

15 April 2013

## DISCLOSURE DEPARTMENT

The Philippine Stock Exchange Philippine Stock Exchange Plaza Ayala Avenue, Makati City

> Attention: **Ms. Janet Encarnacion** Head

## Subject: Manila Bulletin news article dated April 13, 2013

## **GENTLEMEN:**

The subject news article published in the newspaper, Manila Bulletin, last April 13, 2013 states, *in toto*:

## Ayala, MVP Firms Unite, Vie For P1.72-B LRT Fare Project By KRIS BAYOS

Automatic fare collection system (AFCS) providers and radio frequency identification cards (RFID) suppliers in Asian and Middle Eastern countries joined Philippine banks, even telecommunication rivals Smart Communications and Globe Telecoms, in forming consortia that submitted credentials to vie for the P1.72-billion contract to install a contactless AFCS at Light and Metro Rail Transit (LRT-MRT).

At least nine consortia have made it to yesterday's deadline for submission of pre-qualification documents for the AFCS project, being bided out by the Department of Transportation and Communications (DOTC) and the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center.

The operator of Kaohsiung Rapid Transit Corp. in Taiwan joined the Comworks, Inc. Consortium-led by Comworks, Inc., together with Philippine Gaming Management Corp., Acer, Inc., and Berjaya Philippines, Inc.

The operator of Busan Transport Corporation in Korea teamed up with Lamco Paper Products Co. Inc.; New San Jose Builders, Inc.; Land Bank of the Philippines; and NEC Philippines, to form the Lamco Consortium.

The AFCS provider of Guangzhou Metro in China, Goldsign Data Company Limited, partners with BDO Capital Invetment Co.; Advanced Card Systems, Ltd.; Pentacapital Investment Corp.; SM Retail, Inc. and BDO-Unibank, Inc. and joined the bidding as SM Consortium.

Kentkart Ege Electronik San. Vet Tic. A.S. – the AFCS provider in mass transit systems in Serbia, Qatar, Poland, Syria, Kosovo, Macedonia and Jordan – formed the E-Trans Solutions Joint Venture, Inc. with Tera Investments, Inc.; Eastwest Banking Corp.; Sagesoft Solutions, Inc.; Pilipinas Micromatrix Technologies, Inc.; Pulsar Avancer Technologie Inc.; Kentkart Marmara Electronik San. Ve Tic. A.S.; Kentkart Cukurova San. Ve Tic A.S.; and JTKC Equities, Inc.

The Korea Railroad Corp. and Korail Networks Co. Ltd. Joined the San Miguel Transport Solutions Consortium with Optimal Infrastructure Development Inc.; Catchweight Holdings, Inc.; Deltacrest Holdings Inc.; Allcard Plastics Philippines Inc.; Petron Corp.; Singapore Technologies Electronics Limited; Philippine National Bank; VIX Technology (East Asia) Limited; and San Miguel Corp.

Transit Link PTE, the AFCS provider in all public transportation systems in Singapore, teamed up with MTD Capital Bhd; Puregold Realty Leasing and Management, Inc.; Puregold Price Club, Inc.; and Maybank Philippines, Inc. to form the MTD PRLM Consortium.

Cubic Transportation Systems (Australia) PTY LTD of Australia, an RFID global market player, teamed up with telecom rivals Smart Communications and Globe Telecoms; Bank of the Philippine Islands (BPI); BPI Card Finance Corp.; Metro Pacific Investment Corp.; AC Holdings Corp.; NTT Data Corp.; SMRT International PTE LTD; Octopus Transactions Limited; MSI Global Private Limited; Accenture Inc.; and Indra Systemas SA to form the AF Consortium.

EZ-Link PTE LTD, makers of contactless smart cards used to pay public transportation fares, has partnered with Megawide Construction Corp.; Suyet Corp.; Eurolink Network International Corp.; and China National Software and Services Co. LTD and formed the MEgawide-Suyen-Eurolink Consortium.

The DOTC Pre-Qualification Bids and Awards Committee chaired by Undersecretary Jose Perpetuo Lotilla has agreed to accept the late submission of Mega Lucky Untied Consortium, whose members are Asia United Bank Corp.; Korea Smart Card Corp. Ltd.; Dignitas Equity; Mega Cellular Network, Inc.; Gravitas 777; LG CNS Co. Ltd.; and Mega Cellular Network Inc.

Through the AFCS, the government wants to introduce a contactless smart-card technology to replace the magnetic tickets currently being used to ride the LRT and MRT.

We hereby clarify that it is Puregold Realty Leasing and Management, Inc., an affiliate of Puregold Price Club, Inc., that is vying for the bid re Automatic Fare Collection System and Radio Frequency Identification Cards (AFCS) at Light and Metro Rail Transit (LRT-MRT) being bided out by the Department of Transportation and Communications.

We, however, stress that Puregold Price Club, Inc. is supportive of its affiliate's action to join the MTD PRLM Consortium and participate in the aforesaid bidding for P1.72 billion contract to install a contactless AFCS at LRT-MRT.

Thank you and we hope we clarify our position on the matter.

Very truly yours,

Atty. Candy H. Dacahay-Datuon Corporate Information Officer