Assess the risk of heat stroke to employees

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following special announcement immediately, and repeat it at frequent intervals when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force:

The Labour Department reminds employers that as the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force, they should assess the risk of heat stroke to their employees and adopt effective preventive measures such as providing cool drinking water, setting up temporary sunshade and providing mechanical aids to reduce physical exertion of employees. Employees should drink water regularly and be mindful of their physical condition. If early heat stroke symptoms such as headache and thirst appear, they should inform their supervisors and seek medical help immediately.

Hong Kong Customs combats packing and supply of suspected counterfeit rice (with photo)

Hong Kong Customs raided a suspected counterfeit rice packing and storage centre in an operation conducted in San Po Kong yesterday (May 18) to combat the packing and supply of suspected counterfeit rice. About 15 tonnes of suspected counterfeit rice in packs, 6 tonnes of packed low-priced rice, and 1.6 tonnes of genuine brand rice with an estimated market value of about \$178,000 were seized. Some rice-mixing apparatus and more than 7 000 suspected counterfeit rice bags were also seized during the operation.

Customs officers earlier received information about activities of packing and supply of counterfeit rice in the market. Initial investigation revealed that unscrupulous traders supplied low-priced rice to local food establishments as high-priced rice.

After an in-depth investigation and with the assistance of trademark owners, Customs officers conducted an operation yesterday in San Po Kong and seized the rice from four units in an industrial building.

Some rice-mixing apparatus and more than 7 000 rice bags with suspected counterfeit markings were also seized. A haul of low-priced rice in packs with an estimated weight of over 50 tonnes was found as well at the scene.

During the operation, Customs officers arrested a 27-year-old man and a 40-year-old woman, who are the persons-in-charge of a foodstuff company.

Investigation is ongoing and the arrested persons have been released pending further investigation.

Group Head (Intellectual Property Investigation (Operations)) of Customs Mr Guy Fong said at a press conference today (May 19) that Customs has all along been taking stringent enforcement actions against the sale of counterfeit goods.

He reminded that the sale of counterfeit goods is a serious crime and offenders are liable to criminal sanctions.

Customs also appeals food establishments to procure from reputable supply sources; and to check with the trademark owners or their authorised agents if there is any doubt in the product's authenticity.

Under the Trade Descriptions Ordinance, any person who sells or possesses for sale any goods with a forged trademark commits an offence. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$500,000 and imprisonment for five years.

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



Update on CFS' investigation on French raw milk cheese suspected to be contaminated with E.coli (026)

The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department said today (May 19) that the CFS been following up on the incident of a kind of French raw milk cheese suspected to be contaminated with Escherichia coli (E. coli) (026) and has earlier suspended the import into and sale within Hong Kong of that kind of cheese. CFS' further investigation and the Rapid Alert System for Food and Feed of the European Commission's

latest notification revealed that two more local importers had previously imported and sold the affected cheese. The CFS urged the trade to stop using or selling the product concerned if they possess it. Members of the public should not consume the product concerned if they have bought it.

Details of the product are as follows:

Product name: LE PERE FANFOUE Reblochon Cheese AOP or REBLOCHON DE SAVOIE AOP

AU LAIT CRU

Place of origin: France

Manufacturer: FROMAGERIES CHABERT

Packing: 450g per pack

Lots: Lot numbers starting with 8CR Sanitary mark: FR 74. 096. 050 CE

A spokesman for the CFS said, "CFS' further investigation confirmed that two local importers, City Super Limited and Culina (HK) Ltd, had also imported and sold the above-mentioned affected product. The importers concerned had removed from shelves and stopped sale of the affected product. They have initiated a recall according to the CFS' instructions. Enquiries about the recall can be made to the City Super Limited's hotline at 2736 3866 and Culina (HK) Ltd's hotline at 2342 3221 during office hours.

"People will contract E. coli causing gastro-intestinal disease through consumption of contaminated water or undercooked and contaminated foods. Intestinal bleeding and serious complications such as hemolytic uraemic syndrome may also develop in some people. Moreover, due to poor personal hygiene, person-to-person transmission of this pathogen is possible through the oral-faecal route. E. coli cannot survive under high temperature and can be killed by thorough cooking."

The spokesman urged consumers not to consume the affected product if they have bought any. The trade should also stop using or selling the product concerned immediately if they possess it.

The CFS will alert the trade to the incident. It will continue to closely monitor the incident and take appropriate follow-up action. Investigation is on-going.

HAD to open temporary night heat shelters

The Home Affairs Department will open 15 temporary night heat shelters tonight (May 19) for people in need of the service.

The shelters will be open from 10.30pm until 8am tomorrow.

For further information, please call the department's enquiry hotline before midnight on 2835 1473.

The 15 temporary night heat shelters are located at:

Hong Kong Districts:

Central and Western —
Sai Ying Pun Community Complex Community Hall
3/F, Sai Ying Pun Community Complex,
2 High Street, Sai Ying Pun

Eastern/Wan Chai — Causeway Bay Community Centre 7 Fook Yum Road, Causeway Bay

Kowloon Districts:

Kowloon City — Hung Hom Community Hall 1/F, Kowloon City Government Offices 42 Bailey Street, Hung Hom

Kwun Tong —
Lam Tin (West) Estate Community Centre
71 Kai Tin Road, Lam Tin

Sham Shui Po — Shek Kip Mei Community Hall G/F, Block 42, Shek Kip Mei Estate, Sham Shui Po

Wong Tai Sin —
Tsz Wan Shan (South) Estate Community Centre
45 Wan Wah Street, Tsz Wan Shan

Yau Tsim Mong — Henry G. Leong Yaumatei Community Centre 60 Public Square Street, Yau Ma Tei

New Territories Districts:

Kwai Tsing —
Kwai Shing Community Hall
Podium, Block 6, Kwai Shing West Estate, Kwai Chung

North — Cheung Wah Community Hall

Cheung Wah Estate, Fanling

Sha Tin —
Lung Hang Estate Community Centre
Lung Hang Estate, Sha Tin

Tai Po —
Tai Po Community Centre
2 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po

Tsuen Wan —
Lei Muk Shue Community Hall
G/F, Hong Shue House, Lei Muk Shue Estate, Tsuen Wan

Tuen Mun —
Butterfly Bay Community Centre
Butterfly Estate (near Tip Sum House), Tuen Mun

Yuen Long —
Long Ping Community Hall
Long Ping Estate, Yuen Long

Yuen Long —
Tin Yiu Community Centre
Tin Yiu Estate, Tin Shui Wai

<u>Correctional officers stop assault by</u> <u>person in custody</u>

Correctional officers stopped a person in custody assaulting another person in custody at Hei Ling Chau Correctional Institution yesterday (May 18).

At 2.45pm, a 29-year-old male person in custody suddenly attacked a 43-year-old male person in custody inside the workshop. Officers at the scene immediately stopped the assailant and called for reinforcements.

The victim sustained injuries to his eye. After examination and treatment by the medical officer in the institution hospital, he was transferred to a public hospital for further treatment.

The case has been reported to the Police for investigation.

The assailant was sentenced to imprisonment for the offence of possession of offensive weapon in a public place and remaining in Hong Kong without the authority of the Director of Immigration after having landed

unlawfully in Hong Kong.