Prospectus Simplification and Plain Language Seminar

Case Study – Chow Tai Fook



Presentation by Teresa Ko, 19 March 2012



- Far too long
- An information dump
- Disclosure is "cut and pasted" from other prospectuses
- Contain a huge amount of immaterial information
- No retail investor reads it

True or False?

- The longest Hong Kong prospectus published last year was 1,556 pages in total
- The average size of a UK or an Australian prospectus is approximately three times shorter than an average Hong Kong prospectus
- Practically most things are repeated three times in a prospectus
- Let's not spend time discussing whether it is material or not, just dump the disclosure in to stop the Stock Exchange asking more questions
- Unless it is in a prospectus that has been approved, you are going to get more questions, so just copy in what was approved before

Companies in Hong Kong issue "a prospectus the size of a phone book that must be approved by the exchange's listing committee"

The Economist – March 2011





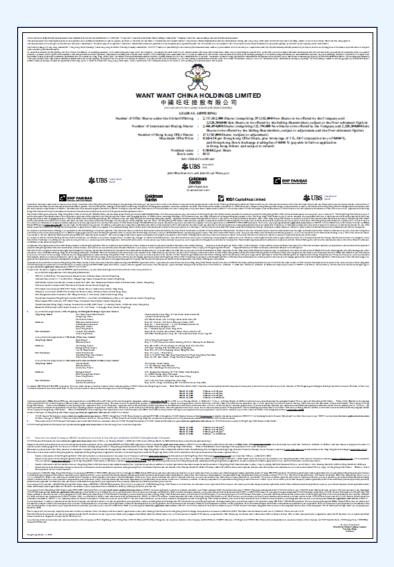
How did we start this simplification initiative?

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Precisely what are the requirements for a formal notice?

- Listing Rule 12.04 requires a formal notice to include:
 - name and country of incorporation of the issuer
 - number and title of securities for which listing is sought
 - addresses of where the prospectus can be found
 - date of the notice and of which dealings are to commence
 - statements that an application for listing has been made, no offer or invitation made and applications will only be considered on the basis of the prospectus
 - name and address of the sponsor
- Section 38(B) of the Companies Ordinance contains similar content requirements
- Guidance Letter HKEX GL24-11 (March 2011) states that formal notice should contain what Listing Rule 12.04 and Section 38(B) require and contents must be:
 - concise
 - easy to read
 - in plain language
- All other information can be removed and cross references can be used

Change – before and after of the formal notice





Legally what must a Hong Kong prospectus contain?

ONLY the matters specified in the Third Schedule of the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance

- Rule 2.13 : Information in the prospectus must be (i) clearly presented and in the plain language format specified by the SFC/ Stock Exchange; (ii) accurate and complete in all material respects and not misleading or deceptive
- Rule 11.06 : specific disclosure items provided in Appendix 1 of the LRs
- Rule 11.07 : "such particulars and information which..., is necessary to enable an investor to make an informed assessment of the activities, assets and liabilities, financial position, management and prospects of the issuer and of its profits and losses and of the rights attaching to such securities"
- Rule 11.08 : special requirements for mineral companies, overseas issuers, PRC issuers and investment companies
- Rule 11.11 : such disclosure as the SEHK may in its discretion require or permit the omission of

An opportunity came along – Chow Tai Fook

Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Group Limited (Incorporated in the Cayman Islands with limited liability) Stock code: 1929 Global Offering





Listed on 15 December 2011

Raised US\$2bn

Prospectus 368 pages in total

Chow Tai Fook – changing without changes to the Listing Rules or the law

- Our aim was to change without amending or modifying any legal or regulatory requirements in Hong Kong
- Our guiding principles were:
 - Avoid duplication and repetition
 - Only include material information
 - Don't include irrelevant or immaterial information
 - Adhere to the prospectus contents requirements
 - Focus on quality rather than quantity of disclosure
 - Draft the prospectus rather than cut and paste it from elsewhere
 - Stand up for good disclosure against the regulators

Chow Tai Fook – How did we do it?



