

## **DIRECTIVE**

Issue Date: 16 March 2006

Ref: BOD146/16/03/06

IN PORTANT

## New regulations for display of Travel Agent's Licence number on tour coaches Resolution No. 146 (Category: Inbound)

To facilitate spot checks on tourist guides, the Board of Directors resolved at its meeting held on 14 March 2006 to revise the regulations concerning the display of the Travel Agent's Licence number on tour coaches which transport inbound visitors as follows:

- 1. the Travel Agent's Licence number shall be printed on a plate, which shall be affixed to either side of the tour coach, or placed at any such prominent position as does not obstruct the view of the coach driver;
- 2. the structure of the plate shall not pose any risk to passengers, with its height less than 5cm and its length less than 25cm;
- 3. the licence number on the plate shall be clear and easily seen, and the height of each character shall not be less than 2.5cm; and
- 4. except for the licence number, the plate shall not contain any other information or characters/phrases with commercial advertising elements.

The TIC has already obtained written approval from the Transport Department that <u>tour</u> coaches which are in the course of transporting inbound visitors for members are allowed to display the Travel Agent's Licence number of the members in accordance with the regulations set down in this Directive. Members therefore need not apply to the Department for the display of their licence number. The Department has also waived the fee needed to grant approval to the above-mentioned display. The TIC may provide the Department with information about members for investigation purposes if necessary.

Vehicles used by members for transport of inbound visitors shall be ones approved by the Transport Department for such purposes such as non-franchised buses with tour service (A01) endorsement.

If staff of the TIC, during their spot checks on tourist guides, find that the Travel Agent's Licence number displayed on a tour coach is suspicious, they will immediately call the travel agent concerned for verification.



This Directive applies to all vehicles rented or owned by members for the purposes of transporting inbound visitors. Violation of this directive will be subject to penalties in accordance with Article 11(3)(a) and (b) of the TIC's Articles of Association.

This Directive supersedes Directive No. 134 and takes immediate effect.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS TRAVEL INDUSTRY COUNCIL OF HONG KONG

sperking

Joseph Tung Executive Director