

Employer fined \$54,000 for contravening Employees' Compensation Ordinance

The proprietor of a renovation company was prosecuted by the Labour Department (LD) for violation of the requirements under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance (ECO). The proprietor had been convicted at the Tuen Mun Magistrates' Courts earlier and was fined \$54,000 today (August 10).

A worker employed by the proprietor sustained fingers injury while cutting a wood board at work on September 15, 2020, which resulted in amputation of a finger on his left hand. The proprietor failed to pay periodical payments to the injured employee during his period of temporary incapacity on normal paydays or within seven days thereafter as required by the ECO, the amount of which should have been at the rate of four-fifths of the difference between the employee's monthly earnings at the time of the accident and his monthly earnings during the period of temporary incapacity.

"The ruling helps disseminate a strong message to all employers that they have to pay periodical payments to employees who sustain injuries at work within the statutory time limit stipulated in the ECO," an LD spokesman said.

"The LD will not tolerate these offences and will continue to make dedicated efforts in enforcing the law and safeguarding employees' statutory rights," the spokesman added.