



## DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

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HK DESIGNS FIRST PRODUCT OF ITS KIND IN WORLD  
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THE WINNING ENTRY FOR THE 1983 GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR HONG KONG DESIGN IS THE FIRST PRODUCT OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD, THE GOVERNOR, SIR EDWARD, SAID TODAY (MONDAY).

THE PRODUCT, A +CHESS ROBOT ADVERSARY+ DESIGNED BY NOVAG INDUSTRIES LIMITED, IS AN +INGENIOUS DESIGN COMBINING ELECTRONIC, MECHANICAL, COMPUTER AND ROBOTIC ENGINEERING SKILLS+, SIR EDWARD SAID AT THE AWARD PRESENTATION HELD AT GOVERNMENT HOUSE.

+THE PRODUCT IS DOUBLY REPRESENTATIVE OF HONG KONG AND ITS INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK.

+NOT ONLY DOES IT SHOW INNOVATION AND HIGH QUALITY DESIGN; IT HAS ALSO BEEN DEVELOPED BY A TEAM OF ENGINEERS AND RESEARCHERS OF MANY NATIONALITIES, IN HONG KONG ITSELF, WITH SOME TECHNICAL SUPPORT FROM OVERSEAS,+ SIR EDWARD SAID.

THE TEXT OF THE GOVERNOR'S SPEECH FOLLOWS :

+MR TANG, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

+SIR DAVID TRENCH WHOM I RECENTLY HAD THE PLEASURE OF ENTERTAINING HERE, WAS THE FIRST GOVERNOR TO PRESIDE OVER THE ANNUAL PRESENTATION CEREMONY FOR THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD FOR HONG KONG DESIGN. IN DOING SO, HE ACKNOWLEDGED NOT ONLY THE IMPORTANCE OF DESIGN TO THE FUTURE WELL-BEING OF HONG KONG'S MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY, BUT ALSO THE GOVERNMENT'S WISH THAT DESIGN CONSCIOUSNESS SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED AMONG INDUSTRIALISTS, TRADERS AND STUDENTS ALIKE. IT GIVES ME GREAT PLEASURE TONIGHT TO CONTINUE IN SIR DAVID'S, AND SIR MURRAY'S, FOOTSTEPS.

+AS AN EXPORT-ORIENTED ECONOMY, HONG KONG CAN NEVER BE IMMUNE TO THE VICISSITUDES OF THE WORLD ECONOMY AND TIMES ARE CERTAINLY NOT EASY FOR OUR MANUFACTURING AND EXPORT TRADES. BUT AS YOU HAVE POINTED OUT, THE INCREASED COMPETITION WHICH HARD TIMES BRING, MADE IT ALL THE MORE NECESSARY FOR INDUSTRY TO PRESS AHEAD WITH NEW IDEAS AND INNOVATIVE DESIGNS.

+I AM THUS GLAD TO SEE THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO LET UP IN THE HONG KONG INDUSTRIAL DESIGN COUNCIL'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE GOOD DESIGN. AS A DIRECT RESULT OF THE COUNCIL'S ACTIVITIES, HONG KONG MANUFACTURERS ARE NOW MORE AWARE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF DESIGN, OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE GOVERNOR'S AWARD, AND OF THE PRESTIGE ATTACHING TO IT. I AM TOLD THAT THIS YEAR THERE WERE A TOTAL OF 62 ENTRIES FROM 41 COMPANIES, THE HIGHEST IN RECENT YEARS; AND THAT COMPARED TO PREVIOUS YEARS THERE WERE MARKED IMPROVEMENTS IN TERMS OF QUALITY, CONSTRUCTION, VALUE AND ECONOMY OF PRODUCTION. THE JUDGES OF THE COMPETITION WERE IMPRESSED BY THE HIGH TECHNOLOGY AND SOPHISTICATION INVOLVED IN SOME OF THE DESIGNS. THIS IS AN ENCOURAGING TREND, AND IS EVIDENCE OF THE POSITIVE STEPS BEING TAKEN BY INDUSTRY TO MOVE WITH THE TIMES AND REMAIN COMPETITIVE IN WORLD MARKETS.

/+I NOW ....

