

**Speech by Mr Stephen IP, GBS, JP**  
**Secretary for Economic Development and Labour**  
**at BALtrans 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner**  
**on 16 March 2007**

Anthony, ladies and gentlemen,

Good evening! I am glad to join you tonight for the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of BALtrans Holdings Limited.

2. Hong Kong's logistics industry has seen much progress over the past two decades. Its focus has shifted from mere cargo transportation to the management of supply chains. Today, Hong Kong is an important logistics hub for China and the region. Our logistics companies offer premium value-added services, leveraging on Hong Kong's strategic location. Our multi-modal transportation networks and advanced information technology serve us well as a key sourcing centre. We also consolidate, distribute and manage inventory for international brand names. All this is due to the enterprise, initiative and dedication of our logistics service providers, amongst them BALtrans is a role model.

3. Thanks to the vision and entrepreneurship of Anthony and

the innovation and hard work of his team, BALtrans has established itself as a prominent logistics enterprise in Asia. Based in Hong Kong, but with a strong regional presence and global operations spanning across Asia, Africa, America and Europe, BALtrans is no doubt at the cutting edge of the logistics industry.

4. Despite the fierce competition in the logistics industry, BALtrans is always a step or two ahead of others. BALtrans is the first forwarding and logistics group to achieve an IPO in South Asia, and also the first logistics company to acquire ISO 92002 quality standard in Hong Kong. More importantly, BALtrans champions the application of information technology, which is essential for modern logistics operations.

5. Ladies and Gentlemen, I am glad to be here tonight to congratulate BALtrans on its remarkable achievements over the past 25 years. I wish BALtrans continued success in the future and all of you good health, good business and good profits. Thank you.