

ASMPT 2014 First Quarterly Net Profit Surges 18.7 Times to HK\$156.7 Million

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ACHIEVE NEW HEIGHT IN LEAD FRAME TURNOVER ALL BUSINESSES RETURN TO GROWTH WITH INCREASED BOOKINGS

Highlights

- Sequential improvements in bookings across all three of our business segments during the first quarter of 2014. New order bookings have improved by 37.8% as compared to the last quarter of 2013 to US\$403.4 million
- The book-to-bill ratio for the Group for the first quarter of 2014 was 1.26, the order backlog as of 31 March 2014 increased to US\$340.5 million, an increase of 32.7% from the end of 2013
- Group turnover of US\$321.3 million, representing a growth of 17.3% over the same period last year and a decline of 9.8% against preceding three months
- Net profit of HK\$156.7 million, which is 19.7 times of the profit of the same period last year and 3.3 times of the profit of the preceding quarter
- Earnings per share of HK\$0.39, representing an improvement of HK\$0.27 and HK\$0.37 over last quarter and the same period last year, respectively
- Back-end equipment turnover of US\$163.5 million, representing a growth of 34.0% over the same period last year and an increase of 2.3% over the preceding three months
- Lead frame turnover of US\$57.0 million, achieving a growth of 11.4% and 22.6% over the preceding three months and the same period last year, respectively
- SMT equipment turnover of US\$100.8 million, representing a decline of 30.6% and 4.3% against the last three months and the same period last year, respectively
- SMT equipment business has continued to deliver positive operating profits despite a competitive business environment
- Cash on hand of HK\$3.3 billion at the end of March 2014

(Hong Kong, April 24, 2014) — The world's No.1 semiconductor assembly and packaging equipment supplier **ASM Pacific Technology Limited** ("ASMPT" / the "Group") (Stock code: 522) today announced its quarterly results for the three months ended March 31, 2014. It has been a very promising start to the year. The Group has experienced increased bookings across all three of its business segments. Net profit has surged significantly over the previous quarter and the same period last year, ASMPT has certainly returned to growth. Worth noting, lead frame business has also achieved the highest revenue that the Group has ever achieved during the first quarter of any year in its history. Moreover, the Group has significantly improved the profitability of its Back-end equipment business.

During the quarter under review, ASMPT achieved a turnover amounting to HK\$2.5 billion for the three months ended 31 March 2014, representing an increase of 17.3% as compared with HK\$2.1 billion for the first quarter of 2013. The Group's consolidated profit after taxation for the first quarter of 2014 was HK\$156.7 million as compared to a profit of HK\$8.0 million in the corresponding period in 2013. Net profit surged 2.3 times and 18.7 times over the preceding quarter and the same period last year respectively. Basic earnings per share for the first quarter of 2014 amounted to HK\$0.39 (2013Q1: HK\$0.02). Cash on hand as of 31 March 2014 was HK\$3.3 billion.

New order bookings amounted to US\$403.4 million, which was an increase of 31.4% over the corresponding quarter last year. The book-to-bill ratio, representing net bookings over billings, was 1.26 for the first quarter of 2014. The order backlog as of the end of the first quarter increased to US\$340.5 million, constituting an increase of 32.7% as compared to the end of last year.

Mr. Lee Wai Kwong, Chief Executive Officer of ASMPT, said, "We are encouraged by the initial positive signs in 2014. Lead frame business continued to perform well and achieved revenue of US\$57.0 million, representing an expansion of 22.6% as compared to the same period last year, contributing to 17.7% of the Group's total revenue. It is especially notable that its first-quarter revenue was the highest that we have ever achieved during the first quarters of any year in our history. Additionally, its new order bookings grew by 8.9% over the fourth quarter of 2013, which will lead to a further increase in revenue in the coming second quarter."

