

**For Information
On 14 June 2011**

LegCo Panel on Food Safety and Environmental Hygiene

Measures to follow up on the Plasticiser contamination incident in Taiwan

Purpose

This paper briefs Members on the measures taken by the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) in response to the plasticiser contamination incident in Taiwan.

Background

2. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Taiwan announced on 23 May 2011 that a plasticiser di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) had been detected in 16 samples of drinks at levels up to 34.1 parts per million (ppm) as DEHP has been mixed in the clouding agent used in the production of the drinks. Subsequently, further results announced by the FDA indicated that DEHP had also been detected in other food products. The FDA then further discovered that the manufacturers mixed another plasticiser di-isononyl phthalate (DINP) in the clouding agent.

3. The CFS has taken immediate follow-up actions since it learned of the plasticiser contamination incident in Taiwan. According to the information provided by the Taiwanese authority, the CFS collected samples of Taiwan food and drinks from the importers, wholesalers and at retail outlets for testing. As at 7 June, the CFS has taken 119 samples of the five major categories of different food and drinks with the highest risk of contamination for testing. Among these samples, 7 samples were unsatisfactory (i.e. 6 samples of two sports drinks and 1 sample of a konjac coconut jelly; more details in the following paragraphs), 3 were not detected to contain DEHP¹, 85 were not detected to contain DEHP or DINP, while the results of 24 samples were not yet available.

4. The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (DFEH) is empowered to make an order to prohibit the import and supply of any food

¹ Out of the 119 samples taken, 9 (6 sports drinks with unsatisfactory DEHP result and 3 drinks with satisfactory DEHP result) were not tested for DINP as these 9 samples were taken before the Taiwanese authorities announced that DINP was detected in food products.

under Section 78B(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132), and to direct that any food supplied be recalled. In relation to the 7 samples detected with DEHP mentioned in the above paragraph, DFEH issued two orders (on 30 May and 1 June 2011 respectively) to prohibit the import and supply of the relevant food (i.e. Speed sports drink, Speed lemon flavour sports drink, and Sheng Shiang Jen (translation) konjac coconut jelly (taro flavour)) produced in Taiwan, and to order the concerned food supplied be recalled. The relevant LegCo briefs are at **Annexes A** and **B** respectively.

Continued surveillance and testing

5. The CFS has strengthened its surveillance and testing of the five categories of products according to the daily information on the vendors and products involved in the plasticiser contamination incident as released by the Taiwanese authority. The categories are sports drinks; flavoured juice; tea beverages; fruit jam/syrup and fruit jelly; and powder and tablet supplement. Testing results will be published in the CFS website.

6. The CFS will closely monitor the situation, take samples at import, wholesale and retail levels for testing, and continue to liaise with the Taiwanese authority on the incident and take appropriate follow-up actions. The CFS will issue rapid alerts to update the trade immediately on the latest information about the food incident provided by the Taiwanese authority. The CFS will also continue to liaise with other jurisdictions and to exchange information with them in order to better safeguard public health.

Consultation with the Expert Committee on Food Safety and the setting of action level

7. At the meeting on 2 June, the Expert Committee on Food Safety endorsed that a proposed action level of 1.5 milligrammes per kilogramme (mg/kg) in food for DEHP would be adopted in Hong Kong, subject to review when more scientific data or information is available in future. Risk assessment will be conducted when a food item is tested to contain DEHP above this level. This level, proposed by the CFS, was considered adequate to protect public health and useful to distinguish the presence of DEHP in food from environmental contamination or migration via food contact materials from adulteration. Food with a DEHP level exceeding 1.5 mg/kg may indicate a food adulteration or a misuse of food packaging materials.

8. The Expert Committee was briefed about the actions taken by the CFS in response to the incident in Taiwan and noted that the targeted approach

adopted in monitoring, surveillance, sampling, testing, risk assessment, control and communication on DEHP has far exceeded any routine surveillance of any harmful substances in food in terms of manpower and resources deployed. Such intensified actions are expected to last until the incident has come to an end.

9. In view of the current incident, the Expert Committee endorsed the recommendation of the CFS to include DEHP in Hong Kong's routine surveillance for prepackaged food that may be produced with the usage of clouding agents, which will help the CFS collect more information on the local situation for review of the action level for DEHP in food in future.

