



DAILY INFORMATION BULLETIN

ISSUED BY GOVERNMENT INFORMATION SERVICES
BEACONSFIELD HOUSE, HONG KONG. TEL.: 842 8777

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23, 1992

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COMMITMENT ON SAFE USE OF ELECTRICITY REITERATED

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THE ENACTMENT OF THE ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE AND ITS SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS DEMONSTRATES THE GOVERNMENT'S DEDICATION AND COMMITMENT TO PROTECTING PUBLIC SAFETY IN ELECTRICITY USAGE, THE DIRECTOR OF ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES, MR KWOK PING-KI, SAID TONIGHT (SUNDAY).

MR KWOK MADE THE REMARK WHEN HE ADDRESSED THE 34TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER PARTY OF THE HONG KONG AND KOWLOON ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND APPLIANCES TRADE WORKERS UNION (EEATWU).

OUTLINING THE PROGRESS IN MAKING THE SUBSIDIARY REGULATIONS UNDER THE ELECTRICITY ORDINANCE WHICH WAS ENACTED IN NOVEMBER 1990, HE SAID DRAFTING OF THE NEW ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS (SAFETY) REGULATIONS WAS UNDER WAY.

UNDER THESE NEW REGULATIONS, ALL THE STATUTORY SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR DOMESTIC ELECTRICAL PRODUCTS WOULD BE SPECIFIED AND COMPLIANCE WITH RELEVANT STATUTORY AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS WOULD BE NECESSARY TO ENHANCE PUBLIC SAFETY, HE SAID.

HE ADDED THAT THE NEW REGULATIONS WOULD PROBABLY BE INTRODUCED LATE NEXT YEAR AFTER CONSULTATION WITH CONCERNED PARTIES AND APPROVAL BY THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

MEANWHILE, MR KWOK SAID THE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY REGULATIONS WERE ALSO BEING AMENDED IN JOINT CONSULTATION WITH THE TWO ELECTRIC POWER COMPANIES.

"THE OBJECTIVE OF MAKING THIS AMENDMENT IS TO IMPROVE THE SAFETY ASPECTS OF THE ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION PROVIDED BY THE TWO POWER COMPANIES, AND THE INTRODUCTION OF DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT FOR ENERGY CONSERVATION IN LINE WITH INTERNATIONAL PRACTICE," HE SAID.

MR KWOK SAID UNDER THE ELECTRICITY (WIRING) REGULATIONS 1990 WHICH BECAME EFFECTIVE ON JUNE 1 THIS YEAR, THE RESPONSIBILITY OF REGISTERED ELECTRICAL WORKERS WITH RESPECT TO THE DESIGN, SELECTION AND USE OF SUITABLE MATERIALS AS WELL AS THE CORRECT TESTING AND PROPER MAINTENANCE OF THE INSTALLATION WAS CLEARLY DEFINED.

"IN ORDER TO SET OUT DETAILED COHERENT TECHNICAL GUIDELINES ON HOW THESE STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS CAN BE MET, MY DEPARTMENT HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED THE CODE OF PRACTICE FOR THESE NEW REGULATIONS BOTH IN ENGLISH AND CHINESE.

"AND THESE CODES OF PRACTICE ARE NOW AVAILABLE FOR SALE TO THE PUBLIC," HE SAID.

ON THE NEW ELECTRICITY (REGISTRATION) REGULATIONS WHICH SPECIFY THAT ALL WORK ON FIXED ELECTRICAL INSTALLATIONS MUST BE CARRIED OUT BY REGISTERED ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS, MR KWOK SAID THE ELECTRICAL AND MECHANICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT HAD REGISTERED 41,000 ELECTRICAL WORKERS AND 4,600 ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE REGULATIONS IN NOVEMBER 1990.

EARLIER, MR KWOK PAID TRIBUTE TO THE BEATWU FOR HELPING ITS MEMBERS COPE WITH THE NEW LEGISLATION.

HE SAID THE DEPARTMENT WAS NOW WORKING IN COLLABORATION WITH THE HONG KONG EXAMINATIONS AUTHORITY TO ORGANISE THE THIRD GRADE 'B' ELECTRICAL WORKER EXAMINATION WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO BE HELD NEXT MONTH.

