



**SINGAPORE CUSTOMS** 新加坡关税局 **KASTAM SINGAPURA** சிங்கப்பூர் கங்கத்துறை

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **Three online handbag retailers fined for fraudulent evasion of GST**

Three online retailers of branded handbags and accessories were sentenced by the State Courts on 25 September 2014 for fraudulent evasion of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Long Siew Fong, 42; Jessie Sng Lee Ling, 41; and Yak Sow Pin, 39; were fined \$31,000, \$10,000, and \$4,500 respectively.

Investigations by Singapore Customs revealed that:

Between October 2010 and June 2011, Long imported 2,172 handbags and accessories via 15 import permits. The under-declaration of values of these goods resulted in a shortfall of \$9,399.58 in GST payment. She pleaded guilty to five charges, and 10 other charges were taken into consideration in the sentencing.

Between January 2011 and August 2012, Sng imported 269 handbags and accessories via five import permits. The under-declaration of values of these goods resulted in a shortfall of \$1,216.47 in GST payment. She pleaded guilty to two charges, and three other charges were taken into consideration in the sentencing.

In January 2011, Yak imported 90 branded handbags via two import permits. The under-declaration of values of these goods resulted in a shortfall of \$502.93 in GST payment. He pleaded guilty to one charge, with another charge taken into consideration in the sentencing.

“Fraudulent evasion of GST on the importation of goods is a serious offence under the Customs Act,” said Mr Wan Boon Oon, Head of Trade Investigation Branch, Singapore Customs (新加坡关税局贸易调查处处长万文恩).

“Anyone found guilty will be liable to a fine up to 20 times the amount of tax evaded and/or be jailed for up to two years. Singapore Customs will continue to remain vigilant, to seek out online retailers who attempt to evade GST by under-declaring the values of their imported goods and bring them to justice.”

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