Enforcement News

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30 August 2007

SFC Reprimands and Fines Emperor Securities Limited

The SFC has issued a reprimand to Emperor Securities Limited and fined it \$130,000 (Note 1).

An SFC investigation found that Emperor had insufficient systems and controls to monitor the use of its equipment, confidential information and client assets. The SFC found that an unauthorised person, the girlfriend of one of Emperor's authorised representatives, had been accessing Emperor's premises, equipment, confidential information and client assets. She had also been dealing directly with clients accepting orders and handling settlement instructions for about three years.

Her unauthorised handling of settlement instructions caused Emperor's settlement department in April 2003 to redirect a deposit of \$120,000 from a client into an account controlled by her. She repaid the \$120,000 and has since been prosecuted by the police.

The SFC's decision took into account Emperor's co-operation, the remedial action it has taken to strengthen its systems and its compliance record.

Ends

Notes:

1. Emperor is licensed under the Securities and Futures Ordinance to carry on business in Type 1 (dealing in securities) and Type 4 (advising on securities) regulated activities.

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