

[Hong Kong Customs seizes suspected duty-not-paid water pipe tobacco \(with photo\)](#)

Hong Kong Customs seized about 6 600 kilograms of suspected duty-not-paid water pipe tobacco with an estimated market value of about \$2.6 million and a duty potential of about \$15 million at the Kwai Chung Customhouse Cargo Examination Compound on October 22.

Through risk assessment, Customs officers inspected a container arriving in Hong Kong from Jordan. Upon inspection, Customs officers found the batch of suspected duty-not-paid water pipe tobacco in the container.

Investigation is ongoing.

Under the Dutiable Commodities Ordinance, anyone involved in dealing with, possession of, selling or buying duty-not-paid tobacco commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$1 million and imprisonment for two years.

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

