

# 烟台北方安德利果汁股份有限公司 YANTAI NORTH ANDRE JUICE CO.,LTD.

(a joint stock limited company incorporated in the People's Republic of China) (Stock Code: 02218)



A Professional Concentrated
Juice Manufacturer

Social
Responsibilities,
Environmental,
Social and
Governance Report
2024



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### **About This Report**

The Social Responsibilities, Environmental, Social and Governance Report (the "Report") is the annual independent ESG report published by Yantai North Andre Juice Co., Ltd.\* (the "Company") and its subsidiaries (together, the "Group"). This Report focuses on the environmental, social and governance performance and progress which the stakeholders of the Group concern about. This Report should be read in conjunction with the relevant sections in the 2024 annual report of Yantai North Andre Juice Co., Ltd.\* (the "2024 Annual Report") published on the websites of the Shanghai Stock Exchange and The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Hong Kong Stock Exchange") in order to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the Group's environmental, social and corporate governance performance.

The Group's environmental, natural resources and social management policies and measures will be disclosed in various sections of the Report.

### **Scope of the Report**

This Report is the 2024 annual report and covers the measures in respect of environment, society and governance adopted by the Group and the progress thereof during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2024 (the "Year"). The production and sales of juice concentrate are the main sources of income of the Group and have considerable influence on the environmental, social and governance issues of the Group, so they were included in the scope of this Report.

#### Standards of Preparing the Report

This Report has been prepared in accordance with the Notice of the Shanghai Stock Exchange on Strengthening the Social Responsibility of Listed Companies and Issuing the Guide on Environmental Information Disclosure for Listed Companies on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, the Guide on Environmental Information Disclosure for Listed Companies on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, the Guide on the Preparation of Reports on the Fulfillment of Social Responsibility by Companies, and the Guide on Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting set out in Appendix C2 to the Rules Governing the Listing of Securities on The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited (the "Main Board Listing Rules") issued by the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, with reference to the How to Prepare Environmental, Social and Governance Report - Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide. This Report has complied with the "comply or explain" provisions as set out in the Environmental, Social and Governance Reporting Guide of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and is prepared on the basis of its reporting principles, namely "Materiality", "Quantitative", and "Consistency". After collecting the opinions of stakeholders through internal and external stakeholder engagements, we review and determine material environmental, social and governance aspects to the Group and guide the focus of this Report. All departments and business lines used the tools to continuously record the Group's economic, environmental and social indicators, and monitor the progress and results of the targets' implementation.

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purpose only

### **About This Report**

Materiality: The Report discloses materiality assessment and stakeholders' engagement. Refer to "Board Statement" and "Engagement of Stakeholders" in the section of "Sound Corporate Governance" for details.

Quantitative: The environmentally related data disclosed in the Report are marked with reference standards, calculation methods and parameters.

Consistency: The Report adopted consistent methodologies to allow for a fair comparison of the Group's performance from time to time.

### **Description of the Report Data**

All data in this Report has been obtained from internal statistical reports. Company documents and audited documents, etc.

### **Approval and Publication of this Report**

All contents and data disclosed in this Report have been considered and approved by the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee of the Company.

This Report is available as an electronic document on: Websites of the Shanghai Stock Exchange (www.sse.com.cn) Websites of the Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited (www.hkexnews.hk) Websites of the Company (www.andre.com.cn)

#### **Feedback**

Your valuable feedback is immensely important to the Group's continuous improvement in environmental and social performance. For any advice or suggestion on the Report, please feel free to contact us by the following means:

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### **About the Company**

### **Company Profile**

The Company, which was established on 30 March 1996 and is mainly engaged in processing, production and sales of juice concentrate, is one of the enterprises in the PRC first involving in the processing and production of juice concentrate and fructose, one of the enterprises processing juice concentrate and fructose in larger production scale in the world, one of the main producers and providers of juice concentrate in the world, a key leading agricultural industrialized enterprise at the national level, a national export demonstration enterprise in the processing industry of agricultural products and one of Top 100 export enterprises in the food industry in the PRC. The Company has built 10 juice concentrate processing bases around the raw material fruit production areas in Shandong, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Liaoning, Jiangsu, Sichuan and Xin Jiang with 20 juice production lines. Its processing ability and production scale of juice concentrate rank among the best in the same industry in the whole world.

The Company's products mainly include apple juice concentrate and pear juice concentrate, with apple juice concentrate as the primary products. The products of the Company cover the PRC, USA, Russia, Japan, South Africa and other places around the world, and has high market share. The Company has built up business relationships with various internationally renowned food and beverage enterprises, with its export volume ranking among the best in the same industry in the PRC for consecutive years. As for the domestic sales of its products, the Company has built up long-term and stable cooperation relationships with various domestic and overseas famous enterprises. Committed to promoting the rural revitalization and increasing the wealth of the local farmers, the Company has paid over RMB13 billion for raw materials to fruit growers.

The Company invested over RMB40 million in the construction of research and development center at the international advanced level integrating the juice technique development, product application research, product safety analysis and other functions in 2003, covering 2,200 square meters, and having a team of professional talents engaging in deep processing technology research, development and test of juice, whose scientific research level and members' business quality have been recognized by the juice industry in the PRC. The Company has successively won 11 national patents for invention, made 14 scientific and technological achievements authenticated at the provincial level, and participated in the drafting of 3 national standards and 1 industrial standards which have been issued and implemented. The Company has 4 registered trademarks in the PRC, Hong Kong and USA, and is assessed as a famous trademark in Shandong Province, with the clear apple juice concentrate produced by it praised as a "Chinese Famous-brand Product". The research and development center is identified as a national apple processing technology research and development branch center, Shandong Provincial Innovation Center for Fruit and Vegetable Storage and Processing Technology, Shandong Province apple juice processing engineering technology research center, and Shandong Province enterprise technology center successively. The technological achievements researched and developed by the Company independently have won the "Second Award of National Award for Science and Technology Progress", "China Patent Gold Award", "Shandong Provincial Science and Technology Progress Award", the "First Prize of Chinese Agricultural Science and Technology Award", etc. successively.