Back-end equipment revenue amounted to US\$163.5 million, representing a strong growth of 34.0% against the same period last year, contributing to 50.9% of the Group's revenue during the first quarter of 2014. Its segment bookings received during the first three months have surged by 48.7% against the same period last year. The performance of the business unit was supported by the recovery in the semiconductor and LED markets, increased revenue contribution from its Thermo-Compression Bonding equipment, and strong demand from the automotive electronics and power management markets. Due to higher revenue contribution from the Back-end equipment business, as well as effective cost-reduction efforts, the gross margin of Back-end business, which consists of the Back-end equipment and Lead frame segments, was 32.3% during the period, representing improvements of 6.6% and 5.3% against the first and fourth quarters last year respectively.

Bookings for SMT equipment grew strongly by 29.4% year-on-year. However, due to a relatively low level of bookings received during the fourth quarter of last year, SMT equipment revenue amounted to US\$100.8 million, contracting by 4.3% from the corresponding quarter last year, contributing to 31.4% of the Group's revenue during the first quarter of 2014. Despite a competitive business environment, the Group is pleased that the business unit has continued to deliver positive operating profits. In addition, the start of the year has historically been a low season for SMT equipment sales. Looking forward, it has been observed an ongoing recovery in the European market for its SMT equipment, which is a good sign because of the Group's leading position in that market.

"Following from the rebound in bookings during the start of the year, we expect our billings to improve in the second quarter of 2014 for all the three segments of our business. We are on course to attain a moderate double-digit percentage improvement in billings over the same period of last year. With improved billings, we are confident that it should lead to further improvements in profitability, particularly for our Back-end and SMT equipment businesses. With our new initiatives and the market is now well on track to recovery, the future for ASMPT is promising." **Mr. Lee concluded.**

ASM Pacific Technology Limited April 24, 2014(Page 3)

About ASM Pacific Technology Limited

ASMPT is listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange since 1989. The Group is principally engaged in the design, manufacture and marketing of machines, tools and materials used in the assembly and packaging of semiconductor devices and surface mount technology, with operations being carried out in China (including Hong Kong), Germany, Malaysia and Singapore.

Currently, ASMPT is one of the constituent stocks on the Hang Seng HK MidCap Index under the Hang Seng Composite Index, the Hang Seng Information Technology Industry Index, the Hang Seng Hong Kong 35 index and the Hang Seng Global Composite Index.

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(N.B.: Enclosed please find the Financial Highlights of ASM Pacific Technology Limited.)

ASM PACIFIC TECHNOLOGY LIMITED FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	Three months ended		
	31 March	31 December	31 March
	2014	2013	2013
	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)	(Unaudited)
	HK\$'000	HK\$'000	HK\$'000
Turnover	2,493,433	2,763,755	2,125,516
Cost of sales	(1,685,681)	(2,014,315)	(1,580,431)
Gross profit	807,752	749,440	545,085
Other income	1,795	20,019	1,159
Selling and distribution expenses	(233,649)	(232,060)	(206,035)
General and administrative expenses	(127,256)	(174,100)	(113,337)
Research and development expenses	(235,436)	(240,360)	(211,665)
Other gains and losses	(8,923)	(804)	10,813
Restructuring costs	-	(104,521)	-
Finance costs	(6,216)	(4,600)	(4,972)
Profit before taxation	198,067	13,014	21,048
Income tax expense	(41,376)	34,179	(13,096)
Profit for the period, attributable to owners of the Company	156,691	47,193	7,952
 Other comprehensive (expense) income exchange differences on translation of foreign operations, which may be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss remeasurement of defined benefit retirement plans, net of tax, which will not be reclassified to profit or loss 	(8,463)	50,072 12,108	(48,929)
Other comprehensive (expense) income for the period	(8,463)	62,180	(48,929)
Total comprehensive income (expense) for the period, attributable to owners of the Company	148,228	109,373	(40,977)
Earnings per share			
- Basic	HK\$0.39	HK\$0.12	HK\$0.02
- Diluted	HK\$0.39	HK\$0.12	HK\$0.02