

Company and its director convicted of wage offence

Peter Cheng Naval Architect & Marine Consultant Limited and its director were prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) for failing to pay wages to one employee as required by the Employment Ordinance (EO). The company and its director pleaded guilty at Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (May 31).

The company was fined \$100,000 while its director was sentenced to 10 weeks' imprisonment suspended for 18 months. In addition, the company and its director were ordered to pay an outstanding sum of about \$1,160,000 to the employee concerned.

The company failed to pay wages of about \$1,160,000 to one employee as required by the EO. The director concerned was convicted for his consent, connivance or neglect in the wage offence.

"The ruling helps disseminate a strong message to all employers and responsible officers of companies that they have to pay wages to employees within the time limit stipulated in the EO," a spokesman for the LD said.

"The LD will not tolerate these offences and will spare no effort in enforcing the law and safeguarding employees' statutory rights," the spokesman added.