

Foundation stone laid for New Cruise Terminal Building at Kai Tak

The foundation stone laying ceremony for the Cruise Terminal Building at Kai Tak was held today (April 8).

The Chief Executive, Mr Donald Tsang, officiated at the ceremony to mark this important milestone of the cruise terminal project.

Other officiating guests were the Acting Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development, Mr Gregory So; the Secretary for Development, Mrs Carrie Lam; the Permanent Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development (Commerce, Industry and Tourism), Mr Andrew Wong; the Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Mr Wai Chi-sing; the Commissioner for Tourism, Mr Philip Yung; the Director of Architectural Services, Mrs Marigold Lau; the Managing Director of Dragages Hong Kong, Mr Nicolas Borit; and the Group Chairman of Wong Tung & Partners Limited, Mr Edward Ho.

The new cruise terminal will be an iconic building at the centre of Victoria Harbour. It will be able to berth the largest cruise vessels in the world. It is highly functional and efficient, and will bring together environmental friendly facilities to provide world class services to cruise passengers. The terminal building also provides an ancillary commercial area of about 5 600 square metres, and a landscaped deck with open space and greeneries on its roof for public enjoyment.

The Government has funded the design and construction of the cruise terminal and will lease it to an operator for management and operation. The terminal building and the first berth, which is able to accommodate the largest cruise vessels in the world, are expected to come into operation in mid-2013. The second berth will be commissioned in 2014 and will also be able to accommodate the largest cruise vessels in 2015 after dredging works on the seabed are completed.

Construction works of the cruise terminal are moving ahead as planned. The Government is inviting tenders for the tenancy of operating and managing the terminal, with a view to appointing the operator by the end of this year.

Ends/Friday, April 8, 2011

Issued at HKT 13:29