



SINGAPORE PRESS HOLDINGS LIMITED

Reg. No. 198402868E

(Incorporated in Singapore)

ANNOUNCEMENT

UNAUDITED RESULTS* FOR THE PERIOD ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2009

1(a) An income statement (for the group) together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year

(i) Results for Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009

	Group		Change %
	2Q 2009	2Q 2008	
	S\$'000	S\$'000	
Operating revenue			
Newspaper and Magazine	204,573	236,423	(13.5)
Property	72,184	54,333	32.9
Others	10,442	7,339	42.3
	<hr/> 287,199	<hr/> 298,095	<hr/> (3.7)
Other operating income	2,297	3,709	(38.1)
	<hr/> 289,496	<hr/> 301,804	<hr/> (4.1)
Materials, consumables & broadcasting costs	(47,680)	(41,289)	15.5
Property development costs	(11,463)	(6,897)	66.2
Staff costs	(69,380)	(80,279)	(13.6)
Depreciation	(16,744)	(14,974)	11.8
Other operating expenses	(44,860)	(41,778)	7.4
Finance costs	(5,524)	(4,805)	15.0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Profit before investment income and share of net (loss) / profit of associates and jointly controlled entities #	93,845	111,782	(16.0)
Net (loss) / income from investments	(107)	5,145	NM
Share of net (loss) / profit of associates and jointly controlled entities	(4,165)	2,630	NM
	<hr/>	<hr/>	
Profit before taxation	89,573	119,557	(25.1)
Taxation	(3,643)	(20,254)	(82.0)
Profit after taxation	<hr/> 85,930	<hr/> 99,303	<hr/> (13.5)
Attributable to:			
Shareholders of the Company	87,048	99,595	(12.6)
Minority interests	(1,118)	(292)	282.9
	<hr/> 85,930	<hr/> 99,303	<hr/> (13.5)

* Extracted from the condensed interim financial information that has been reviewed in accordance with SSRE 2410. Please refer to page 12 for the independent auditors' review report.

This represents the recurring earnings of the media and property businesses, including profits from the Group's Sky@eleven development.

NM: Not meaningful

(ii) **Notes:**
Profit before taxation is arrived at after accounting for:

	Group		
	2Q	2Q	
	2009	2008	Change
	S\$'000	S\$'000	%
Allowance for stock obsolescence	(218)	-	NA
Share-based compensation expenses	(1,636)	(1,302)	25.7
Allowance for impairment of trade receivables	(1,048)	(447)	134.5
Bad debts recovery	36	32	12.5
Amortisation of intangible assets	(777)	(92)	744.6
Net (loss) / profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(406)	158	NM
Interest income	1,701	2,153	(21.0)
Net foreign exchange gain / (loss)	172	(147)	NM
Realised (loss) / gain on derivative instruments	(1,258)	2,952	NM
Net profit on sale of internally-managed investments	927	397	133.5
Net fair value (loss) / gain of			
- Internally-managed assets at fair value through profit and loss	(234)	185	NM
- Derivative instruments	(1,299)	(326)	298.5
Net loss from funds under management	(571)	(1,431)	(60.1)

NA : Not applicable

1(b)(i) A balance sheet (for the issuer and group), together with a comparative statement as at the end of the immediately preceding financial year
Balance Sheets As At