+I NOW TURN TO THIS YEAR'S AWARD ITSELF. THE WINNING PRODUCT IS A +CHESS ROBOT ADVERSARY+: AN INGENIOUS DESIGN COMBINING ELECTRONIC, MECHANICAL, COMPUTER AND ROBOTIC ENGINEERING SKILLS, AND THE FIRST OF ITS KIND IN THE WORLD. THE PRODUCT IS DOUBLY REPRESENTATIVE OF HONG KONG AND ITS INTERNATIONAL OUTLOOK. NOT ONLY DOES IT SHOW INNOVATION AND HIGH QUALITY DESIGN; IT HAS ALSO BEEN DEVELOPED BY A TEAM OF ENGINEERS AND RESEARCHERS OF MANY NATIONALITIES, IN HONG KONG ITSELF, WITH SOME TECHNICAL SUPPORT FROM OVERSEAS. I CONGRATULATE WARMLY ALL THOSE WHO HAVE PLAYED A PART IN PRODUCING IT. MAY I NOW CALL UPON THE DESIGNER, NOVAG INDUSTRIES LIMITED, TO COME FORWARD TO RECEIVE THE AWARD?+

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### NEW ELECTRICAL SAFETY LAWS PLANNED

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THE GOVERNMENT PROPOSES TO INTRODUCE NEW LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY OF ELECTRICAL FITTINGS AND INSTALLATIONS.

THE EXISTING ELECTRICITY SUPPLY ORDINANCE AND ITS REGULATIONS WERE BROUGHT INTO EFFECT IN 1911.

A GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN SAID TODAY THAT ALTHOUGH VARIOUS AMENDMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO THE LEGISLATION TO RESPOND TO CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES, THE PROVISIONS WERE NOW OUT OF DATE.

+A REAPPRAISAL OF THE LEGISLATION WAS CARRIED OUT RECENTLY AND THIS SHOWED THAT SIGNIFICANT CHANGES WERE NECESSARY TO MEET MODERN SAFETY STANDARDS,+ HE EXPLAINED.

+THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL HAS DECIDED, THEREFORE, THAT NEW LAWS SHOULD BE DRAFTED TO REPLACE THE ORDINANCE AND REGULATIONS.+

+THE INTENTION IS TO PRODUCE LEGISLATION TO ENHANCE SAFETY IN THE HOME, INCLUDING REDUCING THE INCIDENCE OF ACCIDENTS CAUSED BY ELECTROCUTION, AND TO ENSURE THAT CONSUMERS' INSTALLATIONS DO NOT CONSTITUTE A DANGER TO OTHERS.+

AS IN THE CASE OF OTHER AREAS WHERE THE GOVERNMENT PROVIDES CONSUMER PROTECTION, IT WILL PROBABLY BE NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A SYSTEM OF COMPULSORY LICENSING AND REGISTRATION OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS. COUPLED WITH THIS WILL BE A CODE OF PRACTICE TO BE DRAWN UP IN CONSULTATION WITH THE APPROPRIATE PROFESSIONAL BODIES AND TECHNICAL INSTITUTIONS.

THERE WILL BE TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS TO ALLOW EXISTING CONTRACTORS AND WORKERS TIME TO COMPLY WITH LICENSING REQUIREMENTS TO BE SPECIFIED.

IN THE INTEREST OF PUBLIC SAFETY, THE OWNERS OF PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT AND PREMISES FREQUENTED BY LARGE NUMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WILL BE REQUIRED BY LAW TO HAVE THEIR INSTALLATIONS TESTED PERIODICALLY BY REGISTERED CONTRACTORS.

/THERE WILL .....

THERE WILL BE PROVISION IN THE NEW LEGISLATION FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE ALL ACCIDENTS ARISING FROM THE SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY.

ELECTRICAL FITTINGS, APPLIANCES AND DEVICES NOW USED OR AVAILABLE FOR USE IN HONG KONG ARE NOT REQUIRED TO MEET ANY LOCAL MANDATORY STANDARDS AND ARE NOT SUBJECT TO IMPORT CONTROL.

+A HIGH PROPORTION OF FIRES OF ELECTRICAL ORIGIN IS ALMOST CERTAINLY DUE TO SUB-STANDARD ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT,+ THE SPOKESMAN SAID.

