

## **GOVERNANCE FOR CATCHER** Call to Vote **FOR** on Shareholder Proposal





Catcher Technology Co., Ltd.

**2474** (Taiwan)

TICKER



#### AGM

VOTING PERIOD : Apr 30<sup>th</sup> – May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 MEETING DATE : May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024

#### PROPOSAL



#### Shareholders' proposal to amend Articles of Incorporation

#### **ABOUT THE SHAREHOLDERS**

#### **Argyle Street Management**

Argyle Street Management (ASM) is a Hong Kong-based fund manager. We focus on undervalued, high-quality assets in Asia with a viable path of unlocking value.

#### **TIH Limited**

TIH Limited (formerly known as Transpac Industrial Holdings Limited) ("TIH") is a SGX-listed closed-end fund set up in 1994, and is managed by one of the most established private equity investment teams in Asia.

governanceforcatcher.com



In accordance with Article 18 of Catcher's Articles of Incorporation:

The Board of Directors is authorized to approve the distribution of profits partly or all in cash and report the distribution to the annual general meeting of shareholders.

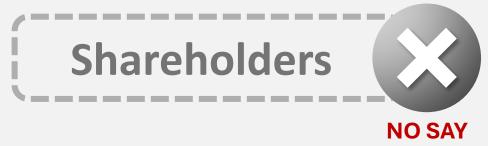
•	Amendment to the Artic	les of Incorporation
After amendment	Before amendment	Remark
Article 18:	Article 18:	Proposed by shareholders to eliminate some provisions in
(Paragraph 1 is abridged)	(Paragraph 1 is abridged)	Article 18.

Currently

## **Catcher's Current Articles of Incorporation:**

Board

Has Full Authority to Propose and Approve Cash Dividend Distribution



Note: Original shall be able to be proposed by shareholders and to be approved by shareholder's meeting. But in 2019 AGM Catcher amended AOI, changed from shareholders to Board to propose and to decide only.

## Amendments to the Company's AOI:

## Authority to Propose and Approve Cash Dividend Distribution



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#### We've been holding for 3~4 years, and are long-term shareholders

## We actively engage with Catcher on a <u>quarterly basis</u> after earnings announcements

But are unable to gain meaningful response from the Company on how to improve its capital structure, governance and strategic planning.

## **GOVERNANCE** BC

BOARD

- Family-Controlled Company
- Violate the goodwill of company law amendments
- Fined by FSC violating shareholder rights by refusing shareholder proposal
- Not receptive to supervision
  (shareholders / regulations )

## FUNDAMENTALS

#### FINANCIALS

- Deteriorating financial performance
- No Capital Expenditure Plan (Lack of transparency and disclosure)
- Inconsistent implementation of alleged
  transformation
- Excessive cash reserve on its balance sheet WITHOUT returning more to shareholders

#### UNPREPARED

UNWILLING

UNDERPERFORMING

**UNDER-UTILIZED** 

#### **WE BELIEVE**

## **Shareholders**

## Should be able to Propose & are Better Positioned to Decide Cash Dividend Distribution

### The Board consists of siblings and close associates.



Note 1: National Taiwan University.

Note 2: Liang was Catcher's Non-INED for 7 years (2006-2013) + INED (2019~Now)

Note 3: Liang & Cheng are **current colleagues (professors) at National Cheng Kung University** (both Department of Electrical Engineering) and have **a long overlapping history** since University of Missouri (Ph.D/Masters in Engineering), and Bachelors in National Chiao Tung University.

