



CUSTOMS NEWS

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THE COMMISSIONER SPEAKS

This is the last time I, as Commissioner of the Hong Kong Customs and Excise, “speak” in this column of Customs News. After serving for four years, I am leaving my post as Commissioner in September. It has truly been an honour and privilege for me to lead one of the finest organisations and most professional Customs services in the world.

One of the most memorable events during my tenure as Commissioner is the celebration of the centenary of the Hong Kong Customs. It has not only been a joyous moment and a great milestone for the Department. It also gave us an opportunity to reflect on the great transformation that the world Customs and in particular the Hong Kong Customs has gone through in the past century.

Customs used to be seen as a “tax collector” and a hurdle to trade. But this perception has completely changed. Today, Customs has assumed a much bigger and wider role in trade facilitation, in ensuring supply chain security, and in protecting the safety and security of society. The Hong Kong Customs is proud to be at the forefront of this development.

A reliable, customer friendly and efficient customs clearance service enjoyed by our trade is one of the strengths that underpin

Hong Kong’s success as one of the world’s largest ports and logistic hubs. Through rigorously enforcement of intellectual property rights (IPRs), the Hong Kong Customs has not only protected the rights of IP owners but also helped promote innovation and maintain Hong Kong’s competitiveness as a premier trade and business centre.

The Hong Kong Customs also plays a dual role of preventing the entry of unsafe goods and products through our border and enforcing consumer protection laws at the retail level. The work is not only important to protect consumers against unfair, deceptive or fraudulent sales practices, it also helps ensure Hong Kong live up to its image as a shopper’s paradise and make Hong Kong one of the major tourist destinations in the world.

The modern day duties of the Hong Kong Customs, ranging from border security, to anti-smuggling, drug prevention, IPRs enforcement, trade facilitation, and consumer protection, are a far cry from the origin work of collecting alcohol duties which the 25 officers of the Preventive Service was set up to do 100 years ago. The success and the good image enjoyed by the Hong Kong Customs today bear a strong testimony to the integrity, professionalism and versatility of all members of the Department.



This culture of “Commitment and Excellence” is built on a strong foundation laid down by generations of Customs and Trade Control Officers who have served Hong Kong tirelessly throughout the years. I have every confidence that the fine men and women of the Hong Kong Customs will upkeep this traditional and am sure they will continue to serve Hong Kong with distinction and make the Hong Kong Customs an exemplar of professional Customs Service.

While I will be moving on and will serve the Hong Kong Government in a different capacity, once having been a member of the Customs Service, I will always be part of the Customs family. I wish the Hong Kong Customs and all of you every success and look forward to watching the Hong Kong Customs scale new heights!

Richard Yuen
Commissioner

CUSTOMS EXHIBITION GALLERY

To help the public get a thorough understanding of Hong Kong Customs which has been serving the territory for over a century, Hong Kong Customs decided to set up an exhibition centre on the work, history and development of the Department at the new Customs Headquarters Building (CHB) when the permanent home was under planning years ago.



The "Anti-narcotics Investigation" section at the Main Gallery shows the drug take-in instruments.



The "Time Tunnel" displays the Department's development.

With the official opening of CHB in February 2011, the 200-square-metre Customs Exhibition Gallery on the 10/F of CHB also came into operation.

With the theme of "The History and Development of Hong Kong Customs in the past 100 years", the gallery features the history, development, contributions and service areas of Hong Kong Customs through photographs, models, seizures and videos.



The Main Gallery.

Decorated with a photo of “Great Wall” on the exterior wall, the gallery comprises three major exhibition areas, namely, “The Gateway”, “The Time Tunnel” and “The Main Gallery”.

“The Gateway” displays the chronicle and related photos of China Customs, Hong Kong Customs and Chinese Maritime Customs (also known as Kowloon Customs) in the old days. This area depicts the history and development of the three customs bodies and explains the origin and meaning of “Customs”.

With the display of models in historical uniforms in different simulated customs working environments, “The Time Tunnel” showcases the Department’s development since its establishment in 1909 and

its roles and duties at different periods. There are five simulated working environments set up at the tunnel area. They are the “Chinese distillery in the early 20th century”, “Queen’s Warehouse in the 1950s”, “anti-narcotics enforcement in the 1960s”, “anti-piracy enforcement in the 1970s” and the “current passenger hall”.

“The Main Gallery” comprises six sections showing the Department’s core duties: customs clearance and anti-smuggling, drug detection, intellectual property rights protection and consumer protection; and one thematic section.



The “Border Security and Trade Facilitation” section at the Main Gallery.



