

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

iFAST Corp (ex-China) reports improved 3Q2016 net profit (+59.3% QoQ), on the back of better net revenue and record Assets under Administration (AUA)

- Following a difficult 1H2016, the Group (excluding its recently-launched China operation) reported a 59.3% increase to S\$2.97 million in 3Q2016 net profit from S\$1.87 million in 2Q2016
- The Group (ex-China) saw its net revenue increase by 10.3% QoQ, while AUA increased 6.6% QoQ to a record \$\$6.00 billion as at 30 September 2016
- Compared to a year ago, the Group's net profit (ex-China) declined 8.4% YoY in 3Q2016, as its efforts to improve the range of investment products and services continued
- After the launch of stockbroking capabilities on the Hong Kong B2B platform and insurance products on the Malaysia B2C platform, the Singapore operation is targeting to launch its stockbroking capabilities in end-2016 / early-2017
- The contribution from the relatively newer investment product categories (Bonds/ETFs/Stocks) stood at a combined 6.8% of the Group's AUA as at 30 September 2016
- The Directors believe that the Group has a strong balance sheet. Total Cash and other investments stood at \$\$57.01 million as at 30 September 2016
- The Directors have proposed a third interim dividend of 0.68 cents per ordinary share for 3Q2016 (3Q2015: 0.68 cents per ordinary share)

SINGAPORE (28 October 2016) — iFAST Corporation Ltd. ("iFAST Corp" and together with its subsidiaries, the "Group") reported its financial results for the third quarter (3Q2016) and first nine months of 2016 (9M2016).

In 3Q2016, the Group (excluding China) reported a 59.3% Quarter-on-Quarter (QoQ) increase in net profit to S\$2.97 million. Following a difficult 1H2016, the Group (exChina) saw its net revenue increase by 10.3% QoQ, while Assets under Administration (AUA) grew 6.6% QoQ to a record S\$6.00 billion as at 30 September 2016.

Compared to a year ago, the Group's net profit (ex-China) declined 8.4% YoY in 3Q2016 and 30.0% YoY to \$\$6.92 million in 9M2016. Including its China operation, the Group's net profit fell 35.3% YoY to \$\$1.91 million in 3Q2016. The China operation was launched in March 2016 and registered an operating loss of \$\$1.06 million in the quarter. If the gain from the sale of a 5% stake in iFAST China operation (which was

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completed in June 2016) is taken into account, the Group's net profit (including China operation) stood at S\$6.45 milion in 9M2016.

The Group saw an improvement in 3Q2016, compared to the first two quarters of 2016, as net revenue and net sales rebounded, while AUA increased to a record high of \$\$6.00 billion and Asia ex-Japan markets rebounded by 8.9% based on the performance of the Asia ex-Japan equity funds in the FSM Indices – Asia ex-Japan Index in 3Q2016. As at 30 September 2016, AUA rose 6.6%QoQ and 10.8% YoY respectively. Besides the improvement in Asia ex-Japan equity markets in 3Q2016, AUA growth was also assisted by an improvement in net sales. Net sales stood at \$\$74 million in 3Q2016, the best quarter in the 9M2016 period.

The Group's vision of broadening the range and depth of investment products and services has led to an increase in the contribution from the relatively newer product categories of bonds, stocks and Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), which stood at a combined 6.8% of the Group's AUA as at 30 September 2016. The Group's core AUA continue to be in funds, which contributed the remaining 93.2% of AUA.

#### **Analysis Across Geographical Segments**

Singapore's net profit increased 39.4% QoQ to S\$2.60 million in 3Q2016, as net revenue grew 9.2% QoQ in the quarter, and AUA grew 5.5% QoQ as at 30 September 2016. Compared to one year ago, the Singapore operation's net profit declined 7.6% YoY to S\$2.60 million in 3Q2016, and 23.9% YoY to S\$6.44 million in 9M2016. Net revenue grew 5.2% YoY to S\$7.74 million in 3Q2016, an improvement from the previous two quarters.

The Singapore operation saw an increase in operating expenses related to the enhancement of the platform's range of investment products and services. The launch of stockbroking capabilities on the platform is targeted to be end-2016 / early-2017, and is expected to boost the platform's capabilities in offering a wider range of products on both its B2B and B2C divisions, while giving the platform an additional edge in penetrating the high net worth investors market segment.

Hong Kong's net profit increased by 663.9% QoQ to S\$0.28 million in 3Q2016, following a couple of difficult quarters. Net revenue grew 10.8% QoQ, while AUA increased by 8.0% QoQ as at 30 September 2016. Compared to one year ago, the Hong Kong operation's net profit decreased by 9.8% YoY to S\$0.28 million in 3Q2016, and 73.0% YoY to S\$0.35 million in 9M2016. Net revenue declined slightly by 1.1% YoY in 3Q2016. Increased expenses related to the launch of new capabilities on the Hong Kong platform have led to an improvement in AUA, which rose 2.5% YoY as at 30 September 2016. The contribution from the relatively newer products (stocks) stood at 2.6% of Hong Kong's total AUA as at 30 September 2016. The Group envisions the increased

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capabilities in terms of the investment products and services offered (funds, bonds, stocks, ETFs and online discretionary portfolios) will give its B2B financial institutions using its platform the capabilities of a 'mini private bank' and have the ability to seamlessly advise their Hong Kong and offshore China clients.

