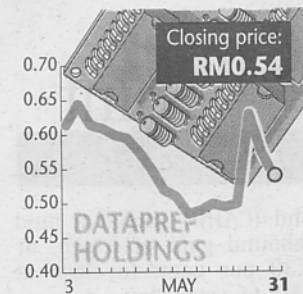


Boost for Dataprep earnings

CONSULTING and technology services company Dataprep Holdings Bhd turned in a net profit of RM2.367 million for the financial year ended March 31 2005 from a net loss of RM39.277 million in the same corresponding period of last year.

Its deputy chief executive officer Chew Liong Kim said the re-alignment of Dataprep's core competencies, solutions and services around customer needs was instrumental in helping the 34-year-old technology service company regain its former shine in the Malaysian information technology marketplace.

"My board of directors and senior leadership management are optimistic that the



group will continue to strengthen its position in the market, not just in Malaysia but in the chosen overseas markets that we want to venture into," he said in a statement released in Kuala Lumpur yesterday.

He also said the much delayed public sector projects, obtained by Solsis (M) Sdn Bhd in late financial year

2005, are now being delivered as work-in-progress and will contribute positively to the sales and profit for the financial year 2006.

HRM Business Consulting Sdn Bhd, the business consulting subsidiary that Dataprep acquired from the partners of Arthur Andersen in June 2002, has been fully assimilated into the group and will substantially increase the system solutioning and delivery capability of Dataprep particularly in critical systems such as the judiciary, media and telecommunications, healthcare and agro-industry sectors.

Chew views International Data Corp's forecast — which anticipated that the overall information and

communications technology services market at a compound annual growth rate of 16.3 per cent for 2004-2009 — as encouraging news for the group.

He said information technology (IT) providers that possess focus, discipline and exceptional excellence will certainly benefit from this, and "we are optimistic of our ability to contribute as one of the top IT providers in the country".

Against the context of continuous demand by IT customers in the next three years and its current healthy backlog of projects, shareholders can look forward to better days as Dataprep enters its fourth decade of establishment, he added.