Liaison with the trade

10. Since the FDA in Taiwan announced that a plasticiser DEHP had been detected in 16 samples of drinks at levels up to 34.1 ppm, the CFS has maintained close contact with the Taiwanese authority, and informed relevant importers and retailers of the lists of affected products to facilitate follow-up action. The CFS has also met with the trade over this plasticiser contamination incident to learn more about their operation. The trade was also urged to take the initiative to stop selling drinks or food suspected to be tainted with DEHP. Since the start of the incident, the CFS has issued rapid alerts to the trade to keep them abreast of the latest information released by the Taiwanese authority as soon as possible.

Recent development

11. The plasticiser contamination incident continues to unfold at the time when this paper is prepared. The CFS will continue to take samples from a variety of products in the market for testing of plasticisers and will keep the public informed. The CFS will remain vigilant and will also assess the risks of the reported contamination of food products by DINP and di-butyl phthalate (DBP) and decide on the scope of surveillance. The Administration will give a verbal report at the meeting.

Advice Sought

12. Members are invited to note the follow up measures taken by the CFS in response to the plasticiser contamination incident in Taiwan.

**Food and Health Bureau
Food and Environmental Hygiene Department
Centre for Food Safety
June 2011**

File Ref: FHB CR 11/1886/05 Pt.3

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

Issuance of an order under section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to prohibit the import and supply of certain food products from Taiwan and to direct such food products supplied be recalled

ISSUE

The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (DFEH) made an order (at Annex) under section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) (the Order) on 30 May 2011 to prohibit the import of two sports drinks (i.e. Speed sports drink and Speed lemon flavour sports drink) from Taiwan with effect from 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011 until further notice. The Order also prohibits the supply of these drinks within Hong Kong and directs that such drinks that have been supplied in Hong Kong be recalled within a period of 30 days from 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011. The Order was published in the gazette on 31 May 2011.

JUSTIFICATIONS

2. On 23 May 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Taiwan announced that a plasticiser di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) had been detected in 16 samples of drinks at levels up to 34.1 parts per million (ppm). According to the list of drinks published and information provided by FDA, the Centre for Food Safety (CFS) took samples of relevant drinks for testing.

3. Results obtained on 30 May 2011 indicated that all 6 samples of Speed sports drink and Speed lemon flavour sports drink contained DEHP at levels ranging from 11 to 43ppm. Dietary exposure estimation revealed that the exposure of DEHP from the consumption of the above samples by average consumers (daily consumption of about half bottle of 600ml sports drink) and high consumers (daily consumption of about one

bottle of 600ml sports drink) would exceed the safety reference value, i.e. the tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 0.025 mg/kg of body weight under the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines for drinking-water quality (also exceed the TDI of 0.05mg/kg of body weight established by the European Food Safety Authority (ESFA) regarding high consumers), which may pose a risk to human health. In view of the health risks and having considered the information from FDA, WHO, ESFA as well as local testing results, DFEH decided to make the Order to safeguard food safety and public health.

ORDER MADE UNDER SECTION 78B OF CAP. 132

4. Section 78B(1) of Cap. 132 provides that the Authority (i.e. DFEH) may make an order to, among others, prohibit the import and the supply of any food for the period specified in the order, as well as to direct that any food supplied be recalled and specify the manner in which, and the period within which, the recall is to be conducted. Section 78B(2) stipulates that the Authority may only make a section 78B order if the Authority has reasonable grounds at the time of making the order to believe that the making of the order is necessary to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health. Section 78B(6) also stipulates that a section 78B order is not a subsidiary legislation.

5. While the acute oral toxicity of DEHP is low, DEHP was found to affect the liver and kidney as well as the reproduction and development of experimental animals. The International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded DEHP is possibly carcinogenic to humans. DFEH has therefore decided it was necessary to make a section 78B order to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health, or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health brought about by the import and supply of the two sports drinks. The Order also directs the specified sports drinks supplied be recalled within 30 days.