The Block Exchange of Hong Kong Limited and Hong Kong Securities Clearing Company Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this prospectus, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoover for any loss howsoever anking from or it relatione upon the whice any part of the content of this prospectus.

A corp of this prosportur, having attached havio the documents goodlind in the paragraph havadar "Documents documents to the Registrar of Companies" in Appandix to this prosporture, has been registrared by the Registrar of Companies in Hong Kong as negatived by Saktion SakCi of the Companies Ordinance (Chapter 32 of the Laws of Hong Kong). The Socurities and Futures Coministen and the Registrar of Companies in Hong Kong Lake no responsibility for the contrast of this presposito array (other document reference).

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transaction key of 0.007% and Hong Kong Stock Exchange trading te of 0.005%. The Joint Global Coordinators (on behalf of the Underwriters, and with our consent) may reduce the number of Offer Shares and/or the indicative offer price range below that stated in this prospectus (which is HK31.47 to HK31.58) at any time price to the morning of the test day indicative offer price range will be published in this prospectus (which is HK31.47 to HK31.58) at any time price to the morning of the test day indicative offer price range will be published in the South Chink Morring Fork (in English) and the Hong Kong Economic Times (in Chinese) not later than the morning of the day which is the last day for lodging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering. If applications for Hong Kong Offer Shares have been submitted prior to the day which is the last day for todging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering, Mong Public Offering, Happles to the day which is the last day for todging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering, Mong Public Offering, Happles and the day which is the last day for todging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering, Mong Public Offering, Happles and the day which is the last day for todging applications under the Hong Kong Public Offering, Happles day the Hong Kong Public Offering Happles and the Happer day to the day which is the last day for todging applications and the background the Happer day to Hong Kong Public Offering Happer day to Hong Kong Public Offering Happer day to Hong Kong Public Offering Happer day to Happer day to Hong Kong Cheng Happer day to Hong Kong Cheng Happer day to Happer day to Hong Kong Cheng Happer day to Hong Kong Kong Offeri Happer day to Hong Kong Cheng Happer day to Happer day to Happer day to Hong Kong Kong Cheng Happer day to Hong Kong Cheng Happer day to Happer Happer day Happer Happer Happer day happer day happer day happer

If, for whatever reason, we, the Selling Shareholders and the Joint Global Coordinators are not able to agree on the Offer Price, the Global Offering (including the Hong Kong Public Offering) will not proceed.

We are incorporated, and our businesses are located, in the People's Republic of China (*PRC*). Potential investors should be aware of the differences in the logal, according, and framelia y dams between the maintend of the PRC and Hong Kong, and that there are different risk factors relating to investment in PRCincorporated companies. Potential investors should also be aware that the regulatory finamedik in the PRC a different frame the regulatory finamedik in the PRC a different frame the regulatory finamedik in the PRC additional table processing the statement in PRC-Rong, and should take into consideration the different market nature of our Shares. Such differences and risk tectors are set out in the Sections haaded "Hask Factors" and "signation" in this proportius.

The obligations of the Heap Kong Underwriters under the Heap Kong Underwriting Agreement to subscribe kry, and to procure applicants for the subscription kry, the Heap Kong Offer Sharea, are subject to formisation by the Junt Gubdal Coordinators in no heat of the Underwriters) if ontain grounds arise prior to 8:00 a.m. on the day that Inding in the Heap Kong Offer Shares commences on the Heap Kong Stock Exchange. Such grounds are set out in the Saction headed 'Underwritig' in this prospectual. It is important that you raifer to that saction for further datalis.

for identification only

November 6, 2002



The Offer Shares have not been and will not be registered under the US Securities Act or any state securities law in the Unided States and many not be offered, sold, piedged or transferred within the Uhide State, except that Offer Shares may be offered, sold or differ in effance on a comption from registration under the US Securities Act provided by, and in accordance with the restrictions of, Pule 144A or another exemption from, or in a transaction not subject to, the registration requirements of the US Securities Act or (i) outside the Unided States in offshore transactions in accordance with Regulation S. Prior to making an investment decision, prospective investors should consider carefully all of the information set out in this prospectus, including the rest factors set out in the section headed "Pile Actors". The obligations of the Hong Kong Underwriters under the Hong Kong

