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## **AUTO ITALIA HOLDINGS LIMITED**

**意達利控股有限公司\***

*(Incorporated in Bermuda with limited liability)*

**(Stock Code: 720)**

### **PLACING OF NEW SHARES UNDER GENERAL MANDATE**

**Placing Agent**



**結好證券有限公司**  
**GET NICE SECURITIES LIMITED**

On 7 March 2014 (after trading hours), the Company entered into the Placing Agreement with the Placing Agent whereby the Company conditionally agreed to place, through the Placing Agent, on a fully underwritten basis, 500,000,000 new Shares to not less than six independent Placees at the Placing Price of HK\$0.125 per Placing Share.

Assuming that there will be no change in the issued share capital of the Company between the date of this announcement and completion of the Placing, the Placing Shares represent approximately 16.90% of the Company's existing issued share capital of 2,959,452,260 Shares as at the date of this announcement and approximately 14.45% of the Company's issued share capital as enlarged by the allotment and issue of the Placing Shares. The aggregate nominal value of the Placing Shares under the Placing will be HK\$10,000,000.

The Placing Price of HK\$0.125 per Placing Share represents (i) a discount of approximately 13.79% to the closing price of HK\$0.145 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange on 7 March 2014, being the date of the Placing Agreement; and (ii) a discount of approximately 16.89% to the average closing price of HK\$0.1504 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange for the five consecutive trading days immediately prior to the date of the Placing Agreement.

The gross proceeds from the Placing will be approximately HK\$62.50 million. The Company intends to use the entire net proceeds of approximately HK\$60.83 million from the Placing as general working capital of the Group. The net proceeds raised per Placing Share will be approximately HK\$0.1217.

The Placing is conditional upon, among other things, the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange granting the listing of, and permission to deal in, the Placing Shares.

**As completion of the Placing is subject to the satisfaction of a number of conditions, the Placing may or may not proceed. Shareholders and potential investors are reminded to exercise caution when dealing in the Shares.**

## **THE PLACING AGREEMENT**

### **Date**

7 March 2014 (after trading hours)

### **Parties**

The Company and the Placing Agent

### **Placing Agent**

Get Nice Securities Limited, the Placing Agent, has conditionally agreed to place 500,000,000 Placing Shares on a fully underwritten basis and in consideration thereof, it will receive a placing commission of 2.5% on the gross proceeds of the Placing upon completion of the Placing. The Directors are of the view that the placing commission accords with the market rate and is fair and reasonable.

To the best of the Directors' knowledge and belief having made all reasonable enquiries, as at the date of this announcement, the Placing Agent and its ultimate beneficial owners are third parties independent of, not acting in concert (as defined in the Takeovers Code) with and not connected with the Company and its connected persons.

## **Placees**

The Placing Agent will place the Placing Shares to not less than six independent Placees, being individuals, institutional or other professional investors, who and whose ultimate beneficial owners are third parties independent of, not acting in concert (as defined in the Takeovers Code) with and not connected with the Company and its connected persons. It is expected that none of the Placees will become substantial Shareholder (as defined in the Listing Rules) immediately after completion of the Placing.

## **Number of Placing Shares**

Assuming that there will be no change in the issued share capital of the Company between the date of this announcement and the completion of the Placing, the 500,000,000 Placing Shares represent approximately 16.90% of the Company's existing issued share capital of 2,959,452,260 Shares as at the date of this announcement and approximately 14.45% of the Company's issued share capital as enlarged by the allotment and issue of the Placing Shares. The aggregate nominal value of the Placing Shares under the Placing will be HK\$10,000,000.

## **Placing Price**

The Placing Price of HK\$0.125 per Placing Share represents (i) a discount of approximately 13.79% to the closing price of HK\$0.145 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange on 7 March 2014, being the date of the Placing Agreement; and (ii) a discount of approximately 16.89% to the average closing price of HK\$0.1504 per Share as quoted on the Stock Exchange for the five consecutive trading days immediately prior to the date of the Placing Agreement..

The Placing Price, which was agreed after arm's length negotiation between the Company and the Placing Agent, was determined with reference to the prevailing market price of the Shares. The Directors consider that the terms of the Placing are on normal commercial terms and are fair and reasonable and in the interests of the Company and its Shareholders as a whole.

## **Ranking of Placing Shares**

The Placing Shares, when issued and fully paid, will rank pari passu in all respects among themselves and with the Shares in issue on the date of allotment and issue of the Placing Shares.

## **General Mandate**

The Placing Shares will be allotted and issued under the General Mandate granted to the Directors by a resolution of the Shareholders passed at the special general meeting of the Company held on 30 December 2013 pursuant to which the Directors are allowed to allot and issue up to 591,890,452 new Shares.

As at the date of this announcement, no new Shares have been issued and allotted pursuant to the General Mandate. Accordingly, the issue of the Placing Shares is not subject to the approval of the Shareholders.

