

THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF MAURITIUS LTD PROVIDES FOR ALTERNATIVE MEANS OF SENDING ANNUAL REPORTS TO SHAREHOLDERS

In order to cater for the exceptional situation during the COVID-19 and the post COVID-19 periods, the Mauritian Registrar of Companies issued <u>"Practice Direction (No. 5 of 2020) - Sending of annual report"</u> on Tuesday 26th May 2020.

Subsequently, the Mauritian Financial Services Commission issued a <u>communique</u> on Tuesday 21st July 2020 in relation to the sending of annual reports during the COVID-19 and the post COVID-19 periods by reporting issuers.

On Wednesday 22nd July 2020, the Stock Exchange of Mauritius Ltd ("SEM") announced in a <u>communique</u> that it had aligned the requirements of its Rules with that of the Practice Direction (No. 5 of 2020). Consequently, the following flexibility is being provided to companies listed on the Official Market and the Development & Enterprise Market of the SEM during the COVID-19 and the post COVID-19 periods in relation to the sending of annual reports:

- a) Companies must inform their shareholders by way of a communique published in at least two newspapers and/or on their website, if applicable, where the annual report is available.
- b) A copy of the annual report can be requested by the shareholder to the company secretary and same shall be sent by email or any other electronic means acceptable to the shareholder within 2 working days of the request.
- c) Notwithstanding the above, the shareholder shall retain his right to receive a hard copy of the annual report at any time upon request. The hard copy should be sent within 2 working days of such a request.

Until receipt of further notice from the SEM and the FSC, companies listed on the Official Market / the Development & Enterprise Market of the SEM and reporting issuers registered with the FSC are only required to release a communique stating that their annual report is available for viewing on their website. Should such companies not have a website, the communique may mention that the annual report may be viewed at their registered office (or at any other place of business as may be designated in the communique). As long as such a communique has been issued by the listed company or reporting issuer, there is no requirement (**until receipt of further notice from the SEM and the FSC**) to actually post a hard copy or send electronically a copy of the annual report to shareholders, unless such a request is received from a shareholder.

Should you have any queries pertaining to the above, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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Contact us

Perigeum Capital Ltd

Level 4, Alexander House, 35 Cybercity, Ebene 72201, Mauritius E: info@perigeum.mu Tel: (230) 402 0890 Fax: (230) 402 0891 BRN: C15132257 Website: www.perigeumcapital.com