The H shares of the Company were listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in April 2003; and its A Shares were listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange in September 2020, becoming the first "A+H" dual-listed enterprise engaged in juice beverage industry in the PRC.

### **Corporate Culture**

As a leading enterprise in the apple juice concentrate industry in China, the Company upholds its product philosophy of "From Nature to Concentrate", adheres to its corporate culture, attaches great importance to environmental and social responsibilities, and actively cooperates with industry associations and government authorities to enable the Company to spearhead industry development. Numerous prizes and honors obtained by the Company reflect the market recognition of the Company's performance in corporate governance, investor relation as well as social and environmental responsibilities.

Corporate spirits: integrity, unity, pioneering and efficiency	Marketing philosophy: to cultivate global footprints with customer-oriented services
Business philosophy: to uphold integrity and quality during daily operations	Management philosophy: to unite people with distinguished corporate culture and to manage people with well-established rules
Corporate vision: to cultivate a brand of the century with global reputation	R&D philosophy: to pioneer the innovation in the industry and realize scientific development
Corporate mission: to manufacture green products and promote healthy lifestyles	Human resources philosophy: to establish a systematic and people-oriented development track for talents, with an emphasis on virtue
Core value: pursuing enterprise growth, delighting staff and repaying the society	Working attitude: to deliver work in a dependable and down-to-earth manner
Development philosophy: to align business growths with environmental goals and commit itself to circular economy	Execution: to accomplish assignments with satisfactory performance within the prescribed time
Product philosophy: From Nature to Concentrate	Personal cultivation: virtue comes first

### **Corporate Governance**

The Company has always attached great importance to compliance with applicable laws and regulations, and has always been committed to maintaining a high level of corporate governance as well as promoting management innovation continuously. The Company strictly follows the Company Law of the People's Republic of China, the Securities Law of the People's Republic of China, the Code of Corporate Governance for Listed Companies and the relevant regulations of domestic and foreign securities regulatory authorities, and the Company has established a sound and complete corporate governance structure comprising the Shareholders' Meeting, the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Committee, forming a complete corporate governance system of deliberation, decision-making, authorisation and execution with clear powers and responsibilities and standardised operations among the authority body, decision-making body, supervisory body and management layer, and ensuring that the various bodies and members of the Company can exercise their rights and perform their duties in accordance with the rules of the system through a governance structure with scientific division of labour, respective duties and effective checks and balances.

#### About Controlling Shareholders and Listed Company

The Board of Directors, the Supervisory Committee and various internal bodies of the Company operate independently and the controlling shareholder does not interfere with the ordinary operations of the Company. The controlling shareholders of the Company have strictly complied with the undertakings made to the Company to avoid competing with each other in the same field. During the reporting period, there was no act of the Company's controlling shareholder taking advantage of its special position to encroach on and damage the interests of the listed company and other shareholders.

#### About the Directors and the Board

The Board of the Company consists of nine directors (Note), including three independent non-executive directors, and the number and composition of the Board are in compliance with the relevant laws and regulations. The Board has a reasonable professional structure and its members possess the necessary knowledge, skills and qualities to perform their duties. The directors of the Company are able to attend Shareholders' Meeting and Board meetings on time, perform their duties conscientiously and diligently, actively participate in business training, are familiar with relevant laws and regulations, and are clear about the rights, obligations and responsibilities of the directors. The Board of the Company has set up four special committees, namely the Audit and Review Committee, the Nomination Committee, the Remuneration and Review Committee and the Strategic Committee, to further improve the decision-making mechanism of the Board of the Company.

Note: According to the Articles of Association, the Board should comprise of 9 directors. However, as Mr. Wang Kun resigned as director on 27 December 2024 and appointment of director for replacement has not yet completed, the actual number of directors serving in the Board from 27 December 2024 to the date of the report is only 8.

#### About the Supervisors and the Supervisory Committee

The Supervisory Committee of the Company consists of three supervisors, including one employee representative supervisor, and the number of members and composition of the Supervisory Committee are in compliance with the requirements of the relevant laws and regulations. The Supervisory Committee performs its duties conscientiously in accordance with the powers and functions conferred by the Articles of Association and in a responsible manner to the shareholders, supervises the performance of duties of the Directors and senior management, supervises and inspects the legal compliance of the Company's finances and fully safeguards the legitimate rights and interests of the Company and its shareholders.

More information on corporate governance can be found in the Company's 2024 Annual Report which was published alongside this Report.

#### **Board Statement**

To further implement the environmental, social and governance work of the Group and promote the implementation of sustainable development strategies, the Group has reviewed the current mechanism for enhancing social responsibility management during the Year. Taking into account the Group's operational condition and the relevant requirements of the Hong Kong Stock Exchange in respect of the environment, social and governance aspects, it improved the structure of social responsibilities management to form a structure consisting of the Board of Directors, the Audit and Review Committee, the senior management, the leading department for environment, social and governance work, and all departments and subsidiaries to implement a hierarchical management system, which can further enhance the systemic and professional level of its social responsibility management.

