

Press Release
For Immediate Release

C.banner International Holdings Limited 千百度國際控股有限公司

**C.banner Announces 2015 Annual Results
Revenue and Gross Profit Rise 8.0% and 4.2% to
RMB3,045.8 Million and RMB1,862.4 Million Respectively
Net Profit Attributable to Equity Holders of the Company
Increases 6.3% to RMB257.5 Million**

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***Diversifying Brands and Products Portfolio and
Implementing Global Branding Strategy***

Financial Highlights (For the year ended 31 December)			
	2015 (RMB Million)	2014 (RMB Million)	Change
Revenue	3,045.8	2,820.7	+8.0%
Gross profit	1,862.4	1,788.0	+4.2%
Gross profit margin (%)	61.1%	63.4%	-2.3pts
Net Profit for the year	255.5	247.1	+3.4%
Net Profit attributable to equity holders of the Company	257.5	242.2	+6.3%
Basic earnings per share (RMB cents)	12.64	12.11	+4.4%

(15 March 2015, Hong Kong) **C.banner International Holdings Limited** (“**C.banner**” or the “Company”, together with its subsidiaries, the “Group”, stock code: 1028), the leading international integrated retailer and the second largest retailer of middle-to-high-end women’s formal and leisure footwear in the PRC, today announced its annual results for the year ended 31 December 2015 (“year under review”).

Despite the recovery pace of the global economy was slower than expected, China recorded decelerating growth rate and the retail sector still faced a difficult period, C.banner achieved steady growth of the financial performance during the year under review. During the year under review, the Group’s total revenue increased by 8.0% to RMB3,045.8 million. Gross profit increased 4.2% to RMB1,862.4 million. Profit attributable to equity holders rose 6.3% to RMB257.5 million. Gross profit margin was 61.1%. Basic earnings per share amounted to RMB12.64 cents, increased 4.4% year-on-year.

Mr. Chen Yixi, Chairman of C.banner said, “2015 was a challenging year yet China had taken on a wide range of initiatives and policies during the year, among which, the launch of “One Belt, One Road” policy is expected to generate tremendous business opportunities for the Group. We actively drove our business forward and were able to achieve a steady

business growth. Last year, the Group successfully acquired British high-end toys retailer – Hamleys Group – as the Company’s first step of global branding strategy which helped to diversify our business operations and achieved greater synergy effects. In addition, the Group strengthened O2O (online to offline) strategy to provide diversified online products to meet the changing needs of consumers. The Group continued to create remarkable shopping experience for customers with a view to improving same store sales growth. In terms of store expansion, the Group strived to trim down inventory level through more attractive sales promotion and insisted on rational discounting policy to ensure the Group’s probability. The Group also further optimized our brand portfolio, enhanced our brand image as an elegant and fashionable choice of lifestyle and insisted on the brand positioning as a mid-to premium footwear retailer.”

Contributions from footwear retail and wholesaling operations year-on-year increased 3.4% to RMB2,643.2 million for the year ended 31 December 2015. The contribution from retail and wholesale was 86.8% as a proportion of revenue, while the proportion of revenue attributable to contract manufacturing rose to 9.6%. Contributions from toys business took over 3.6%.

During the year under review, the Group closed down a total of 33 proprietary retail outlets and reduced third-party outlets by 65. As of 31 December 2015, it oversaw a total of 1,732 proprietary retail outlets and 467 third-party outlets across China, maintaining a strong presence in over 31 provinces, municipalities and autonomous regions. Due to the negative sentiment in the retail market and the increasing level of competition, same-store sales growth for 2015 decreased slightly by approximately 0.7% compared to the previous year.

During the past year, the Group adopted innovative marketing strategies and enhanced consumption experience to bolster sales and enhance brand awareness. The Group made the most of the new media platforms, such as WeChat official account, to reach a wider range of consumers, promote our brand and provide potential consumers with the latest product information. The Group continued to operate online flagship stores on Tmall.com and JD.com and launched more attractive online sales promotion to further integrate its O2O business. In addition to the internet marketing channel, the Group continued to implement a wide range of marketing strategies such as VIP member scheme, seasonal promotion, outdoor advertisement, product catalogues and brochures, all aiming at providing a fulfilling consumption experience for customers.

The Group’s vertically integrated business model encompasses important parts of the industry chain, which include design and development, outsourcing, manufacturing, marketing, wholesaling and retailing of shoes. Such comprehensive model allows the Group to provide pre-sale and after-sale services to customers directly and identify inconsistencies and deficiencies in performance at every point of interaction with customers, greatly enhancing the Group’s cost benefit of operation and core competitiveness.

Mr. Chen concluded, “Looking ahead, China’s economy is heading towards the direction of “consumption-driven” growth. The on-going urbanization policy and the national plan of “One Belt, One Road” are expected to stimulate domestic and overseas demand, which in turn will contribute to the substantial growth momentum for China’s retail industry as a whole and the

domestic footwear companies. The Group is optimistic about the outlook of the footwear market. In order to seize the market opportunities, the Group will build C. Banner into a renowned international integrated retailer with multi-brand portfolio and leverage both C. Banner's position and experience in the retail industry and the newly added brand to expand our business with a focus on retail premises such as department stores to further implement our global branding strategy. Besides, we will continue to develop online business and accelerate its growth to boost sales and enhance brand awareness. In terms of network building, we will further diversify our distribution channels and strategically cooperate with department stores and e-commerce platforms to expand our market share. Meanwhile, we will continue our efforts in optimizing our existing network and enhancing profitability of the Group. In addition, emphasis will be placed on developing online business and platforms to seek new point of growth. Through successful mixes of existing and new businesses and well-thought visionary business plans, the Group is confident to deliver greater rewards to our valuable shareholders."

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About C.banner International Holdings Limited

C.banner International Holdings Limited is a leading international integrated retailer and the second largest retailer of mid-to-premium women's formal and casual footwear in China, and is engaged in the manufacturing and sales of women's footwear with various designs. The Group manages four self-developed brands, namely "C.banner", "EBLAN", "sundance" and "MIO", as well as licensed brand "naturalizer", and distributes "ASH", "JC", "United Nude" and "French Connection" brand products, through an extensive distribution and retail network in mainland China. C.banner's self-developed brands and licensed brands products are mainly distributed through department stores and independent retail stores in different cities, ranging from first-tier to third-tier cities in China. Furthermore, the Company also acts as an OEM or ODM manufacturer for international shoes companies dealing in export markets. In 2015, Company expanded business by introduction of Hamleys, the leading world-renowned toys and children's brand, with a view to implement the global branding strategy.

Issued by **Porda Havas International Finance Communications Group** for and on behalf of **C.banner International Holdings Limited**. For further information, please contact:

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