

***CHINA TEXTILE INFORMATION CENTER AND LINMARK GROUP PROMOTING SOCIAL COMPLIANCE
AND THE CHINA CODE OF CONDUCT SUPPORTED BY HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY, CANADA AT
NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TEXTILE DEVELOPMENT***

(Shanghai – 24 October 2004) **China National Textile Industry Council** (CNTIC) today announced that it has entrusted **China Textile Information Center** (“CTIC”) and **Linmark Group Limited** (“Linmark”; HKEx code: 915) to jointly promote Social Compliance in Chinese Textile Industry and create a China Code of Conduct in social compliance. This groundbreaking code will first be adopted in China's textile industry and then introduced to other industries in the country.

The announcement came during a ceremony held at the National Conference on Textile Development, the largest and the most important annual conference in China's textile industry. George Heller, President and Chief Executive Officer, **Hudson's Bay Company**, Canada and is a recognized leader within the retail industry in the area of social compliance, attended the event to endorse the progress being made in China and to congratulate the partners.

Within the framework of Chinese legal requirements, the China Code of Conduct in social compliance will be based on internationally recognized practices including International Labour Organization conventions and the United Nation Convention on Rights of Child. It also incorporates Chinese legal requirements.

Mr. Du Yuzhou, President of CNTIC, spoke highly of the launch of Social Compliance in Chinese textile industry, giving his support to the joint venture of CTIC and Linmark Group.

Mr. Sun Ruizhe, President of CTIC said, “We fully recognize the significance and benefits of instituting a social compliance code of conduct in the industry that is of international standards. We believe that creation and adoption of the Code, which also bears close reference to our own legal framework, will escalate the standing of Chinese manufacturers in the global marketplace. Together with the existing advantages we enjoy in vertical production chain and labour skills, our strengths will be boosted by continuous efforts in advancing textile technology. Adoption of the Code will also enable us to capitalize further in the post-quota era. Our plan is to combine with Linmark's expertise to expedite our progress in this area.”

The issue of social compliance, or ethical business practice has received much attention in recent years and has now become an inseparable part of the global supply chain industry. One of the strongest advocates for global social compliance is Hudson's Bay Company ("HBC"), Canada's largest department store retailer operating over 500 stores.

HBC has participated in numerous industry initiatives as members of International Association of Department Stores ("IADS"), International Group of Department Stores ("IGDS"), National Retail Federation ("NRF") and Retail Council of Canada ("RCC").

Mr. George Heller, President & CEO of HBC, said, "HBC is pleased to support CNTIC and CTIC in their pursuit of the modernization of China's Textile Industry especially with a comprehensive and meaningful recognition that a commitment to ethical social standards is paramount to the development of this industry in China."

To make social compliance an industry-wide practice, Mr. Heller also stressed it is important to have a three-way partnership including retailers, who should demand compliance to ethical standards; governments, who should create legal framework and ensure the subsequent enforcement, and manufacturers who should abide by the ethical standards.

Mr. Wang Lu-Yen, Chairman of Linmark said, "The China Code of Conduct will be an essential guideline for enterprises in China to comply with internationally accepted standards. Linmark has been engaging in auditing and certifying the manufacturing facilities in many countries on behalf of well-known brands and retailers. Linmark and China Textile Information Center (CTIC) have signed a Letter of Intent, endorsed by Hudson's Bay Company at the conference in pursuit of the social compliance auditing and certifying work in China".

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About Linmark Group Limited

Linmark, listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited in May 2002, is a one-stop global sourcing agent. With presence in 36 cities in 25 countries and territories, the Group offers comprehensive and efficient sourcing solutions to its customers, the majority of whom are leading retail chain operators, well-known brands, wholesalers, mail order houses and departments stores in North America, Europe, Asia and the Southern Hemisphere.

For more information:

Strategic Financial Relations Limited

Veron Ng:	veron@strategic.com.hk	tel: +852 2864 4831
Cecilia Chui:	cecilia@strategic.com.hk	tel: +852 2864 4895
Keris Leung:	keris@strategic.com.hk	tel: +852 2864 4863
fax:	+852 2804 2789 / 2527 1196	