	Group		Company	
	Feb 28, 2009 S\$'000	Aug 31, 2008 S\$'000	Feb 28, 2009 S\$'000	Aug 31, 2008 S\$'000
CAPITAL EMPLOYED				
Share capital	490,890	490,760	490,890	490,760
Treasury shares	(25,578)	(27,660)	(25,578)	(27,660)
Reserves	176,681	260,439	45,169	54,545
Retained profit	1,220,968	1,365,360	505,767	703,382
Shareholders' interests	1,862,961	2,088,899	1,016,248	1,221,027
Minority interests	10,909	12,378	-	-
Total equity	1,873,870	2,101,277	1,016,248	1,221,027
EMPLOYMENT OF CAPITAL				
Non-current assets				
Property, plant and equipment	478,799	490,297	307,091	316,228
Investment properties	1,169,293	1,140,180	-	-
Interests in subsidiaries	-	-	386,840	386,840
Interests in associates	49,661	45,582	29,326	21,326
Interests in jointly controlled entities	17,311	15,652	-	-
Long-term investments	222,045	275,297	25,952	34,860
Intangible assets	56,765	39,707	-	-
Other non-current assets	5,722	5,725	4,180	4,496
	1,999,596	2,012,440	753,389	763,750
Current assets				
Inventories	44,342	36,281	44,140	35,076
Trade receivables	284,314	223,991	79,205	102,009
Other receivables and prepayments	23,826	16,465	7,258	5,558
Short-term investments	329,464	642,561	-	84,075
Derivative financial instruments	893	1,707	9	14
Amount owing by subsidiaries	-	-	820,519	854,837
Amount owing by associates	216	6,100	-	6,000
Amount owing by jointly controlled entities	2,487	136	23	17
Cash held as fixed bank deposits	283,744	180,534	79,019	59,245
Cash and bank balances	38,226	30,490	20,534	12,226
	1,007,512	1,138,265	1,050,707	1,159,057
Total assets	3,007,108	3,150,705	1,804,096	1,922,807
Current liabilities				
Trade payables	76,952	103,001	35,522	59,237
Other payables and accrued liabilities	122,290	156,622	93,430	131,865
Derivative financial instruments	1,706	2,211	4	-
Amount owing to subsidiaries	-	-	395,730	387,513
Amount owing to an associate	44	21	-	-
Amount owing to a jointly controlled entity	18,741	12,616	18,667	12,571
Borrowings	800	800	-	-
Current income tax liabilities	76,886	92,173	49,870	63,763
	297,419	367,444	593,223	654,949
Non-current liabilities				
Other payables and accrued liabilities	22,428	21,924	-	-
Deferred income tax liabilities	71,667	75,461	42,790	46,831
Borrowings	723,616	573,616	150,000	-
Derivative financial instruments	18,108	10,983	1,835	-
	835,819	681,984	194,625	46,831
Total liabilities	1,133,238	1,049,428	787,848	701,780
Net assets	1,873,870	2,101,277	1,016,248	1,221,027

1(b)(ii) Aggregate amount of group's borrowings and debt securities

Group Borrowings

Amount repayable in one year

As at February 28, 2009		As at August 31, 2008	
Secured S\$'000	Unsecured S\$'000	Secured S\$'000	Unsecured S\$'000
-	800	-	800

Amount repayable after one year

As at February 28, 2009		As at August 31, 2008	
Secured S\$'000	Unsecured S\$'000	Secured S\$'000	Unsecured S\$'000
570,000	153,616	570,000	3,616

Details of collateral

The secured bank loan facilities as at February 28, 2009 comprised the term loan facilities of S\$610 million (August 31, 2008: S\$610 million) undertaken by a subsidiary, Orchard 290 Ltd ("O290"), which commenced on July 11, 2006, with a tenure of five years and classified accordingly as a non-current liability.

The term loan is secured by way of a legal mortgage on the Group's investment property, a debenture over the assets of O290, an assignment of rental proceeds from the investment property and the insurances on the investment property.

O290 had repaid S\$40 million up to February 28, 2009.

1(c) A cash flow statement (for the group), together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009

	2Q 2009	2Q 2008
	S\$'000	S\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Profit before taxation	89,573	119,557
Adjustments for:		
Amortisation of intangible assets	777	92
Depreciation	16,744	14,974
Net loss / (profit) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	406	(158)
Profit on disposal of a subsidiary	(3)	-
Finance costs	5,524	4,805
Net loss / (income) from investments	107	(5,145)
Share of net loss / (profit) of associates and jointly controlled entities	4,165	(2,630)
Share-based compensation expenses	1,636	1,302
Other non-cash items	1,161	(60)
Operating cash flow before working capital changes	<u>120,090</u>	<u>132,737</u>
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from purchase of subsidiaries and business:		
Inventories	(422)	(928)
Trade and other receivables	(13,698)	(13,364)
Trade and other payables	(62,212)	(32,501)
	<u>43,758</u>	<u>85,944</u>
Income tax paid	(27,725)	(23,717)
Dividends paid	(304,501)	(304,439)
Dividends paid (net) by a subsidiary to a minority shareholder	-	(31)
	<u>(288,468)</u>	<u>(242,243)</u>
Decrease in other non-current assets	20	185
Increase in other non-current payables	220	989
Currency translation difference	529	91
Net cash used in operating activities	<u><u>(287,699)</u></u>	<u><u>(240,978)</u></u>

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009 (cont'd)