### **Conditions of the Placing**

Completion of the Placing is conditional upon:

1. the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange granting the listing of, and permission to deal in, the Placing Shares; and
2. the transactions contemplated by the Placing Agreement not being prohibited by law or regulation or interpretation thereof in Hong Kong or other jurisdiction which is applicable to the Company or the Placing Agent.

If any of the conditions is not fulfilled on or prior to the Long Stop Date, the Placing Agreement shall terminate and none of the parties shall have any claim against the other for costs, damages, compensation or otherwise save for any antecedent breach of the Placing Agreement.

Application will be made by the Company to the Listing Committee of the Stock Exchange for the grant of the listing of, and permission to deal in, the Placing Shares.

### **Termination of the placing**

The Placing Agent may terminate the Placing Agreement without any liability to the Company, by notice in writing to the Company at any time prior to the Completion Date upon the occurrence of any of the following events which, in the absolute opinion of the Placing Agent, has or may have a material adverse effect on the business or financial conditions, affairs or prospects of the Company or the Group taken as a whole or the success of the Placing or otherwise makes it inappropriate, inadvisable or inexpedient to proceed with the Placing on the terms and in the manner contemplated in the Placing Agreement:

- (A) there develops, occurs or comes into force:
- (i) the occurrence of any event, development or change (whether or not local, national or international or forming part of a series of events, developments or changes occurring or continuing before, on and/or after the date of the Placing Agreement) and including an event or change in relation to or a development of an existing state of affairs of a political, military, industrial, financial, economic, fiscal, regulatory or other nature, resulting in a material change in, or which may result in a material change in, political, economic, fiscal, financial, regulatory or stock market conditions; or

- (ii) the imposition of any moratorium, suspension or material restriction on trading in securities generally on the Stock Exchange occurring due to exceptional financial circumstances or otherwise; or
  - (iii) any material change in conditions of local, national or international securities markets occurs; or
  - (iv) any new law or regulation or change in existing laws or regulations or any change in the interpretation or application thereof by any court or other competent authority in Hong Kong, or any other jurisdiction relevant to the Group; or
  - (v) a change or development occurs involving a prospective change of taxation or exchange control (or the implementation of exchange control) in Hong Kong or elsewhere; or
  - (vi) any litigation or claim being instigated against the Company or any member of the Group; or
- (B) any material breach of any of the representations, warranties and undertakings by the Company set out in the Placing Agreement or any event occurs or any matter arises on or after the date of the Placing Agreement and prior to the Completion Date which if it had occurred or arisen before the date of the Placing Agreement would have rendered any of such representations and warranties untrue or incorrect in any material respect or there has been a material breach by the Company of any other provision of the Placing Agreement; or
- (C) there is any adverse change in the financial position of the Company which is material in the context of the Placing;

then and in any such case, the Placing Agent may terminate the Placing Agreement without liability to the Company by giving notice in writing to the Company provided that such notice is received prior to the Long Stop Date.

Upon the giving of the above mentioned notice by the Placing Agent to the Company, all obligations of each of the parties under the Placing Agreement shall cease and determine and no party shall have any claim against the other party in respect of any matter arising out of or in connection with the Placing Agreement except for any antecedent breach of any obligation under the Placing Agreement; and outstanding liabilities under the terms of the Placing Agreement.

## **Completion of the Placing**

Completion of the Placing shall take place on the Completion Date.

**As completion of the Placing is subject to the satisfaction of a number of conditions, the Placing may or may not proceed. Shareholders and potential investors are reminded to exercise caution when dealing in the Shares.**

## **REASONS FOR THE PLACING AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

The Group is principally engaged in the import, distribution and after-sales service of motor cars.

The gross proceeds from the Placing will be approximately HK\$62.50 million. The Company intends to use the entire net proceeds of approximately HK\$60.83 million from the Placing as general working capital of the Group. The net proceeds raised per Placing Share will be approximately HK\$0.1217.

The Directors are of the view that the Placing will enlarge the shareholder base and the capital base of the Company. In addition, the net proceeds of the Placing will strengthen the Group's financial position for future development of the Group. Accordingly, they consider that the Placing is in the interests of the Company and the Shareholders as a whole.

## **FUND RAISING EXERCISES DURING THE PAST 12 MONTHS**

As disclosed in the announcements of the Company dated 12 September 2012, 24 December 2012 and 28 January 2013 respectively and the circular of the Company dated 9 November 2012, the Company proposed a placing, through a placing agent on a fully underwritten basis, of reverse convertible notes and straight bonds to raise a maximum gross proceeds of approximately HK\$500 million in aggregate for the development of and working capital of the Group's Ferrari and Maserati business in Hong Kong, mainland China and Macau. However, as disclosed in the announcement of the Company dated 28 June 2013, the Company and the placing agent entered into a termination agreement and such proposed placing was terminated.

