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## **NOBLE CENTURY INVESTMENT HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**仁瑞投資控股有限公司**

*(incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)*

**(Stock Code: 2322)**

### **PLACING OF NEW SHARES UNDER GENERAL MANDATE**

**Placing Agent**



**KINGSTON SECURITIES LTD.**

#### **THE PLACING**

On 30 August 2013 (after trading hours), the Placing Agent and the Company entered into the Placing Agreement pursuant to which the Placing Agent agreed to place, on a best effort basis, up to 120,000,000 Placing Shares to currently expected not less than six Places who are Independent Third Parties.

Assuming that there will be no change in the issued share capital of the Company between the date of this announcement and the completion of the Placing, the 120,000,000 Placing Shares under the Placing represent (i) approximately 16.57% of the existing issued share capital of the Company of 724,000,000 Shares as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) approximately 14.22% of the issued share capital of the Company as enlarged by the allotment and issue of the Placing Shares. The aggregate nominal value of the Placing Shares under the Placing will be HK\$6,000,000.

The Placing Price of HK\$0.28 represents a discount of approximately 19.31% to the benchmarked price of the Shares, which is the higher of (i) the closing price of HK\$0.32 as quoted on the Stock Exchange on the date of the Placing Agreement; and (ii) the average closing price of HK\$0.347 in the last 5 trading days prior to the date of the Placing Agreement.

The Placing is conditional upon, among other things, the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange granting or agreeing to grant the listing of, and permission to deal in, the Placing Shares.

The gross proceeds from the Placing will be approximately HK\$33.6 million. The net proceeds from the Placing will amount to approximately HK\$32.6 million which is intended to be used as to HK\$15 million for repayment of loans and the remaining of approximately HK\$17.6 million for general working capital of the Group. The net price raised per Placing Share will be approximately HK\$0.272 per Share.

**The Placing may or may not proceed. Shareholders and potential investors are advised to exercise caution when dealing in the Shares.**

## **THE PLACING AGREEMENT**

### **Date**

30 August 2013 (after trading hours)

### **Issuer**

The Company

### **Placing Agent**

The Placing Agent has conditionally agreed to place up to 120,000,000 Placing Shares on a best effort basis to independent investors reference to prevailing market rate. The Directors are of the view that the terms of the Placing, including the placing commission of are fair and reasonable based on current market conditions.

To the best of the Directors' knowledge, information and belief, having made all reasonable enquiries, as at the date of this announcement, the Placing Agent and its ultimate beneficial owners are Independent Third Parties. As at the date of this announcement, the Placing Agent and its associates are interested in 4,848,000 Shares, representing approximately 0.67% to the existing issued share capital of the Company.

### **Placees**

The Placing Agent will place the Placing Shares to currently expected not less than six Placees (who will be independent professional, institutional or other investors), who and whose ultimate beneficial owner(s) will be third parties independent of, not connected with or acting in concert (as defined in the Hong Kong Code on Takeovers and Mergers) with any directors, chief executive or substantial shareholder(s) of the Company or its subsidiaries and their respective associates (as defined under the Listing Rules). If any of the Placees becomes a substantial Shareholder (as defined under the Listing Rules) after the completion of the Placing, a further announcement will be made by the Company.

## **Number of Placing Shares**

Assuming that there will be no change in the issued share capital of the Company between the date of this announcement and the completion of the Placing, the 120,000,000 Placing Shares under the Placing represent (i) approximately 16.57% of the existing issued share capital of the Company of 724,000,000 Shares as at the date of this announcement; and (ii) approximately 14.22% of the issued share capital of the Company as enlarged by the allotment and issue of the Placing Shares. The aggregate nominal value of the Placing Shares under the Placing will be HK\$6,000,000.

## **Ranking of Placing Shares**

The Placing Shares under the Placing will rank, upon issue, *pari passu* in all respects with the Shares in issue on the date of allotment and issue of the Placing Shares.

## **Placing Price**

The Placing Price of HK\$0.28 represents a discount of approximately 19.31% to the benchmarked price of the Shares, which is the higher of (i) the closing price of HK\$0.32 as quoted on the Stock Exchange on the date of the Placing Agreement; and (ii) the average closing price of HK\$0.347 in the last 5 trading days prior to the date of the Placing Agreement.

The Placing Price was determined with reference to the prevailing market price of the Shares and was negotiated on an arm's length basis between the Company and the Placing Agent. The Directors consider that the terms of the Placing are on normal commercial terms and are fair and reasonable based on the current market conditions. Hence, the Placing is in the interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole.

