

SKF Declares War against Harmful Fake Bearings

This year marks the first year that SKF commenced aggressive campaign actions against infringers distributing counterfeit bearings to unsuspecting consumers. SKF joined forces with the Economic and Technological Crime Suppression Division (ECOTEC) and Tilleke & Gibbins International Ltd. in three rounds of raid actions against fake bearings in the On-nut and Lam

Luk Ka areas, both located in Bangkok, and in the Sampran district of Nakornpathom province. The net result was the seizure of fake bearings worth over Baht 1 million.

Representatives of SKF stated that the company is running a campaign against counterfeit bearings and will not tolerate fake goods and trademark infringements. Fake bearings not only directly affect the company's business, but also pose a threat to personal safety and

property, particularly when the fakes are highly substandard, which will lower the quality of the consumers' machines or engines and might lead to accidents. The company has been encouraging consumers to buy SKF products from authorized distributors only and also remember the identity of the genuine products. However, counterfeit bearings today are widely traded and manufactured to look very much like the genuine ones.

An SKF representative stated that according to a foreign source, the use of counterfeit machine/engine components or parts causes as many as 3,500 accidents per year worldwide. It also leads to an economic loss worth hundreds of billions of baht. The European and Japanese businesses of machine and automotive parts in Thailand are both facing this problem. Damage to the industry has yet to be estimated. Nevertheless, the utmost concern is still consumer safety. ♦

