudited)	9 months ended 31 December 2003 (unaudited)
Earnings for the purposes of basic and diluted earnings per share (<i>HK\$'000</i>)	954,119	864,569
Weighted average number of shares for the purposes of basic earnings per share	7,475,320,857	7,470,040,523
Effect of potential dilutive shares	12,394,000	45,116,374
Weighted average number of shares for the purposes of diluted earnings per share	7,487,714,857	7,515,156,897

8. Ageing analysis

Ageing analysis of trade receivables as at 31 December 2004 is as follow:

	As at	As at	As at
	31 December 2004	30 September 2004	31 March 2004
	(unaudited)	(unaudited)	(audited)
	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>	<i>HK\$'000</i>
0-30 days	1,442,423	1,411,565	944,212
31-60 days	123,692	176,109	84,481
61-90 days	77,187	12,082	20,862
Over 90 days	102,838	114,883	181,389
	1,746,140	1,714,639	1,230,944

Customers are generally granted credit terms of 30 days. Credit terms for customers of system integration business normally range from 30 days to 180 days.

Ageing analysis of trade payables as at 31 December 2004 is as follow:

	As at 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 30 September 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 31 March 2004 (audited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
0-30 days	2,491,911	1,991,482	1,791,869
31-60 days	290,701	355,502	210,993
61-90 days	36,278	42,177	27,554
Over 90 days	112,586	90,087	124,641
	2,931,476	2,479,248	2,155,057

9. Condensed balance sheet of the Company

	As at 31 December 2004 (unaudited) <i>HK\$'000</i>	As at 31 March 2004 (audited) <i>HK\$'000</i>
Tangible fixed assets Investments	28,602 2,331,942	32,115 2,327,875
Current assets Current liabilities	2,331,942 3,978,468 130,586	4,408,126 130,700
Net current assets	3,847,882	4,277,426
Total assets less current liabilities	6,208,426	6,637,416
Share capital Retained earnings Reserves	186,854 1,261,642 4,759,930	186,890 1,685,102 4,765,424
	6,208,426	6,637,416
FINANCIAL REVIEW		

Results

For the nine months ended 31 December 2004, the Group achieved a turnover of approximately HK\$17,842 million. Profit attributable to shareholders rose to approximately HK\$954 million during the period, representing an increase of 10.36% against HK\$865 million recorded in the same period last year. Basic earnings per share and fully diluted earnings per share were 12.76 HK cents and 12.74 HK cents, representing increases of 10.29% and 10.78% respectively as compared with the same period last year.

Segment Results

During the nine months ended 31 December 2004, turnover of corporate IT business amounted to HK\$10,142 million and segment operating profit reached HK\$550 million. As for consumer IT business, turnover was HK\$5,763 million and segment operating profit reached HK\$363 million. The turnover of handheld device business increased to HK\$1,606 million, segment operating loss was reduced to HK\$24 million. Turnover of other business (IT service and contract manufacturing business) decreased to HK\$331 million, mainly caused by deconsolidation of the contract manufacturing business since 1 June 2004 and

disposal of substantial portion of IT service business by end of September 2004, with segment operating loss reduced to HK\$62 million.

Gains on disposal of investments

The Group recorded net gains of HK\$159 million on disposal of investments during the nine months ended 31 December 2004. The gains were mainly from the disposal of subsidiaries and associated companies in relation to IT services business and printed circuit board business.

Impairment of assets

During the nine months ended 31 December 2004, impairment losses of HK\$20 million and HK\$31 million for investment securities and goodwill arising from business combination were charged to the consolidated profit and loss account respectively.

Capital expenditure

The Group incurred capital expenditures of HK\$150 million during the nine months ended 31 December 2004, mainly for acquisition of fixed assets, injection into construction-in-progress and optimisation of the Group's information technology systems.

Liquidity and financial resources

As at 31 December 2004, total assets of the Group amounted to HK\$9,975 million, which was financed by shareholders' funds of HK\$5,044 million, minority interests of HK\$27 million, long-term and current liabilities of HK\$4,904 million. The current ratio of the Group was 1.74.

The Group had a solid financial position and maintained a strong and steady cash inflow from its operating activities. As at 31 December 2004, cash and cash equivalents of the Group totaled at HK\$3,579 million, of which about 10% were in Hong Kong dollars, 24% in US dollars and 66% in Renminbi.

The Group is consistently in a very liquid position and has also arranged credit facilities for contingency purposes. As at 31 December 2004, the Group's total available credit facilities amounted to HK\$3,679 million, of which HK\$1,769 million was in trade line, HK\$740 million in short term and revolving money market facilities and HK\$1,170 million in foreign currency contracts and options. As at 31 December 2004, the facility drawn down was HK\$497 million in trade line, HK\$225 million in short term and revolving money market facilities, and HK\$608 million in foreign currency contracts and options. The Group consistently adopts a hedging policy for business transactions to minimize the risk of fluctuation from exchange rates on daily operations.

