



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Sixty Seven Companies Participate in Hong Kong's First Employee Volunteer Week**

**Hong Kong, 22 May** – More than 1,300 employees volunteered 3,600 hours of their collective time on over 75 volunteer activities serving Hong Kong charitable organisations and NGOs as a part of Hong Kong's first Employee Volunteer Week, held on 10-16 May.

The efforts of these companies and employee volunteers benefitted more than 3,500 beneficiaries over the course of the campaign.

Jim Thompson, Chair of the Community Business Leadership Team (CBLT) – the group of companies behind Employee Volunteer Week – and Chairman of Crown Worldwide Group, said the scale of participation from the companies, their employees and CEOs indicates a strong level of commitment to give back to the Hong Kong community during a time of economic hardship.

“Businesses are stretched and under pressure today, yet the fact that 67 companies and 21 CEOs participated in Employee Volunteer Week, demonstrates the strong business case for employee volunteering in Hong Kong, and that support spans employees and CEOs,” said Mr. Thompson.

Shalini Mahtani, CEO of Community Business – the NGO that organised Employee Volunteer Week – said that surveys completed by participating companies indicated benefits not just to the charitable organisations and NGOs that were the recipients of the volunteer activities, but also to the businesses themselves.

“Companies that participated in Employee Volunteer Week reported that their volunteer activities have helped to increase employee motivation, pride in the firm, and relationships among colleagues, as well as strengthen the participating companies' standings as employers of choice.”

Companies of all sizes and across various industries, including finance & banking, accountancy, law, and technology, took part in Employee Volunteer Week. Highlights of the volunteer activities companies held during Employee Volunteer Week include:

- Staff from Crown Worldwide Group took 28 underprivileged families on a daylong outing to Ocean Park on 16 May.
- The Prudential Assurance Company Ltd CEO Jeff Walker and 50 Prudential employees spent the day conducting a financial management workshop and serving as mentors for 200 secondary school students on 16 May.
- Employees at Allen & Overy carried out two volunteer activities, including a visit to the elderly on 10 May to St Mary's Home for the Aged in Aberdeen and reading to children at the Hans Andersen youth centre in Lok Fu on 16 May.

Community Business will publish the full findings of a survey of companies that participated in Employee Volunteer Week at a later date on its web site at <http://www.communitybusiness.org>.

The CEOs that participated in Employee Volunteer Week include:

<b>Name of CEO</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Company</b>
Christophe Bezu	CEO, Head of Region Asia	adidas Group
Catherine Husted	Partner	Allen & Overy
Ruth Gee	Director	British Council
Andrew Brandler	CEO	CLP Holdings Limited
Shalini Mahtani	Founder and CEO	Community Business
Jim Thompson	Chairman	Crown Worldwide Group
Connie Carnabuci	Partner and Head of IP/IT China Practice	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Andrew Kam	Managing Director	Hong Kong Disneyland Resort
Kishore Sakhrani – ICS Trust (Asia) Limited	Director	ICS Trust (Asia) Limited
Jennifer Milford	COO	JSM
King Lai	CFO	Leo Paper (Hong Kong) Group
Nicola Wakefield Evans	Managing Partner, International	Mallesons Stephen Jaques
Herman Lam	General Manager	Microsoft Hong Kong
Tim Minges	Region President	PepsiCo International - Asia Pacific
Vincent Connor	Head of Office, Hong Kong	Pinsent Masons
Lawrence Lam	Country Executive	RBS
Benjamin Hung	CEO and Executive Director	Standard Chartered Bank
Andrew Fox-Smith	Group President, International	Stryker Pacific
Simon Taylor	Managing Consultant	Text 100
Jeff Walker	CEO	The Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd.
Stanley Cheung	Executive Vice President and Managing Director of Greater China	The Walt Disney Company (Asia Pacific) Ltd.

Amongst the 67 companies that participated in Employee Volunteer Week are:

adidas, AECOM, Allen & Overy, American Express International Inc, AT&T, Baker & McKenzie, Bank Consortium Trust Company Limited, Bank of America, N.A., British Council Hong Kong, CASH Financial Services Group Limited, Celestial Asia Securities Holdings Limited, Child Development Centre, Cisco, CITIC Capital Holdings Limited, CITIC Securities International Company Limited, CLP Holdings Limited, Clubby Hair Salon, Community Business Ltd, Computime Limited, Crown Worldwide Group, DBS Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, Emperor Group, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Goldman Sachs, HKCCA, Hong Kong Disneyland Resort, HongKongRecruitment.com, Hong Kong Social Enterprise Incubation Centre, IBM China/Hong Kong Limited, ICS Trust (Asia) Limited, www.iCUBED.us (Global Webzine for Thinking Teens), iOne (Regional) Financial Press Limited (RFP), Jebsen & Co Ltd, JSM, Kalmar Asia Pacific Limited, KAZ Computer Services Hongkong Limited, KCS Hong Kong Limited, KML Engineering Limited, KPMG, Leo Paper (Hong Kong) Group, Mallesons Stephen Jaques, Merrill Lynch, Methanex Asia Pacific Limited, Microsoft Hong Kong Limited, Mizuho, MTR Corporations, Nokia (HK) Limited, PCCW Limited, Pentland Asia, PepsiCo - Asia Pacific Region, Pricerite Stores Limited, The Prudential Assurance Co. Ltd., Reebok, The Royal Bank of Scotland, Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, Starbucks, Stryker Pacific, Text 100 Hong Kong, Thompson Reuters, Town House, Vogue Laundry Service Limited, The Walt Disney Company (Asia Pacific) Ltd., WR Grace (HK) Limited, wwwins Consulting Hong Kong Limited, Zurich Insurance Group (Hong Kong)

### About Community Business

Community Business is a unique membership based non-profit organisation whose mission is to lead, inspire and support businesses to continually improve their positive impact on people and communities. Community Business provides training, facilitation and advice to some of the world's largest companies in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and its major areas of focus include CSR strategy and policy, corporate community investment and diversity in the workplace. Founded in 2003 and based in Hong Kong, Community Business currently works with a number of organisations, small, medium and large, committed to CSR.

For more information, visit [www.communitybusiness.org](http://www.communitybusiness.org)

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