#### 2018

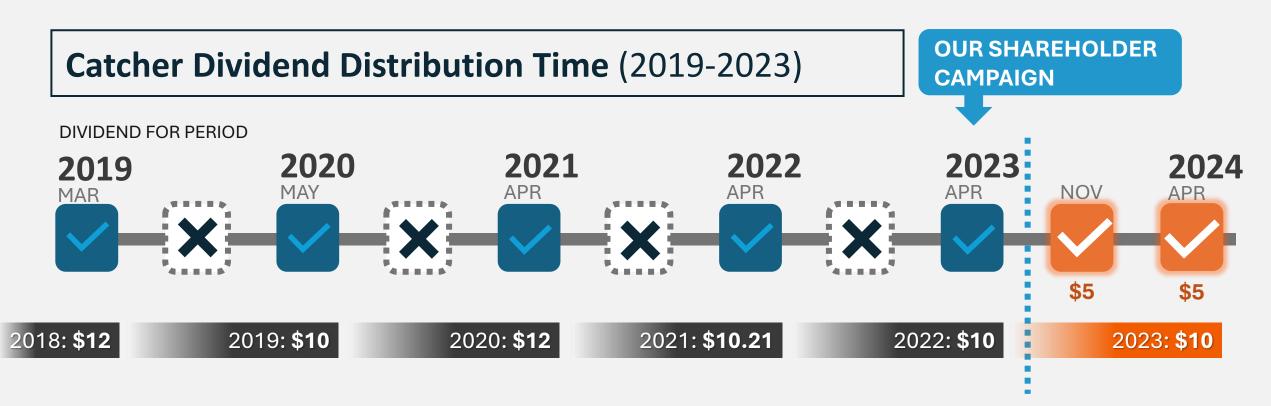
### Goodwill is to allow companies such as TSMC (2330.Taiwan) to distribute interim Quarterly dividends.

Taiwan Company Act Amended<sup>1</sup>, Companies **may** grant Board full authority to approve cash dividend distribution

Note1: Taiwan Company Act 27th Amendment, August 1, 2018

#### **THEREFORE, IN 2019**

**Catcher** changed AOI: Board has full authority to propose and decide cash dividend – Shareholders are deprived of such rights.



Non-action for 4 years after amendment, frequency of dividend payout increased only after shareholder campaign

#### 2023 AGM

## We Proposed Amendments to the Company's AOI:

## Shareholders should have voting rights on cash dividend distribution

#### 2023/4/18

Board Rejected our proposal from 2023 AGM based on a wrongful interpretation of company law

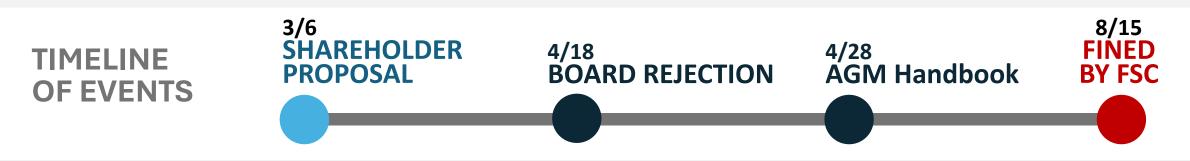
# **Rejected** based on legal technicality, stating the proposal entailed 2 items, rather than 1 stipulated by regulations.

#### **DOUBLE STANDARD**

The same rationale does not apply to Catcher itself when the Company amended the AOI in 1 resolution in 2019.

#### 2023/8/15

## FSC Fined Chairperson Allen Hung (Shui-shu Hung)



Source: Securities and Futures Bureau, Financial Supervisory Commission (Link)

#### 2023/8/15

## **FSC Fined Chairperson Shui-shu Hung**

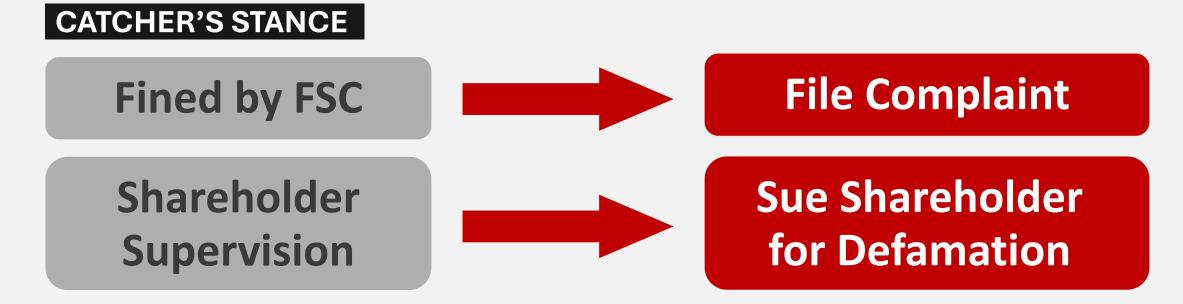
Double standard violating shareholders' rights lead to fine of TWD\$ 240,000 for Chairperson.