6. A copy of the Order is at **Annex**. The Order prohibits the import into and supply of the Speed sports drink and Speed lemon flavour sports drink within Hong Kong unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the relevant Taiwanese authority certifying that the levels of DEHP do not exceed 1.5 ppm. The Order also directs that these drinks which have been supplied be recalled in the manner specified in Order, within a period of 30 days from the effective date of the Order.

7. The Order is directed to all persons and has taken effect at 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011. Any person who contravenes a term of the Order commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine at level 6 and to imprisonment for 12 months. It is not a defence for a person to show that the food concerned is the subject of a licence, permit or any other form of authorization issued or granted under this or any other Ordinance.

PUBLICITY

8. A press release was issued on 30 May 2011. A briefing for traders and a briefing for the media were arranged on the same day. A spokesman is available to answer press enquiries.

ENQUIRIES

9. Any enquiries on this brief may be addressed to Mr Kevin Yeung Principal Assistant Secretary (Food) at 2973 8297.

Food and Health Bureau

31 May 2011

G.N. (E.) 20 of 2011

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE

(Section 78C(3), Chapter 132)

Notice of Section 78B Order

Pursuant to Section 78C(3) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Chapter 132), it is hereby notified that a Section 78B Order (the 'Order') is issued. A copy of the Order is appended below :-

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE

(Chapter 132)

(Section 78B)

Section 78B Order

Order No. : CFS/2/2011

FEHD Ref. : FEHD/CFS/78B

TO : All persons

This Order takes effect at 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011.

I now have reasonable grounds to believe that the making of this order in relation to the food specified in Annex A is necessary to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health, or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health, the details of which are specified in Annex B. **I DO**, in exercise of my powers under section 78B(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Chapter 132), order that :

- a. you be prohibited from importing into Hong Kong the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption, for the period from 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011 until further notice.
- b. you be prohibited from supplying¹ within Hong Kong the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption, for the period from 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011 until further notice.
- c. the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption and has been supplied to you, be recalled in the manner specified in Annex C, within a period of 30 days from 12:00 noon on 31 May 2011.

If you feel that you are aggrieved by this order, you may, within 28 days from becoming bound by it (that is the date and time specified in paragraph 1), appeal to the Municipal Services Appeals Board.

¹ "Supplying" means (a) selling the food; (b) offering, keeping or exhibiting the food for sale; (c) exchanging or disposing of the food for consideration; (d) transmitting, conveying or delivering the food in pursuance of (i) a sale; or (ii) an exchange or disposal for consideration; or (e) for commercial purposes, giving the food as a prize or making a gift of the food.

Note : A person bound by this order who contravenes a term of the order commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine at level 6 and to imprisonment for 12 months. It is not a defence for a person to show that the food concerned is the subject of a licence, permit or any other form of authorization issued or granted under this or any other Ordinance.

Dated this 30th May 2011

(LEUNG CHEUK MAN)
Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

FOOD SPECIFIED IN THE ORDER

Brand Name & Food Name	Manufacturer's Name	Place of Origin	Count/ Weight/ Volume	Batch No.	Photo (for reference)
<p>Speed sports drink (動力運動飲品) and Speed lemon flavor sports drink (動力運動飲品檸檬口味), unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the relevant Taiwanese authority certifying that the levels of di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) do not exceed 1.5 parts per million (ppm).</p>	<p>Young Energy Source Co., Ltd. (名牌食品股份有限公司)</p>	<p>Taiwan</p>	<p>All count/ weight/ volume</p>	<p>All batches</p>	

**REASON FOR MAKING THE ORDER AND
PRINCIPAL FACTORS THAT LED TO MAKING OF THE ORDER**

Summary of incident:

On 23 May 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Taiwan announced that a plasticiser di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) had been detected in 16 samples of drinks at levels up to 34.1 parts per million (ppm).

According to the list of drinks published by FDA on 23 May 2011, the Hong Kong Centre for Food Safety (CFS) took samples of relevant drinks for testing. Results obtained on 30 May 2011 indicated that 6 samples of the drinks listed at Annex A contained DEHP at levels ranged from 11 to 43 ppm. Dietary exposure estimation revealed that the exposure of DEHP from the consumption of the above samples by average consumers (daily consumption of about half bottle of 600ml sports drink) and high consumers (daily consumption of about one bottle of 600ml sports drink) would exceed the safety reference value, i.e. the tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 0.025 mg/kg of body weight under the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines for drinking-water quality (also exceeded the TDI of 0.05 mg/kg of body weight established by the European Food Safety Authority regarding high consumers), which may pose a risk to human health.

