

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Budding Young Talent Laying a Bright Future for Himself

Hong Kong • 14 February 2012 – At just a little over twenty years old, Lam Tung-leung’s gentle and even schoolboy-like appearance disguises the fact that he is working in the construction industry, as a tiler! Because Lam Tung-leung’s father is a sub-contractor of decoration works, hence he was exposed to the decoration trades since a very young age. After scoring only average results in the 2008 HKCE Examination, Lam Tung-leung figured that if he re-take Form Five for another year would probably mean a waste of opportunity for him, so he decided to sign up for the CICTA course to learn a craft skill.



Lam Tung-leung completed his task in the competition within the set time of 22 hours

According to Tung-leung, “my choice for the “Bricklaying, Plastering and Tiling Course” is because I know these trades cover a wide area with plenty of jobs and the industry has a shortage of young talents, plus the fact that this happens to be an area of my personal interest, and so I believe that as long as I’m willing to work hard there would always be opportunities for career advancement.” The two-year course enabled Tung-leung to master the basic craft skills for the three trades, among them, tiling was his favourite craft. “Using tiles of different colours and sizes can create infinite number of patterns, which gives me ample scope to exercise imagination and experiment with designs.”

Personal interest and hard work enabled Tung-leung to remain at the top of the class. After nominated by his instructors, he went on to take part in the tiling section of the Hong Kong Youth Skills Competition in 2010 and was awarded the first prize; he was subsequently chosen to represent Hong Kong

to enter the Wall & Floor Tiling Trade Competition in the WorldSkills Competition 2011 held in October last year in London, UK, competing alongside over 21 other international entrants from around the world. In the 4-day competition, the competitors were required to tile difficult patterns as the UK flag, River Thames and a three-dimensional Clock Tower which not only examined the competitors' abilities in interpreting drawings, tiling techniques and measurement accuracy, it also put their performance in completing given tasks within set time and dealing with impromptu situations to the test. Tung-leung not only managed to complete his tasks within the set time, he also showed outstanding tiling techniques. In the end, he did not disappoint the expectation of those supporting him by winning the Medallion of Excellence. For Tung-leung, "having the opportunity to take part in an international competition has widened my horizon and enabled me to gain knowledge of world-class trade skill standards; this was really a very valuable experience."



Lam Tung-leung is the winner of Medallion of Excellence for Wall & Floor Tiling during WorldSkills Competition 2011

The young Tung-leung is currently working for a company in the decoration business, and he has been put in charge of tiling work for residential and commercial properties, applying his learned knowledge to good use. Because he has mastered excellent trade skills, and always keen to learn and unafraid of hard work, he has won the recognition of his employer. When responding to question about his personal thoughts on future career prospects, Tung-leung gives a sunshine smile and brimming with confidence: "at the present time, the construction industry is experiencing a big boom, there is a huge demand for skilled bricklaying and tiling tradesmen in all areas from redecoration, new residential development to commercial properties. I would gradually build up my experience in order to sit the exams for master tradesman so that I may increase my income; I would also undertake further studies in design and management with the aim of eventually becoming a sub-contractor to run my business! In addition, I'm also very interested in design, and if the opportunity comes I hope to set up my own interior design company!" Looking back at his

recent trip to London, Tung-leung is again brimming with a big smile: “because of the tight schedule during this current trip to London, I only managed a fleeting look at this world-class city. I have long heard of London's highly distinctive style of traditional architecture, I hope I could save up enough travelling expenses to revisit this city again in the future; I believe this would be quite helpful for improving my skill level.”

Compared with many other young people who are still struggling to find their career prospects, Lam Tung-leung seems to have mapped out a clear career path for himself, although there is still some way to go to achieve his personal goals, by applying competent skills and making confident strides, success is just round the corner!

The training in Bricklaying, Plastering and Tiling offered by the Construction Industry Training Academy(CICTA) included a two-year full-time course and a 135-day short course for adults. The full-time course starts in September each year and the short course is run at regular intervals during the year. Interested applicant may obtain course pamphlets and application forms at any one of the training centres run by CICTA or alternatively, they may browse the CIC website <http://www.hkcic.org> for further details. For enquiries, please call CICTA at 2100 9118.

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