

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected counterfeit watches worth about \$3.3 million (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs on May 24 seized about 3 300 suspected counterfeit watches with an estimated market value of about \$3.3 million at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge (HZMB) Hong Kong Port.

Through risk assessment, Customs on that day intercepted an incoming lorry at the HZMB Hong Kong Port. After inspection, Customs officers found the batch of suspected counterfeit watches inside the cargo compartment of the lorry. A 52-year-old male lorry driver was subsequently arrested.

An initial investigation revealed that the batch of suspected counterfeit watches would have been transhipped to overseas regions.

The investigation is ongoing, and the arrested man has been released on bail pending further investigation.

Customs will continue to take stringent enforcement action against counterfeit goods and smuggling activities through risk assessment and intelligence analysis.

Under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, any person who imports or exports any goods to which a forged trademark is applied commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Members of the public may report any suspected counterfeiting activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 182 8080 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk) or online form (eform.cefs.gov.hk/form/ced002).

