

General Guidelines on Environmental Compliance for Bazaars, Fairs, Carnivals and Exhibitions

INTRODUCTION

1. This Guide provides a concise reference on the generic statutory pollution control requirements that are relevant to the operation of bazaar, fair, carnival and exhibition types of events. The requirements set out below are not meant to be exhaustive and the event organisers and stall operators should make reference to other environmental legislation that may also be applicable to their specific circumstances.

AIR POLLUTION CONTROL

2. If there are stalls for cooking food, proper exhaust ventilation system should be provided over the stoves, fryers and other cooking equipment which generate greasy fumes, smoke, etc. The exhaust should pass through an efficient air pollution control equipment to ensure emission to air from the food stall is free from any visible fumes and objectionable odours and discharges into the open air in such a manner and at such a position as not to be a nuisance. If there is a need to install, alter or modify any furnace, oven, chimney or flue, the event organisers/ stall operators need to apply to the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) for approval, unless exempted under the law. There are also restrictions on the emissions of dark smokes and fuel usage.
(http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/greenrestaurant/law/law_application.html)
3. All vehicle engines when idling should be switched off unless exempted under the law. If electricity is required for the operation of utilities or refrigerators, grid electricity where available or generators of low noise and emissions models should be used instead.
4. The content of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) of certain types of paints/coating, printing inks, adhesives, sealants, six selected categories of consumer products (air fresheners, hairsprays, multi-purpose lubricants, floor wax strippers, insecticides and insect repellents), fountain solutions and printing machine cleaning agents are subject to control under the Air Pollution Control (Volatile Organic Compounds) Regulation. No person shall import into or manufacture in Hong Kong for local sale or use any regulated products containing VOCs in excess of the prescribed limits in the aforesaid Regulation.
(https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/sites/default/files/epd/english/environmentinhk/air/pr_ob_solutions/files/GN2014P019-2018-e_revised20191206.pdf)

5. Import, transshipment, supply and use of asbestos and asbestos containing materials other than goods in transit and registered proprietary Chinese medicine are now banned. The event organisers / stall operators are required to ensure that no asbestos-containing goods are supplied for the purpose of the event. (<http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/banning-asbestos.html>)

NOISE CONTROL

6. To avoid causing noise disturbance to nearby noise sensitive receivers, such as residents, an event organiser should implement appropriate noise mitigation measures so that the noise generated from the event does not exceed the relevant standards. If significant noise is expected to arise from an event or the event venue is close to noise sensitive receivers, the organiser should consider seeking advice from competent professionals to address the potential noise problem. (http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/noise/guide_ref/noise_guidelines.html)

WATER POLLUTION CONTROL

7. If the activities of an event or a participating stall involve the discharge of waste water, the event organiser or the relevant stall operator is required to apply for a discharge licence from the EPD. The licensee must comply with the discharge standards and the terms and conditions of the discharge licence. In general, the licensee is required to discharge the waste water at designated disposal point connected to a government sewer. In case of greasy waste water, the grease is required to be removed before discharge. If sewer connection to the designated discharge point is not feasible, a waste water storage tank of adequate capacity should be installed for temporary collection and storage of waste water. (https://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/water/guide_ref/guide_wpc_wpc.html)

WASTE MANGEMENT

8. If the activities of an event or a participating stall will generate chemical wastes, the event organiser or the relevant stall operator is required to register with EPD as a Chemical Waste Producer and to comply with the relevant statutory requirements, including proper packaging, labelling and storage of the waste and employment of a licensed chemical waste collector for removal and disposal of the chemical waste produced by him. Chemical wastes refer to any substance being scrap material, effluent, an unwanted substance or byproduct or containing any substance specified

in the relevant regulation (e.g. asbestos, antibiotics, pesticides, spent lube oil, acids, alkalis, organic solvents, etc.)

(http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/english/environmentinhk/waste/guide_ref/guide_cwc.html)

PLASTIC SHOPPING BAG CHARGING

9. The event organisers and stall operators must comply with the requirements of Plastic Shopping Bag (PSB) Charging. Except for situations in which there is an exemption, the event organisers / stall operators are required to charge customers not less than \$1 for each PSB provided in retail sales of goods. They also should not offer rebates or other means of discount to customers to offset the PSB charge.
(http://www.epd.gov.hk/epd/psb_charging/en/index.html)

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