

CITATION FOR MR VINCENT H. S. LO

Mr Chairman:

"We believe that perfection is the goal for every effort and that the determination to improve and innovate is a constant stimulus and challenge."

I quote from the corporate mission statement of the Shui On Group, of which Mr VINCENT H. S. LO, whom we honour here today, is Chairman and Chief Executive.

The Shui On Group, which Vincent Lo founded in 1971, is one of Hong Kong's most significant young enterprises, engaged in property investment and development, construction, and construction materials in Hong Kong, China and North America.

This large, and diverse, company has been built up through its founder's single-minded drive for excellence, and commitment to training and development. Vincent Lo has striven to provide a working environment in which his staff, at all levels, can excel and develop and be eager to stay and grow with the company. By recognising that people are a company's most important asset, he has created a corporate culture which attracts, develops and trains people of high professional competence and personal integrity. The management philosophy he has evolved, one of participation rather than top-down direction, encourages and rewards merit and team effort, and fosters pride in achievement. A comprehensive network of informal communication, with decision-making at all levels, leads to a sense of trust within the company, and of belonging to the company.

Vincent Lo's personal commitment to people has led to his strong engagement in public service and community affairs. He has served on numerous high-level committees, including the Hong Kong Trade Development Council, the Federation of Hong Kong Industries, the Hong Kong Management Association, the Land Development Corporation, and the Basic Law Consultative Committee. From 1991 to 1992, he was Chairman of the Hong Kong Chamber of Commerce.

At present, he is a Director of the Community Chest of Hong Kong, and a Member of the Airport Authority. As a current member of the Governor's Business Council, and President of the Business and professional Federation of Hong Kong, he has made important contributions to the commercial life of Hong Kong.

He is also a Hong Kong Affairs Adviser to the Chinese State Council's Office of Hong Kong and Macao Affairs, and a member of the Preparatory Committee for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

With his commitment to, and interest in, education, he was a member of the Council of Hong Kong Baptist College from 1987 to 1989. During the crucial planning stages of our own University, from 1988 to 1990, he was a member of our Council, and he is currently a member of our Court.

Vincent Lo firmly believes that work should be enjoyable, not merely a necessity. And he has put his belief into practice. He has created an enterprise where this philosophy is not only enshrined in its mission statement, but also evidenced on a daily basis throughout his company.

Mr Chairman, it is my pleasure, on behalf of the University, to recommend Mr Vincent H. S. Lo, Chairman and Chief Executive of Shui On Group, and one of Hong Kong's most innovative entrepreneurs, for the degree of Doctor of Business Administration honoris causa.