EMSD organises E&M I&T Day 2024 (with photos)

E&M I&T Day 2024, with the theme of "Artificial Intelligence (AI) Application in Electrical and Mechanical (E&M) Industry", is being held today (July 9) and tomorrow (July 10) at the Hong Kong Science Park.

Organised by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), with support from the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation, the event provides the trade with a platform for interactive exchanges and experience sharing on AI applications.

At today's event, the EMSD announced the launch of the E&M InnoCatalogue on E&M InnoPortal (<u>inno.emsd.gov.hk</u>). The catalogue shares the EMSD's remarkable innovation and technology (I&T) trials with the industry and the public to promote wider application and commercialisation of innovative E&M technologies.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, the Deputy Director (Trading Services) of Electrical and Mechanical Services, Mr Richard Chan, said that as the Government's innovation facilitator, the EMSD fully supports the Government's policy in promoting I&T development and leverages innovative technologies to enhance services in support of the national initiative of promoting "new quality productive forces" and the "AI Plus" initiative.

E&M I&T Day 2024 brings together about 20 Hong Kong, Mainland and overseas exhibitors to showcase their I&T achievements and solutions in AI applications in the E&M industry. Representatives from government departments, public organisations, E&M and I&T sectors, and tertiary institutions are also sharing their experiences in AI applications in the E&M industry.

For details of the event, please visit inno.emsd.gov.hk/en/others/highlight/index id 81.html.





HKMA and SFC welcome PBoC's new measure on Northbound Swap Connect margin collateral arrangement

The following is issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority:

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA) and the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC) welcome the announcement of the People's Bank of China (PBoC) today (July 9) to support offshore investors to use onshore bonds issued by the Ministry of Finance and policy banks on the Mainland and held under Northbound Bond Connect as margin collateral for Northbound Swap Connect transactions.

This measure will provide Northbound Swap Connect investors with the additional choice of non-cash collateral, reducing their liquidity cost and improving capital efficiency. It will also help vitalise offshore investors' onshore bond holdings and further enhance the attractiveness of onshore bonds. The measure will also promote synergies between Bond Connect and Swap Connect, thereby further invigorating market participation in the Connect Schemes.

This is a new arrangement for the use of onshore bonds as eligible collateral in the offshore market, following the inclusion of onshore bonds issued by the Ministry of Finance and policy banks on the Mainland in the list of eligible collateral for the HKMA's RMB Liquidity Facility on February 26 this year. It is built on the collaborative efforts with the PBoC to deepen financial co-operation between Hong Kong and the Mainland and further promote RMB internationalisation in a steady, orderly and sound manner. The HKMA and the SFC will continue to provide guidance to the financial infrastructure institutions (including the HKMA Central Moneymarkets Unit and OTC Clearing Hong Kong Limited) to take forward the preparatory work, including promulgating rules for the provision of collateral by way of security interest or title transfer, and for the transfer of the relevant bonds, with a view to implementing this new measure as soon as practicable. Relevant details will be announced in due course.

<u>Owners' corporation and two property</u> owners fined over \$270,000 in total

for not complying with removal orders

An owners' corporation (OC) and two property owners were convicted and fined over \$270,000 at the Fanling Magistrates' Courts last month for failing to comply with removal orders issued under the Buildings Ordinance (BO) (Cap. 123).

The first case involved several unauthorised structures with a total area of about 98 square metres on the common roof of a composite building on San Fung Avenue, Sheung Shui. As the unauthorised building works (UBWs) were carried out without prior approval and consent from the Buildings Department (BD), a removal order was served on the OC under section 24(1) of the BO.

Failing to comply with the removal order, the OC was prosecuted by the BD and was fined \$126,960, of which \$104,960 was the fine for the number of days that the offence continued, upon conviction at the Fanling Magistrates' Courts on June 11.

The second and the third cases involved the same village house in Sai Keng, Tai Po. The second case involved an unauthorised structure with an area of about 45 square metres on the ground floor of the village house and a fence wall together with a metal gate erected on the adjoining open area, while the third case involved an unauthorised structure with an area of about 40 square metres on the roof of the village house.

As the Lands Department would not issue a certificate of exemption for the UBWs and that were carried out without prior approval and consent from the BD, removal orders were served on the two owners respectively under section 24(1) of the BO.

Failing to comply with the removal orders, the owners were prosecuted by the BD. The owner of the second case was fined \$85,470, of which \$67,470 was the fine for the number of days that the offence continued, upon conviction at the Fanling Magistrates' Courts on June 18. The owner of the third case claimed that the subject order was already complied with during the hearing, and was eventually fined \$66,225, of which \$56,225 was the fine for the number of days that the offence continued, upon conviction at the court on the same day.

A spokesman for the BD said today (July 9), "UBWs may lead to serious consequences. Owners must comply with the removal orders without delay. The BD will continue to take enforcement action against owners who have failed to comply with the removal orders, including instigation of prosecution, to ensure building safety."

Failure to comply with a removal order without reasonable excuse is a serious offence under the BO. The maximum penalty upon conviction is a fine of \$200,000 and one year's imprisonment, and a further fine of \$20,000 for each day that the offence continues.

<u>Appeal for information on missing girlin Tin Shui Wai (with photo)</u>

Police today (July 9) appealed to the public for information on a girl who went missing in Tin Shui Wai.

Lam Yan-ting, aged 16, went missing after she left her residence in Hung Fuk Estate on June 23 night. Her family made a report to Police on July 4.

She is about 1.65 metres tall, 50 kilograms in weight and of thin build. She has a pointed face with yellow complexion and long black straight hair. She was last seen wearing a black and white short-sleeved T-shirt, blue jeans and white sports shoes.

Anyone who knows the whereabouts of the missing girl or may have seen her is urged to contact the Regional Missing Persons Unit of New Territories North on 3661 3112 or email to rmpu-ntn-1@police.gov.hk, or contact any police station.



<u>Very Hot Weather Warning issued</u>

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The Hong Kong Observatory has issued the Very Hot Weather Warning.

To prevent heat stroke, avoid prolonged activities outdoors.

If engaged in outdoor work or activities, wear a wide-brimmed hat and light-coloured, loose-fitting clothes. Stay in shaded areas as much as possible.

Drink plenty of water, and avoid beverages containing caffeine or alcohol.

If you feel sick, consult a doctor right away.