

Company and its director fined for late payment of wages

MS Services Center Limited and its director concerned were prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) for failing to pay five employees' wages within seven days after the expiry of the wage periods as required by the Employment Ordinance (EO). Both the company and director pleaded guilty at Eastern Magistrates' Courts today (October 5) and were respectively fined \$110,000 and \$95,000, making a total of \$205,000.

The company failed to pay five employees' wages totalling about \$254,000 within seven days after the expiry of the wage periods as required by the EO. The director concerned was convicted for his consent, connivance or neglect in the offence.

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