

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Jardine Lloyd Thompson launches new insurance cover to protect against business interruption caused by infectious disease outbreaks

HONG KONG, 31 May 2004 - Jardine Lloyd Thompson (JLT) Hong Kong, a leading provider of risk solutions and insurance broking services in Hong Kong, today announced the launch of a new business interruption insurance cover developed to help protect businesses in the event of business interruption caused by the outbreak of an infectious disease, such as SARS or any other human-to-human transmitted virus.

The new cover, known as Health Emergency Loss Protection (“HELP”), is designed to protect companies in the event of denial of access to their premises, either in part or in whole, as a result of an infectious disease outbreak. It is expected to be of particular value to the hospitality industry, including hotels, restaurants, theme parks, and convention centres, which suffered huge losses in 2003 as a direct result of the SARS outbreak.

“The launch of HELP represents a groundbreaking initiative which JLT believes gives companies protection for the first time since insurers changed their policy wording in the wake of the SARS crisis in 2003 to remove infectious disease protection from business interruption insurance policies,” Mr. Nick Cousins, Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Managing Director, JLT Hong Kong, said.

“Our role as a leading insurance broker is to secure for our clients the best coverage possible,” Mr. Cousins said. “Given the lessons learnt from last year’s SARS outbreak, regulatory authorities in the region are likely to act quickly to contain any future outbreaks, whether involving SARS or other infectious diseases. The potential impact of a future outbreak of an infectious disease poses a serious

economic risk to many businesses. JLT has considerable expertise in this area, having successfully resolved SARS-related claims for certain hotel clients. Rather than just accept the policy exclusions that arose from last year's SARS outbreak, we decided to develop a solution that enables businesses some protection against loss of earnings.”

Developed in collaboration with and backed by a major global insurer, Health Emergency Loss Protection insurance is believed to be the first such product available in Asia and is currently available exclusively through JLT.

Enquiries:

Carole Jantzen, Jardine Lloyd Thompson: + 852 2864 5347

About Jardine Lloyd Thompson Limited, Hong Kong:

Jardine Lloyd Thompson (JLT) Hong Kong is Asia's most focused insurance broker. In addition to conventional insurance products, JLT offers new approaches to such risks as Professional Indemnity, Directors and Officers Liability, Business Interruption (specific to Infectious Disease), Terrorism and Political Risk; and Worker Injury Risk Management. JLT Hong Kong employs over 100 industry professionals and works closely with its network of sister companies across the region. JLT is a wholly owned subsidiary of Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group and a member of the Jardine Matheson Group of companies. For more information call + 852 2684 5333 or visit www.jltasia.com.

About Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc.:

Jardine Lloyd Thompson Group plc is one of the world's largest insurance and reinsurance brokers and the largest UK and European-based risk and employee benefits business quoted on the London Stock Exchange, with a market capitalisation of around £1 billion. JLT operates in 30 countries and employs over 4,500 staff. For more information call +44 (020) 7528 4444 or visit www.jltgroup.com.