	2Q 2009 S\$'000	2Q 2008 S\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(7,310)	(12,607)
Purchase of licences	(1,493)	-
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment	10	401
Additions to investment properties	(13,292)	(4,949)
Additional consideration paid on interests in associates	(8,572)	-
Acquisition of additional interest in a subsidiary	-	(392)
Acquisition of business by a subsidiary	(18)	(23,203)
Acquisition of interests in subsidiaries (net of cash acquired)	(238)	-
Proceeds on disposal of a subsidiary	47	-
Dividend received from an associate	2,000	-
Decrease in amount owing by associates/ jointly controlled entities	3,702	693
(Decrease) / Increase in amount owing to an associate/ a jointly controlled entity	(1,263)	2,395
Proceeds on disposal of an associate	-	284
Proceeds from capital reduction exercises of investee company	-	5,725
Purchase of long-term investments	-	(479)
Proceeds on disposal / redemption of long-term investments	-	673
Purchase of short-term investments	(63,556)	(19,713)
Proceeds on disposal of short-term investments	120,637	10,417
Net decrease in funds under management	143,975	69,646
Dividends received	461	1,714
Interest received	1,410	1,684
Other investment (loss) / income	(1,978)	1,747
	<u>174,522</u>	<u>34,036</u>
Add/(Less): Items not involving movement of funds		
Changes in fair value of financial instruments	1,529	162
Net profit on sale of internally-managed investments	(927)	(397)
Currency translation (gain) / loss	(163)	225
Effective interest on bonds	(60)	37
Net cash from investing activities	<u>174,901</u>	<u>34,063</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from bank loans	-	500
Interest paid	(5,524)	(4,805)
Proceeds on issue of shares by the Company	6	7,514
Proceeds on issue of shares by subsidiaries to minority interests	-	5,537
Share buy-back	-	(4,198)
Net cash (used in) / from financing activities	<u>(5,518)</u>	<u>4,548</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(118,316)	(202,367)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	<u>440,286</u>	<u>380,890</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>321,970</u>	<u>178,523</u>

1(d)(i) **A statement (for the issuer and group) showing either (i) all changes in equity or (ii) changes in equity other than those arising from capitalisation issues and distributions to shareholders, together with a comparative statement for the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year**

Statements of Changes in Total Equity for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009

(a)

Group

	Share Capital S\$'000	Treasury Shares S\$'000	Capital Reserve S\$'000	Share-based Compensation Reserve S\$'000	Hedging Reserve S\$'000	Fair Value Reserve S\$'000	Currency Translation Reserve S\$'000	Retained Profit S\$'000	Minority Interests S\$'000	Total Equity S\$'000
Balance as at November 30, 2008	490,884	(27,660)	2,005	23,620	(15,208)	136,706	1,815	1,438,407	10,839	2,061,408
Net fair value changes on available-for-sale financial assets	-	-	-	-	-	26,798	-	-	-	26,798
Net fair value changes on cash flow hedges	-	-	-	-	(2,287)	-	-	-	-	(2,287)
Transfer to finance costs	-	-	-	-	2,465	-	-	-	-	2,465
Currency translation difference *	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,222	-	1,188	2,410
Net gain recognised directly in equity	-	-	-	-	178	26,798	1,222	-	1,188	29,386
Profit for the quarter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	87,048	(1,118)	85,930
Total recognised gains	-	-	-	-	178	26,798	1,222	87,048	70	115,316
Share-based compensation	-	-	-	1,641	-	-	-	-	-	1,641
Issue of shares	6	2,082	-	(2,082)	-	-	-	-	-	6
Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(304,501)	-	(304,501)
Lapse of share options	-	-	-	(14)	-	-	-	14	-	-
Balance as at February 28, 2009	490,890	(25,578)	2,005	23,165	(15,030)	163,504	3,037	1,220,968	10,909	1,873,870

* Relates to net currency translation differences of financial statements of foreign subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities.

Statements of Changes in Total Equity for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009 (cont'd)

(a)

Group

	Share Capital S\$'000	Treasury Shares S\$'000	Capital Reserve S\$'000	Share-based Compensation Reserve S\$'000	Hedging Reserve S\$'000	Fair Value Reserve S\$'000	Currency Translation Reserve S\$'000	Retained Profit S\$'000	Minority Interests S\$'000	Total Equity S\$'000
Balance as at November 30, 2007	473,191	(19,153)	2,005	19,494	(5,955)	283,045	(4,107)	1,471,906	11,949	2,232,375
Net fair value changes on available-for-sale financial assets	-	-	-	-	-	(285)	-	-	-	(285)
Net fair value changes on cash flow hedges	-	-	-	-	(13,409)	-	-	-	-	(13,409)
Currency translation difference *	-	-	-	-	-	-	(481)	-	-	(481)
Net loss recognised directly in equity	-	-	-	-	(13,409)	(285)	(481)	-	-	(14,175)
Profit for the quarter	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	99,595	(292)	99,303
Total recognised (losses) / gains	-	-	-	-	(13,409)	(285)	(481)	99,595	(292)	85,128
Share-based compensation	-	-	-	1,305	-	-	-	-	-	1,305
Issue of shares	8,178	-	-	(664)	-	-	-	-	-	7,514
Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(304,439)	(31)	(304,470)
Lapse of share options	-	-	-	(28)	-	-	-	28	-	-
Share buy-back – held as treasury shares	-	(4,198)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(4,198)
Issue of shares by a subsidiary to minority interests	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,787	1,787
Purchase of additional equity interests in a subsidiary	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	131	131
Balance as at February 29, 2008	481,369	(23,351)	2,005	20,107	(19,364)	282,760	(4,588)	1,267,090	13,544	2,019,572

* Relates to net currency translation differences of financial statements of foreign subsidiaries, associates and jointly controlled entities.

