

Circular 5: Caution on Third Party Promotional Offers and Rental of Credit Card Payment Terminals

Caution on Third Party Promotional Offers

It has come to the Organiser's attention that some exhibition/trade directories or organisations have sent invitations to exhibitors inviting them to update or correct their data with their fair directories and subsequently claimed exhibitors for fees.

These directories and organisations include but are not limited to the following:

- Fair Guide (owned by Construct Data)
- Expo Guide (owned by Commercial Online Manuals S de RL de CV ("Commercial Online Manuals"))
- Event Fair - The Exhibitors Index, and
- FAIR-Guide (www.fairguide.me) (owned by Avron s.r.o.).

The Organiser would like to stress that neither the Fair Guide, the Expo Guide, the Event Fair nor the FAIR-Guide has any connection with the Organiser or any of our fairs.

UFI, an international organization which represents the interests of the exhibition industry worldwide has been warning the exhibition industry to be vigilant against Fair Guide, Expo Guide, Construct Data, Commercial Online Manuals and other similar guides and organisations. UFI has also reported that debt collection agencies work in partnership with these guides to intimidate exhibitors for payment. The practice of Construct Data has been considered as unconscionable and misleading by the Austrian Protective Association. Recent information suggests that Construct Data has shifted its operation from Austria to Mexico and/or Slovakia.

It should be noted that the contents and wording of Fair Guide's and Expo Guide's letter and order form are virtually identical. It is possible that Construct Data and Commercial Online Manuals are related companies or are in some way connected. You should therefore exercise due diligence and care when being approached for such invitations so as to avoid possible unwarranted and/or unnecessary financial commitments. In order to protect your own interests, you are urged to read the contracts (including the small print) and attachments carefully, as well as seeking legal advice, before signing any such documents.

The Organiser do not recommend that you sign any materials that you receive from Construct Data, Commercial Online Manuals, Event Fair and/or Avron. If you have mistakenly entered into contract with Construct Data, Commercial Online Manuals, Event Fair and/or Avron, you should notify Construct Data, Commercial Online Manuals, Event Fair and/or Avron in writing and inform them that you dispute the validity of the contract on the basis of mistake and/or misrepresentation. You should take legal advice as to how to respond to any demands for payment that you might receive.

For more information about UFI's action against Fair Guide, Expo Guide, Construct Data, please visit <http://www.ufi.org/industry-resources/warning-construct-data/>

Caution on Rental of Credit Card Payment Terminals

The Hong Kong Trade Development Council (HKTDC) is recently informed that a service provider of credit card payment terminal has offered its payment terminal rental service to exhibitors in exhibitions held in Hong Kong, but failed to return the transaction amount to exhibitors before the deadline as stipulated in the contract. The HKTDC would like to clarify that it has NOT appointed any credit card payment terminal providers in ALL HKTDC fairs. To protect your own interests, you are reminded to exercise due diligence and read all contracts carefully before appointing any service providers.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms Lily Lam, Business Development Manager at Tel: (852) 2240 5815; or email address: lily.ll.lam@hktdc.org of the Hong Kong Trade Development Council.

Thank you for your kind attention.

通告 5: 提防由第三者提供之推廣優惠 及 有關信用卡終端機租賃服務**提防由第三者提供之推廣優惠**

主辦機構注意到市場上有展覽名錄或行業指南的出版人或組織向參展商發出邀請，讓參展商更新或更正於他們的名錄或指南內刊登之參展商資料，然後向參展商索取費用。

此等出版人或組織包括但不限於：

- Fair Guide (由 Construct Data 所擁有)，
- Expo Guide (由 Commercial Online Manuals S de RL de CV (“Commercial Online Manuals”) 所擁有)，
- Event Fair - The Exhibitors Index 和 FAIR-Guide (www.fairguide.me) (由 Avron s.r.o. 所擁有)。

香港貿發局特此澄清及重申: Fair Guide、Expo Guide、Event Fair 和 FAIR-Guide 概與主辦機構或主辦機構的任何展覽完全無關。

UFI，一個代表全球展覽業利益的國際組織，已經警告展覽業要小心警惕 Fair Guide、Expo Guide、Construct Data、Commercial Online Manuals 和其他類似的指南和組織。UFI 還報告說，收債公司和這些指南和組織有夥伴的關係，從而恐嚇參展商付款。Construct Data 之經營手法已被奧地利保障公平競爭協會 (Austrian Protective Association) 視為不公平及誤導。最近有資料顯示，Construct Data 已從奧地利轉移其運作到墨西哥和/或斯洛伐克。

由於 Fair Guide 及 Expo Guide 的信件及訂單內容及語句幾乎完全相同，Construct Data 與 Commercial Online Manuals 可能是相關或連繫之公司。閣下因此應盡量以小心謹慎的態度處理該等邀請，以免作出不必要的財務承擔。主辦機構特此呼籲閣下在簽署任何合約（包括以細小字體列印的合約）及附件之前，應細閱有關文件和尋求法律意見，以保障閣下本身的利益。

主辦機構並不建議閣下簽署任何從 Construct Data、Commercial Online Manuals、Event Fair 及/或 Avron 收到之文件。如閣下在錯誤情況下與 Construct Data、Commercial Online Manual、Event Fair 及/或 Avron 訂立合約，閣下應以書面通知 Construct Data、Commercial Online Manuals、Event Fair 及/或 Avron 指出基於錯誤或被誤導之情況下簽署該文件，有關合約無效。閣下應該就如何應對你可能會收到的付款要求尋求法律意見。

欲瞭解更多信息關於 UFI 對 Fair Guide, Expo Guide, Construct Data 與 Commercial Online Manuals 採取之行動，請瀏覽此網頁

<http://www.ufi.org/industry-resources/warning-construct-data/>。

提防有關信用卡終端機租賃服務

香港貿易發展局(香港貿發局)獲悉近日有公司在香港舉辦的展覽會中提供信用卡終端機租賃服務予參展商，但並未有在合約指定日期發還有關交易金額。香港貿發局特此澄清本局並沒有委託或指派任何第三者提供信用卡終端機租賃服務，並提醒所有參展商在使用任何供應商的服務前，應先清楚了解其背景，並細閱有關文件及合約細則，以確保閣下本身的利益。

如有任何問題，請與本局業務發展經理林麗麗小姐聯絡，電話：(852)2240 5815 或 電郵: lily.ll.lam@hktcdc.org。