## **The Placing Shares**

The Placing Shares will be issued under the General Mandate to allot, issue and deal with Shares granted to the Directors by resolution of the Shareholders passed at the 2012 AGM subject to the limit up to 20% of the then issued share capital of the Company as at the date of the 2012 AGM. Accordingly, the issue of the Placing Shares is not subject to the approval of the Shareholders. Under the General Mandate, the Company is authorized to issue up to 120,800,000 Shares under the General Mandate. Up to the date of this announcement, no Share has been issued under the General Mandate.

## **Conditions of the Placing Agreement**

Completion of the Placing Agreement is conditional upon:

- (a) the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange granting or agreeing to grant (subject to allotment and/or despatch of certificates for the Placing Shares) the listing of, and permission to deal in all of the Placing Shares;
- (b) the obligations of the Placing Agent under the Placing Agreement not being terminated in accordance with the terms thereof, including provisions regarding force majeure events; and

- (c) if necessary, the Bermuda Monetary Authority granting consent to the allotment and issue of the Placing Shares under the Placing.

### **Completion of the Placing**

Completion of the Placing, in any event, will take place within four business days after the fulfillment of the conditions as set out in paragraph headed “Conditions of the Placing Agreement” above or such other date to be agreed between the Company and the Placing Agent in writing (the “**Completion Date**”). If the above conditions are not satisfied and/or waived (other than condition (i) above, which cannot be waived) in whole or in part by the Placing Agent on or before 5:00 p.m. on the date falling two months after the date of this agreement (i.e. 30 October 2013) or such later date to be agreed between the Company and the Placing Agent in writing, the Placing will be terminated and the Placing will not proceed and all obligations and liabilities of the parties under the Placing Agreement will forthwith cease and determine and no party will have any claim against the others (save for any antecedent breaches of the Placing Agreement).

### **Termination and force majeure**

**The Placing Agent may terminate the Placing Agreement by notice in writing prior to 9:00 a.m. on the Completion Date, if in the absolute opinion of the Placing Agent, the success of the Placing would be materially and adversely affected by any force majeure events:**

- (a) **the introduction of any new laws or regulations or any change in existing laws or regulations (or the judicial interpretation thereof) or other occurrence of any nature whatsoever which may, in the absolute opinion of the Placing Agent, materially and adversely affect the business or the financial or trading position or prospects of the Group as a whole; or**
- (b) **the occurrence of any local, national or international event or change (whether or not forming part of a series of events or changes occurring or continuing before and/or after the date of the Placing Agreement) of a political, military, financial, economic, currency (including a change in the system under which the value of the Hong Kong currency is linked to the currency of the United States of America) or other nature (whether or not sui generis with any of the foregoing), or in the nature of any local, national, international outbreak or escalation of hostilities or armed conflict, or affecting local securities market or the occurrence of any combination of circumstances which may, in the absolute opinion of the Placing Agent, materially and adversely affect the business or the financial or trading position or prospects of the Group as a whole or adversely prejudices the success of the Placing of the Shares by potential investor(s) or otherwise makes it inexpedient or inadvisable for the Company or the Placing Agent to proceed with the Placing; or**

- (c) any change in market conditions or combination of circumstances in Hong Kong (including without limitation suspension or material restriction on trading in securities) occurs which affect the success of the Placing (such success being the placing of the Shares to potential investor(s)) or otherwise in the absolute opinion of the Placing Agent make it inexpedient or inadvisable or inappropriate for the Company or the Placing Agent to proceed with the Placing.

If, at or prior to 9:00 a.m. on the Completion Date;

- (a) the Company commits any material breach of or omits to observe any of the obligations or undertakings expressed or assumed under this Placing Agreement; or
- (b) the trading of the Shares on the Stock Exchange has been suspended for more than ten consecutive trading days save for the purposes of clearing of the announcement relating to this Placing Agreement or any announcements or circulars relating to the Placing; or
- (c) the Placing Agent shall become aware of the fact that any of the representations or warranties contained in this Placing Agreement was, when given, untrue or inaccurate or would in any respect be untrue or inaccurate if repeated the Placing Agent shall determine that any such untrue representation or warranty represents or is likely to represent a material adverse change in the financial or trading position or prospects of the Group taken as a whole or will otherwise likely to have a material prejudicial effect on the Placing.

The Placing Agent shall be entitled (but not bound) by notice in writing to the Company to elect to treat such matter or event as releasing and discharging the Placing Agent from its obligations under this Placing Agreement.

Upon giving of notice pursuant to the paragraph above, all obligations of the Placing Agent under the Placing Agreement shall cease and determine and no party shall have any claim against any other parties in respect of any matter or thing arising out of or in connection with the Placing Agreement, save for any antecedent breaches.

The Directors are not aware of the occurrence of any of such events as at the date of this announcement.

**The Placing may or may not proceed. Shareholders and potential investors are advised to exercise caution when dealing in the Shares.**

## **REASONS FOR THE PLACING AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Group is principally engaged in vessel chartering.

