## **Competition Commission "Combat Market Sharing Cartels"**

## **Educational Video – Subtitles**

## A Bite of Conspiracy – Part II

Voice-over: I always come to *Kitchen L'Amour* every time I return from my business trip.

No matter how late it is, I would still come here to enjoy a plate of Braised Tofu and

Roast Pork Rice in this chaotic yet cozy atmosphere...

Super: A Bite of Conspiracy – Part II

Voice-over: with an owner who knows me so well.

Voice-over: Wanna try our new dish, Pork Belly and Cuttlefish Balls Noodles?

Voice-over: Give me a break! Bring me my favourite dish, please!

Voice-over: Well...we don't sell that anymore! We only sell noodles now.

It tastes even better and there're lots of side dishes to choose from.

You'll definitely find something you like.

Voice-over: Wait! \$90 for just two side dishes?

Well...can I have Braised Tofu and Roast Pork Noodles, please?

Voice-over: Sure! Let me bring you Pork Belly and Bean Curd Puff Noodles.

Guaranteed to be your new favourite from now on! Boy, take the order!

Voice-over: Are you serious? Why have you changed to sell noodles?

Voice-over: The food stall owners here used to compete with each other serving similar dishes

which doesn't do any good to all of us.

Last week, the newly opened *Breakfast Before Bed* talked to me and the owner of *Fry it Up*. We agreed to sell different types of food so that we don't have to compete with each

other while customers can try new food. It's a win-win strategy!

Voice-over: Ma'am! Voice-over: Madam!

Voice-over: Hi sir! I am from the new *Breakfast Before Bed* next door.

We are the only stall here selling all-day breakfast in Hong Kong style, with congee,

noodles and dim sum.

Voice-over: So come to my stall for fried dishes from now on.

Our signature "Slow-cooked Braised Tofu and Roast Pork Rice" is the ultimate

"romantic dish" for men!

Voice-over: Wow! How come there's such a huge jump in prices?

Voice-over: It's worth it, sir. It's Cuisine Sous-vide, romantic!

Voice-over: Let me remind you –

if you guys agree to sell different types of food so as to avoid competing with each other,

it is a form of market sharing.

You might have already contravened the Competition Ordinance.

Voice-over: That serious?

Voice-over: Breaking the law? We are only small businesses!

Voice-over: Regardless of your business size,

competitors colluding to share a market is inherently harmful.

It leads to reduced consumer choices and higher prices.

It is a serious anti-competitive conduct.

Even if customers still have some choices in the market,

what you have done is still illegal.

Voice-over: What if it is my own decision to sell high-end fried dishes?

Voice-over: If it does not involve any agreement, discussion or consensus between competitors,

you are free to decide what products to offer and which customers to pursue.

Voice-over: All-day breakfast is totally my own idea! You can ask my wife!

Voice-over: It was you who told us to sell different types of food so that we don't have to compete

with each other, and we can then set the prices higher. Everyone here knows that!

Voice-over: Have we contravened the law? It's all you fault!

Voice-over: Don't put the blame on me!

You guys all wanted to make more money and I simply gave you an idea.

Voice-over: What should I do to make things right again?

Voice-over: There is a Leniency Policy under the Competition Ordinance.

The first cartel member who reports the cartel conduct and meets all other requirements

of the policy will be offered immunity from pecuniary penalties.

Information of the applicants and whistleblowers will be kept confidential.

Voice-over: Oh...

Voice-over: Wow...such a tiny bowl of noodles...

Voice-over: Oops, I haven't had dinner yet.

Can you let me eat first, my friend? Hey! Take it away quickly!

Voice-over: Are you trying to destroy the evidence?

Voice-over: You are part of it!

Voice-over: I am trying to make things right. How can I apply for leniency?

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Leniency Hotline: 3996 8010 Reporting Hotline: 3462 2118

Voice-over: You're not planning to report me, are you?

Voice-over: What?!

Voice-over: Report market sharing, contact the Competition Commission.

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