The Hong Kong Construction Industry

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November 2009

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4 Major parties in the development of a land property

▶ A. Developers — Cheung Kong C



Sun Hung Kai



- B. Designers Surveyors, Architects, Engineers
- C. Contractors Hsin Chong Gammon Shui On







D. Regulators — Buildings Department

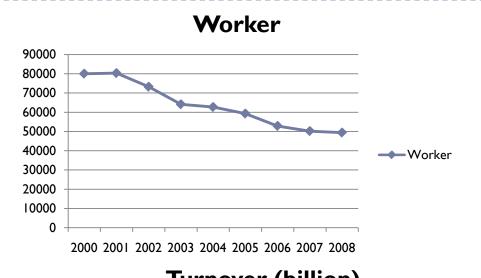


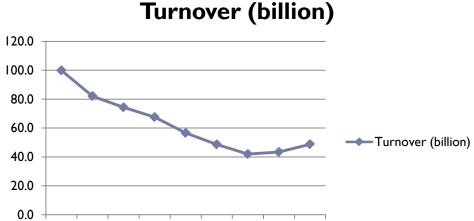
Lands Department



Declining Construction Volume

Year	Turnover (\$ billion)	Worker
2000	Ω 100.0	Ω 80000
2001	82.2	80301
2002	74.4	73223
2003	67.6	64111
2004	56.6	62689
2005	48.7	59266
2006	42.0	52865
2007	43.4	50185
2008	48.8	49422





2000 2001 2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008

Declining Construction Volume

	Public Works	Private Works	Building Works	Civil Works
Year	(\$ Billion)	(\$ Billion)	(\$ Billion)	(\$Million)
2000	$\underline{\Omega}$ 50.0 (55.00%)	$\underline{\Omega}$ 40.0 (45.00%)	Ω 70.0 (70.00%)	Ω 30.0 (30.00%)
2001	41.8 (50.79%)	40.5 (49.00%)	58.0 (70.45%)	24.3 (29.55%)
2002	32.1 (43.13%)	42.3 (56.87%)	53.0 (71.30%)	21.3 (28.70%)
2003	32.4 (47.92%)	35.2 (52.08%)	47.3 (70.01%)	20.3 (29.99%)
2004	28.5 (50.45%)	28.0 (49.55%)	37.4 (66.18%)	19.1 (33.82%)
2005	22.3 (45.87%)	26.3 (54.13%)	34.0 (69.82%)	14.7 (30.18%)
2006	17.1 (40.81%)	24.9 (59.19%)	30.2 (71.83%)	11.8 (28.17%)
2007	14.5 (33.41%)	28.9 (66.59%)	33.9 (78.11%)	9.5 (21.89%)
2008	15.3 (31.41%)	33.5 (68.59%)	39.5 (80.90%)	9.3 (19.10%)

Main Contractors - Hsin Chong, Gammon

- Overall site / project management
- Employ project manager, site supervisors
- Common site facilities, site safety
- Seldom employ trade workers

Specialist Contractors – Piling, electrical and mechanical, lift and escalators

- Possess specialist engineering expertise
- Specialist equipments
- Employ direct labour



Trade Subcontractors

- Steel benders, formworkers, painters.
- Small scale
- Daily paid
- CIC Voluntary Subcontractor Registration
- Scheme for 41 trades –
 finishing, electrical and

structural, civil, mechanical works.

Building Contractors Civil Engineering Contractors

- Development Bureau Group A up to HK\$30M
- Group B up to HK\$75M
- Group C unlimited value
- Group C
- Building 58
- Port work 24
- Roads and Drainage 55
- Site Formation 37
- Waterworks 35
- Only 17 contractors have 5C license
- Gammon, Leighton, China State, Dragages, Paul Y, Kaden
- HKCA 320 members

Workers

	End 2000	Beginning 2009	
Total workers	83924	51944	
▶ Public	44355	20825	
Private	32704	31119	
▶ Building	61676	40772	
Civil	22248	11172	Ų.
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Problems

- Safety
- Quality
- Environmental
- Expensive

- * Multi-layer non value added subcontracting
- * Daily paid system
- * Workers training and retention

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京場

Prospects - Hong Kong

- ▶ *** 10** large infrastructure projects
- South Island Line
- ▶ ○Sha Tin Central Link
- ▶ ©Tuen Mun Western Bypass
- ▶ ©Tuen Mun Chek Lap Kok Link
- ▶ ⊙Guangzhou Shenzhen HK Express Rail Link
- → ○HK Zhuhai Macau Bridge
- HK Shenzhen airport Co-operation
- Joint Development of Lok Ma Chau Loop
- West Kowloon Cultural District
- New towns at Kwu Tung North, Fanling North

Prospects – Hong Kong

- University Developments
- Ocean Park
- Housing Society
- Urban Renewal
- Housing Authority
- Much improved turnover, mainly civil engineering works in the next 2 to 5 years.

