HKEX 香 港 交 易 所

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香港聯合交易所有限公司 (香港交易及結算所有限公司全資附屬公司)

THE STOCK EXCHANGE OF HONG KONG LIMITED (A wholly-owned subsidiary of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited)

通告 CIRCULAR

Subject: Shanghai Connect – Reminder on Investor Eligibility Requirement for Trading of STAR Shares

Enquiry: <u>surveillance@hkex.com.hk</u>

Reference is made to the <u>announcement</u> of Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited ("HKEX") issued on 22 January 2021 regarding the inclusion of eligible stocks listed on the STAR Market of Shanghai Stock Exchange for Northbound trading under Shanghai Connect started on 1 February 2021.

Since the inclusion of STAR shares under Shanghai Connect, the Exchange noted that certain China Connect Exchange Participants ("CCEP") had inadvertently misplaced order instruction for clients that are not Institutional Professional Investors ("IPI") to trade STAR shares.

The Exchange would like to remind CCEPs that trading of STAR shares is permitted for IPIs only. With reference to Rules 14A06(13) to (15) of the Rules of the Exchange, a CCEP shall not accept any instruction to buy or sell STAR shares for any clients unless it is reasonably satisfied that the client is an IPI.

The Exchange would further remind CCEPs that:

- CCEPs should have appropriate controls (including regular and appropriate post-trade review which covers all clients including the underlying clients of intermediary broker clients) in place to prevent non-compliance with the relevant requirements and necessary measures to rectify breaches;
- CCEPs should have prior arrangements with their clients to facilitate the unwinding of ineligible STAR transactions of non-IPIs as soon as possible; and

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• As is the case of any violation of any rule of HKEX and/or the Exchange, CCEPs should report the relevant incident to the Exchange as soon as possible.

For more information on the investor eligibility requirement for trading of STAR shares and ChiNext shares¹, please refer to the <u>Stock Connect Frequently Asked Questions</u>.

The Exchange takes any breaches of rules seriously and may commence disciplinary actions against participants in accordance with the relevant rules and regulations.

Felix Wang Head Market Surveillance and Monitoring Markets Division

¹ Same requirement applies to the trading of ChiNext shares under Rules 14B06(16) to (18).