PRESS RELEASE

SHANGHAI CUSTOMS: FIRST CASE ABOUT INFRINGING EXCLUSIVE RIGHTS OF SHANGHAI 2010 EXPO SYMBOLS

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With the Shanghai Expo approaching, protecting the exclusive rights of Expo symbols becomes more important. On March 22, Shanghai Customs revealed that it had tracked down a lot of labels infringing the exclusive rights of Shanghai Expo symbols recently. This case is the first case about exclusive rights of Shanghai Expo symbols infringement.

Revealed by Shanghai Customs, they tracked down this case in Customs Express Office of Shanghai Pudong International Airport on March 12. Around 20,000 label samples from Italy were aroused the attention of the customs officers. The officers discovered the inconspicuous letters read “EXPO2010SHANGHAI” at the lower right corner of the labels, which are similar as the commonly publicized pattern. But through investigation conducted by the customs officers, the importer failed to provide relevant certificate to prove that it was authorized to use the Expo symbol. Finally, through contacting with the Bureau of Shanghai World Expo Coordination, the right owner of Expo symbols, it was confirmed that the aforementioned label samples were not authorized and were deemed to have infringed the exclusive rights of Expo symbols.

Edward Lehman, Managing director of Lehman, Lee and Xu said, besides protecting the rights of Shanghai 2010 Expo exhibitors, we must pay more attention to protect the exclusive rights of Expo symbols, and exclusive rights of Expo symbols protection will have a direct bearing on Shanghai’s image and investment environment.

Lehman, Lee & Xu is a prominent Chinese corporate law firm and trademark and patent agency with offices in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Macau, and Mongolia. The firm is managed by Mr. Edward Lehman who is a long-time China resident, and is recognized as a leading expert on corporate law with 21 years of practice experience in Mainland China.

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