Statements of Changes in Total Equity for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009 (cont'd)

(b)

Company

	Share Capital S\$'000	Treasury Shares S\$'000	Share-based Compensation Reserve S\$'000	Hedging Reserve S\$'000	Fair Value Reserve S\$'000	Retained Profit S\$'000	Total Equity S\$'000
Balance as at November 30, 2008	490,884	(27,660)	23,620	(1,201)	24,011	766,175	1,275,829
Net fair value changes on available-for-sale financial assets	-	-	-	-	(484)	-	(484)
Net fair value changes on cash flow hedges	-	-	-	(565)	-	-	(565)
Transfer to finance costs	-	-	-	243	-	-	243
Net loss recognised directly in equity	-	-	-	(322)	(484)	-	(806)
Profit for the quarter	-	-	-	-	-	44,079	44,079
Total recognised (losses) / gains	-	-	-	(322)	(484)	44,079	43,273
Share-based compensation	-	-	1,641	-	-	-	1,641
Issue of shares	6	2,082	(2,082)	-	-	-	6
Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	(304,501)	(304,501)
Lapse of share options	-	-	(14)	-	-	14	-
Balance as at February 28, 2009	490,890	(25,578)	23,165	(1,523)	23,527	505,767	1,016,248
Balance as at November 30, 2007	473,191	(19,153)	19,494	-	36,310	630,469	1,140,311
Net fair value changes on available-for-sale financial assets	-	-	-	-	(517)	-	(517)
Loss recognised directly in equity	-	-	-	-	(517)	-	(517)
Profit for the quarter	-	-	-	-	-	63,608	63,608
Total recognised (losses) / gains	-	-	-	-	(517)	63,608	63,091
Share-based compensation	-	-	1,305	-	-	-	1,305
Issue of shares	8,178	-	(664)	-	-	-	7,514
Dividends	-	-	-	-	-	(304,439)	(304,439)
Lapse of share options	-	-	(28)	-	-	28	-
Share buy-back – held as treasury shares	-	(4,198)	-	-	-	-	(4,198)
Balance as at February 29, 2008	481,369	(23,351)	20,107	-	35,793	389,666	903,584

1(d)(ii) Details of any changes in the company's share capital arising from rights issue, bonus issue, share buy-backs, exercise of share options or warrants, conversion of other issues of equity securities, issue of shares for cash or as consideration for acquisition or for any other purpose since the end of the previous period reported on. State also the number of shares that may be issued on conversion of all the outstanding convertibles as at the end of the current financial period reported and as at the end of the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year

Share Options

- (a) Between December 1, 2008 and February 28, 2009, pursuant to the Singapore Press Holdings Group (1999) Share Option Scheme (the "1999 Scheme"), the Company issued 2,000 ordinary shares upon the exercise of options.
- (b) As a result of the 2,000 ordinary shares issued pursuant to the 1999 Scheme, the Company issued 20 management shares in accordance with the Newspaper and Printing Presses Act, Cap. 206 between December 1, 2008 and February 28, 2009.
- (c) Under the 1999 Scheme, options to subscribe for 49,738,725 ordinary shares remain outstanding as at February 28, 2009 compared to 53,945,575 ordinary shares as at February 29, 2008.

Performance Shares

- (a) At the extraordinary general meeting of the Company held on December 5, 2006, the Company's shareholders approved the adoption of the SPH Performance Share Plan and the 1999 Scheme was terminated with regard to the grant of further options. However, options granted and outstanding prior to such termination will continue to be valid and be subject to the terms and conditions of the 1999 Scheme.
- (b) As at February 28, 2009, the number of shares granted and outstanding (being contingent award) under the SPH Performance Share Plan was 6,059,633 (February 29, 2008: 3,924,855).

Share Buy Back

Under the Share Buy Back Mandate (first approved by the Shareholders on July 16, 1999 and last renewed at the Annual General Meeting on December 4, 2008), no shares were bought back by the Company during the current second quarter.

Share Capital and Treasury Shares

As at February 28, 2009, the Company had 1,586,865,912 ordinary shares, 16,285,886 management shares and 6,270,609 treasury shares (November 30, 2008: 1,586,353,521 ordinary shares, 16,285,866 management shares and 6,781,000 treasury shares).

Between December 1, 2008 and February 28, 2009, the Company transferred 510,391 treasury shares upon the fulfillment of share awards vested under the SPH Performance Share Plan. The total value of the treasury shares transferred was \$2,082,395.28.