Source of information:

- The Food and Drug Administration in Taiwan
- World Health Organization
- European Food Safety Authority
- Local testing results

Health effects:

The acute oral toxicity of DEHP is low. As for chronic toxicity, DEHP was found to affect the liver and kidney as well as the reproduction and development of experimental animals. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded DEHP is possibly carcinogenic to humans.

MANNER IN WHICH A RECALL SHOULD BE CONDUCTED

(A) Importer

1. Set up telephone enquiry service to handle enquiries related to the recall incident as soon as possible.
2. Immediately notify all known distributor(s), retailer(s) and consumers of the recall and its arrangement.
3. Conduct a stock take of the in-house storage facilities and isolate any remaining stock that relates to the recalled food.
4. Inform the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of the list of parties involved (e.g., distributor(s), retailer(s), organization(s) or person(s) to whom the food has been supplied) within one week from the commencement.
5. Display posters of not less than A4 size (21cm x 30cm) at a conspicuous location on the importer's premises and on the premises of distributor to whom the food has been supplied. The posters shall have:
 - (a) the heading "Food/Product's Name - Recall Announcement";
 - (b) the description and brand of the food ;
 - (c) picture(s) of the food;
 - (d) details of the recall arrangement (such as period of recall, place of recall or return of the food);
 - (e) the full name, address and telephone number of the recalling trader(s); and
 - (f) the telephone enquiry service and (if any) Internet website for the recall.

If an Internet website is operated, upload the poster, or the relevant information specified in (a) to (f) above, to the website for public announcement.

6. If the food concerned is returned by distributor(s), retailer(s) or consumers, the recalling trader(s) shall retract the unsafe food.
7. Provide the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department progress reports on a bi-weekly basis with the following details:
 - (a) date and quantity of the food recalled;
 - (b) name, address and telephone number of the companies, organizations or persons from which the food have been returned;

- (c) name, address and telephone number of the companies, organizations or persons from which the food has not been returned;
 - (d) quantity of the food concerned stored in warehouse before commencement of the recall;
 - (e) corrective action taken to improve effectiveness of the recall and the estimated time frame for the completion of the recall; and
 - (f) location(s) of keeping the recalled food.
8. Submit final report to FEHD within one month from the date of completion of recall and the report should contain the following information:
- (a) the names of the organizations or persons from whom the food was returned;
 - (b) the amount of the food returned;
 - (c) a reconciliation between the delivered and recovered quantities of the food;
 - (d) the effectiveness of the recall and what corrective actions have been taken with respect to the recall;
 - (e) the decision on the disposal method of the returned food; and
 - (f) the means of preventing recurrence of the defect.

(B) Distributor

1. Set up a telephone enquiry service to handle enquiries related to the recall incident as soon as possible.
2. Immediately notify all known retailer(s) and consumers of the recall and its arrangement.
3. Display posters of not less than A4 size (21cm x 30cm) at a conspicuous location on the distributors' premises. The posters shall have:
 - (a) the heading "Food/Product's Name - Recall Announcement";
 - (b) the description and brand of the food ;
 - (c) picture(s) of the food;
 - (d) details of the recall arrangement (such as period of recall, place of recall or return of the food);
 - (e) the full name, address and telephone number of the recalling trader(s); and
 - (f) the telephone enquiry service and (if any) Internet website for the recall.

If an Internet website is operated, upload the poster, or the relevant information specified in (a) to (f) above, to the Internet website for public announcement.

4. Conduct a stock take of the in-house storage facilities and isolate any remaining stock that relates to the food concerned.

5. If the food is returned by retailer(s) or consumers, the recalling trader(s) shall retract the unsafe food.
6. To keep records of recalled food, which should contain:
 - (a) a description of the food returned such as brand and product name, size, identifying codes;
 - (b) the date and quantity of food returned; and
 - (c) what has been done with the food, for example, returned to the supplier(s).