The Board of Directors is responsible for the Group's environmental, social and governance strategies and reports, and the Audit and Review Committee is responsible for assessing and determining environmental, social and governance risks. The committee conducts comprehensive risk assessment and key control points monitoring every six months through the Company's internal control department to ensure appropriate and effective risk management associated with environmental, social and governance and internal control systems are in place for each business aspect, including the procurement, production, quality control and sales of raw and auxiliary materials. The senior management of the Company is responsible for tracking the implementation progress of strategic policies and goals in relation to environment, social and governance, ensuring that the operation of each business aspect complies with the requirements of the Company's various rules and promoting the integration of the philosophy of corporate social responsibility, the development strategies and the operating management of the Company. As the leading department, the securities department of the Company is responsible for organizing and coordinating the social responsibility work among the relevant departments, while all departments and subsidiaries are accountable for implementing their respective work.



### **Engagement of Stakeholders**

The Group believes carefully listening to stakeholders' opinions will help the Company objectively and comprehensively assess its environmental, social and governance performance. During the Year, the Company communicated with stakeholders of the Company on an ongoing basis through various methods, in a bid to align the Company's business development strategies with expectations and requests of the market and stakeholders, and to strike a balance between interests of the Company and stakeholders to enable the Company to create more common values. During the Year, the Group's stakeholder engagement is as follows:

Stakeholders	Expectations	Methods of communication	Frequency of communication	Group actions
Government and regulatory authorities	Compliance with law and regulations; lawful operations; tax payment in accordance with laws; safe production; energy conservation and emission reduction; environment protection	Policies formulations; work reports; information delivery;	Regular/ Irregular	Strictly complied with national laws and regulations; actively cooperated with regulatory authorities; actively responded to national strategies to enhance self-discipline in ecological and environmental protection

Stakeholders	Expectations	Methods of communication	Frequency of communication	Group actions
Shareholders	Sales revenue; profit of the Company; corporate governance; regular communication	Shareholders meeting; Company's announcement; periodic reports	Annual/ Semi-annual/ Irregular	Improved quality and efficiency, and improved economic efficiency; continuously enhanced risk management and internal control systems; strengthened information disclosure and improved information transparency; communicated regularly
Employees	Employees' rights; occupational health; training and development; diversified life	Work meetings; employee communication; labor contract; employees' activities	Regular/ Irregular	Improved human resources management system to ensure employees' rights; focused on intrinsic safety work and implemented occupational health and safety work for employees; improved personnel training mechanism and enhanced employees' knowledge and technical skill sets
Customers	Stable supply; quality assurance	Contracts and agreements; customer services; Company website; communications meetings		Conducted strict quality control to ensure product quality; improved production management system
Suppliers and other business partners	Fairness and impartiality; cooperation to achieve mutual benefits	Contracts and agreements; product services	Regular/ Irregular	Maintained the fairness and transparency of tendering and procurement processes; persisted in performing contracts and agreements
Community	Community building; targeted poverty alleviation; environmental protection	Community visits; poverty alleviation; caring and dedication activities; environmental protection activities	Regular/ Irregular	Participated in the building of a harmonious community; actively carried out voluntary activities; implemented environmental protection measures

The Company's sustainable development is highly dependent on environmental protection, which explains why the Company attaches great importance to environmental protection and sustainable development, and takes environmental protection, energy conservation and emission reduction as the significant integral part of its vision to build a green Andre with hundred years of reputation (綠色安德利, 百年安德利). In addition to reinforcing safety as well as production and operating management, the Company has been advocating the idea of environmental protection, endeavored to improve the utilization rate of various energies, water and materials, reduced utilization of natural resources in compliance with relevant environment laws and regulations and proactively propelled clean production, energy conservation and emission reduction, with a view to making itself a resource-conserving and environmental friendly enterprise.

#### **Use of Resources**

#### Major Energy Consumption and Density

In 2024, the energy used by the Group's production and operation activities were mainly electricity, steam, water resources, coal, natural gas, biomass pellet fuel, gasoline and diesel, of which biomass pellet fuel is an environmentally friendly biofuel newly introduced by the Group to promote green and clean production. The Group's major energy consumption is as follows.

Energy	2024	2023
Electric energy (kWh)	40,521,278	25,235,144
Steam (t)	133,955	58,300
Water resources (t)	854,493	599,127
Coal (t)	6,231	6,168
Natural gas (m³)	16,977,508	13,049,067
Biomass pellet fuel (t)	9,065	4,311
Gasoline (L)	22,456	22,179
Diesel (L)	85,990	57,812

The Group's total energy consumption in 2024 is 423,776,380 kWh, with an average consumption of approximately 2,610.3 kWh per tonne of product.

The Group has acquired and used proper water sources according to related national environmental policies and laws, and no problem in this regard was noted in the Year. In 2024, the Group's total water consumption was 854,493 tons, and the average water consumption per ton of product was about 5.26 tons.

The use of resources related to the Group's business is not considered significant. The Group has not developed targets for energy use and water efficiency for 2024, and the Group will consider developing relevant targets in the future.

#### Use of Packaging Materials for Finished Products

The Company primarily engages in manufacturing and sales of apple juice concentrate, pear juice concentrate and related products. The packaging materials for apple juice concentrate and pear juice concentrate are primarily steel barrels, plastic bag and aseptic bags, and the packaging materials for fruit pomace are woven bags. In 2024, the Group consumed a total of approximately 7,977,219 kg of packaging materials, with an average consumption of approximately 49.14 kg per ton of product.

#### **Emissions**

The Company has managed and controlled the emissions generated by its production and operating activities in strict compliance with the Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China, the Air Pollution Prevention Law, the Integrated Emission Standard of Air Pollutants, the Water Pollution Prevention Law, the Quality Standards for Sewage Discharge into Urban Sewers, and other laws and regulations as well as requirements of local environmental authorities. In addition, the Company regularly engages local environmental testing institutions to monitor its waste gas and sewage discharges every year. In 2024, the Company was not subject to any notice or punishment from competent environmental authorities concerning illegal discharge.