2. **Whether the figures have been audited, or reviewed and in accordance with which auditing standard or practice**

The financial information as set out in paragraphs 1, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11 and 13 of this announcement has been extracted from the condensed interim financial information that has been reviewed in accordance with Singapore Standard on Review Engagements 2410, Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity ("SSRE 2410").

3. **Where the figures have been audited or reviewed, the auditors' report (including any qualifications or emphasis of matter)**

The following is the independent auditors' review report dated April 13, 2009.

Report on the review of condensed interim financial information to the Board of Directors of Singapore Press Holdings Limited for the second quarter and year-to-date ended February 28, 2009

Introduction

We have reviewed the accompanying condensed interim financial information of Singapore Press Holdings Limited (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (the "Group") set out on pages # to #, which comprise the condensed balance sheet of the Company and condensed consolidated balance sheet of the Group as of February 28, 2009, and the related condensed consolidated statement of income, changes in equity and cash flows of the Group for the period from December 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009, and September 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009, and statement of changes in equity of the Company for the period from December 1, 2008 to February 28, 2009. Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of this condensed consolidated interim financial information in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 34, "Interim Financial Reporting". Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on this interim financial information based on our review.

Scope of Review

We conducted our review in accordance with Singapore Standard on Review Engagements 2410, "Review of Interim Financial Information Performed by the Independent Auditor of the Entity". A review of interim financial information consists of making inquiries, primarily of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters, and applying analytical and other review procedures. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with Singapore Standards on Auditing and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in an audit. Accordingly, we do not express an audit opinion.

Conclusion

Based on our review, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the accompanying condensed interim financial information is not prepared, in all material respects, in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 34, "Interim Financial Reporting".

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Public Accountants and Certified Public Accountants

Singapore,
April 13, 2009

The page numbers are as stated in the report of the review of condensed interim financial information dated April 13, 2009 included in the Singapore Press Holdings Group Condensed Interim Financial Information for the second quarter and year-to-date ended February 28, 2009.

4. **Whether the same accounting policies and methods of computation as in the issuer's most recently audited annual financial statements have been applied**

Accounting Policies

The financial information have been prepared in compliance with the same accounting policies and methods of computation adopted in the audited financial statements of last financial year, except where new/revised accounting standards became effective from this financial year. The adoption of the new/revised accounting standards did not result in any substantial changes to the Group's accounting policies.

5. **Earnings per share of the group for the current period reported on and the corresponding period of the immediately preceding financial year, after deducting any provision for preference dividends**

Earnings Per Share for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009

		Group	
		2Q 2009	2Q 2008
(a)	Based on the weighted average number of shares on issue (S\$)	0.05	0.06
(b)	On fully diluted basis (S\$)	0.05	0.06

6. **Net asset value (for the issuer and group) per share based on issued share capital of the issuer at the end of the (a) current period reported on and (b) immediately preceding financial year**

Net Asset Value Per Share As At

	Group		Company	
	Feb 28, 2009	Aug 31, 2008	Feb 28, 2009	Aug 31, 2008
Net asset value per share based on issued share capital at the end of period/year (S\$)	1.16	1.30	0.63	0.76

7. **A review of the performance of the group, to the extent necessary for a reasonable understanding of the group's business. It must include a discussion of any significant factors that affected the turnover, costs, and earnings of the group for the current financial period reported on, including (where applicable) seasonal or cyclical factors; and any material factors that affected the cash flow, working capital, assets or liabilities of the group during the current financial period reported on**

Business Segments/ Review of Results

Business Segments

The Group is organised into three major operating segments, namely Newspaper and Magazine, Treasury and Investment and Property. The Newspaper and Magazine segment is involved in the publishing, printing and distributing of newspapers and magazines. The Treasury and Investment segment manages the investment activities of the Group. The Property segment holds, manages and develops properties of the Group. Other operations under the Group, which are currently not significant to be reported separately, are included under "Others". These comprise our businesses and investments in Internet and related activities, outdoor advertising, radio broadcasting and TV broadcasting.

Review of Results for the Second Quarter ended February 28, 2009

- 7.1 Group operating revenue at S\$287.2 million was S\$10.9 million or 3.7% below that of the corresponding period last year. Weighed down by the sharp downturn in the economy, the Group's Newspaper and Magazine segment posted revenue of S\$204.6 million, S\$31.8 million (13.5%) lower than the previous year. Print advertisement revenue declined by 18.8% to S\$145.9 million due to the fall in display and recruitment ads. Circulation revenue increased by S\$1.5 million. Revenue for the Property segment rose by S\$17.9million (32.9%) to S\$72.2 million, with Sky@eleven and Paragon contributing S\$16.3 million and S\$1.3 million respectively to the increase.
- 7.2 Materials, consumables and broadcasting costs were higher by S\$6.4 million (15.5%), due to the S\$6.4 million or 23.8% rise in newsprint costs.

