

MINT[®]

S H A N G H A I

NEWS

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Minting money

Leading on from a solid performance last year, the exclusive private club MINT Shanghai has posted HK\$13.5 million in half-year profit and announced that shareholders will receive a 16 per cent interim dividend.

MINT's 400-plus well-heeled shareholders include the likes of mainland-born film star Jet Li, former Bond girl Michelle Yeoh Choo Kheng and famed shoe designer Jimmy Choo.

MINT Global Holdings executive chairman Paul Robinson, previously the finance director of Richard Branson's Virgin Records, said: "We've taken what was always a brilliant business model and aligned it with a superb operational business. This year's performance is extremely satisfying."

Industry observers believe the success of MINT Shanghai is due to the inclusion of the restaurant and the stunning location of the property.

MINT Shanghai Holdings' share price of HK\$1.20 sees a price earnings ratio of less than two with year-on-year revenues increasing by 60 per cent. The projection for the second half is for a 25 per cent increase on profit performance, compared to the first half, which should see shareholders receive in excess of 36 per cent in full-year dividends.

Founder and group chief executive Alistair Paton sums up the company's astounding performance by saying: "What global financial crisis?"

Fruits for a king

Musang King durian from Malaysia is so outrageously delicious that it's fit for a king.

Macau's casino king, Stanley Ho Hung-sun, is reportedly so in love with this king of fruits that he recently sent his personal jet to pick up 88 of them from Singapore.

China Press of Malaysia reported that Ho bought almost HK\$12,000 worth of the durian from the 818 durian stall in the island republic. On the plane's return he gave 10 of the spiky fruits to his billionaire friend, Li Ka-shing.

Ho had wanted to buy more but his employee could only muster up 88 as the supply was low due to recent adverse weather.

A good place to die?

While "quality of life" is a common phrase the world over, "quality of death" is considered far less often.

Too many people, even in countries that have excellent health care systems, suffer a poor quality of death - even when death comes naturally.

According to the Worldwide Palliative Care Alliance, while more than 100 million patients and family care-givers worldwide need palliative care annually, fewer than 8 per cent of them actually receive it.

With this in mind, the Economist Intelligence Unit, the business information arm of the Economist Group, has devised a "Quality of Death" index to rank countries according to their provision of end-of-life care.

The index, commissioned by Singapore's Lien Foundation and published yesterday, measures the current environment for end-of-life care services in 40 countries and places.

At the top of the table is Britain, which has led the way globally in terms of its hospice care network and statutory involvement in end-of-life care. Its top rank comes despite the country having a far-from-perfect health care system.

Interestingly, Hong Kong ranks right in the middle at 20th. Taiwan is placed 14th while the mainland is rated almost the worst place to die at 37th. Singapore is ranked 18th.

Bottom-ranked countries in the index include, unsurprisingly, developing nations such as Brazil, India and Uganda.

In the case of China and India, further problems are the vast populations for whom end-of-life coverage extends to only a fraction of those in need.###

About	M1NT	Shanghai
<p>M1NT Club and Cocktail Lounge is Shanghai's premium entertainment venue located on the 24th floor it has 360 degree views of the Pudong skyline as well as the Bund and People Square. M1NT consists of a Fusion Grill restaurant, a Cocktail Lounge, a Night Club and a Roof Top Terrace. Having received all of the major industry awards including, Best Restaurant, Best Cocktails, Best Club and Best Design in 2010 M1NT has set the benchmark in the world's most populated and fastest growing city. Regularly hosting international DJ's and major international luxury brand events including Ferrari, Jimmy Choo, Lamborghini, Diesel, Porsche and Shanghai Film Festival, there is always something going on, weekends and Wednesdays Models Night and Thursdays ICON! event are a huge hit with all the A-list, local and expat crowd. Should you have any inquiries contact us at marketing@m1ntglobal.com</p>		