"THIS EXAMINATION WILL ALLOW THOSE LESS QUALIFIED TO SATISFY THE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR GRADE 'B' REGISTRATION IF THEY CAN PASS THE EXAMINATION," HE ADDED.

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HAND-HELD PERCUSSIVE BREAKERS REQUIRE NOISE EMISSION LABEL

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ALL HAND-HELD PERCUSSIVE BREAKERS HEAVIER THAN 10 KILOGRAMS FOR USE IN KONG KONG MUST BE FITTED WITH A NOISE EMISSION LABEL ISSUED BY THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT STARTING FROM SEPTEMBER 1.

THE NOISE CONTROL (HAND HELD PERCUSSIVE BREAKERS) REGULATIONS REQUIRE ALL SUCH EQUIPMENT COMPLY WITH THE RELEVANT NOISE EMISSION STANDARD SET OUT IN THE REGULATIONS.

AIR COMPRESSORS FOR CONSTRUCTION PURPOSE WILL SIMILARLY BE CONTROLLED WITH EFFECT FROM DECEMBER 1.

OFFENDERS WILL BE LIABLE TO A MAXIMUM FINE OF \$50,000 ON FIRST CONVICTION, AND \$100,000 AND ALSO A DAILY FINE OF \$10,000 ON SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT CONVICTION.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT REMINDED THE CONCERNED BUILDING CONTRACTORS AND THE RENTAL AGENCIES OF SUCH EQUIPMENT THAT APPLICATIONS FOR NOISE EMISSION LABELS FOR HAND-HELD PERCUSSIVE BREAKERS AND AIR COMPRESSORS CAN BE MADE TO THE DEPARTMENT.

LABEL APPLICATIONS, IN THE PRESCRIBED FORM ACCOMPANIED BY A RELEVANT EEC TYPE-EXAMINATION CERTIFICATE OR A NOISE TESTING REPORT AND A NON-REFUNDABLE APPLICATION FEE OF \$100 FOR EACH LABEL, SHOULD BE SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S NOISE CONTROL GROUP ON FIFTH FLOOR, WEST WING, CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES, CENTRAL.

AFTER SEPTEMBER 4, THE NEW ADDRESS IS 45TH FLOOR, WANCHAI TOWER III, 5 GLOUCESTER ROAD, WAN CHAI, HONG KONG.

THE APPLICANTS WILL BE NOTIFIED OF THE RESULTS WITHIN 28 DAYS. ENQUIRIES CAN ALSO BE MADE OF THE DEPARTMENT ON TELEPHONE 810 2811, OR 594 6533 AFTER SEPTEMBER 4.

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GUIDE TO CAVERN ENGINEERING ON SALE

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THE GEOTECHNICAL ENGINEERING OFFICE (GEO) OF THE CIVIL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT HAS ADDED ANOTHER NEW TITLE, "GUIDE TO CAVERN ENGINEERING", TO ITS PORTFOLIO OF PUBLICATIONS.

THE 156-PAGE GEOGUIDE, AT \$36 A COPY, IS NOW AVAILABLE AT THE GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS SALES CENTRE.

THE BOOKLET, THE FOURTH IN A SERIES OF GEOGUIDES, PRESENTS A RECOMMENDED STANDARD OF GOOD PRACTICE FOR THE CIVIL ENGINEERING ASPECTS OF ROCK CAVERN APPLICATIONS IN HONG KONG.

IT IS AIMED AT PROVIDING DESIGNERS AND REGULATORY AUTHORITIES GUIDANCE ON HOW TO PRODUCE COST-EFFECTIVE AND SAFE INTEGRATED DESIGNS.

VIEWS OF INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANISATIONS IN THE FIELD, BOTH LOCAL AND ABROAD, HAVE BEEN TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT IN FINALISING THE DOCUMENT.

THE NEW TITLE WAS CONCEPTUALISED IN CONNECTION WITH THE STUDY OF THE POTENTIAL USE OF UNDERGROUND SPACE (SPUN) INITIATED BY GEO EARLIER.

