Circular 7: Immigration Regulations to be Observed and Followed by Exhibitors

1. Exhibitors from outside Hong Kong

According to the policy of Immigration Department of Hong Kong, foreign visitors are allowed to remain in Hong Kong for the purposes of sightseeing, shopping, as well as conducting contracts, attending meetings and conferences, etc. For the purpose of immigration control, visitors are subject to certain conditions of stay specified in the Immigration Regulations. These conditions preclude a visitor from taking up employment, whether paid or unpaid and he is not allowed to establish or join in any business. Those who wish to be engaged in day-to-day business operations or investment activities in Hong Kong will have to apply for a work permit.

In the case of a trade exhibition, whether an exhibitor needs a work permit would depend on the nature of the business of the exhibition booth he/she mans and his/her activities therein. In general, if the exhibitor's activities are focused on promotion without engaging in retail sales, he will not need to apply for a work permit. However, if an exhibitor from outside Hong Kong is engaged in retail sales activities, a work permit will be required.

2. Exhibitors from Chinese Mainland

Where Chinese Mainland exhibitors participating in trade fairs are concerned, it should be noted that they must apply for exit permission from the relevant Chinese Mainland authorities. For business visits, Mainland residents have to apply to the PSB Office in their place of domicile for permission to enter Hong Kong under the Business Visit Scheme. The PSB will issue an exit-entry permit with a business visit endorsement to Mainland business visitors. Exhibitors from Chinese Mainland are required to meet Hong Kong Immigration regulations as stipulated in item 1 of the above.

3. Hong Kong Exhibitors

If any local exhibitor is planning to deploy or hire any personnel from outside Hong Kong at the booths during fair period (including move-in and move-out days), the above regulations (items 1 and 2) will also apply.

For details of Hong Kong immigration regulations, you may access the Immigration Department's web-site (www.info.gov.hk/immd/). If you have any queries regarding the above, please do not hesitate to contact Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

通告 7: 參展商須遵守的入境規例

1. <u>來自香港以外的參展商</u> 根據香港入境事務處的政策,外來旅遊人士可憑觀光、購物、洽談合約及出席會議等理由在香港逗留,唯 逗留期間,旅遊人士必須遵守香港入境規例內訂明的若干條件。根據有關條件,旅遊人士不得從事僱傭工 作(無論受薪或非受薪),亦不得開設或參與任何業務。有意在香港從事日常業務運作或投資活動的人士,必 須申請工作簽證

就貿易展覽會而言,參展商是否需要申請工作簽證,將視乎其展覽攤位的業務性質以及所涉活動而定。一般來說,假若參展商的活動主要為業務推廣而不涉及零售,則毋須申請工作簽證;假若參展商從事零售活 動,便須申請工作簽證。

2. 中國內地參展商

參加貿易展覽會的內地參展商,必須向中國內地有關部門申請出境許可。至於商務旅遊,內地居民須向戶 籍所在的公安機關,根據商務旅遊計劃申請來港許可,公安機關會向內地的商務旅遊人士簽發往來港澳通 行證及商務簽注。內地參展商必須遵守以上第1項所列的香港入境規例。

3. 香港參展商

假若任何本地參展商有意於展覽會舉行期間(包括進館及撤館期間),在攤位派駐或僱用任何來自香港以外的 人士,上述規例(第1及2項)亦同樣適用。

有關香港入境規例詳情,請瀏覽香港入境事務處網址(www.info.gov.hk/immd/)。如對上述規定有任何疑問,歡 抑聯絡香港貿發局。

