

Marine Department, HKSAR Guidelines for Location Filming

Location Filming in the Waters of Hong Kong

If the filming program will not affect any port user in the vicinity, there is normally no requirement for an approval from the Marine Department. The person-in-charge of the program shall submit the application form for Location Filming within Hong Kong Waters/Marine Department Premises for filming at locations where international and local traffic will likely be impeded, such as fairways, typhoon shelters, Victoria Harbour, ports, boating areas, waters adjacent to gazetted beaches, waters off public piers/landing steps and any location where marine traffic is likely to be busy, or the filming program is likely to affect other port users. The person-in charge shall submit an application form, detailing the purpose, date, time, duration, venue, vessels involved, number of persons involved, communication availability and brief description of the program plan. Submit form to the Principal Information Officer by email to ipro@mardep.gov.hk, by post to 24th Floor, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong or by fax at 2543 8531.

Should an activity during the filming is regulated by relevant provisions of Shipping and Port Control Ordinance Cap 313 or Merchant Shipping (Local Vessels) Ordinance Cap 548, an application for a permit is required. The fee for a permit is \$160.

To clarify whether a permit is required, interested parties may contact Principal Information Officer at 2852 4423 or Marine Officer of Central Marine Office at 2852 3080. The processing time for the filming matters is normally 7 working days after receipt of all necessary information.

Please note that additional permit(s) from specified government departments is (are) required separately for the following cases. An applicant should apply for the following permits as necessary. Note that it is not necessary to produce these permits for the issue of a permit at the Marine Department.

- If explosives, pyrotechnic materials and other dangerous goods (collectively known as special effects materials under the Entertainment Special Effects Ordinance) are used, the applicant should apply for a discharge permit from the Special Effects Licensing Unit of Create Hong Kong (CreateHK). Contact telephone number of the Special Effects Licensing Unit of CreateHK is 2594 0465 or 2594 0466.
- If the filming location is within the boundary of a Marine Park, the applicant should obtain permission from the Agriculture, Fisheries & Conservation Department (AFCD). Contact telephone number of AFCD is 2150 6875.

- If open burning or potential pollution at sea is involved, the applicant should obtain permission from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD). Contact telephone number of EPD is 2838 3111.

Location Filming at Public Pier Areas

For location filming taking part on land area of a public pier, the person-in-charge of the filming program should notify the Police Public Relations Branch (PPRB) if the pier area will be on a non-exclusive basis. He should contact the Film Services Office (FSO) of CreateHK if the filming program will occupy the pier area for exclusive use. Contact telephone numbers: PPRB, 2860 6186 and FSO, 2594 5745. If the filming program will involve vessels berthing at piers, please refer to the guidelines for location filming in the waters of Hong Kong.

Location Filming in Marine Department Premises

For location filming within any premises managed by the Marine Department, provisions under the Accommodation Regulation 636 applies for the use of government property for commercial purpose. A current rate of \$7,000 for the first 4 hours and \$1,770 for each subsequent 4-hour block will be charged. If extra government personnel or equipment is required to take part in the filming program, the actual cost for the required personnel or equipment plus overheads shall be levied in accordance with Accommodation Regulation 637. Another 100% of the total charge is required as deposit, which is refundable upon the request of the applicant. Wage and rent for time overruns as well as compensation for damages are to be charged against applicant's deposit.