(C) Retailer

1. Remove the food concerned from the shelves immediately and store it in a place not accessible by the customers while pending return to the supplier concerned. Also, the food should be separately stored and not available for use in any production processes in case it is an ingredient for producing food product inside the premises.
2. If the food is returned by consumers, store the food in a place not accessible by customers while pending return to the supplier concerned.

File Ref: FHB CR 11/1886/05 Pt.3

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL BRIEF

Issuance of an order under section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) to prohibit the import and supply of Sheng Shiang Jen (translation) Konjac Coconut Jelly (Taro flavor) and to direct such food product supplied be recalled

ISSUE

The Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene (DFEH) made an order (at Annex) under section 78B of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Cap. 132) (the Order) on 1 June 2011 to prohibit the import of Sheng Shiang Jen (translation) Konjac Coconut Jelly (Taro flavor) into Hong Kong with effect from 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011 until further notice. The Order also prohibits the supply of Sheng Shiang Jen (translation) Konjac Coconut Jelly (Taro flavor) within Hong Kong and directs that such food product that has been supplied in Hong Kong be recalled within a period of 30 days from 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011. The Order was published in the gazette on 2 June 2011.

JUSTIFICATIONS

2. On 23 May 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Taiwan announced that a plasticiser di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) had been detected in 16 samples of drinks at levels up to 34.1 parts per million (ppm). Subsequently, further results announced by the FDA indicated that DEHP had also been detected in other food products, including konjac coconut jelly.

3. The Centre for Food Safety (CFS) took samples of relevant food products for testing. Result obtained on 31 May 2011 indicated that one sample of taro flavoured konjac coconut jelly contained DEHP at a level of 18 ppm. Dietary exposure estimation revealed that the exposure of DEHP

from the consumption of this sample by a 5 year-old average consumer (daily consumption of a cup of jelly of about 25 gram) or a 5 year-old high consumer (daily consumption of 2 cups of jelly, about 25 gram each) would exceed the safety reference value, i.e. the tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 0.025 mg/kg of body weight under the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines for drinking-water quality (also exceeded the TDI of 0.05 mg/kg of body weight established by the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) regarding a 5 year-old high consumer), which may pose a risk to human health. In view of the health risks and having considered the information from FDA, WHO, EFSA as well as local testing results, DFEH decided to make the Order to safeguard food safety and public health.

ORDER MADE UNDER SECTION 78B OF CAP. 132

4. Section 78B(1) of Cap. 132 provides that the Authority (i.e. DFEH) may make an order to, among others, prohibit the import and the supply of any food for the period specified in the order, as well as to direct that any food supplied be recalled and specify the manner in which, and the period within which, the recall is to be conducted. Section 78B(2) stipulates that the Authority may only make a section 78B order if the Authority has reasonable grounds at the time of making the order to believe that the making of the order is necessary to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health. Section 78B(6) also stipulates that a section 78B order is not a subsidiary legislation.

5. While the acute oral toxicity of DEHP is low, DEHP was found to affect the liver and kidney as well as the reproduction and development of experimental animals. The International Agency for Research on Cancer concluded DEHP is possibly carcinogenic to humans. DFEH has therefore decided it was necessary to make a section 78B order to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health, or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health brought about by the import and supply of the Sheng Shiang Jen (translation) Konjac Coconut Jelly (Taro flavor). The Order also directs such food product supplied be recalled within 30 days.

6. A copy of the Order is at **Annex**. The Order prohibits the import into and supply of Sheng Shiang Jen (translation) Konjac Coconut Jelly (Taro flavor) within Hong Kong unless accompanied by a certificate issued

by the relevant Taiwanese authority certifying that the levels of DEHP do not exceed 1.5 ppm. The Order also directs that such food product which has been supplied be recalled in the manner specified in Order, within a period of 30 days from the effective date of the Order.

7. The Order is directed to all persons and has taken effect at 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011. Any person who contravenes a term of the Order commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine at level 6 and to imprisonment for 12 months. It is not a defence for a person to show that the food concerned is the subject of a licence, permit or any other form of authorization issued or granted under Cap. 132 or any other Ordinance.

PUBLICITY

8. A press release was issued on 1 June 2011. A briefing for the relevant trader was arranged on the same day. A spokesman is available to answer press enquiries.

