

Individually Owned Stores – 2007 Liberalization Measures

- 1. Under the CEPA 2007 liberalization measures, are there any expansion in the business scopes of individually owned stores set up by Hong Kong residents in the Mainland? What are the details?**

With effect from 1 January 2008, Hong Kong permanent residents with Chinese citizenship are allowed to set up individually owned stores in **6 new business sectors**, including computer services, software services; goods handling and loading/unloading services related to road transport; other transport services (excluding international freight forwarding agency and courier services); storage and warehousing; and translation and interpretation (confined to business activities only) , excluding franchising operation.

No more than 8 persons should be engaged in the operation of individually owned stores set up by Hong Kong residents under CEPA, and the business area for stores providing storage and warehousing services should not exceed 300 square meters.

- 2. What are the relevant regulations and procedures for Hong Kong residents to set up individually owned stores in the Mainland under the CEPA?**

The public are welcome to browse the Department's Information Database on CEPA Service Sectors webpage (http://www.tid.gov.hk/english/cepa/tradeservices/trade_services_requirement.html#Distribution_individual) which provides an Easy Guide to Investment with reference information on the relevant major laws and regulations, approved scopes of business, restrictions on operations, procedures of registration, etc. applicable to individually owned stores set up by Hong Kong residents in the Mainland.