+IT IS PROPOSED, THEREFORE, THAT THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL SHOULD BE GIVEN APPROPRIATE POWER TO MAKE REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AND ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS FOR BOTH LOCALLY MANUFACTURED AND IMPORTED ELECTRICAL FITTINGS, APPLIANCES AND DEVICES.+

PROVISION WILL ALSO BE MADE TO DEAL WITH THE HAZARDOUS PROBLEM OF ELECTRICITY TAPPING.

DETAILS OF THE PROPOSALS WILL HAVE TO BE WORKED OUT DURING THE DRAFTING OF THE BILL, WHICH WILL BE SUBMITTED TO THE GOVERNOR-IN-COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL BEFORE BEING INTRODUCED INTO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

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YAUMATI FERRY TO BE OFFERED TSING YI SITE  
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THE HONG KONG AND YAUMATI FERRY COMPANY LIMITED WILL BE OFFERED A SITE IN TSING YI TO RE-ESTABLISH ITS FACILITIES WHEN THE AREA IMMEDIATELY FRONTING ITS EXISTING SHIPYARD IN TAI KOK TSUI IS RECLAIMED LATER IN THE DECADE.

THIS WAS STATED BY THE DIRECTOR OF LANDS, MR JOHN TODD, AT THE LAUNCHING THIS MORNING OF THE FERRY +MAN KIT+ BY MRS TODD.

MR TODD SAID: +AS OFTEN HAPPENS IN HONG KONG THE NEED FOR URBAN EXPANSION AND THE PRESSURE ON LAND MEANS THAT FURTHER RECLAMATION IS NEEDED AND THAT LATER THIS DECADE THIS SHIPYARD WILL NO LONGER BE ABLE TO OPERATE IN THIS AREA.

+I AM VERY PLEASED THAT GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN ABLE TO FIND A SITE IN NORTH TSING YI, WHICH I HOPE WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE COMPANY AND WHICH WILL NOT ONLY ALLOW THE COMPANY TO RE-ESTABLISH ITS FACILITIES ON A NEW SITE BUT WHICH WILL ALSO ALLOW FOR THE FURTHER EXPANSION OF FACILITIES AND CAPACITY WHICH I AM SURE WILL BE NEEDED IN THE 1990'S.+

MR TODD SAID MR LAU CHUN-KWOK, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, HAD EARLIER IN A SPEECH DRAWN A RATHER GLOOMY PICTURE OF THE FUTURE OF FERRY SERVICES IN HONG KONG.

/HOWEVER, LOOKING .....

HOWEVER, LOOKING AT THE PAST PERFORMANCE OF THE COMPANY HE WAS MORE OPTIMISTIC AND FOUND IT DIFFICULT TO THINK THAT AN ORGANISATION WITH SUCH A PROUD RECORD AND PRESENT ACHIEVEMENTS WOULD NOT ACCOMMODATE ITSELF TO CHANGING NEEDS AND CONDITIONS AND CONTINUE ITS SUCCESS INTO THE FUTURE, MR TODD SAID.

+IN RECENT YEARS WE HAVE SEEN IMPRESSIVE INCREASES IN THE STANDARD OF THE COMPANY'S ACTIVITIES, WITH IMPROVED VESSELS INCLUDING HOVERFERRIES, PROVIDING MORE FREQUENT AND FASTER SERVICES,+ HE SAID.

+THERE HAS ALSO BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE SCOPE OF THESE SERVICES, WHICH NOW GO TO MORE DESTINATIONS, AN EXPANSION OF WHICH PERHAPS THE MOST NOTABLE FEATURE HAS BEEN THE INTRODUCTION OF DIRECT FERRY LINKS TO CHINA.+

THE FERRY SERVICES THEMSELVES WERE ONLY PART OF THE PICTURE AND THEIR GROWTH HAD BEEN ACCOMPANIED BY INCREASES IN THE COMPANY'S MAINTENANCE, ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION CAPACITY, HE ADDED.

+THIS HAS LED TO THE GROWTH OF THE SHIPYARD IN WHICH WE ARE STANDING TODAY AND WHICH I BELIEVE IS TO BE FURTHER EXTENDED,+ HE SAID.