ENQUIRIES

9. Any enquiries on this brief may be addressed to Mr Kevin Yeung Principal Assistant Secretary (Food) at 2973 8297.

Food and Health Bureau
2 June 2011

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE
(Section 78C(3), Chapter 132)
Notice of Section 78B Order**

Pursuant to Section 78C(3) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Chapter 132), it is hereby notified that a Section 78B Order (the 'Order') is issued. A copy of the Order is appended below : -

PUBLIC HEALTH AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES ORDINANCE

(Chapter 132)

(Section 78B)

Section 78B Order

Order No. : CFS/3/2011

FEHD Ref. : FEHD/CFS/78B

TO : All persons

This Order takes effect at 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011.

I now have reasonable grounds to believe that the making of this order in relation to the food specified in Annex A is necessary to prevent or reduce a possibility of danger to public health, or to mitigate any adverse consequence of a danger to public health, the details of which are specified in Annex B. **I DO**, in exercise of my powers under section 78B(1) of the Public Health and Municipal Services Ordinance (Chapter 132), order that :

- a. you be prohibited from importing into Hong Kong the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption, for the period from 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011 until further notice.
- b. you be prohibited from supplying¹ within Hong Kong the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption, for the period from 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011 until further notice.
- c. the food specified in Annex A, that is intended for human consumption and has been supplied to you, be recalled in the manner specified in Annex C, within a period of 30 days from 12:00 noon on 2 June 2011.

If you feel that you are aggrieved by this order, you may, within 28 days from becoming bound by it (that is the date and time specified in paragraph 1), appeal to the Municipal Services Appeals Board.


¹ "Supplying" means (a) selling the food; (b) offering, keeping or exhibiting the food for sale; (c) exchanging or disposing of the food for consideration; (d) transmitting, conveying or delivering the food in pursuance of (i) a sale; or (ii) an exchange or disposal for consideration; or (e) for commercial purposes, giving the food as a prize or making a gift of the food.

Note : A person bound by this order who contravenes a term of the order commits an offence and is liable on conviction to a fine at level 6 and to imprisonment for 12 months. It is not a defence for a person to show that the food concerned is the subject of a licence, permit or any other form of authorization issued or granted under this or any other Ordinance.

Dated this 1st June 2011

(LEUNG CHEUK MAN)
Director of Food and Environmental Hygiene

FOOD SPECIFIED IN THE ORDER

Brand Name & Food Name	Manufacturer's Name	Place of Origin	Count/ Weight/ Volume	Batch No.	Photo (for reference)
<p>盛香珍 Konjac Coconut Jelly (Taro flavor), unless accompanied by a certificate issued by the relevant Taiwanese authority certifying that the levels of di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) do not exceed 1.5 parts per million (ppm)</p>	<p>Triko Foods Co., Ltd. (成偉食品股份有限公司)</p>	<p>Taiwan</p>	<p>All count/ weight/ volume</p>	<p>All batches</p>	

**REASON FOR MAKING THE ORDER AND
PRINCIPAL FACTORS THAT LED TO MAKING OF THE ORDER**

Summary of incident:

On 23 May 2011, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in Taiwan announced that a plasticiser di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (DEHP) had been detected in 16 samples of drinks at levels up to 34.1 parts per million (ppm). Subsequently, further results announced by the FDA indicated that DEHP had also been detected in other food products, including konjac coconut jelly.

The Hong Kong Centre for Food Safety (CFS) took samples of relevant food products for testing. A result obtained on 31 May 2011 indicated that 1 sample of konjac coconut jelly listed at Annex A contained DEHP at a level of 18 ppm. Dietary exposure estimation revealed that the exposure of DEHP from the consumption of this sample by a 5 year-old average consumer (daily consumption of a cup of jelly of about 25 gram) or a 5 year-old high consumer (daily consumption of 2 cups of jelly, about 25 gram each) would exceed the safety reference value, i.e. the tolerable daily intake (TDI) of 0.025 mg/kg of body weight under the World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines for drinking-water quality (also exceeded the TDI of 0.05 mg/kg of body weight established by the European Food Safety Authority regarding a 5 year-old high consumer), which may pose a risk to human health.