Find to making all materials occurs producting includes and and a second second second and the production including the risk lactors set out in the section headed 'Risk Actors''. The obligations of the Hong Kong Undermities under the Hong Kong Underwriting Agreement are subject to termination by the Joint Global Coordinators (on behalf of the Underwrities) if certain grounds arise prior to 800 a.m. on the Listing Date. Such grounds are set out in the section headed "Underwriting — Underwriting Arrangements and Expenses — Hong Kong Public Othering — Grounds for Termination'.

5 December 2011

- The Oxford English dictionary defines a "summary" as:
 - "a statement or account...containing or comprising the chief points or the sum and substance of a matter (now usually with implication of brevity)"
- Webster's dictionary defines a "summary" as:
 - "A brief statement that presents the main points in a concise form"

Chow Tai Fook – How was the Summary changed?

- We wrote a summary, instead of copying and pasting other parts of the prospectus
- We provided what investors might want to know to decide whether they might be interested in the offer
- We did not repeat all of the strengths and strategies (just highlights)
- We cross referenced to the risk factors rather than provide headings which are not meaningful
- We created an offering statistics section in tabulated form
- We simplified disclosure of financial information to key line items
- Summary was only 9 pages

Chow Tai Fook – Stock Exchange guidance

Guidance Letter GL 27-12 (January 2012) endorsed and built upon the changes made in the Chow Tai Fook prospectus

- Revised guidance recommending drafting to ensure that the summary section is:
 - comprehensible and readable
 - concise, easy to read and in plain language
 - enables investors to decide whether they might be interested in the offer, and therefore wish to read the rest of the prospectus
- Should omit:
 - multiple pages of detailed financial information
 - a full list of risk factors
 - dividend policy except pay out ratio and other material matters
 - an industry section detailed bases and assumptions of forecasts and other information
 - sections cut and paste from elsewhere
- Encourage the use of tables, charts, bullet points and examples
- Should generally be no more than 10 pages long

Shows that the Stock Exchange is fully behind this initiative!

- Not intended to be a comprehensive catalogue of all of the potential risks that an issuer or comparable industry player faces
- Issuers should not feel "unless we have what they have and a few more, we are missing out"
- Risk factors in other prospectuses are at best a reference point and each issuer must disclose risk factors directly applicable to its own business, its position in the market and industry
- Give appropriate context and background but limit excessive description; and give investors a way to assess the magnitude of the risk
- Avoid boilerplate that could apply to any company, and present the risks in concrete terms

Chow Tai Fook – Industry section

- Often unconnected to the drafting of the rest of the prospectus
- Growing in length and is sometimes even longer than the business section
- Chow Tai Fook industry section started with around 50 pages and was streamlined to 21 pages
- Detailed discussion replaced with charts, graphs, pie charts and tables to make disclosure easier to understand

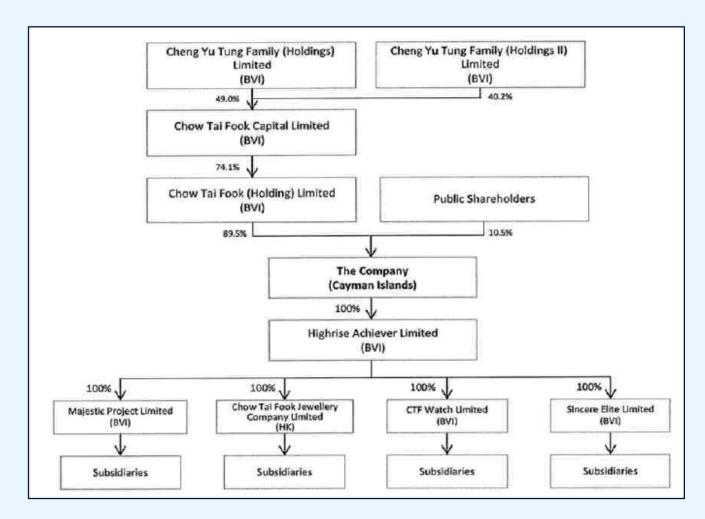
INDUSTRY OVERVIEW					
The PRC					
Question: Can you name three jewellery brands which you are aware of?					
The PRC: Unaided Brand Awareness on Total Market, 2011					
Chow Tai Fook		72.0%			
Lao Feng Xiang	35.4%	73.9%			
Chow Sang Sang	34.1%				
Source: Frost & Sullivan Total sample = 3,000					

