



To: Stamp Office Customers

STAMP OFFICE
Stamping Circular No. 02/2023

**Stamp Duty Exemption for certain transactions relating to
Dual-counter Stocks made by Dual-counter Market Makers**

The Stamp Duty (Amendment) Ordinance 2023, which came into operation on **27 January 2023**, amended the Stamp Duty Ordinance (Cap. 117) to waive the stamp duty payable on transactions relating to a dual-counter stock made by the dual-counter market maker (“DCMM”) in the course of performing market making or liquidity providing activities in respect of the stock.

2. For the purposes of this exemption –

“dual-counter stock” means a Hong Kong stock in 2 tranches denominated in different currencies both of which may be traded in 2 counters, which are designated by a recognized exchange company (in accordance with the rules of the company) as the primary counter and the secondary counter of the stock; and

“market maker”, in relation to a dual-counter stock, means a person approved by or registered with a recognized exchange company for performing (in accordance with the rules of the company) market making or liquidity providing activities in respect of the stock.

3. For details of the types of transactions of a DCMM in dual-counter stocks and the conditions and obligations that must be satisfied in order for any transactions made by the DCMM to qualify for the stamp duty exemption, please refer to the explanatory notes – Explanatory Notes for Application for Acquisition / Surrender of Dual-Counter Market Maker Permit(s) (EN22) and the relevant rules and regulations issued by The Stock Exchange of Hong Kong Limited. The making and execution of a contract note for stamping is not required for a qualified transaction.

4. For any enquiries, please contact us at 2594 3201.

Stamp Office
May 2023