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CLP applies green thinking to breathe new life into discarded electrical appliances

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP Power) is proving that, with a bit of creativity and a focus on sustainability, a discarded electrical appliance can be repaired and given a new lease of life in the home of somebody who needs it.

Weighing in at 70,000 tonnes*, the number of appliances thrown away each year in Hong Kong is staggering. To combat this, CLP Power has teamed up with the St. James' Settlement to launch the "Here WEEE Go" programme – to recycle and regenerate these waste electrical and electronic equipment ('WEEE') to benefit the underprivileged members of the local community.

To inject some creative flair to the scheme, the campaign is not only extending the lives of the old appliances, but also applying eye-catching designs. At an Eco-Art Workshop organised in August, CLP volunteers and members of the families of those who the scheme will benefit got their creative juices flowing, for example by adding colourful magnetic tiles to refurbished refrigerators under the guidance of local designers and design students from the C01 School of Visual Arts.

Richard Lancaster, Managing Director of CLP Power, and his daughter Olivia took part in the Eco-Art efforts. In a caring visit yesterday led by Mr. Lancaster and CLP volunteers, a decorated refrigerator which carried the pattern inspired by Olivia's 'shell and flower' painting was presented to a grateful single mother and her 7-year old daughter living in a 100 square feet sublet room in Sheung Shui.

"It was heart-warming to see how much Ms. Yeung and her daughter appreciated their new refrigerator, and a very powerful illustration of what a waste it is to throw away these electrical appliances when they can be repaired to benefit the needy instead," said Mr. Lancaster. "Appliances that can be repaired should be seen as a resource, and CLP is keen to re-use them and contribute to greater environmental sustainability in Hong Kong."

"Environmental education is also one of CLP's core values. Ms. Yeung and her daughter joined in the Eco-Art Workshop, which proved to be a fun and engaging way to provide important lessons on conservation to the children and art students who took part."

This summer, a team of over 150 CLP volunteers helped deliver over 175 bulky appliances such as refrigerators, washing machines and televisions to about 100 low income families.

The WEEE recycling initiative was launched by the St. James' Settlement to support underprivileged members of society in 2003, which was then extended to Tuen Mun EcoPark last year. CLP volunteers played an active role in promoting the initiative, which also marked the biggest partnership to date in the WEEE recycling campaign.

* Source: https://www.wastereduction.gov.hk/en/workplace/weeday_intro.htm



Mr. Richard Lancaster, Managing Director of CLP Power (first on the right), joins the CLP Volunteer Team to deliver a refurbished refrigerator to a single-parent family in Sheung Shui. He works hand-in-hand with the volunteer team, to move the refrigerator up to the 5th floor of the old building.





Mr. Richard Lancaster, Managing Director of CLP Power, visits Ms. Yeung and her 7-year-old daughter in their sublet room in Sheung Shui, presenting them the refurbished electrical appliance. Mr. Lancaster's daughter has given a new lease of life to the refrigerator with her design, decorated jointly by Ms. Yeung and her daughter, and students of the CO1 School of Visual Arts. The decorated refrigerator is both attractive and practical.



Mr. Richard Lancaster, Managing Director of CLP Power, presents Ms. Yeung and her daughter with a refurbished refrigerator with decorations inspired by his daughter's art piece. He has also brought them some nutritious food, delighting the single-parent family.



(First on the right) Ms. Josephine Y.C. Lee, Assistant Chief Executive Officer of St. James' Settlement.

About CLP Power Hong Kong Limited

CLP Power Hong Kong Limited ("**CLP Power**") is the Hong Kong utility subsidiary wholly owned by CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia. CLP Power operates a vertically integrated electricity supply business in Hong Kong, and provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to 5.7 million people in its supply area.

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For further enquiries, please contact:

Ms Wong Chiu Yung
Public Affairs Manager -
Marketing & Customer Services
CLP Power Hong Kong Limited
Tel : (852) 2678 7225
Fax : (852) 2678 6006
Pager: (852) 71163131 a/c 8433
Email: chiuyung.wong@clp.com.hk