## Catcher becomes <u>1 of only 3</u> companies illegally rejecting shareholder proposal.

(Of **210** annual meetings with shareholder proposals in the past decade)

### The Company should be accountable to all shareholders

Board should be open to shareholders' suggestions and stakeholder supervision

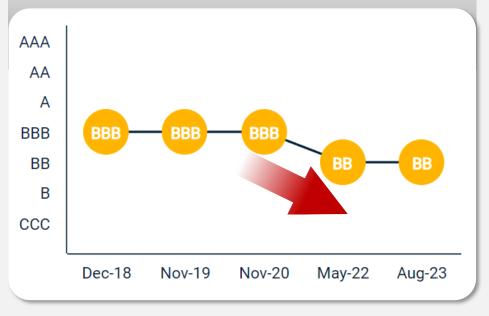


## **Hostile and Retaliatory**

Negligence towards governance requires supervision

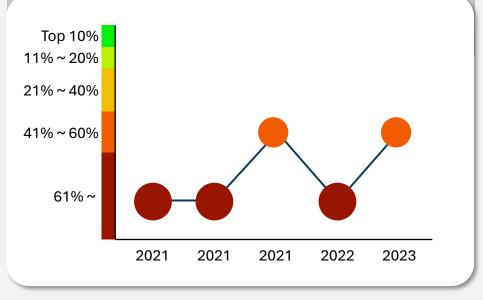
#### **MSCI ESG Ratings**

Dropped to BB, now currently in bottom 58 ~ 80 percentile



#### TWSE Corporate Governance Evaluation

**Consistently underperforming** (Electronics sector, market cap > TWD\$ 10 bn)



Source: Securities and Futures Institute, Taiwan Stock Exchange

Source: MSCI ESG Ratings

## For Example, in the past, two TWSE-listed Companies' Shareholders VOTE AGAINST board's dictatorship on dividends.

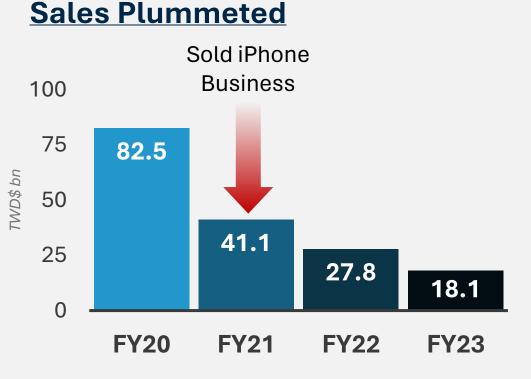


## **RESULT:** Shareholders maintain right to propose and to approve cash dividend distribution

## FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

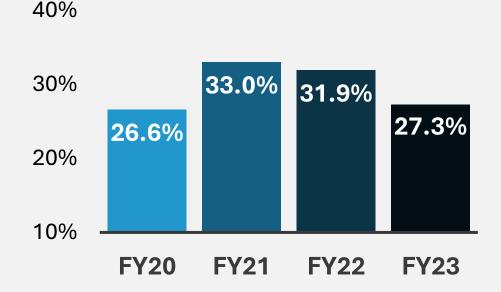
#### **REVENUES ON Downward Trend, Struggle TO FIND GROWTH**

