



UNI-ASIA HOLDINGS LIMITED

PRESS RELEASE -- FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Uni-Asia expands shipping fleet, acquires three new build vessels for US\$73 million

- **Potential to strengthen the Group's earnings profile through larger base of recurring charter income**
- **To be delivered between 2014 and 2016, the three 37,000 dwt handysize bulk carriers will boost Uni-Asia's majority-owned fleet to a total of 8 vessels**
- **Uni-Asia will continue to place focus on securing attractive investment opportunities ahead of the shipping market recovery**

**Singapore, 26 April 2013** – Uni-Asia Holdings Limited (“Uni-Asia” or the “Group”), an alternative investment company and integrated service provider of vessels and properties, is pleased to announce that its wholly-owned subsidiary, Uni-Asia Shipping Limited (“Uni-Asia Shipping”), has acquired three new build 37,000 deadweight tonnes (“dwt”) handysize bulk carriers for a total consideration of US\$73 million.

The Group has entered into contracts with the Imabari Shipbuilding Group on 25 April 2013 to acquire three vessels, which will be held under three new wholly-owned Panama incorporated subsidiaries. The vessels are to be built by Imabari Shipbuilding Co., Ltd. Delivery of the vessels is scheduled between 2014 and 2016. The Group is negotiating with potential charterers to secure charter contracts for the three vessels, and will finalize the financing options after further discussions with third party financial institutions.

The vessel acquisitions are in line with the Group's strategy in seeking and realizing new opportunities in maritime investments. Upon securing charter contracts, the vessel acquisitions will contribute to a stronger earnings profile through a higher base of recurring earnings from charter income. With the addition of the three new vessels, Uni-Asia Shipping will own a total of 8 handysize bulk carriers (Please refer to Appendix 1).

*“The current downturn in the shipping industry provides us the opportunity to invest in, and build our fleet of vessels in anticipation of the recovery in the shipping markets. After returning to the black in FY2010, the Group’s primary focus is to boost profitability through a sustainable earnings base. Apart from providing a stable income stream through charter contracts, these vessels may potentially provide capital gains for the Group. The Group will continue to adopt this strategy and leverage on current market conditions to further strengthen our fleet of vessels.”*

**Kazuhiko Yoshida**  
**Chairman and CEO, Uni-Asia**

--- The End ---

**About Uni-Asia Holdings Limited. (Bloomberg Code: UNIAF SP)**

**Uni-Asia Holdings Limited** (formerly known as Uni-Asia Finance Corporation) is an alternative investment company performing a variety of roles such as asset owner and manager, operator, co-investor, ship finance arranger, broker and fund manager. Uni-Asia’s investments are focused on cargo vessels and properties in Japan, China and Hong Kong. To improve investment returns, Uni-Asia also provides integrated services for the invested assets, including acting as operator for commercial maritime vessels and invested properties which encompasses commercial, residential and hotel properties.

Listed on the Main Board of the Singapore Exchange in August 2007, Uni-Asia strives to achieve a sustainable growth through a prudent approach. Their offices are located in Singapore, Hong Kong, China and Tokyo.

For more information, please refer to the corporate website [www.uni-asia.com](http://www.uni-asia.com)

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Issued for and on behalf of Uni-Asia Holdings Limited.

By Financial PR Pte Ltd

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**Appendix 1**

