



PRESS RELEASE

Lasseters achieves robust turnaround to post FY2021 net profit of AUD6.63m; revenue rises 28.14% to AUD46.41m

- *Gaming sector posts 54.20% increase in revenue due to higher patronage from locals and enhanced gaming offerings at its casino*
- *Despite ongoing travel restrictions, non-gaming sector – hotel and convention centre – registers a 12.30% gain in revenue, thanks to a recovery in the second half of FY2021*
- *Turnaround also aided by a 3.09% reduction in operating expenses on most fronts due to active cost management strategies*
- *Following the proposed disposal of its casino assets announced in April, the Group will re-look its investment geographically in Malaysia to seek out opportunistic deals*

SINGAPORE – 16 August 2021 - SGX Catalist-listed Lasseters International Holdings Limited (“LIH” or “the Group”), operator of a centre of entertainment in Alice Springs, has achieved a robust turnaround in its full year (“FY2021”) financial performance by posting a net profit of AUD6.63 million as against a loss of AUD6.79 million for the 12 months ended 30 June 2020. This was achieved on the back of a 28.14% increase in total revenue to AUD46.41 million from AUD36.22 million previously.

The turnaround, already evident during the first half of the financial year as announced on 5 February 2021, was due to a combination of factors: primarily increased revenue from its gaming sector arising from pent-up demand after the government mandated restrictions during the pandemic; Australian government support on wage subsidies and other tourism initiatives which drew more local patrons to its land-based hotel and casino operations in Alice Springs; and an active enhancement programme for its gaming operations, all aimed to maximise revenue growth.

“We pushed ahead with enhanced gaming offerings with new machines and facilities on the gaming floor as well as the expansion of our loyalty programme which helped us achieve a higher gaming market share,” notes Lasseters CEO Datuk Paul Wong, J.P.

As a result, the gaming sector recorded a significant 54.20% increase in revenue post government mandated closing during the pandemic.

This more than offset the tepid performance from the non-gaming sector within the casino segment (such as the hotel and convention centre), which nevertheless managed to register a positive 12.30% increase in revenue towards the second half of FY2021 due to the Government’s efforts to stimulate the local tourism industry.

As part of its ongoing cost management efforts, total operating expenses during the period declined by 3.09% to AUD37.71 million from AUD38.91 million previously, aiding in the turnaround. Of these, finance costs fell 29.19% or AUD1.05 million during the period due to the repayment of bank borrowings as well as the Group's efforts to structure its cost to cost of funds which has decreased in line with lower interest rate benchmarks globally.

Overall, the higher revenue and lower operating expenses has resulted in an **EBITDA** (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation, and amortisation) growth of more than 100.00% or AUD9.18 million to AUD13.76 million in FY2021.

As at 30 June 2021, the Group recorded a decrease in net assets to AUD30.46 million compared to AUD35.45 million as at 30 June 2020 due mainly to a re-measurement of fair value of the Group's land-based hotel casino in April 2021 prior to its re-classification as "assets held for sale". Cash and cash equivalent as at 30 June 2021 stood at AUD5.26 million as compared with AUD0.16 million as at 30 June 2020.

Looking ahead, the Group had in April this year announced the disposal of its casino assets comprising its freehold land and property, and improvements, the casino, hotel, convention centre, F&B and health club businesses and non-real property business assets, completion of which is expected to occur on or before 31 January 2022.

As rationalised earlier, the proposed disposal will allow the Group to re-look its investment geographically in Malaysia in the interim, leveraging on the broad experience of its Board and management and tapping on their network with local institutions to seek out opportunistic deals.

The Group's joint venture in Malaysia to develop, own and operate a 229-key 4-star Mercure hotel under the ACCOR group has been physically completed and if the recent Malaysian government announced 4-phase National Recovery Plan is on target in terms of easing restrictions, the Group expects a soft-opening in October 2021.

"We will continue to prudently manage our business strategies and take advantage of any further Government initiatives at stimulating the economy especially on the tourism front and continue to focus on effective cost management to manage risks and improve our performance in FY2022", says Datuk Paul Wong, J.P.

About Lasseters International Holdings

Lasseters International Holdings is listed on the SGX-Catalist and is primarily engaged in the following businesses: its **Casino** which offers a casino, accommodation, convention centre, food and beverages outlets and bars, commercial gym and spa; **Spa & Wellness** which offers commercial gym and spa; and **Property Development** which involves investment, construction, management and development of commercial and industrial properties. For more information, please visit www.lasseters-intl.com.

Issued by:

August Consulting Pte Ltd

For media enquiries contact:

Alan Lee, alanlee@august.com.sg

T: +65 6955 9608

Emelda Then, emeldathen@august.com.sg

T: +65 6955 9606

This press release has been reviewed by the Company's sponsor, Stamford Corporate Services Pte. Ltd. (the "Sponsor"). It has not been examined or approved by the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (the "SGX-ST") and the SGX-ST assumes no responsibility for the contents of this press release, including the correctness of any of the statements or opinions made or reports contained in this press release. The contact person for the Sponsor is Mr Bernard Lui. Tel: 6389 3000 Email: bernard.lui@morganlewis.com