Prospect - Overseas

- ▶ China
- Macau



Prospect - Overseas

- Macau
- Small construction industry
- Large demand because of opening up of the gaming industry in 2000
- Over 10,000 HK construction
- people worked in Macau in 2008
- Unlikely will repeat



Prospect - Overseas

▶ China

Most major developers have more land bank in china than in HK

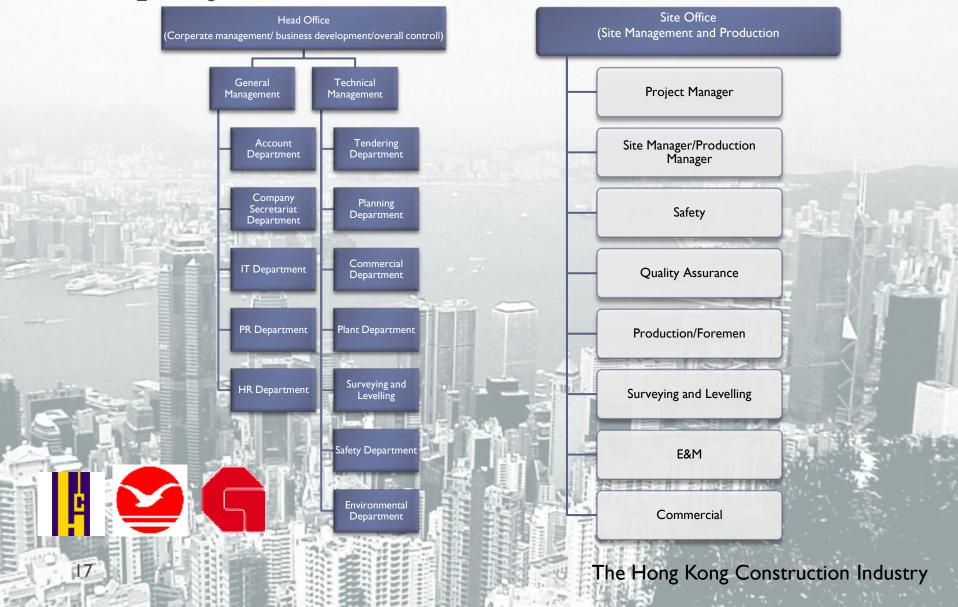
Employ HK Architects, Engineers, QS, PM.

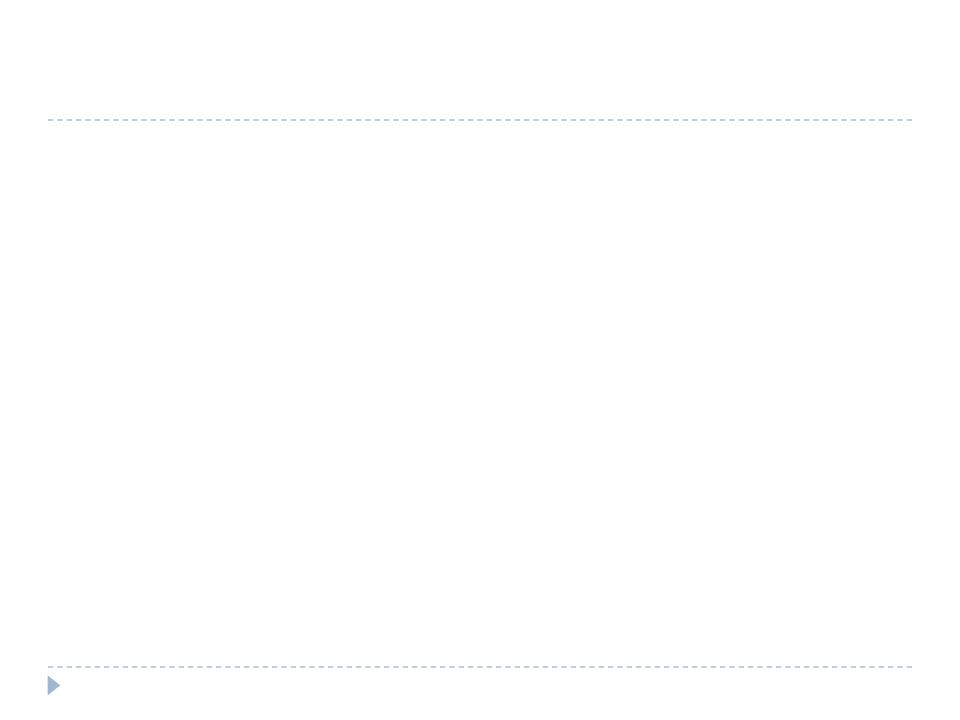


Limited opportunities for HK contractors

- Closed market
- Local industry
- Wage difference
- Nothing to offer

The structure of a major construction company





What makes a successful contractor

- Careful choice of clients
- A team of loyal subcontractors
- A strong technical team
- A good cross checking system
- An honest team

Food for thought

- Are we more efficient than 30 years ago?
 - Very little
 - Poor quality/unsafe/ low technology
 - Long term employment of workers
 - Trade subcontractor registration
- Can we export our construction expertise?
 - Yes, but not much now (except Macau), nothing to offer
 - The government's role in steering the construction industry
 - Government project design
- Repair and Maintenance
 - Are we ready?

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THANK YOU

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