Details of the sections are as follows:

Section	Contents
Anti-narcotics Investigation	This section features photos of an opium divan in the 1960s, a heroin manufacturing centre in the 1980s, various drug concealment methods and significant cases.
Revenue Protection and Collection	As revenue collection was the original duty of the Department when it was formed a century ago, this section shows the transition from the sole dutiable commodity, liquor, to currently four types of dutiable commodities. Also on display are various tools used for revenue protection and collection as well as relevant enforcement actions at different eras.
Intellectual Property Rights Protection	Seizures of counterfeit products and infringing goods, and the Department's efforts in promoting intellectual property rights protection at different stages are exhibited.
Border Security and Trade Facilitation	This section highlights the Department's challenges in the 21st century, including the challenge of striking the balance between border security service and trade facilitation.
Consumer Protection	This section shows the various enforcement actions taken by the Department on protecting the benefits of consumers to maintain the good reputation of Hong Kong as a "shopping paradise for genuine goods".
International Co-operation	This section portrays the Department's co-operation with overseas law enforcement agencies and international organisations to enhance enforcement effectiveness against transnational crimes.
Recruitment and Training	This is the thematic section giving details on the training, professionalisation development and recruitment of the Department in order to make the officers well-equipped to meet the upcoming challenges.

Moreover, the commemorative book "1909-2009 Hong Kong Customs – A Centenary History", which was published to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Hong Kong Customs in 2009, is also placed in the gallery in electronic format to facilitate visitors.

The Exhibition Gallery is open for group visits from 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except public holidays. Schools and non-profit-making organisations can apply for a visit through the Customs website at http://www.customs.gov.hk/en/about_us/exhibition_centres/hq_bldg/index.html.



The "Intellectual Property Rights Protection" section at the Main Gallery.



The "Consumer Protection" section at the Main Gallery.

Office of Training and Development

MAINLAND AND HK CUSTOMS ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING

The annual review meeting between the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GAC) and the Hong Kong Customs was held in Hong Kong from February 20 to 23, 2011. Its opening was officiated by the Vice Minister of GAC and Director General of Guangdong Sub-Administration of GAC, Mr Lu Bin, and the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen.

The meeting reviewed the co-operation between the two administrations in 2010 and discussed the enhancement of intelligence exchange on anti-smuggling, trade facilitation, as well as the latest development of customs clearance co-operation between the two administrations.

The two Customs administrations also mapped out a co-operation plan for 2011, which covered the enhancement of visits of senior officials of both administrations, augmentation of customs clearance efficiency, reinforcement of intelligence exchange and enforcement co-operation, and strengthening of co-operation in electronic customs clearance. The meeting also agreed on the enhancement of co-operation on the control measures over the Rules of Origin under the Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement, the implementation and refinement of the regulatory mechanism for the cargo transhipped through Hong Kong between the Mainland and Taiwan under the Economic Co-

operation Framework Agreement, the exploration of facilitation measures to further promote Hong Kong as a wine trading centre, and the arrangement for seminars, training and visits.

Office of Customs Affairs and Co-operation



The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen (left), presents a souvenir to the Vice Minister of GAC and Director General of Guangdong Sub-Administration of GAC, Mr Lu Bin.

HK CUSTOMS ATTENDS APEC MEETINGS IN THE UNITED STATES

The Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr Fong Tai-wai, with two officers of Hong Kong Customs attended the 2011 1st APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures (SCCP1) Meeting in Washington DC, the United States from March 3 to 5, 2011.

At the meeting, the Hong Kong Customs delegation exchanged views with delegates of other APEC Customs administrations on major international Customs issues, including the Supply-chain Connectivity Framework, the implementation of Single Window Systems and Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) Programme, as well as Customs Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) enforcement at the border.

The Assistant Staff Officer (Strategic Research), Mr Wong Jug-tung, presented at the

meeting the Hong Kong AEO Pilot Programme and the effort of Hong Kong in taking forward the AEO initiative, which aimed at facilitating Customs authorities in safeguarding cargo security while ensuring a seamless cargo flow.

In addition, Hong Kong Customs accepted the Japan Customs' invitation to jointly develop the APEC Guidelines for Customs Border Enforcement on IPRs Infringement. Both Customs administrations agreed to work out a draft for endorsement at the SCCP2 Meeting to be held in San Francisco in September 2011.

On March 2, Mr Fong and Senior Inspector, Ms Yu Sau-mee,

attended the Joint Meeting of the APEC Business Mobility Group and the SCCP. They shared views with officials of the World Customs Organization and other Customs and Immigration authorities of APEC member economies on the best practices and ways for enhancing agencies' co-ordination at the border.

Office of Customs Affairs and Co-operation



The Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr Fong Tai-wai (fourth left, first row), the Assistant Superintendent, Mr Wong Jug-tung (sixth left, second row), and Senior Inspector, Ms Yu Sau-mee (fifth left, second row), with other delegates of the 2011 1st APEC Sub-Committee on Customs Procedures Meeting.

COMMISSIONER ATTENDS 117TH/118TH WCO COUNCIL SESSIONS

Headed by Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen, the Hong Kong Customs delegation attended the 117th/118th Sessions of the Customs Co-operation Council (Council Sessions) at the World Customs Organization (WCO) Headquarters in Brussels, Belgium from June 23 to 25, 2011.

