



## Autotoll

The total number of tags in circulation was 209,269 as at 31 December 2005, representing an increase of 2.6% from the year before. Autotoll's penetration rate on licensed vehicles was about 39% on average. The overall usage of auto-toll facilities in all ten toll roads and tunnels maintained at about 50%, with the highest usage at the Western Harbour Tunnel at around 60%. The daily transactions handled by Autotoll were about 320,000 with toll amount of approximately HK\$6.2 million. The Global Positioning System for fleet management was well received by corporate customers and over 1,230 units were installed by the end of year under review.

## Hong Kong School of Motoring ("HKSM")

HKSM recorded a decrease of 8% in tuition fees income due to significant decline in the demand for driving lessons and a substantial reduction in the income from motorcycle training courses, as compared with the previous year. The low throughput was the result of the low sales intake and shrinking market size in the last quarter of 2004. The situation has to a larger extent, been recovered by more vigorous sales and marketing efforts in the 3rd and 4th quarter of the year. The operation of the Driving Improvement Centre was extended for three years upon the expiry of contract in September 2005.

## Western Harbour Tunnel ("WHT")

The construction of the Western Harbour Tunnel was completed in April 1997 at a total cost of HK\$7 billion. The dual three-lane tunnel has been under-utilised due to lower tolls at the other cross-harbour tunnels and poor connecting roads leading to and from the WHT. The company will continue to work with the Government to improve the overall traffic flow of Hong Kong through better usage of the WHT.

## Improved Financial Position

The recovery of the Hong Kong economy, the third toll increase effective from 4 July 2004 and the Eastern Harbour Tunnel's toll increase with effect from 1 May 2005 have further strengthened the Company's financial position.

## Toll

The fourth toll gazettal took effect on 31 July 2005 due to the performance of the tunnel being below the target set in the WHC Ordinance. Although this allows the tunnel toll to be raised, tolls have remained unchanged for the time being.



## Tunnel Usage

Throughput for the year was 15,033,790 vehicle journeys, representing an increase of 4.8% from 2004. The daily average throughput stood at approximately 41,188 vehicle journeys and the market share of WHT increased from 16.7% in 2004 to approximately 18.1% in 2005.

	Traffic Mix	
	2005	2004
Private Cars/Taxis and Motorcycles	72.8%	72.3%
Goods Vehicles	10.8%	10.5%
Buses	16.4%	17.2%
	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>100.0%</u>

Throughput of private cars, taxis and motorcycles in 2005 increased by 5.6% and goods vehicles increased by 7.4%. Usage by buses, however, had no change when compared to 2004. The average net toll per vehicle was improved from \$44.43 in 2004 to \$45.77 in 2005.

## Accidents

The traffic accident occurrence rate increased by 11.4% during 2005 was mainly attributed to adverse weather. The company took constant measures to remind tunnel users of road safety.

	Occurrence Rate per million vehicle trips	
	2005	2004
Fatal Accidents	0.00	0.00
Traffic Accidents (Personal Injury)	0.47	0.42
Traffic Accidents (Damage Only)	4.12	3.70
TOTAL:	<u>4.59</u>	<u>4.12</u>

## Breakdowns

The occurrence rate of breakdowns in 2005 reduced by 9.6% and the average time taken to attend the scene maintained below two minutes.

	2005	2004
Total Breakdowns (occurrence rate per million vehicle trips)	20.80	23.00
Daily Average Breakdowns	0.85	0.90



## Escorts

	Number of trips	
	2005	2004
Dangerous Goods & Abnormal Goods	1,530	920

## Infringements

The number of infringements per million vehicle trips reduced by 4% in 2005. The number of prosecutions per million vehicle trips however increased by 2.3%, due to stringent enforcement of radar speed checks.

	Number of Events Per million vehicle trips	
	2005	2004
Total Infringements Reported	472	492
Prosecutions	27.0	26.4

## Maintenance

Throughout the year 2005, all major tunnel systems operated in a safe and reliable condition.

Preventive maintenance work was performed on all engineering systems and no major defects were revealed in the course of the maintenance.

As an annual exercise, an Independent Consulting Engineer was engaged in November 2005 to conduct a maintenance audit, which showed that all tunnel infrastructure and systems had been maintained in compliance with Maintenance Manual, which is a standard agreed with the Highways Department.

## Staff

Staff turnover for the year was 10.6% (2004 – 2.3%) with 23 members departed. The increase was due to the improved economy and employment market.



## Cross-Harbour Tunnel at Hunghom

(managed by Hong Kong Tunnels and Highways Management Company Limited (“HKTHMCL”))

HKTHMCL operates the Cross-Harbour Tunnel (“CHT”) at Hunghom under a Management, Operations and Maintenance (“MOM”) Contract with the Government for a period of two years commencing 1 September 2002 and extension has been granted by the Government for a further period of twenty-four months to 31 August 2006. The company is entitled to a management fee income from, and shares other revenue with, the Government.

### Tunnel Usage

Traffic throughput during 2005 was 44,841,874 vehicle journeys, representing an increase of 0.7% from 2004.

Throughput of private cars, taxis and motorcycles in 2005 decreased by 1.4% compared to last year. Usage by buses increased by 0.4% and usage of goods vehicles increased by 7.8%. CHT’s average toll per vehicle decreased to \$15.91 in 2005 from \$15.92 last year.

	Traffic Mix	
	2005	2004
Private Cars/Taxis and Motorcycles	66.9%	68.3%
Goods Vehicles	22.3%	20.8%
Buses	10.8%	10.9%
	100.0%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%

### Accidents

The overall traffic accident occurrence rate increased by 10.9% during 2005. The company took constant measures to remind tunnel users of road safety.

	Occurrence Rate per million vehicle trips	
	2005	2004
Fatal Accidents	0.00	0.00
Traffic Accidents (Personal Injury)	0.89	0.90
Traffic Accidents (Damage Only)	14.58	13.05
TOTAL:	15.47	13.95
	15.47	13.95



## Breakdowns

The occurrence rate of breakdowns in 2005 increased by 8.1% and the average time taken to attend the scene was maintained at two minutes.

	2005	2004
Total Breakdowns (occurrence rate per million vehicle trips)	30.16	27.91
Daily Average Breakdowns	3.70	3.41

## Escorts

	Number of trips	
	2005	2004
Dangerous Goods & Abnormal Goods	1,212	926

## Infringements

The number of infringements and prosecutions per million vehicle trips decreased by 1.6% and increased by 25.4% respectively mainly due to traffic offences.

Infringements included 38 excessive smoke emissions from vehicles, which the company referred to the Environmental Protection Department for action.

	Number of Events per million vehicle trips	
	2005	2004
Total Infringements Reported	14.2	14.4
Prosecutions	9.8	7.8

## Maintenance

All major tunnel systems operated satisfactorily. Major replacement works were carried out continuously by the Highways Department, Architectural Services Department or Electrical and Mechanical Services Department.

During the contract period, the unit cost of replacement and maintenance of tunnel equipment which exceeds a value of HK\$120,000 shall be borne by the Government.

## Staff

Staff turnover for the year was 12.3% (2004 – 12.3%) with thirty members of the staff either retired or resigned.