ACTING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL ENGINEERING, DR ANDREW MALONE, SAID SPUN CONFIRMED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF UNDERGROUND SPACE IN MAN-MADE ROCK CAVERNS IN HONG KONG COULD BE A VIABLE ALTERNATIVE TO CONVENTIONAL DEVELOPMENT ABOVE GROUND, AND ONE WHICH COULD CONFER SIGNIFICANT ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS.

CITING AN EXAMPLE, DR MALONE SAID CONSTRUCTION HAD RECENTLY STARTED FOR AN UNDERGROUND SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT AT STANLEY WHICH WAS SCHEDULED TO BE OPERATIONAL BY THE END OF NEXT YEAR.

STUDIES ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN FOR TWO OTHER UNDERGROUND SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS, ONE AT MOUNT DAVIS WHICH FORMS PART OF THE \$12 BILLION STRATEGIC SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEME AND THE OTHER AT SHAM TSENG.

PLANS ARE ALSO BEING PREPARED TO EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITY OF HOUSING A NEW REFUSE TRANSFER STATION IN A MAN-MADE ROCK CAVERN AT MOUNT DAVIS, ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF POTENTIAL USE FOR CAVERNS.

"THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASING INTEREST IN HONG KONG IN PLACING FACILITIES UNDERGROUND.

"THIS INTEREST HAS BEEN RISEN BECAUSE OF THE CONSIDERABLE PLANNING AND COST ADVANTAGES THAT CAN BE REALISED AND AN INCREASED AWARENESS OF THE CAVERN TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPED ELSEWHERE FOR ROCK CONDITIONS SIMILAR TO THOSE FOUND IN HONG KONG," DR MALONE SAID.

HE POINTED OUT THAT PLACING CERTAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERGROUND WOULD RELEASE LAND FOR OTHER USES AND YIELD POTENTIAL PLANNING BENEFITS.

"WE CAN EXPECT TO SEE MAN-MADE CAVERNS USED IN FUTURE WHERE THEY ARE THE RIGHT SOLUTION.

"THIS ACCEPTANCE HAS BEEN HELPED BY INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS THAT HAVE NOW BEEN PUT IN PLACE BY THE GOVERNMENT," HE ADDED.

IN THIS DIRECTION, PLANNING GUIDELINES FOR ROCK CAVERN DEVELOPMENT HAVE NOW BEEN INCORPORATED IN THE GOVERNMENT TOWN PLANNING MANUAL, THE HONG KONG PLANNING STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES, TO FACILITATE RELATED DEVELOPMENTS.

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CONTROL OVER MARICULTURE OPERATIONS TIGHTENED

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THE AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT WILL TIGHTEN ITS LICENSING CONTROL OVER THE TERRITORY'S MARICULTURE OPERATIONS FROM OCTOBER.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (SUNDAY), A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID THE DEPARTMENT MAY REFUSE TO RENEW OR CANCEL LICENCES WHERE THE LICENSING CONDITIONS UNDER THE MARINE FISH CULTURE ORDINANCE HAVE BEEN BREACHED.

"STARTING FROM OCTOBER 1, LICENCES WILL BE RENEWED ONLY IF ALL LICENCE SPECIFICATIONS AND CONDITIONS ARE COMPLIED WITH.

"FOR ANY CONTRAVENTION IDENTIFIED, SUCH AS MAINTENANCE OF OVERSIZED STRUCTURES, WARNINGS WILL BE GIVEN AND A REASONABLE PERIOD OF TIME WILL BE ALLOWED FOR RECTIFICATION," HE SAID.

THE SPOKESMAN SAID THE MEASURE RESULTED FROM A RECENT REVIEW BY THE DEPARTMENT ON ITS POLICY REGARDING THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE ORDINANCE.

HE STRESSED THAT IN THE PAST THE DEPARTMENT, IN CONSIDERATION OF THE DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING A NEW FISH CULTURE LICENCE, HAD RELIED UPON PROSECUTIONS FOR ENFORCEMENT AGAINST THE BREACHES OF THE LICENSING CONDITIONS.

CANCELLATION OR NON-RENEWAL OF LICENCES WOULD BE CONSIDERED ONLY AFTER TWO OR THREE SUCCESSFUL PROSECUTIONS, HE SAID.

