



NEWS RELEASE

WCT Records 71% Jump in 3rd Quarter Profit

PETALING JAYA, Wednesday, 22 November 2017 – WCT Holdings Berhad (“WCT” or “the Group”), a leading engineering, construction and property company, announced today that it had registered a net profit of RM41 million for its 3rd quarter ended 30 September 2017. This marked a notable 71% increase when compared with the net profit of RM24 million registered in the corresponding quarter last year.

Revenue for the quarter under review was also higher at RM470 million as compared with RM414 million recorded in the 3rd quarter of the last financial year.

On a cumulative perspective, the Group’s net profit for the first nine-month of its 2017 financial year increased by 47% to RM95 million from RM65 million a year ago. The improved net profit came despite lower revenue of RM1.33 billion compared with RM1.48 billion registered in the corresponding period last year. This is reflective of the Group’s ability to drive more significant profit margin from its on-going local construction jobs.

Basic earnings per share for the current year to date increased to 7.04 sen compared with 5.23 sen recorded in the preceding year corresponding period.

Dato’ Lee Tuck Fook, Group Managing Director of WCT, said, “The Group’s improved performance was mainly due to stronger contribution from local construction projects. In addition, our continued focus on enhancing profit margin from our construction jobs, through greater efficiencies and better cost management, had impacted our bottom-line in a positive manner.”

“During the period under review, the Group also saw positive contribution from our Property Development and Investment Division. In view of the challenging operating landscape, we had intensified our sales and marketing efforts to promote our existing property offerings as opposed to launching more products into the market,” Dato’ Lee explained.

For the first nine months ended 30 September 2017, WCT’s Engineering and Construction Division recorded an operating profit before finance costs and tax of RM100 million (9M2016: RM34 million) on the back of a revenue of RM928 million (9M2016: RM1,195 million).

The Group's Property Development Division recorded an operating profit before finance costs and tax of RM48 million (9M2016: RM64 million) on the back of a revenue of RM349 million (9M2016: RM239 million). The lower operating profit before finance costs and tax was mainly due to lower margin from the sale of completed properties during the period under the review.

The Group's Property Investment and Management Division recorded an operating profit before finance costs and tax of RM 24 million (9M2016: RM21 million) on the back of a revenue of RM50 million (9M2016: RM46 million). The Group's share of profit after tax arising from Property Investment and Management under joint ventures amounted to RM18 million (9M2016: RM19 million).

"Looking ahead, our Engineering & Construction Division is expected to continue to perform well due to its strong order book. In the current financial year, the Group had successfully secured new infrastructure contracts totaling approximately RM1.8 billion," Dato Lee added.

"We also expect the construction industry to remain vibrant in the foreseeable future, reinforced by the Government's continuing initiatives as announced during the recent Federal Budget 2018. This will augur well for our Engineering & Construction Division, which remains the primary income generator for the Group."

"With our new property assets coming on stream, our Property Development and Property Investment & Management divisions are poised to contribute further to our performance as we move forward. We are also very excited to be closing 2017 on a celebratory note with the upcoming opening of Paradigm Mall Johor Bahru," he said.

Paradigm Mall JB, which features a unique and diverse mix of retail tenants, is scheduled to open for business on 28 November 2017. Among the top local and international brands to be featured are Parkson, H&M, Uniqlo, Homepro, Celebrity Fitness, Golden Screen Cinemas, Village Grocer, Daiso, Harvey Norman, Popular, Toys 'R' Us, Padini as well as first time attractions such as an ice skating rink, an indoor skatepark and an indoor climbing gym. In addition to retail and entertainment offerings, Paradigm Mall JB offers exciting culinary experiences with over eighty F&B retailers, ranging from established chains to home-grown brands.

About WCT Holdings Berhad

Founded in 1981, WCT was listed on the Bursa Malaysia in 1995. Currently with 2,000 employees and presence in six countries, WCT is an investment holding company involved in engineering and construction, property development and investment & management activities. Its engineering and construction expertise covers F1 racing circuits, airports, dams and water supply schemes, expressways and highways, civil works, interior fit-out works and buildings. The company's property development and investment & management portfolio includes townships, luxury homes, high-rise residences, industrial properties, offices, integrated commercial developments, concessions, hotels and shopping malls. WCT owns and operates Première Hotel, Klang and owns 4 shopping malls – Bukit Tinggi Shopping Centre in Klang, Paradigm Mall in Petaling Jaya, the airport mall – gateway@klia2 in Sepang, Selangor and the soon-to-be opened

Paradigm Mall in Johor Bahru. WCT currently has a land bank of approximately 950 acres in Malaysia. For more information about WCT, please visit www.wct.com.my.