Source of information:

- The Food and Drug Administration in Taiwan
- World Health Organization
- European Food Safety Authority
- Local testing result

Health effects:

The acute oral toxicity of DEHP is low. As for chronic toxicity, DEHP was found to affect the liver and kidney as well as the reproduction and development of experimental animals. The International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) concluded DEHP is possibly carcinogenic to humans.

MANNER IN WHICH A RECALL SHOULD BE CONDUCTED

(A) Importer

1. Set up telephone enquiry service to handle enquiries related to the recall incident as soon as possible.
2. Immediately notify all known distributor(s), retailer(s) and consumers of the recall and its arrangement.
3. Conduct a stock take of the in-house storage facilities and isolate any remaining stock that relates to the recalled food.
4. Inform the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department of the list of parties involved (e.g., distributor(s), retailer(s), organization(s) or person(s) to whom the food has been supplied) within one week from the commencement.
5. Display posters of not less than A4 size (21cm x 30cm) at a conspicuous location on the importer's premises and on the premises of distributor to whom the food has been supplied. The posters shall have:
 - (a) the heading "Food/Product's Name - Recall Announcement";
 - (b) the description and brand of the food ;
 - (c) picture(s) of the food;
 - (d) details of the recall arrangement (such as period of recall, place of recall or return of the food);
 - (e) the full name, address and telephone number of the recalling trader(s); and
 - (f) the telephone enquiry service and (if any) Internet website for the recall.

If an Internet website is operated, upload the poster, or the relevant information specified in (a) to (f) above, to the website for public announcement.
6. If the food concerned is returned by distributor(s), retailer(s) or consumers, the recalling trader(s) shall retract the food.
7. Provide the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department progress reports on a bi-weekly basis with the following details:
 - (a) date and quantity of the food recalled;
 - (b) name, address and telephone number of the companies, organizations or persons from which the food have been returned;

- (c) name, address and telephone number of the companies, organizations or persons from which the food has not been returned;
 - (d) quantity of the food concerned stored in warehouse before commencement of the recall;
 - (e) corrective action taken to improve effectiveness of the recall and the estimated time frame for the completion of the recall; and
 - (f) location(s) of keeping the recalled food.
8. Submit final report to FEHD within one month from the date of completion of recall and the report should contain the following information:
- (a) the names of the organizations or persons from whom the food was returned;
 - (b) the amount of the food returned;
 - (c) a reconciliation between the delivered and recovered quantities of the food;
 - (d) the effectiveness of the recall and what corrective actions have been taken with respect to the recall;
 - (e) the decision on the disposal method of the returned food; and
 - (f) the means of preventing recurrence of the defect.

(B) Distributor

1. Set up a telephone enquiry service to handle enquiries related to the recall incident as soon as possible.
2. Immediately notify all known retailer(s) and consumers of the recall and its arrangement.
3. Display posters of not less than A4 size (21cm x 30cm) at a conspicuous location on the distributors' premises. The posters shall have:
 - (a) the heading "Food/Product's Name - Recall Announcement";
 - (b) the description and brand of the food ;
 - (c) picture(s) of the food;
 - (d) details of the recall arrangement (such as period of recall, place of recall or return of the food);
 - (e) the full name, address and telephone number of the recalling trader(s); and
 - (f) the telephone enquiry service and (if any) Internet website for the recall.

If an Internet website is operated, upload the poster, or the relevant information specified in (a) to (f) above, to the Internet website for public announcement.

4. Conduct a stock take of the in-house storage facilities and isolate any remaining stock that relates to the food concerned.

5. If the food concerned is returned by retailer(s) or consumers, the recalling trader(s) shall retract the food.
6. To keep records of recalled food, which should contain:
 - (a) a description of the food returned such as brand and product name, size, identifying codes;
 - (b) the date and quantity of food returned; and
 - (c) what has been done with the food, for example, returned to the supplier(s).

(C) Retailer

1. Remove the food concerned from the shelves immediately and store it in a place not accessible by the customers while pending return to the supplier concerned. Also, the food should be separately stored and not available for use in any production processes in case it is an ingredient for producing food product inside the premises.
2. If the food is returned by consumers, store the food in a place not accessible by customers while pending return to the supplier concerned.