"HOWEVER, THIS PRACTICE HAS BEEN USED BY SOME MARICULTURISTS AS AN EXCUSE FOR CONTINUING THE OFFENCE ON THE MISCONCEPTION THAT IT WAS TOLERATED BY THE LICENSING AUTHORITY," HE ADDED.

THE SPOKESMAN ALSO CALLED ON THE MARICULTURISTS TO TAKE APPROPRIATE AND URGENT ACTIONS TO RECTIFY, WITHIN THE PERIOD GIVEN FOR RECTIFICATION, ANY BREACH OF THE LICENSING CONDITIONS, IN PARTICULAR THE NUMBER, DIMENSIONS AND USAGE OF STRUCTURES ON THE LICENSED RAFT AND THE SIZE OF THE LICENSED RAFT.

ENQUIRIES ON THIS ENFORCEMENT POLICY CAN BE DIRECTED TO THE DEPARTMENT'S AQUACULTURE REGULATORY AND MANAGEMENT SECTION ON 733 2182.

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POST OFFICE TO JOIN KUALA LUMPUR EXHIBITION
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THE HONG KONG POST OFFICE WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE FIFTH ASIAN INTERNATIONAL PHILATELIC EXHIBITION, "KUALA LUMPUR '92", TO BE HELD IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA FROM SEPTEMBER 1 TO 7.

ANNOUNCING THIS TODAY (SUNDAY), THE ACTING POSTMASTER-GENERAL, MRS DORIS HO, SAID A \$10 DEFINITIVE STAMP SHEETLET (NO. 5) WOULD BE ISSUED ON SEPTEMBER 1 TO COMMEMORATE THE POST OFFICE'S PARTICIPATION IN THE EVENT.

SOUVENIR COVERS AT \$1 EACH WILL BE ON SALE ON THE DAY AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE.

THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE HAS BEEN EXCLUDED IN ORDER TO AVOID DISRUPTIONS TO THE AIRPORT OPERATIONS.

EACH CUSTOMER QUEUING UP EACH TIME IS ENTITLED TO ONLY 10 SHEETLETS ON THE DAY OF ISSUE.

A HAND-BACK SERVICE WILL BE PROVIDED AT ALL POST OFFICES, EXCEPT THE AIRPORT POST OFFICE, ON SEPTEMBER 1 FOR OFFICIAL AND PRIVATELY MADE COVERS BEARING AN INDICATION OF THE OCCASION.

A SPECIAL DATESTAMP AND A CACHET WILL BE INTRODUCED FOR THE PURPOSE.

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61 NEW BUILDING PLANS APPROVED IN JUNE
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THE BUILDINGS ORDINANCE OFFICE OF THE BUILDINGS AND LANDS DEPARTMENT APPROVED 61 NEW BUILDING PLANS IN JUNE.

OF THESE, 18 WERE FOR HONG KONG, 17 FOR KOWLOON AND 26 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

THE APPROVED PLANS INCLUDED 29 FOR APARTMENT, APARTMENT/COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENTS, EIGHT FOR COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENTS AND THREE FOR FACTORY AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

DURING THE MONTH, THE OFFICE GAVE CONSENT FOR WORK TO START ON 32 PROJECTS, INVOLVING 258,984 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA AND 60,572 SQUARE METRES OF USABLE NON-DOMESTIC FLOOR AREA.

THE TOTAL DECLARED COST OF NEW BUILDINGS COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH WAS ABOUT \$700 MILLION.

USABLE FLOOR AREA FOR DOMESTIC AND NON-DOMESTIC USES WERE ABOUT 29,766 SQUARE METRES AND ABOUT 75,901 SQUARE METRES RESPECTIVELY.

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IN JUNE, THE OFFICE ISSUED 29 OCCUPATION PERMITS - SEVEN FOR HONG KONG ISLAND, 10 FOR KOWLOON, AND 12 FOR THE NEW TERRITORIES.

IN ADDITION, 43 DEMOLITION CONSENTS AFFECTING 89 BUILDINGS WERE ISSUED.

THE CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT DIVISION RECEIVED 518 COMPLAINTS ON ILLEGAL BUILDING WORKS, CARRIED OUT 1,374 INSPECTIONS AND ISSUED 828 REMOVAL ORDERS.

THE DANGEROUS BUILDINGS SECTION INSPECTED 633 BUILDINGS AND OBTAINED 19 EMERGENCY CLOSURE ORDERS.