- Sales continued to deteriorate further after the sale of the iPhone business
- Gross margin fell back to the level before the sale of the iPhone business



Source: Company data, as of 2023/12/31

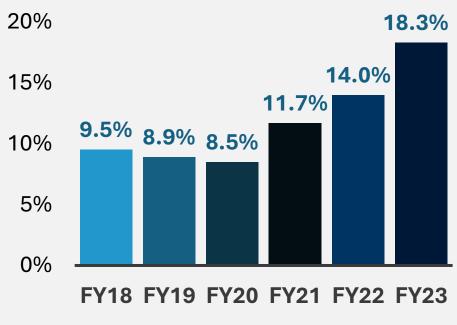
#### **Gross Margin Contraction**



Source: Company data, as of 2023/12/31

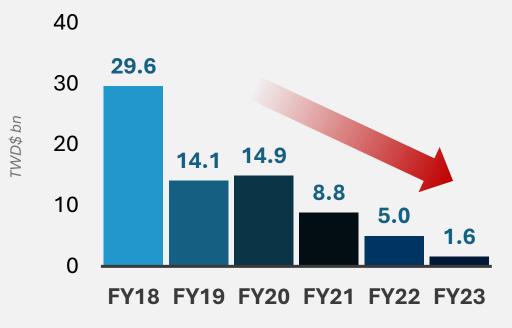
#### **Poor - OPEX MANAGEMENT HAMMERS PROFITS**

- Operating profits plunged to its lowest in the last 22 years
- OPEX ratio soared to 18.3%, and lacked proper cost adjustments



**OPEX as %, Spiked** 

#### **Operating Profits Plunged**

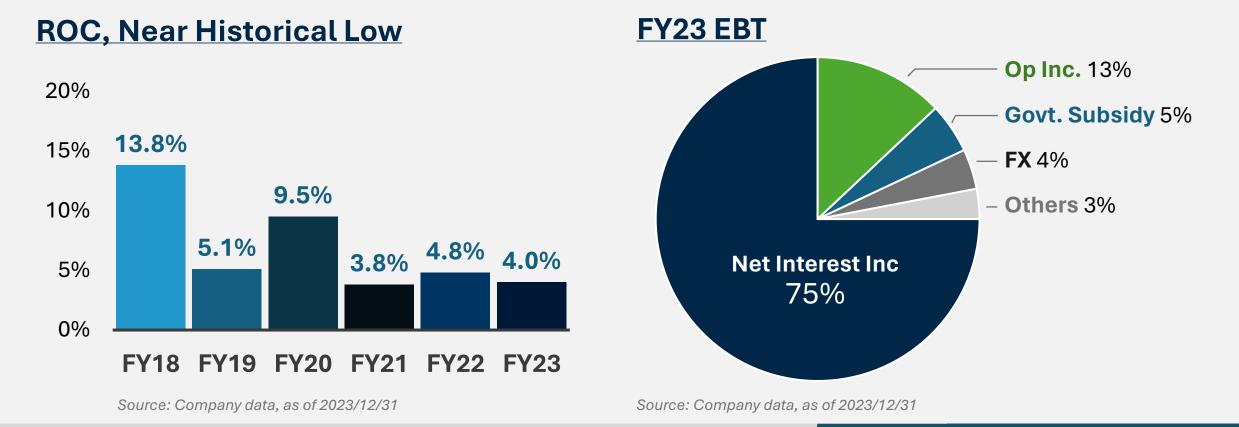


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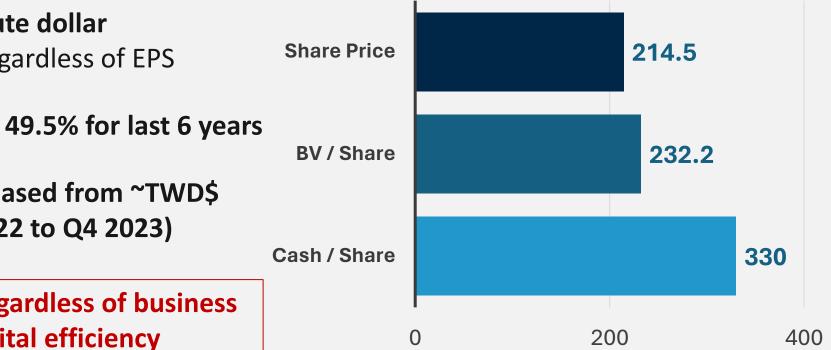
#### **ROC SANK & EBT RELIED HEAVILY ON INTEREST INCOME**