Save as disclosed above, the Company has not conducted any fund raising exercise in the past twelve months before the date of this announcement.

## EFFECT ON SHAREHOLDING STRUCTURE

The shareholding structures of the Company (i) as at the date of this announcement and (ii) immediately after completion of the Placing (assuming there is no change in the share capital of the Company between the date of this announcement and completion of the Placing) are set out below for illustration purpose:

	As at the date of this announcement		Immediately after completion of the Placing	
	Number of Shares	approximately %	Number of Shares	approximately %
VMSIG and parties acting in concert with it <i>(Note 1)</i>	704,770,045	23.81	704,770,045	20.37
Mr. Tan Boon Seng <i>(Note 2)</i>	1,020,000	0.03	1,020,000	0.03
Places	–	–	500,000,000	14.45
Other Public Shareholders	2,253,662,215	76.16	2,253,662,215	65.15
Total Public Shareholders	<u>2,253,662,215</u>	<u>76.16</u>	<u>2,843,662,215</u>	<u>79.60</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>2,959,452,260</u></b>	<b><u>100.0</u></b>	<b><u>3,459,452,260</u></b>	<b><u>100.00</u></b>

### Notes:

1. VMSIG and parties acting in concert with it are interested in an aggregate of 704,770,045 Shares, of which 501,620,045 Shares are held by VMSIG and 203,150,000 Shares are held by Gustavo International Limited (a company owned as to approximately 80% by Maini Investments Limited which is in turn a wholly-owned subsidiary of VMSIG).
2. Mr. Tan Boon Seng is an independent non-executive Director.

## DEFINITIONS

In this announcement, the following terms shall have the meanings ascribed to them below unless the context otherwise requires:

“Board”	the board of Directors
“Business Day”	any day (other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday) on which banks in Hong Kong are generally open for business

“Company”	Auto Italia Holdings Limited (意達利控股有限公司*), a company incorporated in Bermuda, the issued Shares of which are listed on the Main Board of the Stock Exchange (stock code: 720)
“Completion Date”	means a day as soon as possible following the satisfaction of all the conditions of the Placing and in any event not later than five (5) Business Days after the satisfaction of the conditions of the Placing (or such other date as the Company and the Placing Agent may agree in writing) and on which completion of the Placing will take place
“connected person(s)”	has the meaning ascribed thereto in the Listing Rules
“Director(s)”	the director(s) of the Company
“General Mandate”	the mandate granted to the Directors by the Shareholders at a special general meeting of the Company held on 30 December 2013 to allot, issue and deal with up to 20% of the then issued share capital of the Company
“Group”	the Company and its subsidiaries
“Hong Kong”	the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China
“Listing Rules”	the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on the Stock Exchange
“Long Stop Date”	30 April 2014 or such later date as the Company and the Placing Agent shall agree
“Placees”	any professional, institutional or other investor procured by the Placing Agent to subscribe for any of the Placing Shares pursuant to the Placing Agreement
“Placing”	placing of 500,000,000 new Shares by the Placing Agent on a fully underwritten basis pursuant to the terms of the Placing Agreement



“Placing Agent”	Get Nice Securities Limited, a licensed corporation to carry on business in type 1 regulated activity (dealing in securities), type 4 regulated activity (advising on securities), type 6 regulated activity (advising on corporate finance) and type 9 regulated activity (asset management) under the SFO
“Placing Agreement”	a conditional placing agreement dated 7 March 2014 entered into between the Company and the Placing Agent in relation to the Placing
“Placing Price”	HK\$0.125 per Placing Share
“Placing Shares”	500,000,000 new Shares to be placed under the Placing
“SFO”	the Securities and Futures Ordinance (Chapter 571 of the Laws of Hong Kong)
“Shareholder(s)”	holder(s) of Share(s)
“Share(s)”	ordinary share(s) at par value of HK\$0.02 each in the share capital of the Company
“Stock Exchange”	The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited
“Takeovers Code”	the Code on Takeovers and Mergers in Hong Kong
“VMSIG”	VMS Investment Group Limited, a company incorporated in the British Virgin Islands with limited liability
“HK\$”	Hong Kong dollars, the lawful currency of Hong Kong
“%”	per cent

By order of the Board  
**AUTO ITALIA HOLDINGS LIMITED**  
**Chong Tin Lung Benny**  
*Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*

Hong Kong, 7 March 2014

*As at the date of this announcement, the Board comprises Mr. Chong Tin Lung Benny (Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer), Mr. William Keith Jacobsen and Mr. Lam Chi Yan, all of whom are executive Directors; and Mr. Tan Boon Seng, Dr. Antonio Maria Santos and Mr. Kong To Yeung Frankie, all of whom are independent non-executive Directors.*

\* *For identification purposes only*