



Informatics slashes losses

INFORMATICS Holdings slashed its net loss by 85 per cent to \$3.9 million, or 1.01 cents per share, for its first quarter ended June 30 from the same period a year earlier. The education services provider achieved this by cutting \$11.6 million in operating expenses and \$4 million in staff costs. Sales fell 29 per cent to \$14.2 million.

Following a police probe over accounting irregularities last year, the company installed new management and unveiled new initiatives to revive its fortunes.

Informatics suffered a blow last month when Indonesian-born tycoon Oei Hong Leong divested his entire 13.7-per-cent stake in the company. Market watchers said the sale by Mr Oei could adversely affect the company's plan to raise \$24.5 million to recapitalise the company through a rights issue.

Mr Oei and Malaysian tycoon Vincent Tan emerged as white knights more than a year ago to rescue the beleaguered company.