### **Emission Types and Related Discharge Data**

The air pollutants discharged during the Group's production and operating activities primarily consist of nitric oxide, sulfur oxide and suspended particulates from burning of fossil fuels and vehicle exhausts. In 2024, the Group's pollutant emissions are as follows:

Emission	2024(kg)	2023(kg)
Nitric oxide	7,063	7,839
Sulfur oxide	2,272	1,982
Suspended particulates	495	733

#### Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Density Note

The Group discharges greenhouse gases (GHG) generated from its use of electricity, steam and burning of fossil fuel (including Scope 1: direct GHG emissions; and Scope 2: indirect GHG emissions). In 2024, the Group's GHG emissions were as follows:

GHG Type	Scope 1 (Unit: ton of carbon dioxide)	Scope 2 (Unit: ton of carbon dioxide)
Carbon dioxide (CO <sub>2</sub> )	45,685	81,151
Methane (CH <sub>4</sub> )	8,215	-
Nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O)	1,408	6,998
Total	55,308	88,149

In 2024, the Group's total GHG emissions amounted to approximately 143,457 tons of carbon dioxide and the emission density was about 0.88 tons of carbon dioxide per unit of product.

#### **Total Hazardous Wastes and Density**

The hazardous wastes generated by the Group primarily consist of waste paint buckets, waste fluorescent tube, and waste batteries. In 2024, the Group generated a total of approximately 149 kg of hazardous wastes, with a density of about 0.0009 kg per ton of products. The Group treated hazardous wastes in strict compliance with the Solid Wastes Pollution Prevention Law of the People's Republic of China. Waste paint buckets were recycled, and other hazardous wastes were properly treated according to related national environmental laws and regulations.

Note: The calculation of GHG emissions is based on the Guidelines for Accounting and Reporting of GHG Emissions by Enterprises Power Generation Facilities issued by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China, which is calculated from the use of coal, natural gas, gasoline, diesel and purchased electricity, steam. The GHG emission coefficients for electricity consumption are calculated with reference to 2012 China's Regional Grid Average Carbon Dioxide Factor.

### Total Non-hazardous Wastes and Density

The non-hazardous wastes generated by the Group primarily consist of waste paper and other domestic waste. In 2024, the Group generated a total of approximately 3,412 kg of non-hazardous wastes, and the amount of non-hazardous waste per ton of product was about 0.02 kg. The domestic waste was not included in calculation of the non-hazardous wastes as it was collected by local sanitation authorities and its volume was not measured. The Company strictly classified and stored the non-hazardous wastes. Recycles them by specialized departments.

#### Other Emissions

The sewage discharged by the Company mainly relates to cleaning and washing fruits and manufacturing equipment. Instead of being directly discharged, the sewage produced by the Company is discharged to the municipal pipeline network after professional treatment in its own sewage treatment facilities and meeting relevant standards, as required by related national environmental policies, laws and regulations and the local environmental authorities.

Emissions from the Group's operations are not considered material and therefore no emission targets have been developed for the current year.

### **Dealing with Climate Change**

The Group has strictly observed the Environmental Protection Law of the People's Republic of China, the Air Pollution Prevention Law of the People's Republic of China, the Water Pollution Prevention Law of the People's Republic of China, the Energy Conservation Law of the People's Republic of China, and other laws and regulations concerning exhaust and greenhouse gas emissions, waste water and land sewage discharge, the generation of harmful and harmless wastes, and the reduction in the significant impact on the environment and natural resources. The Group has been deeply aware of the close connection between sustainable development and improvement in the enterprise's comprehensive competitiveness as well as the fact that the energy consumption, sewage and solid waste discharge in business activities may pose an impact on water sources, air, soil and ecosystems. Moreover, the Group has acknowledged that it is important to balance economic, environmental and social demands. The Group has actively fulfilled the concepts of environmental protection and sustainable development, followed all the standards and policies on environmental protection issued by the government, and carried out business in an environmentally responsible attitude, in a bid to strike a balance between production and environmental impact. The Group has positively responded to the call for energy conservation and low carbon, invested more in environmental protection, and established and implemented a series of measures for energy conservation and emission reduction.

To upgrade manufacturing process, reduce energy consumption of equipment, and improve 1. energy utilization efficiency

Our research and development department has continued to focus on research and development of the core technologies in relation to energy conservation, elimination of hazardous wastes, consumption reduction and emission control during the deep processing of fruits. The Company aims to reduce the discharge of pollutants through constant enhancement of energy utilization efficiency of its crafts in deep processing fruits.

2. To improve utilization rate of water resources and decrease waste of water

In order to save water in an effective manner, the fruit condensate water evaporated during the manufacturing procedure has been collected for reuse, reverse osmosis concentrated water has been recycled, sanitary wares highlighted with water and energy conservation are adopted, and prompt repair and maintenance are conducted to bring down leakage rate of the tap water pipelines, all of which enable the Company to achieve efficient use of water.

3. Constant use of energy-saving technology

Lighting in offices and workshops are changed to LED to reduce power consumption.

- 4. To increase efforts in environmental protection and minimize the impact of emissions on the environment
- 5. To establish company systems and strengthen daily management

The Company sets detailed requirements on use of lighting and air conditioners based on seasonality and actual weather. Besides, various measures are in place to reduce paper consumption in office.

6. To increase the means of operation and travelling to reduce carbon emission

The Company has introduced video conference system, so as to decrease carbon emission arising from business travelling. Staff members are encouraged to choose public transportation for business trips, thus to reduce carbon emission arising from separate use of private cars.

