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(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 185)

## DISCLOSEABLE TRANSACTION DISPOSAL OF SHARES IN NOVENA

Sure World disposed of 42,558,000 shares in Novena from 2 September 2009 to 30 September 2009 for an aggregate consideration of approximately HK\$31,179,000.

The Disposal constitutes a discloseable transaction of the Company under Chapter 14 of the Listing Rules.

## DISPOSAL OF SHARES IN NOVENA

Sure World Capital Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Xpress Group Limited ("Company"), disposed of 42,558,000 shares in Novena Holdings Limited ("Novena"), representing approximately 10.1% of the issued share capital of Novena from 2 September 2009 to 30 September 2009 for an aggregate consideration of approximately HK\$31,179,000 ("Disposal").

Novena is a company incorporated in Singapore with limited liability, the shares of which are listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange. It is principally engaged in furniture and beauty products. To the best of the directors' knowledge, information and belief having made all reasonable enquiry, the purchasers are third parties independent of and not connected with any directors, chief executive or substantial shareholders of the Company or its subsidiaries or any of their respective associates as defined in the Listing Rules.

## **REASONS FOR THE DISPOSAL**

Sure World is engaged in investment holding. The Company and its subsidiaries ("Group") is engaged in property investment, financial services and securities investments, including corporate finance, consumer finance and hotel operation.

Sure World acquired the shares of Novena in 2003 and they were classified as long-term investment securities held for a long-term strategic purpose to create synergies in the activities and businesses of the Group. However, in view of changes in the Group's plans and the recent change in the substantial shareholder of Novena, the Directors consider that holding shares of Novena would no longer likely to bring any synergies effect to the Group.

The Disposal represents a good opportunity for the Group to realize its investment in Novena at reasonable price and will further strengthen the financial position of the Group and enhance its cashflow.

Upon completion of the Disposal, the Group has no remaining interest in Novena. Subject to the review and confirmation by the independent accountants, the Group expected to record a net gain of approximately HK\$20,455,000 from the Disposal calculated by deducting the carrying value of approximately HK\$10,724,000 as included in the consolidated balance sheet of the Company as at 31 March 2009 from the Consideration of approximately HK\$ 31,179,000. It is the intention of the Group that the proceeds from the Disposal will be used for general working capital of the Group.

## **GENERAL**

The Disposal constitutes a discloseable transaction for the Company pursuant to Chapter 14 of the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange ("Listing Rules").

By Order of the Board **Xpress Group Limited Chan Tong Wan** *Managing Director* 

Hong Kong SAR, 8 October, 2009

As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises of the executive directors Mr. Chan Heng Fai, Mr. Chan Tong Wan, Ms. Chan Yoke Keow, Ms. Chan Sook Jin, Mary-ann and non-executive director Mr. Fong Kwok Jen as well as independent non-executive directors Mr. Wong Dor Luk, Peter, Mr. Joao Paulo Da Roza and Ms. Chian Yat Ping.