



## MEDIA RELEASE

### Straco reports higher revenue and earnings for 2Q

Financial Highlights (S\$'mil)	3 Months to 30 June			6 Months to 30 June		
	2017	2016	% change	2017	2016	% change
<b>Revenue</b>	30.21	27.86	8.4	57.74	54.29	6.4
Profit before tax	16.62	13.99	18.8	29.86	26.15	14.2
Profit attributable to shareholders	11.41	9.25	23.4	20.33	17.58	15.6
Earnings per share (Scts)	1.33	1.08	23.1	2.36	2.05	15.1
Net asset value per share (Scts)	-	-	-	27.69	24.38	13.6

- 2Q revenue increased 8.4% to \$30.2 million
- 2Q earnings increased 23.4% to \$11.4 million
- Paid out \$21.5 million in dividends
- Net cash of \$103.6 million

*SINGAPORE, 14 August 2017:-* Mainboard-listed Straco Corporation (“Straco” or “the Group”), a developer and operator of tourism-related attractions, reported a 8.4% increase in Group revenue to \$30.21 million for the second quarter ended 30 June 2017 compared to 2Q2016, mainly attributable to higher revenues contributed by the Shanghai Ocean Aquarium (“SOA”), Lixing Cable Car (“LCC”) and Singapore Flyer, as visitor numbers to these three attractions increased. Lower revenue was reported at Underwater World Xiamen (“UWX”) for 2Q2017 as visitor numbers fell below the corresponding period. Group profit was \$11.41 million for the quarter, 23.4% higher than that of 2Q2016.

For the quarter under review, overall visitor numbers to all the attractions increased 8.3% over 2Q2016 to 1.23 million visitors.

Cumulatively, Group revenue for 1H2017 increased 6.4% over last year corresponding period, as revenues at SOA, LCC, and the Singapore Flyer increased. Group profit for 1H2017 increased 15.6% compared to 1H2016 as the three attractions reported higher profits.

Commenting on the results, Straco’s Executive Chairman, Mr Wu Hsioh Kwang said: “We are pleased with the overall performance for the first half of the year as our attractions, except UWX, registered positive growth. UWX’s performance had been impacted by unfavourable weather with more rainy days in May and June, as well as newly

implemented capacity restriction to Gulangyu by the local authorities, resulting in decline in visitor numbers in 2Q2017.”

The National Bureau of Statistics of China reported that China’s gross domestic product (“GDP”) grew 6.9% in the second quarter of 2017 from a year ago, backed by a strong manufacturing sector and healthy domestic consumption.

Investment in China’s tourism sector is expected to maintain strong growth momentum through 2017. According to the China National Tourism Administration, direct investment in the industry is predicted to increase more than 20% to reach 1.5 trillion Yuan.

Singapore economy grew 2.5% year-on-year in 2Q2017, based on advance estimates from the Ministry of Trade and Industry. On the tourism sector, it was reported that the outlook for Singapore Tourism looks positive this year, as visitor numbers hit 4.3 million in first quarter, a 4% increase over corresponding period last year. In addition, a second edition of the SMAP (Singapore MICE Advantage Programme) has been launched in Frankfurt on 16 May 2017, with the aim to boost business events in Singapore.

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#### About Straco Corporation

Straco Corporation Limited (“Straco”), listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange in 2004, is a leading developer and operator of aquatic-related facilities and tourism-related assets. Straco’s main operating assets include Shanghai Ocean Aquarium, situated in the New Pudong Area, next to Shanghai’s landmark Oriental Pearl Tower; Lixing cable car service at Mount Lishan in Lishan in Lintong District, Shaanxi province; Underwater World Xiamen on the scenic Gulangyu Island, a key tourist attraction of Xiamen City, and the Singapore Flyer, an iconic landmark located in the Marina Bay skyline.

Straco has been constantly sourcing for tourism projects to tap into the expected tourism boom in Asia. The Group will leverage on its experience and track record in the China market to form strategic investment alliances to develop and operate tourism resources in China and the region.