Chow Tai Fook – Corporate Structure and Reorganisation

- The Listing Rules only requires "a brief description of the group covering the issuer's position within that group" (paragraph 28(2) of Appendix 1A)
- Checklist I.B requires a corporate structure chart and details of any internal reorganisation – this has led to the inclusion of very detailed and often unnecessary disclosure
- No new PE investors or unusual change in ownership
- We used two (before and after) corporate charts to show the internal reorganisation and a simplified structure to show the group post listing
- Only one page of history (in bullets points) and one page on reorganisation

Chow Tai Fook – Corporate Structure and Reorganisation

A simplified structure of the Chow Tai Fook group following listing



Chow Tai Fook – Directors and Management

- Tabulate directors information at the beginning of the section
- Bullet directorships within each biography
- Keep an eye on the length of CVs

DIRECTORS AND SENIOR MANAGEMENT

DIRECTORS

Our Board of Directors consists of 15 Directors, eight of whom are executive Directors, three of whom are non-executive Directors and four of whom are independent non-executive Directors. The following table sets out certain information concerning our Directors:

Name	Age	Year joined	Position
Dato' Dr. Cheng Yu-Tung (鄭裕形)	86	1947	Honorary Chairman and Non-executive
			Director
Dr. Cheng Kar-Shun, Henry (鄭家純)	64	1971	Chairman and Executive Director
Mr. Wong Siu-Kee, Kent (黃紹基)	55	1977	Managing Director
Mr. Cheng Chi-Kong, Adrian (鄭志剛)	32	2007	Executive Director
Mr. Cheng Chi-Heng, Conroy (鄭志恒)	34	2007	Executive Director
Mr. Chan Sai-Cheong (陳世昌)	49	1985	Executive Director
Mr. Chan Hiu-Sang, Albert (陳曉生)	61	1977	Executive Director
Mr. Cheng Ping-Hei, Hamilton (鄭炳熈)	37	2004	Executive Director
Mr. Suen Chi-Keung, Peter (孫志強)	46	1985	Executive Director
Mr. Cheng Kam-Biu, Wilson (鄭總標)	53	1979	Non-executive Director
Mr. Koo Tong-Fat (古堂發)	61	1985	Non-executive Director
Dr. Fung Kwok-King, Victor (馮國經)	66	2011	Independent non-executive Director
Mr. Kwong Che-Keung, Gordon (鄭志強)	62	2011	Independent non-executive Director
Mr. Lam Kin-Fung, Jeffrey (林健峰)	60	2011	Independent non-executive Director
Mr. Or Ching-Fai, Raymond (柯清輝)	61	2011	Independent non-executive Director

Honorary Chairman and Non-executive Director

Dato' Dr. Cheng Yu-Tung (即裕裕), GBM, aged 86, was abpointed as our Honorary Chairman and non-executive Director on 26 July 2011. Dr. Cheng is responsible for advising on overall strategic planning and management of our Group.

Dr. Cheng joined our Group in January 1947 as a trainee and rose through the ranks to become the permanent chairman of CTF HK in March 1961.

Dr. Cheng holds the following positions in companies listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange:

- chairman and executive director of NWD;
- non-executive director of Shun Tak Holdings Limited;
- non-executive director of SJM Holdings Limited;
- chairman and executive director of Melbourne Enterprises Limited; and
- chairman and non-executive director of Lifestyle International.