This year, the Council focused on key topical issues impacting the global trading system, i.e. illicit and dangerous trade, global supply chain security, air cargo security, trade facilitation, and recognised the critical supportive role played by capacity building,

information-sharing, research and knowledge promotion in addressing these topical issues.

In June 2009, the Council resolved to make an interim arrangement for offering one additional WCO Policy Commission (PC) seat for each of the six WCO regions commencing July 2010 on a two-year trial basis. While Australia had taken up this additional seat for the Asia Pacific (A/P) Region for the first year (2010/2011), Hong Kong China was earlier nominated by the A/P Region to take the seat for 2011/2012. The A/P Region's nomination was endorsed at the Council Sessions this year.



The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen (right), and Assistant Commissioner (Excise and Strategic Support), Mr Fong Tai-wai, at the 117th/118th WCO Council Sessions.

In taking up the PC seat, the Department is prepared to play an even more active role in the WCO activities.

**Office of Customs Affairs
and Co-operation**

HK CUSTOMS VISITS INSPECTION EQUIPMENT EXHIBITION IN UK

Effective use of advanced equipment on customs clearance work becomes indispensable for today's Customs service. As the Hong Kong Customs is committed to deploying inspection equipment to maintain the safety and security of the international supply chain and enhance the efficient movement of goods, the Department plays an active role in

exploring the latest technology to enhance its operation.

From March 22 to 24, 2011, the Assistant Commissioner (Boundary and Ports), Mr Yu Koon-hing, led a delegation comprising officers of Airport Command and Office of Project Planning and Development to visit an exhibition organised by Scientific Development Branch of the Home Office in the United Kingdom. The exhibition showcased world leading technologies and solutions for law enforcement and public security applications, such as X-ray inspection systems, radiation detection equipment, scanners for narcotics and explosives, and thermal imaging surveillance products. The delegation also

took the opportunity to exchange views with UK Trade and Investment, the co-ordinator of the exhibition, on the application of advanced technology in daily enforcement operation to help enhance detection capabilities.

During its stay in the UK, the delegation paid a visit to Coventry International Hub of the United Kingdom and discussed with officers of UK Border Agency on the prevailing smuggling trend and challenges. They also shared experiences on enforcement strategies and how effective use of inspection equipment would be conducive to tackling cross-territory smuggling activities.

**Office of Project Planning
and Development**



The Assistant Commissioner (Boundary and Ports), Mr Yu Koon-hing (centre), and Head of Airport Command, Mr Liu Cheung-shing (left), study a thermal imaging surveillance product.

HK CUSTOMS AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF QUALITY SUPERVISION, INSPECTION AND QUARANTINE TO STRENGTHEN CO-OPERATION

In order to strengthen co-operation on consumer protection between the Mainland and Hong Kong, the General Director of Department of



The Deputy Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Luke Au Yeung (left), presents a souvenir to the General Director of Department of Supervision on Inspection, AQSIQ, Mr Wang Xin.

Supervision on Inspection, the General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine of the People's Republic of China (AQSIQ), Mr Wang Xin, led a four-member delegation to meet with the Commerce and Economic Development Bureau, Hong Kong Customs and other related government departments in Hong Kong on April 19, 2011.

During the meeting, both sides gave an overview of their own organisational structure and responsibilities before the AQSIQ shared its experience in ensuring the safety of importing and

exporting commodities.

The AQSIQ also agreed to enhance co-operation with Hong Kong Customs in the areas of developing an intelligence and information exchange system concerning investigations into notifications relating to food contact materials exporting to the European Union referred from the European Commission, and by signing a Memorandum of Understanding of "Consumer Products Safety Co-operation Arrangement" between the two administrations.

**Consumer Protection
Bureau (1)**

HK CUSTOMS STRENGTHENS CO-OPERATION WITH US CONSUMER PRODUCT SAFETY COMMISSION

The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen, and the Chairman of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission (US CPSC), Ms Inez Moore Tenenbaum, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) concerning product safety in Hong Kong on January 11, 2011. Both administrations were committed to enhancing co-operation in providing consumers with greater protection against unsafe products.

With the signing of the MOU, Hong Kong Customs and US CPSC will exchange product safety information on emerging issues involving significant public health and safety to prevent the supply of unsafe products. Cross-exposure training programmes for officials of both sides will be arranged

to foster closer partnership and communication. They will also co-operate at multilateral level through participation in international forums or seminars to keep abreast of the latest developments in safety standards and requirements in overseas markets.

To start off the implementation of the MOU, the US CPSC organised a seminar for 42 officers of Consumer Protection Bureau (1) of the Hong Kong Customs on June 24, 2011 in Hong Kong. The seminar covered an overview of the consumer protection work of CPSC, including compliance operations, fast track product recall programme, surveillance system, investigative measures and the latest campaign against the supply of children's garments with drawstrings in the US market.



The Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen (right), and the Chairman of the United States Consumer Product Safety Commission, Ms Inez Moore Tenenbaum, exchange a Memorandum of Understanding concerning consumer product safety at a ceremony.

The Director of Field Operations, Office of Compliance of CPSC, Mr Dennis Blasius, was present at the seminar to share his experiences in the US with the participating officers.

**Consumer Protection
Bureau (1)**

HK CUSTOMS FOSTERS CLOSER CO-OPERATION WITH KOREA CUSTOMS SERVICE



The Commissioner of Hong Kong Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen (left), and the Commissioner of Korea Customs Service, Mr Yoon Young-sun, exchange agreed minutes.

The Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen, signed an agreed minutes for closer co-operation with the Commissioner of Korea Customs Service (KCS), Mr Yoon Young-sun, at the 29th Customs Co-operation Conference between the two administrations in Hong Kong on June 10, 2011.

Both Customs administrations agreed to continue with the prompt exchange of intelligence to combat transnational customs offences, including drug trafficking, cigarette smuggling and intellectual property rights infringements, as well as to enhance co-operation on financial investigation issues.

Office of Customs Affairs and Co-operation

HK CUSTOMS CONDUCTS RADIATION SCANNING ON JAPAN CARGO

In response to public concern about the safety of goods imported from Japan following the leak of radioactive material at the Fukushima nuclear plant damaged in the catastrophic earthquake and tsunami attack in Japan on March 11, 2011, the Customs and Excise Department, as a frontline law enforcement agency, took measures to step up radiation scanning on air and sea cargo from Japan to prevent the entry of radioactive-contaminated products into Hong Kong. Working closely with other government departments, including the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department and the Department of Health, the Department paid special attention to high risk products including food,

pharmaceutical products, cosmetics and personal hygiene products. So far, all scanned cargo from Japan was found without radiation contamination.

The health and occupational safety of officers engaged in the task is also the Department's concern. The officers have been provided with necessary equipment and training to make maximum protection for them and to equip them to cope with the incident, including protective gears, masks and training on radiation scanning procedures. The Department has also made flexible deployment of officers to



Customs officers of Airport Command conduct radioactive surface scanning on the air cargo imported from Japan.

support this special operation.

The incident highlights the diversity of the work of a modern Customs service and the important role it plays in protecting the safety and security of society.

Airport Command and Ports and Maritime Command

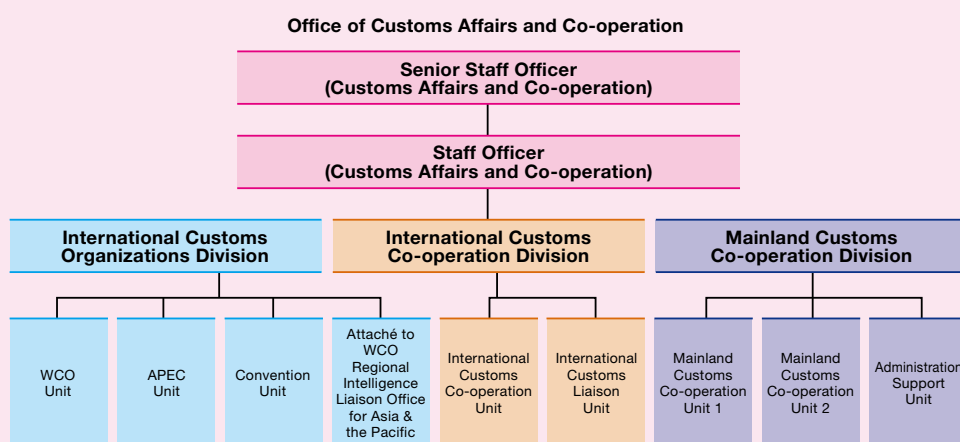
RESTRUCTURING OF CUSTOMS LIAISON BUREAU TO OFFICE OF CUSTOMS AFFAIRS AND CO-OPERATION

The Customs Liaison Bureau (CLB), after a thorough review of its structure and establishment for more than one year, was restructured and renamed as Office of Customs Affairs and Co-operation (OCAC) in March 2011.

The OCAC comprises three divisions. They are International Customs Organisations Division, International Customs Co-operation Division, and Mainland Customs Co-operation Division.

The restructuring is aimed at consolidating OCAC as a "Consultation Window" of the Department and enhancing OCAC's capability in performing the following departmental functions:

- (i) dealing with co-operation matters with the Mainland Customs and overseas Customs counterparts;
- (ii) handling Customs-related matters arising from various international fora (e.g. WCO, APEC, WTO, etc.) and addressing issues raised in consultation exercises conducted by international institutions;
- (iii) responding to Policy Bureaux on matters like Free Trade Agreement negotiations; and Hong Kong's possible accession to International Conventions; and
- (iv) planning and organising major departmental events.