MR LAU ALSO SPOKE OF THE GOVERNMENT AND THE COMPANY HAVING REACHED AN IMPASSE OVER FERRY PIER DEVELOPMENT.

+WE HAVE OUR DISAGREEMENTS IN THE PAST AND THERE HAVE BEEN OTHER OCCASIONS WHEN IT SEEMED THAT OUR NEGOTIATIONS HAD REACHED A STALEMATE, BUT WITH GOODWILL ON BOTH SIDES WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT,+ MR TODD SAID.

+I AM SURE THAT IN THIS CASE ALSO WE WILL BE ABLE TO WORK OUT A SOLUTION WHICH WILL TAKE ACCOUNT OF BOTH THE COMPANY'S NEEDS AND THE PUBLIC INTEREST.+

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REGISTRATION OF TWO DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES REVOKED  
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THE COMMISSIONER OF DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES ANNOUNCED THAT HE HAS TODAY (MONDAY) REVOKED THE REGISTRATION OF TWO DEPOSIT-TAKING COMPANIES. THEIR NAMES ARE WHITEHALL FINANCE LIMITED AND AMERICA AND PANAMA FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED.

THE REVOCATION OF THE REGISTRATION OF WHITEHALL FINANCE LIMITED FOLLOWS THE SUSPENSION OF ITS REGISTRATION TWO WEEKS PREVIOUSLY, ON THE GROUND THAT THE COMPANY HAD FAILED TO MAINTAIN THE MINIMUM LEVEL OF SPECIFIED LIQUID ASSETS REQUIRED BY LAW DURING NOVEMBER 1982.

THE REGISTRATION OF AMERICA AND PANAMA FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED HAS BEEN REVOKED ON THE GROUND THAT IT APPEARS TO THE COMMISSIONER THAT THE COMPANY IS NOT A FIT AND PROPER BODY TO REMAIN REGISTERED.

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TRANSPORT SURVEY ON FERRY SERVICES

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A SURVEY AIMED AT HELPING TRANSPORT PLANNERS IMPROVE THE CROSS HARBOUR FERRY SERVICES WILL BE CARRIED OUT BY THE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT IN THE NEXT THREE WEEKS.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE INTERVIEWS WILL BE CONDUCTED AT FERRY PIERS WHERE HYF FERRY SERVICES OPERATE.

PASSENGERS WILL BE ASKED A FEW SIMPLE QUESTIONS CONCERNING THE ORIGIN, DESTINATION AND PURPOSE OF THEIR TRIPS.

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WATER FIGURES

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STORAGE IN HONG KONG'S RESERVOIRS AT 9 AM TODAY (MONDAY) STOOD AT 73.7 PER CENT OF CAPACITY OR 425.827 MILLION CUBIC METRES.

THIS TIME LAST YEAR THE RESERVOIRS CONTAINED 255.240 MILLION CUBIC METRES OF WATER, REPRESENTING 44.2 PER CENT OF CAPACITY.

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TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER

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THE PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD FLYOVER IN HO MAN TIN WILL BE CLOSED TO TRAFFIC FROM 1 AM TO 6 AM ON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY (JANUARY 20 AND 21) FOR MAINTENANCE WORKS.

DURING THE CLOSURE, TRAFFIC BETWEEN PRINCESS MARGARET ROAD AND WATERLOO ROAD WILL BE MAINTAINED ON GROUND LEVEL ROADS.

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SALT WATER MAINS WORK

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SALT WATER SUPPLY TO CERTAIN AREAS IN WONG CHUK HANG AND ABERDEEN WILL BE SUSPENDED FOR SEVEN HOURS FROM 10 AM ON THURSDAY (JANUARY 20) TO FACILITATE WATER MAINS WORK.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES ALONG WONG CHUK HANG ROAD, HEUNG YIP ROAD, YIP KAN STREET, TONG BIN LANE, NAM LONG SHAN ROAD, WELFARE ROAD, SHUM WAN ROAD, POLICE SCHOOL ROAD, OCEAN PARK ROAD, SHUM WAN PIER DRIVE, YIP FAT STREET, ABERDEEN MAIN ROAD, YUE KWONG ROAD AND IN YUE KWONG CHUEN AND SHEK PAI WAN ESTATE.

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