Malaysia's net profit rose 885.7% QoQ to \$\$0.14 million in 3Q2016. Compared to a year ago, its net profit rose 15.1% YoY to \$\$0.14 million in 3Q2016, and 68.2% YoY to \$\$0.22 million in 9M2016. Net revenue rose 26.0% YoY to \$\$0.63 million in 3Q2016. The Malaysia operation has benefited from growth in business and customer base, with AUA increasing 53.5% YoY as at 30 September 2016. The Malaysia business also launched insurance products on its B2C platform in 3Q2016, in line with the Group's focus on providing greater transparency on product charges and information, to empower investors to make better investment and insurance decisions.

The China business was soft launched in March 2016 and continues to be in the start-up phase. The loss from China's operation increased by 257.0% YoY to S\$1.06 million in 3Q2016 and 302.3% YoY to S\$2.62 million in 9M2016. The China operation has seen increased subscription into funds and its net revenue stood at S\$0.05 million in 3Q2016, and S\$0.10 million in 9M2016. As part of its efforts to increase the range of investment products and services onto the platform, the China operation has signed up over 35 Funds Houses with over 1,400 funds on the platform as at end-3Q2016. The China business is in the midst of expanding the number of entities using its platform (e.g. Internet and online media companies, as well as financial services companies), as well as increasing its pool of wealth advisers as part of its "platform-cum-IFA incubator" strategy.

#### Dividend Guidance for FY2016

In 2016, the Group's Dividend Guidance is: "For FY2016, our Directors intend to recommend and distribute dividends of 60% or more of our Group's net profit (excluding our China operation, and exceptional items)". For the third interim dividend for FY2016, the Directors proposed a dividend per share of 0.68 cents per ordinary share, that is equivalent to about 60.2% of the Group's net profit (excluding our China operation, and exceptional items) in 3Q2016.

Table 1: Net Profit of the Group (3Q2016 vs 2Q2016)

S\$ (Million)	2Q2016	3Q2016	QoQ change (%)
Singapore	1.86	2.60	39.4
Hong Kong	0.03	0.28	663.9
Malaysia	0.01	0.14	885.7

Others <sup>1</sup>	(0.05)	(0.04)	(21.3)
Net profit (excluding China operation)	1.87	2.97	59.3
China	(0.72)	(1.06)	47.5
Net profit (including China operation)	1.14	1.91	66.8

Note: 1. Representing share of result of associates

Table 2: Key financial highlights for Group (excluding China operation) (9M2016 vs 9M2015)

S\$ (Million)	9M2015	9M2016	YoY change (%)
Net revenue	31.38	29.61	-5.6
Expenses	22.39	24.14	+7.8
Net profit attributable to owners of the Company	9.89	6.92	-30.0

Table 3: Key financial highlights for Group (<u>including</u> China operation) (9M2016 vs 9M2015)

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S\$ (Million)	9M2015	9M2016	YoY change (%)
Net revenue	31.38	29.71	-5.3
Expenses	23.08	26.98	+16.9
Net profit attributable to owners of the Company	9.24	4.30	-53.4
Gain recognised directly in equity from sale of 5% stake in iFAST China	NA	2.15	NA
Net attributable profit plus gain in reserves from sale in iFAST China stake	NA	6.45	NA

### About iFAST Corp

iFAST Corp (stock code: AIY) is an Internet-based investment products distribution platform, with assets under administration (AUA) of approximately \$\$6.00 billion as at 30 September 2016.

Incorporated in the year 2000 in Singapore and listed on the SGX-Mainboard in December 2014, iFAST Corp is also present in Hong Kong, Malaysia, China and India. The Group provides a comprehensive range of investment products and services, to financial advisory (FA) firms, banks, financial institutions, multinational companies, as well as retail and high net worth (HNW) investors in Asia.

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The Group offers access to over 3,500 investment products including funds, bonds and Singapore Government Securities (SGS), stocks, Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs), as well as insurance products, and services including online discretionary portfolio management services (DPMS), research and investment seminars, financial technology (fintech) solutions, investment administration and transactions services.

iFAST Corp has two main business divisions, namely its Business-to-Consumer (B2C) website, Fundsupermart.com (FSM), targeted at DIY investors; and its Business-to-Business (B2B) platform that caters to the specialised needs of FA companies, banks and financial institutions. Over 5,500 wealth advisers from more than 170 FA companies, banks and financial institutions, use the iFAST B2B platform.

The Group's mission statement is, "To help investors around the world invest globally and profitably". The Group won the "Most Transparent Company Award 2015, New Issues Category" at the SIAS Investors' Choice Awards 2015, as well as the "Best Investor Relations – Merit Award" for First-Year Listed Companies at the Singapore Corporate Awards 2015.

For more information, please visit www.ifastcorp.com

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The initial public offering (IPO) of shares and listing of iFAST Corporation Ltd. on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange Securities Trading Limited (on 11 December 2014) was jointly sponsored by DBS Bank Ltd. and RHB Securities Singapore Pte. Ltd. (formerly known as DMG & Partners Securities Pte Ltd) as joint issue managers, bookrunners and underwriters and they assume no responsibility for the contents of this presentation.