

ATTN: SHIPPING & LOGISTICS EDITORS

## Gary Lau Re-elected HAFFA Chairman for 2023-2025 Term

The Hong Kong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics (HAFFA) held its Annual General Meeting (AGM) in physical form for the first time in three years, convening at the Sheraton HK Hotel and Towers on Tuesday, April 25, 2023. There, incumbent HAFFA Chairman Mr. Gary Lau was re-elected for the 2023-2025 two-year term.



In his Chairman's address, Mr. Lau looked back on what has been an eventful – yet successful – twelve months for the industry, and gave a cautiously optimistic forecast for the year ahead.

"Hong Kong is firmly back on the world map," commented Mr. Lau. "There is hope that positive improvements will be seen in the city's economic recovery later in the year. Now is the time for us to work together to innovate, strive hard and stay united in our goal to grow our economy and re-establish this great city as the world's most competitive business and regional logistics hub."

Mr. Lau outlined a number of significant issues on which the Association has successfully campaigned on behalf of its members, most notably on the subject of the transshipment of cargo in the re-export of e-cigarette products via Hong Kong.

When the Smoking (Public Health) (Amendment) Ordinance 2021, which banned the transshipment of such cargo via land-air or sea-air through Hong Kong, came into effect on April 30, 2022, it resulted in a cumulated and catastrophic decline in the city's air cargo volume of as much as 30%. HAFFA instantly embarked upon an energetic campaign of Government lobbying and engagement on behalf of its members, while at the same time presenting secure alternative solutions to ensure the protection of public health.

Mr. Lau noted that HAFFA is gratified the Government is open to its members' concerns and to seeking an optimal solution whereby the health of both the public and the logistics industry is assured. While the passage of the resulting new bill amendment awaits LegCo approval, several meetings have already been held with the Government with the aim of carrying out trials and systems testing as soon as practicable.

When the Government announced its intention to list Cannabidiol (CBD) as a dangerous drug under the Dangerous Drugs Ordinance from February 1, 2023, a large scale survey conducted by HAFFA revealed many of its members held major concerns about the legal control of the substance, and what steps should be followed in order to ensure compliance with the law.

Responding to these concerns, HAFFA submitted its recommended steps for import and export shipments to the Security Bureau (SB). These were positively received and, in December 2022, HAFFA was the sole Association invited to meet with SB and Customs and Excise Department officials with the goal of addressing members' anxieties over the matter. As a result, an agreed set of Frequently Asked Questions on CBD was published to assist members with compliance.

Work continued on fulfilment of the mandatory Competency-based Training (CBTA) and Assessment for all Dangerous Goods (DG)-related training, and HAFFA became the first and only trade association to receive accreditation from HKCAD to organise DG Awareness Self Study Examinations under CBTA.

In line with President Xi Jinping's stated desire that Hong Kong play a key role in the success of the Greater Bay Area (GBA), and at the invitation of the Zhuhai Commerce Bureau and Macau Air Freight Forwarding (Logistics) Association (MAFFA), Mr. Lau recently led a 17-strong HAFFA delegation to visit key sites in the region.

During the visit, a strategic partnership framework agreement was signed between HAFFA and the Zhuhai Transport Group, a state-owned group of companies responsible for the building and operation of Zhuhai's transport infrastructure, including logistics parks. The agreement will see strengthened cooperation with a particular focus on enhanced utilisation of the HK-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge and the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Logistics Park.

In closing, Mr. Lau thanked HAFFA members and Committee Members for their support, and pledged to continue to cultivate a spirit of unity as the industry continues its recovery.

The principal officers of the 2023/2025 HAFFA Executive Committee are:

Chairman	– Mr. Gary Lau of Jet-Speed Air Cargo Forwarders (HK) Ltd (3 <sup>rd</sup> from right, front row);
Vice Chairman	– Mr. Ryan Hsu of CTI Logistics (HK) Co., Ltd (3 <sup>rd</sup> from left, front row);
Vice Chairman	– Mr. Chandler So of Geodis Hong Kong Ltd (2 <sup>nd</sup> from left, front row);
Vice Chairman	– Mr. Raymond Wong of NAF Global Logistics Ltd (2 <sup>nd</sup> from right, front row);
Honorary Secretary	– Mr. Alex Koo of Chevalier AOC Freight Express Holdings Ltd (1 <sup>st</sup> from right, front row);
Honorary Treasurer	– Mr. Sydney Chan of ACE Protrans Forwarding Ltd (1 <sup>st</sup> from left, front row);

In addition to the principal officers, members of the Committee are (in alphabetical order of company name):

Mr. Henry Wong (Angie Express Ltd);  
Mr. Burton Chan (Bollyman Express Company Ltd);  
Mr. Samson Choi (Cargoholic International Ltd);  
Mr. Eddie Law (Dimerco Air Forwarders (HK) Ltd);  
Mr. Eddie Chiu (Fairate Express Ltd);



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Mr. Henry Lee (Hentrans Global Logistics Ltd);  
Mr. Joecole Cheng (OA Cargo Ltd);  
Mr. Jacky Lo (U-Freight Ltd)  
Mr. Ryan Leung (Vinflair Logistics Ltd);  
Ms. Flora Liu (Wisdom Freight (Hong Kong) Ltd) and;  
Mr. Spencer Chau (Worldtrans Air-Sea Service Ltd).

Established in 1966, now with over 320 corporate members, HAFFA is responsible for setting industry standards as well as providing educational courses which enhance the professional standards of freight forwarders and logistics services providers.

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Issued on behalf of the Hong Kong Association of Freight Forwarding and Logistics by PR Plus Limited. For further information, please email [nikki@prplus.com.hk](mailto:nikki@prplus.com.hk).

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