Property development costs of S\$11.5 million were recognised for Sky@eleven, up S\$4.6 million (66.2%) from the previous corresponding period, in line with the higher percentage-of-completion of construction.

Staff costs decreased 13.6% to S\$69.4 million. Total headcount as at February 2009 was higher at 4,016 compared to 3,814 a year ago as a result of the Group's expansion of its magazine business and continued investments in its new media businesses. The increase in staff costs brought about by the increase in headcount was more than offset by lower bonus provision as a result of the decline in profits.

Depreciation and other operating expenses had increased S\$1.8 million (11.8%) and S\$3.1m (7.4%) respectively, in tandem with the Group's upgrade of its printing presses and expansion of business activities.

- 7.3 As a result, the Group's recurring earnings at S\$93.8 million was S\$17.9 million (16.0%) lower than the corresponding quarter last year.
- 7.4 The Group recorded a loss of S\$0.1 million on its investments. Fair value re-measurement losses of investments had more than offset dividend and interest income.
- 7.5 The Group's share of results of associates and jointly controlled entities was mainly from MediaCorp Press, MediaCorp TV Holdings, 701Search Pte Ltd and TOM Outdoor Media Group.
- 7.6 Taxation charge of S\$3.6 million was arrived at after accounting for tax on the taxable income at the corporate tax rate of 17% and utilising deferred tax benefits previously not recognised. In addition, the Group took up an adjustment of S\$4.0 million for the overprovision of prior years' deferred taxation due to the change in corporate tax rate from 18% to 17%.
- 7.7 Consequently, net profit was 12.6% lower at S\$87.0 million compared to S\$99.6 million for the corresponding quarter last year.

8. **Where a forecast, or a prospect statement, has been previously disclosed to shareholders, any variance between it and the actual results**

No forecast was made previously.

9. Performance for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009

(i) Results for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009

	Group		Change %
	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000	
Operating revenue			
Newspaper and Magazine	453,965	497,729	(8.8)
Property	153,274	97,864	56.6
Others	20,172	14,559	38.6
	<u>627,411</u>	<u>610,152</u>	2.8
Other operating income	5,105	6,702	(23.8)
	<u>632,516</u>	<u>616,854</u>	2.5
Materials, consumables & broadcasting costs	(98,840)	(85,614)	15.4
Property development costs	(25,817)	(11,527)	124.0
Staff costs	(146,328)	(158,907)	(7.9)
Depreciation	(33,632)	(29,765)	13.0
Other operating expenses	(95,656)	(83,087)	15.1
Finance costs	(10,573)	(9,670)	9.3
	<u>221,670</u>	<u>238,284</u>	(7.0)
Profit before investment income and share of net (loss) / profit of associates and jointly controlled entities #	221,670	238,284	(7.0)
Net (loss) / income from investments	(33,781)	14,988	NM
Share of net (loss) / profit of associates and jointly controlled entities	(5,900)	1,708	NM
	<u>181,989</u>	<u>254,980</u>	(28.6)
Profit before taxation	181,989	254,980	(28.6)
Taxation	(24,591)	(43,808)	(43.9)
Profit after taxation	<u>157,398</u>	<u>211,172</u>	(25.5)
Attributable to:			
Shareholders of the Company	160,055	211,525	(24.3)
Minority interests	(2,657)	(353)	652.7
	<u>157,398</u>	<u>211,172</u>	(25.5)

This represents the recurring earnings of the media and property businesses, including profits from the Group's Sky@eleven development.

(ii) **Notes:**
Profit before taxation is arrived at after accounting for:

	Group		
	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000	Change %
Allowance for stock obsolescence	(919)	-	NA
Share-based compensation expenses	(3,188)	(2,871)	11.0
Allowance for impairment of trade receivables	(1,503)	(1,191)	26.2
Bad debts recovery	75	138	(45.7)
Amortisation of intangible assets	(1,071)	(184)	482.1
Net (loss) / profit on disposal of property, plant and equipment	(484)	394	NM
Interest income	3,999	5,713	(30.0)
Net foreign exchange loss	(1,274)	(1,132)	12.5
Realised (loss) / gain on derivative instruments	(5,398)	3,914	NM
Net profit on sale of internally-managed investments	1,192	2,481	(52.0)
Net fair value (loss) / gain of			
- Internally-managed assets at fair value through profit and loss	(3,197)	164	NM
- Derivative instruments	(317)	4,789	NM
Net loss from funds under management	(32,168)	(7,204)	346.5

