

24<sup>th</sup> December 2002

To : Bills Committee

**Cathay Pacific Catering Services (HK) Ltd.'s Views on  
Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2002**

Thank you for inviting Cathay Pacific Catering Services (HK) Ltd. to express views on the Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2002. Since this issue was brought up last year, we had considered the various related concerns and our views are as follows,

**Cost Implication**

With no Customs officers on site, we can save on office space, equipment and related facilities currently provided for the Customs Office. In addition, there would be substantial saving in the Customs fee for five Customs officers of HKD274,500 per month which is re-charged to our airline customers at the moment.

On the other hand, without a Customs officer on site to verify shipment discrepancy when a dispute situation arises, a surveyor charge would be incurred. However, the extra cost incurred by such surveyor charge should be limited.

**Operational Implication**

Under the Open Bond System, we could have flexible opening hours for all our bonded storage. The flexibility in such operation would also allow our staff to open a container of dutiable goods at any time as well as carry out other bonded operation. It would enhance our manpower arrangement and increase work efficiency.

However, to ensure efficient and effective bond operations under the Open Bond System, clear and detail working instructions must be provided.

We hope the above views and concerns would be carefully reviewed by the Bills Committee in consideration of the forthcoming Dutiable Commodities (Amendment) Bill 2002.