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Trio faces court for alleged \$1m bribery scam

5 April 2013

A senior executive of an air-conditioning service company, a property investment company staff and an engineering company's director were charged by the ICAC with conspiracy to accept \$1.1 million in bribes over the awarding of a contract for installing an air conditioning system.

Raymond Chan Ka-lung, 50, operations director of Trane Hong Kong (THK); Jeff Chow Chi-fai, 50, electrical and mechanical inspector of a subsidiary of Hong Kong Pacific Investments Limited (HKPI); and Or Shung-ching, 60, shareholder and director of Wardson Engineering Limited (WEL), jointly faced one count of conspiracy for an agent to accept advantage, contrary to Section 9(1)(b) of the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance and Section 159A of the Crimes Ordinance.

The trio appeared at the Kowloon City Magistracy today (Friday). No plea was taken. Acting Principal Magistrate Mr Clement Lee Hing-nin transferred the case to the District Court for plea on April 26.

WEL was a contractor of both THK and HKPI. Chiefast Investment Limited (CIL), an associated company of HKPI, held a re-developed building in Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

The charge alleged that the defendants had conspired together, between September 1, 2010 and August 30, 2011, for Chow to accept advantage consisting of sums of money as an inducement to or a reward for Chow to cause the award of an air-conditioning system contract by CIL to THK for the building in Kwun Tong.

ICAC investigations revealed that the bribes allegedly accepted by Chow amounted to \$1.1 million.

Chan and Chow were each granted cash bail of \$500,000, while Or was on cash bail of \$100,000. All defendants were ordered not to interfere with the prosecution witnesses.

The prosecution was today represented by ICAC officer Caroline Yu.

[Back to Index](#)[+ back](#)[+ top](#)