Office of Customs Affairs and Co-operation

■ News in Snapshot - Visit ■

ISRAEL TAX AUTHORITY OFFICIALS VISIT HK CUSTOMS

The Senior Deputy Director General of Israel Tax Authority (ITA) cum Director General of Investigation and Intelligence Department of ITA, Mr Avi Ben Arditi, and two officers visited Hong Kong Customs on April 13 and 14, 2011. They paid a courtesy call on the Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Mr Richard Yuen, and met with the Assistant Commissioner (Intelligence and Investigation), Mr Tam Yiu-keung, to exchange

views on issues of mutual concern and to share experience of investigation work. They also visited the Shenzhen Bay Control Point and Kwai Chung Customhouse to see for themselves the operation of Hong Kong Customs.



Mr Arditi (fourth left), Mr Yuen (third right), and Mr Tam (third left) with the officers of both sides.

NATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION OF CUSTOMS VISITS HK CUSTOMS



Ms Kwok (third right, front row), introduces the facilities of Customs and Excise Training School to the delegation.

A delegation of the National Education and Training Centre of the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China visited Hong Kong Customs on March 15 and 16, 2011, and met with the Assistant Commissioner (Administration and Human Resource Development), Ms Kwok Ngan-ping, at the Customs Headquarters Building.

Both sides introduced their training policies, exchanged views on training issues, and agreed in principle on exploring opportunities to strengthen future co-operation on training. After the meeting, the delegation visited the Customs and Excise Training School to see for themselves the learning environment and training facilities of the Department.

GOVERNMENT COUNSELS VISIT HK CUSTOMS

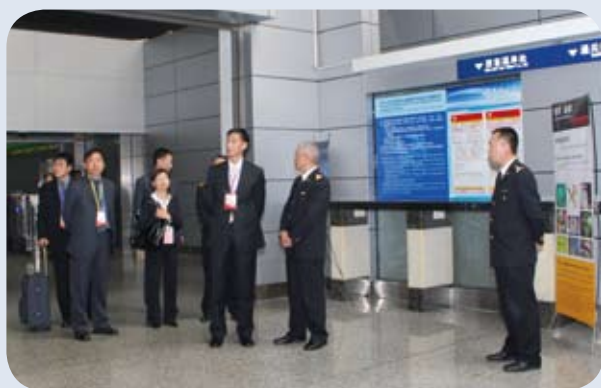
A new section headed by Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions of the Department of Justice responsible for providing legal advice for all Customs cases was established in March 2011. To facilitate counsels of this designated section to have a thorough understanding of the Hong Kong Customs' work, the Department invited the Assistant

Director, Mr Hayson Tse, and two senior prosecutors for a familiarisation visit on various aspects of Customs work at the Customs Headquarters Building on March 28, 2011, especially the work of the Service Prosecution Group and its co-ordination with the counsels.



Accompanied by Staff Officer (Service Prosecution), Ms Susan Lam (third right), Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions, Mr Hayson Tse (third left), Senior Public Prosecutors, Mr Beney Wong (first left) and Ms Irene Poon (first right) visit the Exhibition Gallery.

RFC VISITS MAINLAND CUSTOMS



RFC officers visit Guangzhou East Railway Station.

In order to provide Customs officers a better understanding of the operation of the Mainland Customs and establish a closer working relationship with the Mainland counterparts, the Rail and Ferry Command

(RFC) arranged two study tours for officers to visit the Mainland Customs at Jiuzhou Port Ferry Terminal on February 24, 2011, and at Guangzhou East and Dongguan Railway Stations from February 28 to March 1, 2011 respectively, to see for themselves the customs clearance operation.

STUDY VISIT TO KOREA CUSTOMS SERVICE

To better understand the latest development of the Authorised Economic Operation (AEO) Programme, Single Window (SW) system and Free Trade Zone (FTZ) in the Republic of Korea (ROK), a four-member delegation of the Department, led by Senior Staff Officer of the Office of Strategic Research, Mr Lin Shun-yin, and an officer from the Office of the Government Chief Officer, visited the Korea Customs Service (KCS)

in Daejeon, South Korea from April 12 to 14, 2011.

The delegation had a fruitful exchange with the KCS on its experience on the implementation of the AEO Programme and established formal contact with its AEO office for future dialogue. The visit also helped the officers in their



Director General of Information and International Affairs Bureau, KCS, Mr Chung Il-Sok (third right), and members of the delegation.

planning of the way forward of these initiatives in Hong Kong.

TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL VISITS HK CUSTOMS



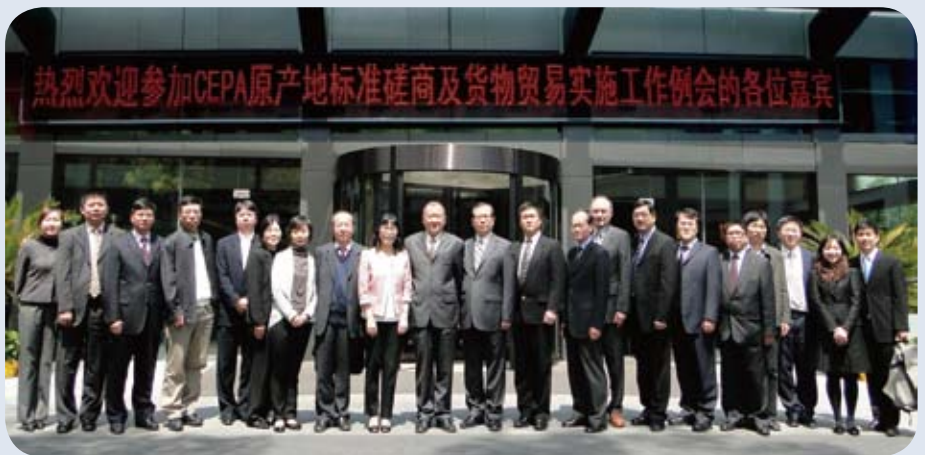
The delegation is briefed on HK Customs' history at the Exhibition Gallery.

A delegation of Travel Industry Council (TIC) paid a visit to Hong Kong Customs on May 31, 2011 to discuss the consumer protection for tourists shopping in Hong Kong. The delegates were briefed by Customs' Consumer Protection Bureau and Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau

on the latest enforcement work. The Department and the Council agreed to strengthen mutual co-operation on the exchange of intelligence. After the meeting, the delegation toured the Exhibition Gallery, the Auditorium as well as the Indoor Firing Range in the Customs Headquarters Building.

2010 CEPA TRADE-IN GOODS ANNUAL REVIEW MEETING CUM THE 1ST HALF OF 2011 CEPA RULES OF ORIGIN CONSULTATION MEETING

The Head of Trade Controls of Hong Kong Customs, Mr Cheung Sai-yan, on April 12, 2011 led a delegation to attend "The 2010 Mainland and Hong Kong Closer Economic Partnership Arrangement (CEPA) Trade-in-Goods Annual Review Meeting" with the General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China (GAC) in Hangzhou, Zhejiang. The delegation met with the Deputy Secretary of



The delegation from Trade Controls Branch attends the meeting in Hangzhou.

GAC, Mr Kang Qiang and his colleagues in GAC to review the control arrangement and the enforcement measures for CEPA Trade-in-Goods in 2010. The meeting also set out the CEPA implementation targets for 2011, including maintaining the pragmatic practices on CEPA regulatory mechanism,

strengthening the enforcement co-operation between the two parties, continuing the training and visiting programmes, and the post-shipment verification on goods enjoying CEPA zero import tariff.

On the same day, Mr Cheung representing the HK Customs,

attended the first half of 2011 CEPA Rules of Origin Consultation meeting jointly organised by Hong Kong Trade and Industry Department and GAC. The meeting reached a consensus in principle on the Origin Rules of Products involving nine items of Mainland Tariff Codes.

THE 2ND SESSION OF CAPACITY BUILDING COMMITTEE AND THE 10TH SESSION OF INTEGRITY SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION

Senior Staff Officer (Training and Development), Mr Chan Wing-kin, and Senior Inspector, Mr Wong Yuk-chuen, attended the 2nd Session of Capacity Building Committee (CBC) and the 10th Session of Integrity Sub-Committee (ISC) of the World Customs Organization (WCO) in Brussels, Belgium from May 3 to 6, 2011.

The CBC meeting focused on the WCO's "3P-Framework" for Capacity Building supported by

the three pillars – "Political Will", "People" and "Partnership". It also discussed the "Regionalisation" approach and the roll-out of "Columbus Programme Phase 3". The meeting also discussed the continuous use of the WCO strategy document "Customs in the 21st Century", which included Capacity Building as one of the ten building blocks, as a roadmap for Customs.

During the ISC meeting, the delegates shared their

experiences on a number of integrity issues, including revision of WCO integrity tools, partnership with the private sector in integrity building, and implementation of integrity pilot projects.



Mr Chan (left) and Mr Wong at the meeting.

ADVANCE PREPARATORY WORK MEETING FOR CO-OPERATION ON CUSTOMS CLEARANCE AT THE HONG KONG-ZHUHAI-MACAO BRIDGE



Assistant Commissioner (Boundary and Ports), Mr Yu Koon-hing (second left, front row), Assistant Director-General of Macao Customs, Mr Sin Wun-kao (second right, front row), and representatives of both sides.

To well prepare for efficient customs clearance at the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge which is under construction, the Hong Kong Customs and Macao Customs held the first advance preparatory work

meeting in Hong Kong on May 25, 2011 to discuss issues relating to the co-operation on Customs clearance. The bridge, a key infrastructure project jointly commissioned by Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, is expected to be completed around 2016. After the commissioning of the bridge, cargo transport by

land route between Hong Kong and Macao will be rolled out for the first time, providing a new co-operation platform for both Customs administrations.