- The Return on Capital (ROC) decreased to 4.0%, second lowest historically
- OP income only accounts for 13% of EBT; Net interest income = 75% of EBT



P22





Source: Company data, as of 2023/12/31

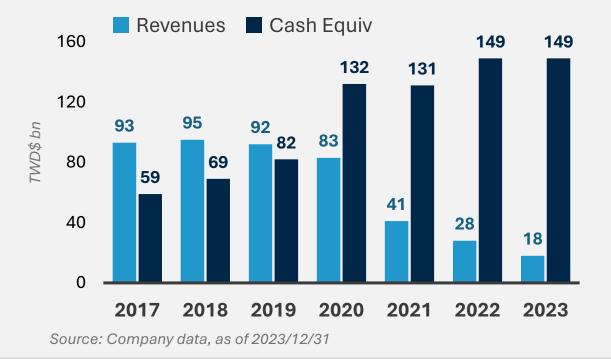
- **Div policy based on absolute dollar** (TWD\$ 10 or TWD\$ 12), regardless of EPS
- Aggregated payout ratio = 49.5% for last 6 years
- Cash Equiv per share increased from ~TWD\$
  280 to ~TWD\$ 330 (Q4 2022 to Q4 2023)

Arbitrary dividend policy regardless of business performance and capital efficiency

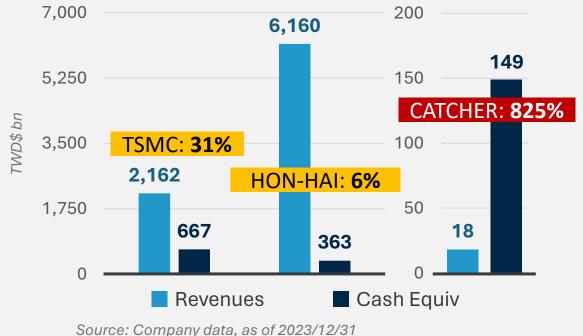
#### **EXCESSIVE CASH UNNECESSARY FOR CORE BUSINESS**

- Cash Equiv on Hand = 825% of FY23 Revenues
- Cash Equiv on Hand vs. Sales far higher than benchmark companies

#### Cash Equiv on Hand



#### FY23 Cash Equiv vs Revenues



- Invested up to dozens of different financial investments in last 3 years
- Sub par or mediocre performance, compared to benchmarks
- Are these financial investments relevant to core business at all?
- US Gov Bonds as a single asset item grew from <1% to ~90% within a year</li>

#### **Summary of Financial Investments**

Equities	2022	2023
Listed (Stocks)	4	13
Non-Listed (Stocks)	2	2
Mutual Funds (Funds)	0	1
Corporate Bonds (Bonds)	54	45
Private Equity Fund (Funds)	5	6
Simple Agreement for Future (Agreements)	1	1
Private Placement (Placements)	2	1
Limited Partnership (Partnerships)	3	3
US Gov Bonds (Bonds)	1	1
ource: Company financial reports		pootivo 12/21

Source: Company financial reports

As of Respective 12/31

## We Need Your Support to Make Things Right

**5 Top-priority Suggestions to Catcher** 

- 1. Maximize Stakeholders' Interests
- 2. Establish Solid Sustainability Foundations
- 3. Curb Unnecessary Investments
- 4. Refocus Core Competencies
- 5. Expedite Capital Expenditure Plan