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# SPARKLE

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## CTPAT Verification Discount for Federation of Hong Kong Industry and Hong Kong Toys Council Members

We are pleased to announce that a memorandum of understanding was recently signed between Federation of Hong Kong Industries (FHKI), and Intertek, appointing Intertek as its exclusive partner in evaluating its member's manufacturing plants to comply with Customs and Trade Partnership against Terrorism (C-TPAT).

Through this partnership, FHKI is committed in taking a leadership role in enhancing factory security measures amongst its members to comply with the C-TPAT guidelines as laid down by the United States Customs and Border Protection Department.

Under the agreement, FHKI members can leverage on exclusively engaging Intertek's worldwide network of auditors to undergo a C-TPAT verification, which is designed to ensure that foreign manufacturers are improving and maintaining sustainable supply chain security practices. In return, FHKI and Hong Kong Toys Council members will enjoy preferential C-TPAT verification rates, enabling a cost effective and independent assessment that could be shared with their multiple customers.

Intertek's C-TPAT verification program draws upon security experience and expertise from Sandler & Travis Trade Advisory Services (STTAS), a recognized leader in customs and trade consulting services. Their management includes a former Commissioner of U.S. Customs and five former Deputy Commissioners. These principals are recognized by U.S. Presidents and cabinet-level officials through appointments to inter-agency working groups, and U.S. delegations to international organizations such as the World Customs Organization (WCO). Moreover, their contributions have been acknowledged through the conferral of prestigious U.S. government awards.

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#### Disclaimer

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In fact, with the view to highlight the importance of C-TPAT, Charles W. Winwood, currently STTAS's Senior Vice President Border Security (former Deputy Commissioner of the US Customs) was in China and Hong Kong in January 2006, to take part in the Hong Kong Toys Fair and other several C-TPAT seminars to explain about the latest updates in the C-TPAT guidelines and how they impact on the global supply chain.

To allow manufacturing plants to better understand and prepare for C-TPAT compliance, intertek will organize three seminars to be held in China in March 2006 as follows:

Date: 3 March 2006  
Venue: Intertek Shenzhen Office  
Language medium: Cantonese

Date: 9 March 2006  
Venue: Intertek Shenzhen Office  
Language medium: Mandarin

Date: 17 March 2006  
Venue: Intertek Shenzhen Office  
Language medium: Mandarin

For further details on the C-TPAT verification program and to register for the C-TPAT seminars, you may contact Ms. Vivien Lam at tel: (86 755) 8358 9401, fax: (86 755) 8389 0005/6 or email: Vivien.Lam@intertek.com or Fifi Peng at tel: 86-755-8348 7616, fax: 86-755-8389 0005/6 or email: fifi.peng@intertek.com

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