During the meeting, both parties agreed to further enhance mutual co-operation and to explore the

feasibility of implementing trade facilitation measures conducive to the development of logistics industry in both places. Both sides also agreed to strengthen information connectivity by using fibre-optic network, and reached a preliminary consensus to conduct a study on the development of

cross-referencing of inspection results for the Customs administrations of the Mainland, Hong Kong and Macao with a view to enhancing clearance efficiency and fostering tripartite co-operation.

CUSTOMS PASSING-OUT PARADE

A passing-out parade was held at the Customs and Excise Training



Mr Cheung inspects the Probationary Inspectors and Customs Officers.

School on June 10, 2011 with 21 Probationary Inspectors and 85 Customs Officers being inspected by the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Disciplined Services Salaries and Conditions of Service, Mr Cheung Chun-yuen. Over 500 guests from various government departments, private sectors and relatives of the graduates

attended the ceremony.

Addressing at the parade, Mr Cheung praised Hong Kong Customs for playing an important role in maintaining the safety and security of the territory and in trade facilitation. He encouraged the graduates to uphold justice and integrity when performing duties and to adopt a life-long learning attitude to meet the ever-changing environment.

CUSTOMS PARTICIPATION IN TWO WCO ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

The World Customs Organization (WCO) Asia Pacific Regional Workshop to Specialise the Specialists on Intellectual Property Rights was held at the Customs and Excise Training School from May 23 to 27, 2011. Twenty-four representatives of 22 WCO member administrations took part in the workshop. Three facilitators from the WCO, Belgium Customs and WCO Asia Pacific Regional Office for Capacity Building were also present to co-ordinate the workshop and lead the discussion sessions.

The five-day workshop provided a good opportunity for participants to update themselves on WCO's capacity building activities and technical tools on intellectual property rights (IPRs), and to enhance their knowledge and expertise in combating counterfeiting and piracy activities.

Divisional Commander (Intellectual Property Investigation Support), Mr Vincent Lai, at the workshop shared with the participants



The representatives at the Asia Pacific Regional Workshop to Specialise the Specialists on Intellectual Property Rights.

information on Hong Kong's legal framework and the approach to combat counterfeiting and piracy. Rights holders from five different industries were invited to talk about the special features of their products and how to differentiate genuine and counterfeit goods. Hong Kong Customs also arranged for the participants to visit Customs Tsing Yi Station where they were briefed on sea cargo inspection procedures and how cargoes were selected for inspection for detecting IPRs infringement.

Meanwhile, the WCO Asia Pacific Regional Workshop on Training and Human Resource Management was held in Bangkok, Thailand from March 28 to April 1, 2011. The focus of the workshop was the importance of training and human resource management for customs modernisation and to provide regional good practices on these two areas to participants.

Superintendent (Training and Development), Mr Lee Hon-wah,



Mr Lee (left) and Mr Chui at the workshop on Training and Human Resource Management.

and Assistant Superintendent (Service Personnel), Mr Chui Ka-leung, attended the workshop and Mr Lee also gave a presentation on structured training and the various training methodologies adopted by Hong Kong Customs.

NO. 6 CUSTOMS MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT COURSE

To further enhance the leadership and management competency of the divisional commanders in the Department, the Office of Training and Development organised the

"No. 6 Customs Management Development Course" for 13 Assistant Superintendents and three Chief Trade Control Officers of various formations from May 11 to June 3, 2011.

recent development of the Mainland Customs and the Mainland's 12th Five-Year Plan for National Economic and Social Development. There were also sharing sessions by the directorate and other prominent scholars.

Participants had become more aware of their responsibility of enhancing quality service of the Department after attending the course.



The officers attend a three-day training in Guangdong.

The 18-day programme included a two-day residential outward training, and a three-day training in Guangdong arranged by the Guangdong Customs to deepen participants' understanding of the

TRAINING COURSE ON SERVICE EXCELLENCE FOR IPIB OFFICERS

To enhance the overall efficiency of officers of the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau (IPIB) in providing quality services to the public and to formulate

a long-term customer service strategy, IPIB has co-operated with the Civil Service Training and Development Institute to tailor-make a five-session training

course in February and March, 2011. Some 80 officers from the bureau, including officers from the rank of Customs Officers to Assistant Superintendent

and clerical officers, attended the course. The course focused on strengthening their communication skills with the industry, rights holders and informants in various means, and on how to handle clients

who were dissatisfied with the investigation progress or results. The participants found the training sessions useful and practical to their work.



The training report for IPIB's Training Course on Service Excellence.

STAFF MOTIVATION SCHEME – IPIB BEST TEAM SPIRIT AWARDS

The Staff Motivation Scheme, launched by the Civil Service Bureau, is aimed at promoting staff awareness of the commitment to the department's performance pledges and motivating staff towards continuous improvement of service to serve the community.

