Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited take no responsibility for the contents of this announcement, make no representation as to its accuracy or completeness and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss howsoever arising from or in reliance upon the whole or any part of the contents of this announcement.



### AEON CREDIT SERVICE (ASIA) COMPANY LIMITED

(Incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability)
(Stock Code: 900)

# CONTINUING CONNECTED TRANSACTION

On 23 April 2010, the Company entered into the New Licence Agreement with AEON Stores to renew the Previous Licence Agreement for the lease of the Premises.

AEON Stores is a fellow subsidiary of the Company. Accordingly, the New Licence Agreement constitutes a continuing connected transaction for the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios in respect of the New Licence Agreement is less than 2.5%, the transaction is only subject to the reporting and announcement requirements and exempt from the independent shareholders' approval requirements of Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

#### **BACKGROUND**

Reference is made to the announcement of the Company dated 14 May 2008 in respect of the Previous Licence Agreement with AEON Stores for the lease of the Premises. As the Previous Licence Agreement is going to expire on 26 April 2010, the Company entered into the New Licence Agreement with AEON Stores to renew the Previous Licence Agreement for the lease of the Premises.

# NEW LICENCE AGREEMENT

# Date

23 April 2010

#### **Parties**

- (a) The Company as licensee
- (b) AEON Stores as licensor

#### **Premises**

Shop No. L302, 3/F, Kornhill Plaza (South), 2 Kornhill Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong, with an approximate area of 846 square feet

#### Term

27 April 2010 to 30 November 2011

### Licence Fee

HK\$167,508 per month exclusive of rates and management fee

# **Management Fee**

HK\$9,306 per month (subject to adjustment)

The licence fee and management fee are payable monthly in advance by the Company to AEON Stores.

# **Annual Caps**

Based on the licence fee and management fee mentioned above, the maximum aggregate amount payable by the Company to AEON Stores in respect of the New Licence Agreement would not exceed the Annual Caps set out below:

Financial Year/Period	Annual Caps
27/4/2010 to 20/2/2011	HK\$1,800,000
21/2/2011 to 30/11/2011	HK\$1,700,000

The actual amount of the licence fee and management fee paid by the Company to AEON Stores and the annual caps under the Previous Licence Agreement are as follows:

Financial Year/Period	Actual Amount	Annual Caps
27/4/2008 to 20/2/2009	HK\$1,582,906	HK\$1,582,906
21/2/2009 to 20/2/2010	HK\$1,928,880	HK\$1,928,880
21/2/2010 to 26/4/2010	HK\$ 345,974	HK\$ 345,974

#### REASONS FOR THE TRANSACTION

The Company is principally engaged in the provision of consumer credit finance services, which include the issuance of credit cards and the provision of personal loan financing and hire purchase financing for vehicles and household and other consumer products.

AEON Stores is principally engaged in the operation of general merchandise stores.

The Company has been leasing the Premises from AEON Stores as a branch office of the Company for the provision of consumer credit finance services to the customers of both the Company and AEON Stores. The Company considers it beneficial to enter into the New Licence Agreement to ensure the continued provision of the services to the customers as well as to maintain a close business relationship with AEON Stores.

The Directors of the Company, including the Independent Non-executive Directors, consider that the New Licence Agreement is entered into in the ordinary and usual course of business of the Company, the terms of the New Licence Agreement are on normal commercial terms, which are arrived at after arm's length negotiations between the parties with reference to the prevailing rent of properties in the same location, and both the terms of the New Licence Agreement and Annual Caps are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the Company and its shareholders as a whole.

# LISTING RULES IMPLICATIONS

AEON Stores is a connected person of the Company within the meaning of the Listing Rules by virtue of its being 71.64% owned by **EON** Co., Ltd., which in turn is a substantial shareholder of the Company interested in approximately 66.22% of the issued share capital of the Company. Accordingly, the New Licence Agreement constitutes a continuing connected transaction for the Company under Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules.

As each of the applicable percentage ratios in respect of the New Licence Agreement is less than 2.5%, the transaction is only subject to the reporting and announcement requirements set out in Rules 14A.45 to 14A.47 of the Listing Rules and exempt from independent shareholders' approval requirements of Chapter 14A of the Listing Rules. Details of the transaction will be included in the next published annual report and accounts of the Company.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

In this announcement, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"AEON Stores"	AEON	Stores	(Hong	Kong)	Co	Limited.	a	company

incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability, the shares of

which are listed on the Stock Exchange

"Annual Caps" the annual caps under the New Licence Agreement

"Company" AEON Credit Service (Asia) Company Limited, a company

incorporated in Hong Kong with limited liability, the shares of

which are listed on the Stock Exchange

"Hong Kong" the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's

Republic of China

"HK\$" Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong

"Listing Rules" The Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock

Exchange

"New Licence Agreement" the licence agreement dated 23 April 2010 entered into between

the Company and AEON Stores, particulars of which are set

out in this announcement

"Previous Licence

the licence agreement dated 14 May 2008 entered into between

Agreement" the Company and AEON Stores

"Stock Exchange" The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited

By order of the Board **Masanori Kosaka** *Managing Director* 

# Hong Kong, 23 April 2010

As at the date of this announcement, the Board of Directors of the Company comprises Mr. Masanori Kosaka (Managing Director), Mr. Lai Yuk Kwong (Deputy Managing Director), Mr. Tomoyuki Kawahara (Senior Executive Director), Ms. Koh Yik Kung, Dr. Pan Shu Pin, Ban and Mr. Fung Kam Shing, Barry as Executive Directors; Mr. Yoshiki Mori (Chairman), Mr. Kazuhide Kamitani and Mr. Takatoshi Ikenishi as Non-executive Directors; and Dr. Hui Ching Shan, Mr. Wong Hin Wing and Professor Tong Jun as Independent Non-executive Directors.