7. To enhance clean production and gradual elimination of the use of highly polluting fossil fuel

The Company installed natural gas boilers to replace coal-fired boilers and adopted forklifts fueled with such clean energies as natural gas or accumulators to replace old-styled ones fueled with fuel oil. It also replaced part of fossil fuel with biomass pellet fuel.

#### **Environment and Natural Resources**

The Company has treated emissions and pollutants amid its production and operating activities in strict compliance with related national environmental policies and emission standards. All emissions were tested by local environmental authorities and had to meet certain standards before being discharged, and pollutants had to be treated by professional agencies. All emissions and treatments were acquired to meet the requirements of related national environmental laws and regulations and emission standards, and refrain from exerting major impact upon the environment and natural resources.

The Company has always tried its best to deliver a working atmosphere of "big family". Large-scale events, serving as facilitators, were organized by the Company to cultivate staff's awareness of team-building, cooperation and competition. Besides, internal and external trainings were provided to encourage staff to acquire multiple expertise in their positions. The Company works hard to create harmonious labor relationship in pursuit of full exercise of their capabilities and achievement of self-value. The Company has adhered to the "people-oriented" development philosophy, under which, every single employee is treated equally with no discrimination in terms of gender, nationality, religion and age.

### **Working Environment and Employment Standards**

Based on the actual needs for production, the Company enters into fixed-term or non-fixed-term employment contracts with the long-term employees in accordance with the law, enters into employment contracts with seasonal employees with the term subject to the completion of the job assignment, and enters into engagement contracts with retired and re-hired long-term employees, subject to the Labor Law of the People's Republic of China, the Labor Contract Law of the People's Republic of China and other relevant laws and regulations. The execution rate of the labour contracts or employment contracts reaches 100%.

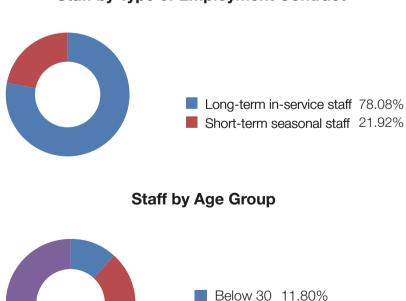
The Labor Law of the People's Republic of China is strictly referred to by the Company on determining remuneration and dismissal of employees. Besides, the Company has established a series of internal systems and code of conduct on an equal, fair and open basis. Clear working standards and performance assessment systems are established for each particular position, the performance of which may be accordingly reflected directly in the performance-related bonus of that month, while the year-end bonus of employees is linked to the Company's economic benefits, product quality, production safety and force of execution. Benefited from implementation of such assessment system, all the members of the Company are inspired to attach great importance to cost management, focus on product quality and reinforce awareness of safety, which in turn enables the Company to consolidate management and ensure harmonious and steady labor relationship. Income of individual staff keeps rising since the benefits of the Company are secured. In 2024, all of our staff received an income that was higher than such minimum levels required by the respective local governments. Moreover, no labor dispute occurred in 2024.

Vigorous efforts were made by the Company for staff to maintain a balance between work and life and ensure that the number of their working hours do not exceed the statutory working hours. In addition to statutory holidays, the Company also provides paid leaves to staff, including annual leave, sick leave, maternity leave, marriage leave and bereavement leave, as well as subsidies for working over-time, night shift and in high temperature, which further protect the legitimate rights and interests and work-life balance of staff, improve work efficiency and raise the standard of employee benefits and satisfaction level of staff. The fruit juice manufacturing has distinct seasonal characteristics. When there is no production, the Company holds numerous training courses to improve employees' expertise. Benefits in kind are granted to employees during each traditional festival, blessings and birthday gifts are prepared for their birthdays, chances of appreciating art exhibition and artistic performance are provided to employees each year free of charge, and attractive culture and entertainment activities are organized to encourage participation by employees, such as badminton competition, beach party, artistic performance, Christmas or New Year's Eve parties. Such a series of culture and entertainment activities are organized to assist formulation of mental and physical health of staff, inspire their energy, and agglomerate team spirit and collective sense of honor.

### **Employment of Staff**

The Company strictly follows the Labor Law of the People's Republic of China and the Labor Contract Law of the People's Republic of China, and has formulated comprehensive rules and regulations on the employment of staff. It has also implemented the principle of voluntary and equal employment of both parties. As of 31 December 2024, the Group had 1,127 employees, as categorized below by type of employment contract, age, gender and geographical area:

### **Staff by Type of Employment Contract**



31-40

41-50

27.86%

34.96%

Above 51 25.38%

### Staff by Gender



### Staff by Geographical Area



The Company attracts staff to render long-term service by improving working environment, providing development platform, emphasizing staff health and security, and other aspects.

	Employees Lost			
Index	20	)24	20	23
GENDER	Number	Proportion %	Number	Proportion %
Male	26	2.31	40	3.90
Female	17	1.51	11	1.07
GEOGRAPHICAL AREA	Number	Proportion %	Number	Proportion %
Shandong Province	12	1.06	15	1.46
Shaanxi Province	8	0.71	7	0.83
Shanxi Province	1	0.09	18	1.76
Jiangsu Province	6	0.53	11	1.07
Liaoning Province	5	0.44	_	_
Xinjiang Uygur	11	0.98	_	_
AGE	Number	Proportion %	Number	Proportion %
40 or below	29	2.57	33	3.22
Above 40	14	1.24	18	1.76

