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# **LIAN BENG REPORTS 1H NET PROFIT OF \$11.4M**

**SINGAPORE**, **12 January 2010** – Singapore's major homegrown building construction group, **Lian Beng Group Ltd** (SGX: Lian Beng), has reported a 28% growth in after tax profit to \$11.4 million for the first half of its 2010 financial year, compared to \$8.9 million a year ago. This was achieved on the back of a 4% rise in revenue to \$157.6 million.

## **Financial Highlights**

S\$ '000	Six months ended 30 November		Change
	2009	2008	%
Turnover	157,594	150,975	<b>4</b> .4
Gross profit	20,907	18,430	<b>▲</b> 13.4
Profit before Tax	13,304	11,415	<b>▲</b> 16.5
Profit after Tax	11,406	8,936	<b>▲</b> 27.6
EPS (Sgp cents)	2.13	1.66	▲ 28.3

Commenting on the Group's performance, Mr Ong Pang Aik, Managing Director of Lian Beng, said, "We are pleased to have reported yet another strong set of results. This is a reflection of our sustained ability to bring value to our clients through enhanced operational efficiency."

The top-line growth was driven by revenue recognition on progress made in the construction of various projects including the Ritz Carlton Residences in Cairnhill and camp facilities at Kranji, together with contribution from the property development and ready-mixed concrete business. Compared to a year ago, the Group's gross profit margin registered an improvement to 13.3%, from 12.2%.

At the close of the half-year, cash and cash equivalents stood at \$37.0 million, representing a whopping \$33.1 million improvement, from \$3.9 million as at 30 November 2008.

In the six months, Lian Beng clinched two new contracts worth \$213.7 million for the construction of private residential developments *Waterfront Key*, and *The Gale*. In addition,



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*Lincoln Suites*, in which the Group holds a 25% stake was also launched to positive response from the public.

With the signs of economic improvement in Singapore becoming more evident, the Group expects the local private residential property market to continue to enjoy a robust, healthy and sustained level of interest, as witnessed in the past six months. Following the successful launch of various private property developments, the Group is hopeful of an increase in demand for construction services from the private sector in the ensuing 12 months.

As at 30 November 2009, the Group's order book stood at a healthy \$598 million, which should provide it with a constant flow of construction activities through FY13.

# About Lian Beng Group Ltd

Lian Beng Group Ltd is one of Singapore's major homegrown building construction group, principally engaged in general building construction, integrated civil engineering works and construction support services. Established in 1973 and listed on the Singapore Exchange in 1999, Lian Beng has accumulated a strong track record in the building industry, both locally and in the regional markets, where its past undertakings encompassed public and private residential, institutional, industrial and commercial projects, including the construction of the basement structure of the Marina Bay Integrated Resort hotel towers. In addition to the Group's core business, Lian Beng is also involved in engineering and leasing of construction machinery and equipment as well as property development. For more information, please visit <a href="http://www.lianbeng.com.sg">http://www.lianbeng.com.sg</a>

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