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EARLY WELFARE PAYMENT

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RECIPIENTS OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE AND SPECIAL NEEDS ALLOWANCE WHO HOLD CASH ORDER BOOK COUPONS MAY RECEIVE THEIR WELFARE PAYMENT EARLIER IF THEIR PAY-DAY FALL ON THE PUBLIC HOLIDAYS AT THE END OF THIS MONTH.

A SPOKESMAN FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) SAID PAYMENT SCHEDULED FOR AUGUST 29, 30 AND 31 WOULD BE ADVANCED TO AUGUST 26, 27 AND 28 RESPECTIVELY.

ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR RECIPIENTS TO COLLECT THEIR WELFARE PAYMENT AT THE DESIGNATED POST OFFICES AND TREASURY SUB-OFFICES, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

AS THE POST OFFICE WOULD ISSUE A COMMEMORATIVE STAMP SHEETLET ON SEPTEMBER 1, SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAVE ALSO BEEN MADE FOR THESE RECIPIENTS WHO HOLD CASH ORDER BOOK COUPONS WITH PAYDAY FALLING ON THAT DAY AND PAYMENT OFFICE DESIGNATED AT POST OFFICES TO GET PAYMENT ON OR AFTER AUGUST 28, THE SPOKESMAN ADDED.

PAYMENT AT SUB-TREASURY OFFICES AND CITY AND NEW TERRITORIES ADMINISTRATION DISTRICT OFFICES WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS, HE SAID.

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PHOTO CONTEST ON FAMILY LIFE

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THE SOCIAL WELFARE DEPARTMENT TODAY (SUNDAY) REMINDED MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO ARE INTERESTED IN A PHOTO CONTEST ON HARMONIOUS FAMILY LIFE TO SUBMIT THEIR ENTRIES BEFORE SEPTEMBER 4.

THE CONTEST, ORGANISED BY THE COMMITTEE ON FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION PUBLICITY CAMPAIGN, IS ONE OF THE EVENTS OF THIS YEAR'S CAMPAIGN TO FURTHER PROMOTE GOOD FAMILY RELATIONS, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

"THE ENTRIES SHOULD INCLUDE A SET OF FOUR CAPTIONED PHOTOGRAPHS PORTRAYING HARMONIOUS FAMILY LIFE. APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL HONG KONG RESIDENTS.

"PARTICIPANTS MAY SHARE THE JOY OF FAMILY LIFE WITH OTHERS WHILE HAVING A CHANCE TO WIN ATTRACTIVE PRIZES INCLUDING FOUR RETURN TICKETS TO BANGKOK, PHOTOGRAPHIC APPLIANCES AND GIFT COUPONS," A SPOKESMAN FOR THE DEPARTMENT SAID.

ENTRY FORMS ARE AVAILABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT'S DISTRICT YOUTH OFFICES AND FAMILY LIFE EDUCATION RESOURCE CENTRE, 24TH FLOOR SOUTHORN CENTRE, 130 HENNESSY ROAD, WAN CHAI.

ENQUIRIES CAN BE MADE ON 451 3133.

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WATER CUT IN SAI KUNG

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FRESH WATER SUPPLY TO SOME PREMISES IN SAI KUNG WILL GO OFF FROM 10 PM ON TUESDAY (AUGUST 25) TO 6 AM THE FOLLOWING DAY TO FACILITATE CONNECTION WORK ON WATER MAINS.

THE SUSPENSION WILL AFFECT ALL PREMISES AT SILVERSTRAND BEACH ROAD, MANG KUNG UK, HANG HAU WING LUNG ROAD, NG FAI TIN, PAN LONG WAN, SHEUNG YEUNG, HA YEUNG, MIU TSAI, MAU PO, TAI AU MUN, LEUNG FAI TIN, SHEUNG SZE WAN, SIU HANG HAU, TAI HANG HAU, LUNG HA WAN ROAD, TSIU WO, TAI WAN TAU, TAI O MUN ROAD, SHEUNG LAU WAN, TIN WAN TSAI, TIN HA, TAI WONG KUNG, PO TOI O, TAI MIU AU AS WELL AS THE CLEAR WATER BAY GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB.

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