The maximum gross proceeds from the Placing will be approximately HK\$33.6 million. The net proceeds from the Placing will amount to approximately HK\$32.6 million which is intended to be used as to HK\$15 million for repayment of loans and the remaining of approximately HK\$17.6 million for general working capital of the Group. The net price raised per Placing Share will be approximately HK\$0.272 per Share.

The Directors have considered various ways of raising funds and believe that the Placing represents an opportunity to raise capital for the Group while broadening its Shareholder and capital base. Accordingly, the Directors are of the view that the Placing is in the best interest of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole.

## FUND RAISING ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST TWELVE MONTHS

Apart from the fund raising activity mentioned below, the Company has not carried out other equity fund raising activities during the 12 months immediately preceding the date of this announcement.

<b>Date of initial announcement</b>	<b>Fund raising activity</b>	<b>Intended use of net proceeds</b>	<b>Actual use of proceeds</b>
14 August 2012	Placing of 120,000,000 new shares, which completion took place on 16 November 2012.	Approximately HK\$29 million, of which 50% for partial repayment of the Group's borrowings and 50% for general working capital of the Group.	— HK\$15 million for loan repayment; and — Approximately HK\$14 million for working capital.

## EFFECTS ON SHAREHOLDING STRUCTURE

The existing shareholding structure of the Company and the effect on the shareholding structure of the Company upon completion of the Placing is set out as below:

	<b>Immediately before completion of the Placing</b>		<b>Immediately upon completion of the Placing</b>	
	<i>No. of Shares</i>	<i>Approx. %</i>	<i>No. of Shares</i>	<i>Approx. %</i>
Superb Smart Limited ( <i>Note 1</i> )	340,000,000	46.96	340,000,000	40.28
<b>Public:</b>				
The Placing Agent	4,848,000	0.67	4,848,000	0.57
Places	—	—	120,000,000	14.22
Other public shareholders	<u>379,152,000</u>	<u>52.37</u>	<u>379,152,000</u>	<u>44.93</u>
	<u>724,000,000</u>	<u>100.00</u>	<u>844,000,000</u>	<u>100.00</u>

*Notes:*

1. Superb Smart Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands with limited liability which is wholly and beneficially owned by Ms. Zheng Juhua, the Chairman and an executive director of the Company.
2. The above percentages are subject to rounding errors.

## GENERAL

Application will be made by the Company to the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange for the grant of the listing of, and permission to deal in, the Placing Shares.

## TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

In this announcement, unless the context otherwise requires, the following words and expressions shall have the meaning ascribed to them below:

“2012 AGM”	the annual general meeting of the Company held on 3 September 2012
“Board”	the board of Directors
“Company”	Noble Century Investment Holdings Limited, a company incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability and the securities of which are listed on the Stock Exchange
“connected person(s)”	the meaning ascribed thereto in the Listing Rules
“Director(s)”	the director(s) of the Board
“General Mandate”	the mandate granted to the Directors by the Shareholders at the 2012 AGM to allot, issue and deal with up to 20% of the then issued share capital of the Company as at the date of the 2012 AGM
“Group”	the Company and its subsidiaries
“Hong Kong”	Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China
“Independent Third Party(ies)”	third party(ies) independent of and not connected with the Company and its connected persons (has the meaning ascribed to it in the Listing Rules)
“Listing Rules”	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange
“Placing”	the placing of 120,000,000 Shares pursuant to the terms of the Placing Agreement
“Placing Agreement”	the conditional placing agreement entered into between the Company and the Placing Agent dated 30 August 2013 in relation to the Placing
“Placing Price”	HK\$0.28 per Placing Share
“Placing Share(s)”	up to 120,000,000 new Shares to be placed pursuant to the Placing Agreement

“Placee(s)”	any professional, institutional or other investor(s) or any of their respective subsidiaries or associates procured by the Placing Agent to subscribe for any of the Placing Shares pursuant to the Placing Agent’s obligations under the Placing Agreement
“Placing Agent”	Kingston Securities Limited, a licensed corporation to carry on business in type 1 regulated activity (dealing in securities) under the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong)
“Shareholder(s)”	holder(s) of the Share(s)
“Share(s)”	ordinary share(s) of HK\$0.05 each in the issued share capital of the Company
“Stock Exchange”	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
“HK\$”	Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong
“%”	per cent.

For and on behalf of the Board of  
**Noble Century Investment Holdings Limited**  
**Zheng Juhua**  
*Chairman*

Hong Kong, 30 August 2013

*As at the date of this announcement, the executive Directors are Ms. Zheng Juhua, Mr. Chan Chi Yuen and Mr. Chen Shaohua; the independent non-executive Directors are Mr. Man Kwok Leung, Mr. Yu Pak Yan, Peter and Mr. Chi Chi Hung, Kenneth.*