10. **Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009**

	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Profit before taxation	181,989	254,980
Adjustments for:		
Amortisation of intangible assets	1,071	184
Depreciation	33,632	29,765
Net loss / (profit) on disposal of property, plant and equipment	484	(394)
Profit on disposal of a subsidiary	(3)	-
Finance costs	10,573	9,670
Net loss / (income) from investments	33,781	(14,988)
Share of net loss / (profit) of associates and jointly controlled entities	5,900	(1,708)
Share-based compensation expenses	3,188	2,871
Other non-cash items	1,161	(60)
Operating cash flow before working capital changes	<u>271,776</u>	<u>280,320</u>
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from purchase of subsidiaries and business:		
Inventories	(7,982)	(2,505)
Trade and other receivables	(66,238)	(42,488)
Trade and other payables	(65,610)	(16,580)
	<u>131,946</u>	<u>218,747</u>
Income tax paid	(43,033)	(40,472)
Dividends paid	(304,501)	(304,439)
Dividends paid (net) by a subsidiary to a minority shareholder	-	(31)
	<u>(215,588)</u>	<u>(126,195)</u>
Decrease in other non-current assets	3	256
Increase in other non-current payables	504	2,244
Currency translation difference	3,429	26
Net cash used in operating activities	<u><u>(211,652)</u></u>	<u><u>(123,669)</u></u>

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009 (cont'd)

	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(18,603)	(24,863)
Purchase of licences	(1,493)	-
Proceeds on disposal of property, plant and equipment	47	705
Additions to investment properties	(32,853)	(27,377)
Additional consideration paid on interests in a jointly controlled entity	(5,000)	-
Additional consideration paid on interests in associates	(8,572)	-
Acquisition of interests in an associate	(250)	-
Acquisition of additional interest in a subsidiary	-	(392)
Acquisition of business by a subsidiary	(467)	(23,203)
Acquisition of interests in a subsidiaries (net of cash acquired)	(8,055)	-
Proceeds on disposal of a subsidiary	47	-
Dividend received from an associate	2,000	-
Decrease in amount owing by associates/ jointly controlled entities	3,544	1,065
Increase / (decrease) in amount owing to an associate/ a jointly controlled entity	6,148	(5,362)
Proceeds on disposal of an associate	-	284
Proceeds from capital reduction exercises of investee company	-	5,725
Purchase of long-term investments	-	(1,925)
Proceeds on disposal / redemption of long-term investments	300	1,691
Purchase of short-term investments	(195,539)	(63,375)
Proceeds on disposal of short-term investments	298,901	224,178
Net decrease in funds under management	175,572	77,658
Dividends received	2,190	6,842
Interest received	3,271	4,738
Other investment (loss) / income	(39,242)	3,408
	<u>181,946</u>	<u>179,797</u>
Add/(Less): Items not involving movement of funds		
Changes in fair value of financial instruments	3,506	(4,932)
Net profit on sale of internally-managed investments	(1,192)	(2,481)
Currency translation (gain) / loss	(337)	558
Effective interest on bonds	(295)	(140)
Net cash from investing activities	<u><u>183,628</u></u>	<u><u>172,802</u></u>

Consolidated Cash Flow Statement for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009 (cont'd)

	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Proceeds from bank loans (net of transaction costs)	149,420	800
Interest paid	(10,573)	(9,670)
Proceeds on issue of shares by the Company	123	12,261
Proceeds on issue of shares by subsidiaries to minority interests	-	6,787
Proceeds on issue of shares by a subsidiary to a jointly controlled entity	-	1,250
Share buy-back	-	(4,198)
Net cash from financing activities	<u>138,970</u>	<u>7,230</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	110,946	56,363
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	<u>211,024</u>	<u>122,160</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>321,970</u>	<u>178,523</u>

11. Earnings Per Share for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009

		Group	
		1H 2009	1H 2008
(a)	Based on the weighted average number of shares on issue (S\$)	0.10	0.13
(b)	On fully diluted basis (S\$)	0.10	0.13

12. Review of Results for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009

12.1 Group operating revenue increased S\$17.3 million or 2.8% to S\$627.4 million against the corresponding period last year. The Group's Newspaper and Magazine segment, impacted by severe economic conditions, declined 8.8% to S\$454.0 million. Print advertisement revenue fell 12.7% to S\$334.1 million. Circulation revenue increased by 3.7% to S\$104.7 million. Revenue from the Property segment was higher by S\$55.4 million (or 56.6%) with Sky@eleven and Paragon contributing S\$50.9 million and S\$4.0 million to the increase respectively.

12.2 Materials, consumables and broadcasting costs rose by S\$13.2 million or 15.4% to S\$98.8 million due to higher newsprint costs (+S\$12.7 million or 22.5%).

Property development costs of S\$25.8 million were recognised for Sky@eleven, up S\$14.3 million (or 124.0%) from the previous corresponding period, in line with the higher percentage-of-completion of construction.