Under the scheme, the Intellectual Property Investigation Bureau (IPIB) got the funding to

organise the “Best Team Spirit Competition” in 2011. The competing teams were assessed by the adjudication panel based on their “co-operativeness”, “productivity and performance”, “level of difficulty”, “effectiveness in deployment of resources”, “distribution of responsibility and mutual support”, as well as “demonstration of professional image to serve the community”.

and Support Unit. Its excellent planning and dedicated spirit had helped the bureau to complete the office relocation exercise efficiently. The second runner-up was the Surveillance Team of Trade Descriptions Investigation Division with the officers displaying a high level of co-operation and organisational ability in a surveillance operation.



Mr Tam and the champion of the competition, Raiding and Follow-up Team 2 of Copyright Investigation Division.

The champion was the Raiding and Follow-up Team 2 of Copyright Investigation Division whose enforcement action against a piracy syndicate had demonstrated a high level of team work and efficiency. The first runner-up was the Office Management

The Assistant Commissioner (Intelligence and Investigation), Mr Tam Yiu-keung, who was also the chairman of the adjudication panel, presented the awards to the winning teams at the presentation ceremony of the competition on April 1, 2011. Mr Tam extended his congratulations to the winning teams and encouraged them to keep on their team spirits to further boost enforcement effectiveness.

SEMINAR ON MANAGEMENT OF THE CUSTODY CENTRE

To help frontline investigators to familiarise with the operation mode and relevant contingency tactics for handling emergencies at the

Custody Officer's Office on the 9/F of the Customs Headquarters Building (CHB), the Intelligence Bureau organised a seminar on

the “Management of the Custody Centre in the CHB” on March 29, 2011.

The bureau invited the Chief Inspector of the Custody Management and Detention of the Support Wing of the Hong Kong Police Force (HKPF), Mr Li Kai-ming, and his deputy, Mr Ko Cheuk-hang, as guest speakers to introduce the latest development of custody management in the HKPF and other overseas enforcement agencies. During the seminar, they

also reminded law enforcers to pay attention to human rights and privacy protection issues when someone was remanded in custody.

A total of 132 officers from different formations of the Intelligence and Investigation



Customs officers at the seminar.

Branch attended the seminar and found it useful and practical.

EDUCATION AND CAREERS EXPO 2011



The Customs booth is well-received by visitors at the Expo.

Hong Kong Customs participated in the Education and Careers Expo 2011 from February 17 to 20, 2011.

A booth on Customs' works and recruitment information was set up by the Office of Training and Development, the Office of Service Administration and the Trade Controls Branch at the Expo. Customs detector dogs also gave demonstrations on drug

detection at the booth.

The Education and Careers Expo 2011, organised by Hong Kong Trade Development Council, attracted thousands of local students, job seekers, working individuals and professionals.

TOBACCO INDUSTRY'S INFORMER REWARD SCHEME RENEWED

Assistant Commissioner (Intelligence and Investigation), Mr Tam Yiu-keung, signed an agreement with representatives of the tobacco industry on February 16, 2011 to renew the "Tobacco Industry's Informer Reward Scheme" for another year effective from January 1, 2011. Taking part in the reward scheme are the British-American Tobacco Co. (Hong Kong) Ltd.,

the Japan Tobacco (Hong Kong) Ltd. and the Philip Morris Asia Ltd. It was the 19th agreement since the scheme was launched in 1994 to encourage the public to provide information on illicit cigarette activities.



Mr Tam (second left), signs an agreement to renew the scheme with representatives of the tobacco industry.

ROCARS WINS INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY AWARD

The Road Cargo System (ROCARS) won the Best Public Service Application (Transformation) Silver Award of the Hong Kong Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Awards 2011.

The judging panel commented that ROCARS had made good use of advanced information technologies to facilitate local logistics industry to transform from a traditional clearance mode to a new seamless approach. It significantly saves the clearance time for cross-border cargoes and injects huge added value to Hong Kong business. The panel also

praised the Department's effort in assisting the industry to adapt to the change, leading to the success of the initiative.

The presentation ceremony was held on April 15, 2011. The Financial Secretary, Mr John C Tsang, the Acting Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So, and the Permanent Secretary for

Commerce and Economic Development (Communications and Technology), Ms Elizabeth Tse, officiated at the ceremony.



Head of Land Boundary Command, Mr Ben Leung (third right, second row), Senior Staff Officer (Special Duties), Mr Leung Shung-chi (fourth right, second row), and Staff Officer (Special Duties), Mr Steve Chan (third left, second row) with the officiating guests at presentation ceremony.

(接上頁)

員工動向

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汽車司機	區廣發	馬卓權	陳榮輝	卓漢球	蔡偉豪
文書主任	侯瑞芬				
助理文書主任	陶偉達				
文書助理	曾頌謙	李月珊	梁惠明		

訃聞

高級關員李赤雄於2011年4月13日逝世，海鋒編輯全人深表哀悼。

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(As at July 2011)