

Golden Bull names new CEO, CFO following probe

Golden Bull Ltd. is revamping its management, naming a new CEO and CFO, and will discontinue its peer-to-peer lending business following criminal enforcement measures by the Shanghai Public Security Bureau against several executives.

The company detailed changes in its management after it removed Jing Leng as CFO on Oct. 18 and Erxin Zeng as CEO and director Oct. 30. The board appointed Min Hu CEO and director of the company to take over from Zeng, effective Oct. 30. The firm also appointed Erke Huang CFO, effective Oct. 28. Huang was also appointed director.

The company removed Leng and Zeng as CFO and CEO, respectively, after the Pudong Branch of the Shanghai Public Security Bureau said it had completed its probe against Shanghai Dianniu Internet Finance Information Service Co. Ltd., Golden Bull's variable interest entity.

The bureau, which was investigating Shanghai Dianniu for suspected illegal collection of public deposits, has taken criminal enforcement measures against 17 suspects in the case. Golden Bull believes Jing Leng and director Xiaohui Liu, as well as several of Shanghai Dianniu's management may have been suspects in the case. The Public Security Bureau also initiated an online hunt for Erxin Zeng.

The board has removed Xiaohui Liu from the board, effective Oct. 18. Hui Shen also resigned as director on the same day. The board appointed Ping Liu director and chairwoman Oct. 30.

The newly appointed CEO, Min Hu, served as business manager of Weihua Liquor Co. since 2011. Erke Huang has been co-founder and adviser of Long Soar Technology Ltd. since August and founder and CEO of Bitotem Investment Management Ltd. since May 2018. Ping Liu was deputy general manager of Shenzhen Qianhai Wanyin Investment Fund Management Co. Ltd. since 2013.

Meanwhile, Golden Bull expects to discontinue its P2P business and start a new business with proceeds to be raised from equity and debt financing. The company had entered into a securities purchase agreement with investors to sell a total of 6.5 million shares at a per share purchase price of 40 U.S. cents. The gross proceeds will be US\$2.6 million.