The Company strictly follows the Labor Law of the People's Republic of China and the Provisions on the Prohibition of Using Child Labor promulgated by the State Council as well as other laws and regulations, and stands firmly against employment of child labor and forced labor. The Company sets out Management Procedures on Prohibiting Employment of Child Labor and Juvenile Workers (《禁止使用童工及未成年工管理程序》), clarifying that child labor is prohibited from taking any position in the Company and that recruitment procedures must be executed word to word, with strict verification on information of candidates. Candidates are admitted into registration and on-boarding procedures only after verification on ID cards (Hukou as well to the extent necessary). Candidates who cannot provide valid certificates of identity will not be qualified for employment. Once the Company realizes that it has hired child labor by mistake, it shall make rectification immediately. The Company shall report the case to relevant labor authorities for review and verification, keep such staff from working and send the staff to hospital for health check. If the case is verified, the Company will pay salaries in full to the staff and send notice to families for returning the staff to the care of families in a timely manner. The Company will also provide financial support if the family is a seriously impoverished one. In addition, the Company will properly maintain the copy of age document of the staff for filing. In 2024, the Company did not have any position taken by staff under 18 or by forced labor.

The Company has also set up Management Procedures on Prohibition of Discrimination (《禁止歧視管理程序》), Management Procedures on Protection of Female Staff (《女工保護管理程序》), and other rules and systems, in pursuit of diversified development and abidance of fairness. In employment, management, remuneration adjustment, promotion, training, resignation and retirement, it prohibits discrimination on the grounds of gender, nationality, age and religion, and strictly complies with local and state laws and regulations, so as to effectively protect legitimate rights and interests of its staff.

### **Development and Training**

The Company attaches great importance to staff training. In order to improve staff's job skills and professional competence, the comprehensive management department works out annual training plans at the beginning of each year by taking account of training requirements and plans of each department. Professional trainings based on different job responsibilities were offered to staff at different positions, which cover national laws and regulations, corporate rules and systems, production safety, operation skills, and quality and food safety management system. For short-term seasonal staff, the Company offers pre-service training, skill training and safety training. All of these aim to construct a development platform for staff, helping them make continuous improvement in their comprehensive quality and professional skills. The Company ensures that employees receive sufficient training courses each year and has sufficient budget funds for this purpose.

Grading of trainee	Average training hours of each employee
Senior management = 3.7%	Senior management = 20.8 hours
Mid-level management = 23.9%	Mid-level management = 25 hours
Junior management = 20.2%	Junior management = 12 hours
Specialists and other management = 15.7%	Specialists and other management = 14 hours
Factory staff = 40.2%	Factory staff = 33 hours

Gender of trainee	Average training hours of each employee
Male = 63.4%	Male = 92 hours
Female = 36.6%	Female = 71 hours

To help its staff develop and grow, the Company adopts the pattern that highlights internal trainings with external trainings as a supplement. After the A shares of the Company were successfully listed on the Shanghai Stock Exchange, the Company invited Beijing Dentons Law Offices , LLP. and Huaying Securities Co., Ltd. to hold special trainings in the Company and actively recommended its employees to participate in several onsite and remote trainings organized by China Securities Regulatory Commission Shandong Regulatory Bureau and the Shanghai Stock Exchange to help its employees better understand and adapt to the post-IPO information disclosure and securities transaction regulatory environment as well as the latest regulatory policies.

### **Expressed Sympathy and Solicitude for Employees**

In 2024, the Company made an investigation on the straitened circumstances of the employees. Based on the investigation results and the judging standards for needy workers, the leaders of the Company visited the needy workers' homes to express sympathy and solicitude for them, got a clear picture of their living conditions, and lent an ear to their demands.

### **Health and Safety**

The Company sets creating a safe production environment for staff and protecting the life, health and safety of front-line workers as its supreme principles. In accordance with the Work Safety Law of the People's Republic of China, the Labor Law of the People's Republic of China and relevant laws and regulations, the Company keeps improving production safety rules, standard operation procedures and emergency rescue plans. It makes operation guidelines in production sites as conspicuous as possible and requires managerial staff at all levels to take part in field visits for the purpose of timely and effective management. It also supervises and reviews how its staff execute relevant rules and operation procedures, and sets such conduct as a compulsory indicator for monthly assessment of staff performance.

Regarding safety management and protection for front-line staff, the Company focuses on safety education and training. It offers necessary labor protection equipment and facilities to staff according to their job responsibilities, and urges working group leaders and managerial staff at higher levels to review the proper utilization of such equipment and facilities. The Company conducts comprehensive checks from time to time to identify any risk factors. It also organizes production safety guiz, helping staff raise safety awareness and enhance self-protection abilities.

In 2024, the Company invited firefighters to train its staff on safe living and fire fighting and leading fire drill practice, which enhanced staff's ability to prevent accidents and deal with emergencies.

In addition, the Company also invited professionals of Yantai Red Cross Society for training on cardiopulmonary resuscitation and common first-aid measures, and arranged for each work group with staff holding life rescue certification. All of these are aimed to protect the life, health and safety of front-line staff.

Every year, the Company engages professional inspection agencies to periodically inspect hazardous factors at work place that may lead to occupational diseases. Professional health checks are provided for employees at production lines that are exposed to noise, liquid ammonia and other occupational hazards. Noise-canceling earplugs are provided for workers at production workshops. The Company also performs stringent monitoring and checking on all operation personnel to ensure that they correctly wear labor protection articles, so as to minimize the damage of occupational hazards. The Company organizes health checks on a regular basis each year for all front-line employees and issues health certificates. In 2024, the Company recorded 276 lost days in total due to work injury. In the past three years, there has been no death of employees due to work.

Food quality and safety is an important indicator concerning the interests of consumers, and it is also one of management focuses of the Company. Food is the paramount necessity of people. It follows that food safety is the top priority. Since its foundation, the Company has been strictly following five international certifications (see below pictures) and committing itself to provision of high-quality, safe and reliable concentrated juice products. It has strict food safety and quality control on process ranging from raw and auxiliary materials supply, production and processing, to various links such as storage of finished products, logistics and transportation, so as to guarantee the safety and reliability of finished products.

