OVERSEA-CHINESE BANKING CORPORATION LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)

TRADING HALT

Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation Limited ("OCBC") has today requested for a trading halt for all its securities. OCBC is currently in discussions regarding its shareholding in Great Eastern Holdings Limited. However, it has not agreed to enter into any definitive transaction as yet and there is no assurance that it will agree to do so. A further announcement will be made by OCBC as soon as possible.

Submitted by Peter Yeoh, Secretary on 23/02/2004 to the SGX