

ECON 4/3231/66(99) Pt.21

CB1/BC/14/98

Our Tel : 2537 2842

Our Fax : 2523 0030

18 September 1999

Clerk to Bills Committee
Legislative Council
Legislative Council Building
8 Jackson Road
Central
Hong Kong
(Attn. : Miss Salumi CHAN)

Fax No. 2869 6794

Dear Miss Chan,

Bill Committee on
Shipping and Port Control (Amendment) Bill 1999
Third meeting on 23 September 1999

Thank you for your letter of 27 July 1999.

Regarding the Central Container Handling Safety Committee's submission on the Bill, we would like to respond as follows –

- (a) We understand that in some cases, the principal contractor does not actually control the progress of works on board a vessel. In the light of this, we proposed to include in the Bill an amendment to the existing definition of “person in charge of works” by adding “any other person having for the time being in command or charge of any works being carried out on, to or by means of a vessel”. With this amendment, the frontline supervisor who is directly in charge of works on board a vessel will be responsible for the works to be safely carried out.

- (b) We proposed that the person in charge of works in cargo handling would be responsible to ensure that the workers engaged are properly trained, and that safe means of access, protective training clothing and equipment are provided for the workers.

Yours sincerely,

(Peter KWOK)
for Secretary for Economic Services

c.c. Director of Marine