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30 December 2014

For Immediate Release

Competition Commission Publishes "The Competition Ordinance and SMEs" Brochure

The Competition Commission (the Commission) today (30 December) published "The Competition Ordinance and SMEs" (SME brochure) to help small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) better understand the Competition Ordinance (Ordinance) and prepare for its full implementation.

The SME brochure will assist SMEs in understanding their rights and obligations under the Ordinance. It describes the major types of anti-competitive conduct and how they are relevant to SMEs in an easy-to-understand approach with hypothetical examples and illustrations. The content was developed with reference to issues raised by SMEs in various meetings and seminars organised by the Commission during the course of the year.

A Commission spokesperson said, "The Commission has been actively reaching out to businesses, in particular SMEs, to explain the role of the Commission and the key elements and benefits of the Ordinance. We will continue to organise seminars directed to SMEs and develop educational and self-assessment tools which focus on giving practical guidance to enable businesses to make themselves ready, willing and able to comply with the Ordinance."

The SME brochure in both Chinese and English is now available on the Commission website (<u>http://compcomm.hk/tc/pdf/seminarsworkshops/CC_SME_Brochure_Chi.pdf</u> (CHI) / <u>http://compcomm.hk/en/pdf/seminarsworkshops/CC_SME_Brochure_Eng.pdf</u> (ENG)) for free download. Limited printed copies are also available upon request at the Commission office. The printed and electronic copies of the SME brochure will also be distributed through the network of related government departments, public organisations, major chambers and trade associations.

About Competition Commission

The Competition Commission is an independent statutory body established to enforce the Competition Ordinance (Cap. 619), which was enacted in June 2012. The objective of the Ordinance is to prohibit conduct that prevents, restricts or distorts competition, and mergers that substantially lessen competition in Hong Kong. At the present time, the Merger Rule applies only to a merger involving an undertaking that directly or indirectly holds a carrier licence issued under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106).