

MEDIA CLIPPING

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Matrix declares 4.4 sen dividend, RM48m profit

by NG MIN SHEN

MATRIX Concepts Holdings Bhd declared a fifth interim single tier dividend of 44 sen per ordinary share, to be paid on July 1, 2016.

The property developer company posted a net profit of RM47.97 million or earnings per share of 8.6 sen for the first three months of the year ended March 31, 2016.

Revenue for the quarter stood at RM211.28 million, the company noted in a filing with the stock exchange yesterday. The property developer has changed its financial year end from Dec 31 to March 31.

"Despite the challenging environment in the property sector, we recorded encouraging take-up rates of our residential and commercial projects," Matrix Concepts chairman Datuk Mohamad Haslah Mohamad Amin said in a statement yesterday.

He said customer feedback on the company's more affordably-priced projects launched in the last six months has been positive. "We are confident that the rest of our 2016 launches totalling over RM1 billion would be well received by the market," Mohamad Haslah said.

The property developer is planning to increase revenue contribution from the sales of commercial properties in its flagship townships, Bandar Sri Sendayan in Seremban, Negri Sembilan, and Bandar Seri Impian in Kluang, Johor, to make up 15% or more of group revenue in the next two years.

For the last 12 months end-

ing March 31, 2016, Matrix Concepts recorded RM817.4 million in new property sales in Negri Sembilan and Johor on the back of RM662 million sales for the previous 12 months.

It recorded a net profit of RM261.19 million for the 15 months ended March 31, 2016, and revenue of RM912.23 million.

Compared to the financial year ended Dec 31, 2014 (FY14), top line expanded 52.3% from RM598.8 million while bottom line grew 43.3% from RM182.2

million, above the 25% mark required to compensate for the extra quarter in the 15-month period (FY15/FY16).

Residential and commercial properties sales for the 15-month period (FY15/FY16) contributed RM749.6 million or 82.2% to group revenue, while industrial properties and land sales comprised RM141 million or 15.5% of said revenue.

The group's unbilled sales stood at RM621.4 million as at March 31, 2016, to be recognised until 2018.