

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected counterfeit goods (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs seized about 18 000 items of suspected counterfeit goods with an estimated market value of about \$1 million at Shenzhen Bay Control Point on March 9.

Through risk assessment, Customs officers intercepted an incoming container truck at Shenzhen Bay Control Point on that day. The batch of suspected counterfeit goods, including watches, mobile phone cases, clothing, bags and shoes, etc., were found inside the container. The 29-year-old male driver was then arrested.

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

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 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, March 12, 2020 is 106.6 (up 0.3 against yesterday's index).

Labour Department public occupational health talks cancelled

To continue to help reduce social contact and the risk of the spread of COVID-19 in the community, the Labour Department announced today (March 12) that the following public talks at the respective venues have been cancelled. Enrolled participants will be informed of the cancellations.

March 18: "Occupational Health of Office Worker Series (II) – Prevention of Musculoskeletal Disorders" (Activity Room 1, G/F, Hong Kong Central Library)

March 26: "Work and Common Gastrointestinal Diseases" (Health Education Room of Fanling Occupational Health Clinic)

Timely upgrades of SMATV systems for co-existence with 5G networks

The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) today (March 12) urged contractors and owners of Satellite Master Antenna Television (SMATV) systems to upgrade their respective systems as soon as possible for co-existence with the mobile networks supporting fifth generation mobile (5G) services, which may be launched as early as April 1, 2020.

"We are about to enter the 5G era with massive rollout of 5G networks by mobile network operators. In accordance with the decision made by the Communications Authority in March 2018, the radio spectrum in the 3.4 – 3.7 GHz band will be reallocated from fixed satellite services to mobile services after a notice period of two years and with effect from April 1, 2020, for provision of 5G services in Hong Kong. In this regard, satellite services, including SMATV systems for receiving and distributing satellite TV signals to occupants in buildings/estates, should only operate in the 3.7 – 4.2 GHz band thereafter," a spokesman for OFCA said.

"In order for SMATV systems to co-exist with 5G networks and avoid any service disturbance, we urge SMATV contractors and owners who have yet to perform the necessary technical upgrade of their systems to take immediate action," the spokesman continued.

To support the upgrading work for SMATV systems, OFCA has launched a subsidy scheme on November 27, 2019, with funding provided by 5G operators assigned with radio spectrum in the 3.4 – 3.6 GHz band. SMATV systems covered by existing SMATV licences on or before March 28, 2018, are eligible for a

subsidy of \$20,000 per SMATV system. SMATV owners are invited to make applications before the deadline of November 26, 2020.

OFCA has separately issued a consumer alert on this issue today on its website (www.ofca.gov.hk/en/consumer_focus/education_corner/alerts/tbs/satellite_tv_programmes/index.html). More information about the upgrading of SMATV systems can also be found on OFCA's website (www.ofca.gov.hk/en/industry_focus/broadcasting/television_broadcasting/satellite_tv/index.html).

Fraudulent website related to OCBC Wing Hang Bank Limited

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) wishes to alert members of the public to a press release issued by OCBC Wing Hang Bank Limited on fraudulent website, which has been reported to the HKMA. Hyperlink to the press release is available on [the HKMA website](#) for ease of reference by members of the public.

Anyone who has provided his or her personal information to the website concerned or has conducted any financial transactions through the website should contact the bank concerned using the contact information provided in the press release, and report to the Police or contact the Cyber Security and Technology Crime Bureau of the Hong Kong Police Force at 2860 5012.