

**Submission to the
Subcommittee on Factories and Industrial Undertakings
(Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation
Meeting on 13 September 1999**

In response to the proposed Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Loadshifting Machinery) Regulation, I would like to express that the Council would be willing and able to provide training to workers operating forklift trucks in all industrial undertakings.

In addition, I would also like to draw your attention to the following:

1. The Vocational Training Council (VTC) will make available the necessary training facilities in support of the enforcement of the proposed Regulation before and after its implementation. The Seamen's Training Centre of the VTC will be able to offer annually 204 training places for in-service operators and 96 training places for pre-entry people. Subject to the demand for and the availability of funding, these training places can be increased to a maximum of 300 and 96 places respectively.
2. When consulted, our Transport and Physical Distribution Training Board (TDTB) has estimated the number of forklift truck operators to be at least 3,000 instead of 2,000 based on only 2,000 forklift trucks in the industry, because from experience, each forklift truck will require an average of 1.5 operators. Many of these operators are nowadays multi-skilled and are assigned by employers to do receiving and despatching cargo and other cargo handling work in addition to operating forklift trucks. Over the years since 1994, the TDTB has been sponsoring forklift truck training for these operators. Up to end 1998, 24 classes have already been conducted and

450 people have already completed the course.