Dr. Cheng is the permanent chairman of CTFE and a director of CYT Family Holdings, CYT Family Holdings II, CTF Capital and CTF Holding. Dr. Cheng was also an independent non-executive director of Hang Seng Bank Limited (a company listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange) until 6 May 2009. Dr. Cheng was awarded the Grand Bauhinia Medal by the Government of Hong Kong in July 2008.

Internationally, Dr. Cheng has served as the Honorary Consul of Bhutan in Hong Kong from May 2004 to April 2011, and was awarded the Commandeur de L'ordre des Arts et des Lettres in April 1996 and the Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur in June 2001 by the Government of France. Dr. Cheng was awarded Honorary Professor from Peking Union Medical School in October 1995, Honorary

Chow Tai Fook – How to apply for Hong Kong Offer Shares

- Eliminated repetition and tried to simplify but still too long
- Need to continue to work with CCASS to simplify this section
- SFC, Stock Exchange and CCASS are continuing to work to simplify the Application Forms



Chow Tai Fook – Statutory and General Information

- We largely moved to the Statutory and General Information section:
 - Waivers
 - Substantial Shareholders
 - Share Capital
 - Parties involved in the Global Offering
 - Information on the Global Offering
- IP rights disclosure reduced from an initial 39 pages of trademarks to 3 trademarks to satisfy "particulars of any trade marks, patents or other intellectual or industrial rights which are material in relation to the Group's business

Chow Tai Fook – Statutory and General Information

No.	Trademark	Type and Class	Registered Owner	Place of Registration	Registration Number	Expiry Date
1.	周大福 СНОШ ТАІ FOOK	14	Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Company Limited	Hong Kong	301625689	28/05/2020
2.	周大幅 CHOW TAI FOOK	14	Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Company Limited	Macau	N/045327	25/01/2017
3.	周大福	14	Chow Tai Fook Jewellery Company Limited	PRC	7788122	27/12/2020

Trade marks

 Guidance Letter HKEX-GL30-12 (February 2012) encourages issuers and their advisors to discuss material IP rights and make more meaningful disclosure to investors

- Contents section put on one page
- Definitions section and glossary put at back of the prospectus
- Expected timetable shortened to one ¼ page with notes
- Responsibility Statement elevated it to a stand alone page
- Summary of constitution and Cayman law streamlined to reflect the prospectus contents requirements in the Listing Rules

What more can we do together?

- Include industry analysis in the Business section
- Standardise "How To Apply for Hong Kong Offer Shares"
- Put more on the issuer's website and include cross reference, e.g. summary of constitution and laws and summary of share options schemes
- Increase the number of documents on display
- Tackle the technical style and length of Competent Persons Reports and the length of Property Valuation Report (if still required)
- Use more tables, charts and tabulations
- Make incorporation by reference possible for prospectuses!

Recent Stock Exchange steps to assist this initiative

- Property Valuation Reports no longer mandatory following amendments to the Listing Rules and the Companies Ordinance
- Guidance Paper on drafting of the "Summary and Highlights" section of the prospectus (GL27-12)
- Guidance Paper on disclosure of Intellectual Property Rights in a prospectus (GL30-12)
- Listing Committee Annual Report 2011 prospectus simplification continues to be on the 2012 agenda
- Guidance Paper on prospectus disclosure by restaurant businesses (GL28-12)

and this seminar...

Practical Tips

- Get everyone's buy-in at kick-off meeting
- Work out what the agreed key messages are, then draft, not the other way round
- Keep asking yourself, what are you trying to tell your investors (and regulators)
- Try not to have any paragraph that is longer than 15 lines
- Use headings and sub-headings
- Avoid providing repetitive, onerous and overlong disclosure
- Use precedents for reference, rather than for content

If we follow these tips, then all parties can spend less time at the Printers...

Please let me know if you have any questions?



Teresa Ko

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