ISO9001 Certification of Quality Management System
HACCP Certification of Food Safety Management System
BRC Certification of Global Standard for Food Safety
KOSHER Kosher Certification
HALAL Halal Food Certification









### **Supply Chain Management**

The Company employs comprehensive control and supervision for supply chain management to avoid various social risks in the supply chain management environment. The procurement business is divided into procurement of raw fruits and procurement of other assets. The Company has specified the responsibilities, budget management, supplier access system, price management, procurement application, contract management, process monitoring and acceptance management, payment settlement, return management, information management, and procurement inspection of the management institution for different types of procurement activities pursuant to a series of internal systems such as the "Corporate Internal Control Process – Procurement Business", "Production Management System – Processes of Weighing Inspection at Weight House and Purchase of Raw Fruits", "Raw Fruits Quality Monitoring and Management System", "Integrated Management System – Regulations on the Approval of Procurement and Disposal of Tangible Assets and Service Expenses", and "Regulations on Bidding and Tendering of Companies".

#### Management of Raw Fruit Bases

Food safety control starts with raw material supply. Raw fruits intended for the Company's production are distributed across Shandong, Jiangsu, Liaoning, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Sichuan, Xinjiang and other provinces. Raw materials are supplied by fruit growers in raw fruit bases, and their quantity varies between years.

During the growing period of fruit trees, the Company engages agricultural experts to provide fruit growers with trainings regarding apple tree planting, pest control and self-protection, and offer guidance on various links such as soil quality testing, water quality testing, fertilizer utilization, farm chemical selection, pest control and apple picking in the bases, so as to ensure the safety and quality of the raw fruits of the base wherever possible while reducing the adverse impact on the surrounding environment caused by the use of pesticides and fertilizers. The Company sends guidelines for farm chemical utilization to fruit growers, recommends high-efficiency and low-toxicity farm chemicals that leave few residues or no residues, and requires fruit growers to keep records of farm chemical usage. The farm chemical investigation group of the Company conducts monthly supervision on all fruit growers during the period of the farm chemical utilization on the fruit trees (April – August), with a view to grasping the detailed information on the farm chemical utilization by the fruit growers, forming records with the fruit growers' signatures thereon. It also maintains unified identifiers for fruit growers from raw fruit bases, and issues Certificate of Fruit Growers in Raw Fruit Bases (《基地果農證明》) to them.

#### Acceptance of Raw Fruit

In procurement of raw fruits, the Company recommends that fruit growers at the base pick and deliver the fruits in a centralized manner to minimize the carbon footprint caused by transportation and reduce logistics costs. The Company checks the software and hardware of large scales at a fixed time every day, and inspects the equipment of raw material vehicles entering the factory to eliminate hidden dangers. Before weighing for fruit delivering trucks, the weighing operators shall check the identity of fruit growers and Certificates of Fruit Grower in Raw Fruit Bases. Those who failed will be rejected. Those who are qualified will fill in CCP1 record. After the raw fruits enter the factory, the weighing operator weighs the raw fruits on the scale and the grade rater will perform quality acceptance. In view of the large amount of purchasing data, the Company designates dedicated personnel to back up and store raw fruits purchase data in different media. During the acceptance of raw fruits, the Company minimizes the risks by breaking down each key risk point.

#### **Auxiliary Materials Quality Management**

The procurement of auxiliary materials and packaging materials are handled by the Supply Division and the Procurement Center of the Company. To control the product safety risks arising from auxiliary materials and packaging materials, the Company carries out strict eligibility verification procedures on suppliers of auxiliary materials and packaging materials, including the relevant qualifications, product delivery capabilities, services and reputation. When necessary, the Company may visit suppliers and test their products first. The suppliers who meet the standards of the Company will be listed as qualified suppliers. Each year, the Company reviews suppliers' timeliness of supply, inspection results on goods delivered, service quality, environmental protection and safety behaviors and integrity. Suppliers with poor review results will be required to improve. Otherwise, they will be replaced. There are strict acceptance rules for admitting products into the warehouse. Upon the arrival of the goods, the warehouse manager, the quality control department, and the demand application department will handle the warehousing and acceptance registration procedures for the auxiliary materials, packaging materials and fixed assets. For every batch of products delivered to the Company, it is required, according to the acceptance rule, to produce the product quality certificate, together with quality and safety report, so as to control food safety risk arising from auxiliary materials and packaging materials.

In 2024, the Company conducted assessment and evaluation on all suppliers, with a coverage of 100%, and the proportion of suppliers who met the standards was 98.37%.

The Company also actively conveys environmental protection requirements and expectations to suppliers and other partners, and supports and encourages suppliers to consider using approved environmental protection products and equipment, hoping to work together to build a sustainable green supply chain on basis of establishing a continuous and long-term cooperative relationship.



In 2024, the Company had 723 auxiliary materials suppliers, mainly located in Shandong, Shaanxi, Shanxi, Liaoning and other provinces.

### **Product Responsibilities**

#### **Quality Control**

Clients' satisfaction with products is crucial to a Company's sustainable operation and development. The Company strictly follows ISO9001 International Standards and Good Manufacture Practice (GMP), and establishes a comprehensive quality management system and a food safety management system, so as to ensure excellent, sustained and stable quality.

In the process of production, the Company upholds the control philosophy that "finished products could meet standards by 100 percent only when every process is up to standards". With reference to the Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) system, the Company sets scientific critical control points, closely monitors critical control points and makes timely hazard analysis, eliminating factors that would affect food safety and thus minimizing the quality and safety risk of products.

