

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected smuggled frozen meat (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs yesterday (June 12) conducted an anti-smuggling operation and detected a suspected smuggling case using a fishing vessel in the waters off Lamma Island. About 6 200 kilograms of frozen meat with an estimated market value of about \$250,000 was seized.

Customs officers spotted a suspicious fishing vessel leaving Hong Kong yesterday evening. Officers then took immediate action and intercepted the fishing vessel for examination. The batch of suspected smuggled frozen meat was seized on board the vessel.

During the operation, Customs officers arrested two male crew members, aged 47 and 59.

Investigation is ongoing.

Smuggling is a serious offence. Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person found guilty of importing or exporting unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years.

Hong Kong Customs will continue to take stringent enforcement action to combat sea smuggling activities.

Members of the public may report any suspected smuggling activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).



Effective Exchange Rate Index

The effective exchange rate index for the Hong Kong dollar on Thursday, June 13, 2019 is 105.5 (up 0.1 against yesterday's index).

US visual analytics software company seeks to help Hong Kong businesses capitalise on Greater Bay Area opportunities

Tableau, a visual analytics software company from the United States (US), opened an office in Hong Kong today (June 13) to meet the growing analytics needs of local businesses and help them tap opportunities arising from the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area (GBA). The Hong Kong office will serve Hong Kong, Taiwan and Macao.

Tableau's Head of Greater China, Mr Thomas Yap, said that the company's end-to-end analytics platform is widely used around the world by corporates and government organisations to provide flexibility and choice in adapting to businesses' environments. The platform uses visuals and natural language so people of different skill levels are empowered to use analytics.

Mr Yap said, "Hong Kong will be an important node in the development of the GBA, and Tableau's presence in the market demonstrates our commitment to help businesses here harness the value of data and capitalise on the opportunities presented by the GBA. We have also recently launched our product in traditional Chinese to make it easier for businesses that operate in the local language to seamlessly draw insights from their data to inform decision making.

"Hong Kong presents great opportunities as businesses are increasingly looking to utilise their data to navigate the era of disruption and manage its susceptibility to changes in the global economy. Our presence in the market will enable us to better serve our customers and partners locally, as well as in Taiwan and Macao, to meet their aims and help companies accelerate their journey towards fostering a data-driven culture."

Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion, Mr Charles Ng, said, "Hong Kong, as a leading business hub in Asia Pacific region, has a fast-growing data-driven culture and the necessary infrastructure to support this trend. The city also plays a leading role in the GBA development, providing an ideal place for global data analytics companies from which to extend their reach to the Bay Area and the region."

About Tableau

Tableau aims to help people see and understand data. Tableau pioneered self-service analytics with a leading analytics platform that empowers people of any skill level to work with data. From individuals and non-profits to

government agencies and the Fortune 500, tens of thousands of organizations around the world use Tableau to get rapid insights and make impactful, data-driven decisions. For more information, please visit www.tableau.com.

About InvestHK

InvestHK is the department of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government responsible for attracting foreign direct investment and supporting overseas and Mainland businesses to set up or expand in Hong Kong. It provides free advice and customised services for overseas and Mainland companies. For more information, please visit www.investhk.gov.hk.

Auction of personalised vehicle registration marks this Sunday

The Transport Department (TD) today (June 13) reminded the public that the 135th auction of personalised vehicle registration marks (PVRMs) will be held this Sunday (June 16) at Meeting Room S421, L4, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Wan Chai.

A list of 249 approved PVRMs put up for auction can be downloaded from the department's website, www.td.gov.hk. The reserve price for all these marks is \$5,000. Applicants who have paid a deposit of \$5,000 are required to participate in the bidding (including the first bid at the reserve price). Otherwise, the PVRM concerned may be sold to another bidder at the reserve price.

Bidders are also reminded to bring the following documents with them for completion of registration and payment procedures immediately after the successful bidding:

- (i) The identity document of the successful bidder;
 - (ii) The identity document of the purchaser if it is different from the successful bidder;
 - (iii) A copy of the certificate of incorporation if the purchaser is a body corporate; and
 - (iv) A crossed cheque made payable to "The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region" or "The Government of the HKSAR". (For an auctioned mark paid for by cheque, the first three working days after the date of auction will be required for cheque clearance confirmation before processing of the application for mark assignment can be completed.)
- Successful bidders can also pay through the Easy Pay System (EPS). Payment by post-dated cheques, cash or other methods will not be accepted.

People who want to participate in the bidding at the auction should take

note of the following important points:

- (i) The display of a PVRM on a motor vehicle should be in compliance with the requirements stipulated in Schedule 4 to the Road Traffic (Registration and Licensing of Vehicles) Regulations;
- (ii) Any change to the arrangement of letters, numerals and blank spaces of a PVRM, i.e. single and two rows as auctioned, will not be allowed;
- (iii) Purchasers must make payment of the purchase price through EPS or by crossed cheque and complete the Memorandum of Sale of PVRM immediately after the bidding for the PVRM concerned. Subsequent alteration of the particulars in the memorandum will not be permitted; and
- (iv) The purchaser shall, within 12 months after the date of auction, apply to the Commissioner for Transport for the PVRM to be assigned to a motor vehicle registered in the name of the purchaser. If the purchaser fails to assign the PVRM within 12 months, allocation of the PVRM will be cancelled and arranged for re-allocation in accordance with the statutory provision without prior notice to the purchaser.

"Upon completion of the Memorandum of Sale of PVRM, the purchaser will be issued a receipt and a Certificate of Allocation of Personalised Registration Mark. The Certificate of Allocation will serve to prove the holdership of the PVRM. Potential buyers of vehicles bearing a PVRM should check the Certificate of Allocation with the sellers and pay attention to the details therein. For transfer of vehicle ownership, this certificate together with other required documents should be produced to the TD for processing," the spokesman said.

For other auction details, please refer to the Guidance Notes – Auction of PVRM, which is available at the department's licensing offices or can be downloaded from its website, www.td.gov.hk.

Lifesaving services at Golden Beach resume

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at regular intervals:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has announced that the lifesaving services at Golden Beach in Tuen Mun District resumed today (June 13). The lifesaving services at the beach were suspended earlier due to an insufficient number of lifeguards on duty.