

#### TELECHOICE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

(REG. NO. 199802072R)

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# TELECHOICE'S FY13 EARNINGS GREW BY 17.2% TO S\$9.6 MILLION

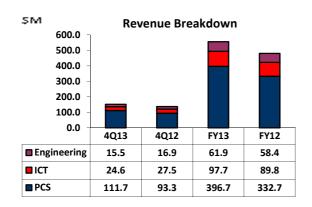
- ► Proposed final dividend of 1.6 cents per ordinary share representing a dividend yield of 6.8%
- ► Continued improvement in revenue across all three business divisions for FY13
- ► Strong balance sheet with healthy cash position of S\$48.9 million

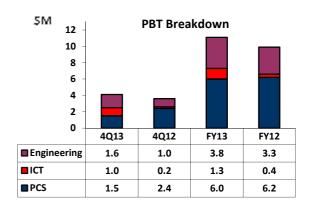
### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

S\$'M	3 months ended Dec 2013			Full-year ended Dec 2013		
	4Q13	4Q12	+/- (%)	FY13	FY12	+/- (%)
Revenue	151.8	137.7	10.2%	556.3	480.9	15.7%
Gross Profit	13.0	12.0	8.1%	43.5	41.6	4.6%
Gross Margin	8.5%	8.7%	-0.2ppt	7.8%	8.7%	-0.9ppt
Profit Before Tax ("PBT")	4.1	3.6	14.2%	11.1	9.9	11.9%
Profit After Tax	4.2	3.5	21.7%	9.6	8.2	17.2%
Earnings Per Share (cents)	0.92	0.75	22.7%	2.13	1.81	17.7%
	As at 31/12/13	As at 31/12/12				
Net Asset Value Per Share (cents)	15.30	15.73				

**Singapore, 28 February 2014** – SGX mainboard listed **TeleChoice International Limited** ("**TeleChoice**" or the "**Group**"), a regional diversified provider and enabler of innovative infocommunications products and services, reported net profit after tax of S\$9.6 million for the financial year ended 31 December 2013 ("**FY13**"), up 17.2% from the previous financial year. For the fourth quarter ended 31 December 2013 ("**4Q13**"), net profit increased by 21.7% to S\$4.2 million as compared to the previous corresponding period. The earnings growth was in line with the higher revenue of S\$556.3 million for FY13 and S\$151.8 million for 4Q13.

## PERFORMANCE REVIEW & SEGMENTAL UPDATE





Personal Communications Solutions Services ("**PCS**") division registered a sizeable growth in revenue of 19% to S\$396.7 million and 20% to S\$111.7 million for FY13 and 4Q13 respectively. This was primarily attributable to increased sales to a major Singapore customer, higher retail management services retainer fees and sales in Malaysia, partially offset by lower regional and prepaid cards sales.

Boosted by the higher recognition from larger-scale projects in FY13, revenue from Info-Communications Technology Services ("ICT") division rose by 9% to S\$97.7 million, despite the lower enterprise solutions sales and IDD usage. On the other hand, quarterly revenue was impacted by the weaker enterprise solutions sales in 4Q13, which led to a 11% decline to S\$24.6 million.

For the Network Engineering Services ("**Engineering**") division, the Group recorded revenue of S\$61.9 million for FY13, a 6% increase from the previous year, from combined site projects, transmission equipment and product sales in Singapore. The contribution from overseas markets, however, was weaker than the previous year due to lower radio network planning projects, product and power supply sales in Indonesia and fewer in-building coverage projects in Malaysia. 4Q13 revenue decreased by 8% to S\$15.5 million from lower radio network planning projects in Indonesia.

In terms of profitability, the Group achieved a healthy 11.9% and 14.2% overall increase in PBT for FY13 and 4Q13 respectively, backed by improved performance of ICT and Engineering divisions. The former reported a decrease in operating expenses and lower share of losses of a jointly-controlled entity for the abovementioned periods while Engineering division benefited from its improved Singapore operations, offset by lower contribution from businesses in Malaysia and Indonesia. In contrast, PCS division's PBT decreased to S\$6.0 million in FY13 due to lower margins from its Singapore operations, though partly mitigated by additional contribution from the expanded scope of services rendered to a Malaysian customer during the year. As for 4Q13, PBT

was lower due to the absence of a one-off retainer fee received from a customer in Malaysia in the previous corresponding quarter.

As at 31 December 2013, the Group continues to maintain a healthy financial position with cash and cash equivalents of \$\$48.9 million.

Subject to approval at the Group's forthcoming Annual General Meeting, the Board of Directors has proposed a final dividend payout of 1.6 cents per ordinary share for FY13, which translates into a dividend yield of 6.8% (based on closing share price of \$\$0.235 as at 31 December 2013).

## **FUTURE OUTLOOK**

Commenting on the future prospects, Mr Vincent Lim, President of TeleChoice said, "Going forward, we anticipate growing demand for mobile devices, which will be driven by ongoing launches of various new smart phone models and mobile devices in Singapore. Having established strong rapport with our key partners, the growth prospects of PCS division remain promising. We will continue to seek ways to diversify our revenue stream while strengthening both our retail and e-commerce presence, as evidenced by the opening of new outlets at strategic locations and our recently launched e-commerce platform, www.eplanetworld.com.

For ICT division, our efforts of venturing into new markets and the expansion of our customer base have begun to bear fruit in 2013. Our main focus for the division is to grow our enterprise solutions business and to build on our services and solutions for this market.

At the same time, Engineering Services is poised for better growth momentum with ongoing regional network upgrading, expansion by the telecom operators and the implementation of 3G and LTE networks.

With increasing competition and escalating operating costs, we will also expend considerable efforts in improving productivity across our businesses. For a start, we will be integrating our operations as we consolidate some of our business divisions and subsidiaries into one location."

Based on the current outlook and barring any unforeseen circumstances, the Group expects the full year 2014 performance to be not worse off than FY2013. >ends

This release may contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Actual future performance, outcomes and results may differ materially from those expressed in forward-looking statements as a result of risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Representative examples of these factors include (without limitation) general industry and economic conditions, interest rate trends, cost of capital and capital availability, competition from other companies and venues for the sale/distribution of goods and services, shifts in customer demands, customers and partners, changes in operating expenses, including employee wages, benefits and training, and governmental and public policy changes. You are cautioned not to place undue reliance on these forward looking statements, which are based on current view of management on future events.

## ABOUT TELECHOICE INTERNATIONAL LIMITED (REG. NO. 199802072R)

TeleChoice International Limited ("TeleChoice") is a regional diversified provider and enabler of innovative info-communications products and services. Incorporated in Singapore on 28 April 1998 and listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited ("SGX-ST") on 25 June 2004, TeleChoice is a subsidiary of leading info-communications group, Singapore Technologies Telemedia Pte Ltd, which operates in the Asia Pacific, the Americas and Europe.

TeleChoice offers a comprehensive suite of services and solutions for the info-communications industry under three business divisions, Personal Communications Solutions Services ("PCS"), Info-Communications Technology Services ("ICT") and Network Engineering Services ("Engineering").

For more information, please visit our website at www.telechoice.com.sg

## Issued by 29 Communications LLP on behalf of TeleChoice International Limited

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