

Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected counterfeit and smuggled goods worth about \$6.3 million (with photos)

Hong Kong Customs seized a total of about 32 000 items of suspected counterfeit and smuggled goods with an estimated market value of about \$6.3 million at the Tuen Mun River Trade Terminal on October 18 and 25.

Through risk assessment, Customs officers on the above-mentioned two days inspected three 40-foot containers arriving in Hong Kong from Nansha, Guangdong. Upon inspection, Customs officers seized the batch of suspected counterfeit and smuggled goods in the containers, including sports shoes and belts.

Initial investigation revealed that the batch of goods would have been re-exported to South American countries.

Investigation is ongoing.

Customs will continue to strengthen co-operation with the Mainland and overseas law enforcement agencies and take stringent enforcement action against cross-boundary counterfeit goods activities.

Under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, any person who imports or exports any goods to which a forged trade mark is applied commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

Under the Import and Export Ordinance, any person who imports or exports unmanifested cargo is liable to a maximum fine of \$2 million and imprisonment for seven years.

Members of the public may report any suspected counterfeiting and smuggling activities to Customs' 24-hour hotline 2545 6182 or its dedicated crime-reporting email account (crimereport@customs.gov.hk).