The Group's outstanding bank loan as at 31 December 2004 was HK\$225 million. When compared with shareholders' funds of HK\$5,044 million, the Group's gearing ratio was 0.045. There were no assets held under finance lease during the period and as at the period end.

Contingent liabilities

The Group had no material contingent liabilities as at 31 December 2004.

Employees

As at 31 December 2004, the Group had a total of 9,453 employees, 9,395 of whom were employed in Chinese mainland and 58 were employed in Hong Kong and overseas.

The Group implemented remuneration policy, bonus and share options schemes which are subject to the performance of the Group and individual employees. The Group also provides benefits such as insurance, medical and retirement funds to sustain competitiveness of the Group.

BUSINESS REVIEW

During October to December 2004, the Chinese economy continued to grow rapidly, with GDP growth estimated at 9.5%. Benefited from the seasonal purchases by government and enterprise customers during the quarter, China's commercial PC market unit shipment recorded healthy growth. The notebook shipment also rose significantly since an increasing number of consumers had replaced their desktop computers with notebooks, the government sector increased notebook purchases, and demand for mobile computing by enterprises continued to rise. The sales promotion efforts of various computer vendors during the National Day and New Year holidays also helped stimulate consumer demand.

During the quarter under review, Lenovo PC shipment growth outperformed the market average, with market share increased to more than 28%. Operating profits of the corporate and consumer IT businesses increased 14.38% and 28.91% respectively over the same period last year. The Group's core business performed strongly in terms of market share and operating profit, demonstrating the success of its strategic initiatives made in early 2004. Since then, the Group has directed its focus on core business and concentrated its resources on enhancing the competitiveness of its core business. At the same time, the Group embraced a customer-oriented strategy and adjusted its organizational structure and established an integrated distribution model that helped strengthen ties with customers and enhance penetration in the township market.

The Group also promptly adjusted its product line according to changes in the market environment and customer demand in application. It launched the "Yuanmeng" consumer desktop series and "Xuri" notebook computer for the mass market and the "Tianjiao" broadband collaborating PC for the high-end market. During the quarter, the Group proactively promoted LCD PCs to raise the average selling price. With its product differentiation strategy, the Group's core business achieved outstanding results in the quarter.

The period under review also saw significant improvement in operational efficiency as a result of the Group's initiatives. Through focusing on its core business, the Group was able to achieve a lower rate of overall operating expenses. The Group's cash cycle was also shortened significantly, proving the success of its efforts in strengthening supply chain management.

As for the handheld device business, the Group emphasized the importance of maintaining a healthy operation under the competitive market environment. During the quarter, the gross margin of handheld device business continued to rise. Leveraging on its self development capability, the Group strengthened its product line with the introduction of new models including 1 mega pixel camera phones. These efforts paved the way for better performance in the coming quarter. As the Group strategically adjusted product line and reduced channel inventory level, unit shipment growth of mobile handsets slowed down and a loss was reported during the quarter.

During the quarter, the Group achieved a major breakthrough in implementing its globalization strategy. In December 2004, the Group announced the acquisition of IBM's personal computer business, forming the world's third largest computer company. The acquisition is expected to complete in second quarter this year. The Group is currently actively preparing for the closing. Since the acquisition was announced, the management teams of Lenovo and IBM's PC business have been working closely together and reached consensus on a number of issues such as the appointment of senior management personnel and future business strategies. Lenovo believes the acquisition is a unique opportunity for it to fulfill its globalization strategy and will bring long-term benefits to its shareholders in the future.

PURCHASE, SALE OR REDEMPTION OF THE COMPANY'S LISTED SECURITIES

During the nine months ended 31 December 2004, the Company purchased its own shares on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited as follows:

Month/Year	Number of shares repurchased	Highest price per share HK\$	Lowest price per share HK\$	Aggregate consideration paid (including expenses) HK\$'000
June 2004	7,500,000	2.175	2.025	16,093

The repurchased shares were subsequently cancelled and accordingly, the issued share capital of the Company was reduced by the nominal value thereof. The premium payable on repurchase was charged against the share premium account of the Company.

Save as disclosed above, neither the Company nor any of its subsidiaries purchased, sold or redeemed any of the Company's listed securities during the period.

REVIEW BY AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Audit Committee of the Company has reviewed the unaudited quarterly financials for the nine months ended 31 December 2004. It meets regularly with the management, the external auditors and the internal audit personnel to discuss the accounting principles and practices adopted by the Group and internal control and financial reporting matters.

By order of the Board Liu Chuanzhi Chairman

Hong Kong, 4 February 2005

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises three executive directors, namely Mr Liu Chuanzhi, Mr Yang Yuanqing and Ms Ma Xuezheng, one non-executive director, namely Mr Zeng Maochao, and three independent non-executive directors, Mr Wong Wai Ming, Professor Woo Chia-Wei and Mr Ting Lee Sen.

The results announcement of the Company will be published on the websites of the Company and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited.

Website: www.lenovo.com

"Please also refer to the published version of this announcement in the South China Morning Post and The Standard"