Tests on finished products are conducted in strict compliance with the HACCP system. The Company classifies test items as compulsory, independent and random in accordance with state and industry standards and client prescribed indicators. Every batch of products must pass tests before they are deemed as qualified as marketable products. Samples of each batch of products are required to be kept for subsequent tests.

The Company is committed to establishing a sound product recall system and client feedback channel, and has set up an after-sales and complaint hotline and established product recall taskforce. According to the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China, the Product Quality Law of the People's Republic of China, and Law on Protection of the Rights and Interests of Consumers, the Company has established the Identification and Traceability Control Procedures (《標識和可追溯性控制程序》). The Company conducts inspections on products sold according to the Identification and Traceability Control Procedures once client has feedbacks and comments. When the reasons for recall of the Company's products are determined through inspection, the Company launches recall procedures immediately and maintains such inspection records, ensuring that all substandard products are fully recalled in a timely manner. In 2024, the Company recorded no product recalls as a result of quality issues and received no complaints on product quality.

It is the philosophy of strict quality control that helps the Company to win trust from customers, which enables its products to be popular in markets around the world.

#### Respect for and Protection of Intellectual Property

Improvement in competitiveness requires not only technological innovation, but also protection and management of intellectual property. The Company attaches great importance to the application and protection of proprietary intellectual property, and strictly complies with the Trademark Law of the People's Republic of China, the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China and other related laws and regulations. Realizing that intellectual property serves to drive, guide, safeguard and evaluate innovation achievements, it has set up a comprehensive intellectual property management mechanism. Besides, the Company respects others' legitimate rights and is vigilant over intellectual property infringement risk in technology development, product innovation, business development and daily operating management. During the Year, the Company recorded no material infringement of intellectual property.

#### Protection for Client Information and Privacy Policy

In relation to information confidentiality, the Company strictly complies with the Contract Law of the People's Republic of China and relevant laws and regulations. It has drew up rules for managing market-related files and executed these rules strictly. Designated personnel are responsible for managing client-related documents and information and performing strict borrowing and lending procedures. By implementing such rules and procedures, the Company endeavors to safeguard clients' privacy.

#### Policy on Advertising and Labeling

The Company strictly complies with the Advertising Law of the People's Republic of China. In the event that advertising need arises, the marketing department and the comprehensive management department of the Company will work with advertising agencies to design the advertisements based on market demand and development strategies of the Company. As for labeling for products, the Company strictly complies with the relevant laws, regulations and the national standards, such as the Food Safety Law of the People's Republic of China.

### **Anti-Corruption**

The Group strictly prohibits any bribery, blackmail, fraud, money laundering and other corruptive practices. The Company has a clear corporate governance code, and strictly follows the Anti- Unfair Competition Law of the People's Republic of China and other laws and regulations. In addition to well-defined responsibilities and powers for each position, the Company has established mailboxes and telephone numbers for receiving reports on commercial briberies, worked out detailed reporting policies and established a rewarding system, encouraging staff and business partners to report and expose any corruption and commercial bribery, and making sure that information of reporters is kept in confidentiality. The Company has involved the integrity and self-discipline rules into the human resources management system as a code of conduct, carried out training on commercial integrity and anti-corruption to all employees and the management, and advocated compliance with the rules among the employees to raise their awareness. Furthermore, the Company has provided anti-corruption training for directors by transmitting the relevant training data. All procurement contracts in ordinary business activities must include anti-commercial bribery terms. As its business continues to develop, the Company will keep improving its anti-corruption system and tighten supervision in this regard, so as to offer strong support to sustainable development in the future. In the event that serious criminal offenses or non-compliance are found or when the Company becomes a victim of blackmail or fraud, the Company's management department will report to the president immediately, and report to relevant government authorities at the soonest. In 2024, the Group did not encounter any litigations or corresponding sanctions as a result of committing corruption, blackmail, fraud or money laundering.

### Social Responsibilities

Without support and trust from the society, the Company would not have succeeded in the past two decades. Therefore, it feels obligated to repay the society and bring more benefits to its people.

The Company has always been keeping close communication and interaction with communities, and making contribution to local development. As a food processing company, the Company takes in fruits including apples and pears as raw materials and builds a righteous cycle for fruit industry, relieving fruit growers from concerns on sales of fruits, especially on non-commercial fruits. Purchase of a large quantity of non-commercial fruit helps increase income of fruit growers and boost their confidence in fruit growing, offers more job opportunities to local people, and fuels development of local storage, transportation, and packaging industries.

### **Future Prospects**

Looking ahead, the Company will continue to uphold its product concept of "From Nature to Concentrate" ("源於自然、濃縮精華"), practise its business philosophy to "uphold integrity and quality during daily operations" ("誠信為本、品質求存") and its marketing philosophy to "cultivate global footprints with customer-oriented services" ("客戶至上、服務全球"), and realize its mission to "manufacture green products and promote healthy lifestyles" ("生產綠色產品,追求健康生活"). It will continue to serve the public with quality products and services.

In the meantime, the Company will continue its efforts in social responsibilities, and incorporate social responsibilities into day-to-day business operation and management. With a people-oriented philosophy, it will enhance interest protection for staff, clients, suppliers, the society and other stakeholders, press ahead with technology innovation and realize energy conservation and consumption reduction. In addition to seeking economic benefits, the Company will better safeguard the interests of and provide more occupational trainings to its staff, take an active role in charity and environmental protection, repaying the society with practical actions and making greater contributions to social harmony and sustainable corporate development.

Yantai North Andre Juice Co., Ltd.\* 26 March 2025

<sup>\*</sup> For identification purpose only