

## LINMARK'S SUBSIDIARY STRENGTHENS STRATEGIC ALLIANCE WITH PSB CERTIFICATION

\* \* \*

(Hong Kong – 7 April 2004) **Linmark Group Limited** ("Linmark" or the "Group") (stock code: 915), a one-stop global sourcing agent, today announced that its wholly-owned subsidiary, **ISO International (Holdings) Limited** ("ISO International"), has entered into a strategic alliance with **PSB Certification Pte Ltd** ("PSB Certification"). Through a closer bond between the two companies, this partnership will create synergies by tapping into each other's strengths, allowing ISO International to offer a wider range of services to its customers and suppliers.

Through this alliance, ISO International will introduce companies that require management systems certification to PSB Certification. Both companies hope to expand its customer base in China through tapping on each other resources and strengths to provide a wider range of services to customers.

"We are very pleased to team up with PSB Certification," said Mr. Steven Feniger, CEO of Linmark. The collaboration will leverage on ISO International's solid and diversified network and PSB Certification's professional knowledge in certification to bring mutual benefits not only to the two companies, but also to ISO International's existing and potential customers and suppliers."

ISO International's services are not limited to supply chain management. It also provides one-stop sourcing services ranging from consultancy, design, sourcing and procurement to quality inspection, fulfillment and certification services for home lifestyle consumer electronic products. With its extensive network of suppliers and manufacturers worldwide, ISO International undertakes quality inspection for customers and advises on improving manufacturing systems and processes to help customers achieve better product quality.

PSB Certification Pte Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of SPRING Singapore (the former Singapore Productivity and Standards Board), was corporatised on 1 April 2001. PSB Certification, as the national certification body, provides independent assessment on companies' management systems based on national, international and industry standards such as ISO 9000, ISO 14000, QS-9000 and ISO/TS 16949. It is also the first national certification body in Asia outside Japan, authorised to issue ISO/TS 16949: 2002 certificates.

**Mr. Barry Pettitt, President of ISO International** said, "We believe that riding on PSB Certification's expertise in providing certification services, we can enhance the quality and breadth of our services and give an even higher level of confidence to our customers."

**Dr. Steve Lai, Chairman of PSB Certification** said, "We see an accelerating demand in applying different kinds of internationally recognised standards in China. In identifying ISO International as a company with a good network of potential customers for PSB Certification, we believe the alliance is the best tool for us to work hand-in-hand to achieve a win-win situation and further explore business opportunities in the China market."

- end -

## **About Linmark Group Limited**

Linmark, listed on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited in May 2002, is a one-stop global sourcing agent. With presence in 29 cities in 20 countries and territories, the Group offers comprehensive and efficient sourcing solutions to its customers, the majority of whom are leading retail chain operators, well-known brands, wholesalers, mail order houses and departments stores in North America, Europe, Asia and Africa. Examples include Hudson's Bay Company, Brylane, Federated Department Stores, Jockey, J.C. Penney, Mothercare, Calvin Klein® Jeans, Chaps by Ralph Lauren®, Speedo®, Edcon, etc.

## For more information:

## **Strategic Financial Relations Limited**

Veron Ng: veron@strategic.com.hk tel: 2864 4831 Cecilia Chui: cecilia@strategic.com.hk tel: 2864 4895 Keris Leung: keris@strategic.com.hk tel: 2864 4863

fax: 2804 2789 / 2527 1196