

A former senior sales manager of an information technology (IT) service provider, charged by the ICAC, was (Friday) sentenced to two years' imprisonment at the District Court for accepting about \$1.2 million in bribes for placing job orders with subcontractors.

Chan Kwok-bin, 35, a former senior sales manager of Roctec Technology Limited (Roctec), earlier pleaded guilty to three counts of an agent accepting advantages. The remaining four similar offences against him were put on court file.

Also charged in a separate case but in connection with the investigation were Luk Kwok-ming, 41, and Sieu Sieng, 42, then directors cum shareholders of Excel Global Engineering Limited (Excel Global). They were today jailed for 14 months and five months respectively.

Luk and Sieu were also ordered to pay Roctec \$33,333 and \$67,618 as restitution respectively.

They earlier pleaded guilty to a total of five offences - one of offering an advantage to an agent and four of conspiracy to offer advantages to an agent.

In sentencing, Deputy Judge Sham Siu-man said corruption, a cancer in the society, must not be allowed to spread. It must be eradicated to protect the interests of the public.

The judge said past cases showed the court had been relentless in dealing with the corrupt. Citing a Court of Appeal ruling, the judge added that unless there were special circumstances, the corrupt must be granted jail sentences as a deterrent.

The court heard that Roctec was an IT service provider. Its clients included schools, hospitals, public bodies and private companies.

At the time of the offences, Chan was employed by Roctec as a senior sales manager. Among other duties, he was responsible for selecting and awarding job orders to subcontractors.

In 2002, Roctec started to award job orders to Excel Global, a subcontractor of Roctec.

Chan solicited advantages from Luk and Sieu in return for releasing job payments to Excel Global by Roctec. Between 2003 and 2005, Chan accepted a total of \$100,000 in bribes from Luk and Sieu, the court was told.

The court heard that in mid-2004, Luk left Excel Global and ran his own business under Join Venture International Limited, which had become another subcontractor of Roctec.

Between December 2004 and October 2008, Chan accepted bribes totalling \$940,000 from Luk, the court heard.

The court also heard that between January 2006 and October 2008, Jordan (I.T.) Services Limited (Jordan), also a subcontractor of Roctec, obtained cabling jobs for the Hospital Authority from Roctec.

Chan accepted about \$149,700 in bribes from Sieu, then a director cum shareholder of Jordan, the court was told.

The prosecution in the above two cases was today represented by Senior Public Prosecutor Vivien Chan, assisted by ICAC officer Samson Lee.