Staff costs decreased S\$12.6 million or 7.9% mainly due to lower bonus provision which more than offset the higher salaries from the increased headcount.

Depreciation and other operating expenses increased by S\$3.9 million (13.0%) and S\$12.6 million (15.1%) respectively, in line with the Group's upgrade of its printing presses and expansion in business activities.

12.3 The Group recorded a net loss of S\$33.8 million on its investments. This arose mainly from the S\$32.2 million loss in the value of the Group's externally-managed funds following the global financial market meltdown during the first quarter.

12.4 The Group's share of profits of associates and jointly controlled entities was mainly from MediaCorp Press, MediaCorp TV Holdings, 701Search Pte Ltd and TOM Outdoor Media Group.

12.5 Taxation charge of S\$24.6 million was arrived at after accounting for tax on the taxable income at the corporate tax rate of 17%. In addition, the Group took up an adjustment of S\$4.0 million for the overprovision of prior years' deferred taxation due to the change in corporate tax rate from 18% to 17%.

12.6 Consequently, net profit of S\$160.1 million was 24.3% lower than the corresponding period last year.

13. Segmental information (Group) for the Half Year ended February 28, 2009

	Operating Revenue			Profit/(Loss) Before Taxation		
	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000	Change %	1H 2009 S\$'000	1H 2008 S\$'000	Change %
Newspaper & Magazine	453,965	497,729	(8.8)	143,229	190,854	(25.0)
Treasury & Investment	-	-	-	(34,108)	14,477	NM
Property	153,274	97,864	56.6	99,145	59,707	66.1
Others	20,172	14,559	38.6	(26,277)	(10,058)	161.3
	<u>627,411</u>	<u>610,152</u>	2.8	<u>181,989</u>	<u>254,980</u>	(28.6)

14. A commentary at the date of announcement of the significant trends and competitive conditions of the industry in which the group operates and any known factors or events that may affect the group in the next reporting period and the next 12 months

- 14.1 The recession in Singapore is expected to last through 2009 and this would have a continued impact on advertisement revenue.
- 14.2 Newsprint charge-out rates are expected to remain high for the year although some moderation in FY2010 is expected as newsprint prices continue to soften. In view of the increasingly challenging business conditions, the Group had taken several initiatives to enhance revenue and contain costs at the beginning of the financial year and had subsequently implemented further measures including the wage reduction exercise in April 2009.
- 14.3 Performance of the Group's investment portfolio will continue to be affected by the volatility in the financial markets. The Group will continue to adopt a conservative stance in its asset allocation.
- 14.4 Profits from the Property segment are expected to contribute significantly to the Group's recurring earnings. Paragon will face downward pressure on its retail and office rentals, but it is expected to continue to provide a recurrent income stream. The Group will continue to progressively recognise profit from Sky@eleven.
- 14.5 Trading conditions are expected to remain uncertain until a clear recovery in the economy is seen.

15. Dividends

(a) Current Financial Period Reported On

Name of Dividend	Interim Dividend
Dividend Type	Cash
Dividend Rate	7 cents per share
Tax rate	Tax exempt (One-tier)

(b) Corresponding Period of the Immediately Preceding Financial Year

Name of Dividend	Interim Dividend
Dividend Type	Cash
Dividend Rate	8 cents per share
Tax rate	Tax exempt (One-tier)

(c) Date payable

The date the dividend is payable: May 20, 2009

(d) Books closure date

The Share Transfer Books and Register of Members of the Company will be closed on May 6, 2009 for preparation of dividend warrants. Duly stamped and completed transfers received by our Share Transfer Office, Tricor Barbinder Share Registration Services, 8 Cross Street, #11-00, PWC Building, Singapore 048424, up to 5 p.m. on May 5, 2009 will be registered to determine shareholders' entitlements to the interim dividend. In respect of shares in securities accounts with The Central Depository (Pte) Limited ("CDP"), the said interim dividend will be paid by the Company to CDP which will distribute the dividend to holders of the securities accounts.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Ginney Lim May Ling
Khor Siew Kim
Company Secretaries

Singapore,
April 13, 2009

CONFIRMATION BY THE BOARD
Pursuant to Rule 705(4) of the Listing Manual

We, Tony Tan Keng Yam and Chan Heng Loon Alan, being two directors of Singapore Press Holdings Limited ("the Company"), do hereby confirm on behalf of the directors of the Company, that, to the best of their knowledge, nothing has come to the attention of the board of directors of the Company which may render the financial results of the second quarter ended February 28, 2009 to be false or misleading.

On behalf of the Directors



TONY TAN KENG YAM
Chairman



CHAN HENG LOON ALAN
Director

Singapore,
April 13, 2009