Advanced Letters of Credit



By Victor Tan



Financing international trade is a risky business, this seminar helps traders to interpret the risks, and shows them how to protect themselves. As traders don't have to work long in the business to realize that international trade is not just about buying and selling. It involves international transport, and that means putting cargoes in the hands of transport operators who are sometimes unscrupulous or under-capitalised.

So this seminar will illustrate the risks and fraud possibilities on how buyers and sellers are the losers as well as how buyers and sellers collaborate to cheat Banks and Insurance companies.

Fraudsters and unscrupulous traders can abuse these weakness to the detriment of exporters, importers, bankers and shipping agents. The course will share with participants many practical case studies collected through many years of research as well as through contacts with exporters and importers and bankers during numerous public seminars conducted over the last 12 years. It is therefore imperative for all those using letters of credit to be aware of the risks and frauds to prevent loss, and learn from past leading court cases.

Course Outline

- 1. Common pitfalls in LC operations
- 2. Misconception of the role of sales/marketing team
- 3. Instalment shipment vs partial shipment
- 4. Presentation period
- 5. Forged LCs
- 6. Consignee trap on airway bill
- 7. 10% retention sum
- 8. Buyer receives all the documents under the LC, but goods may differ
- 9. Claused bills of lading
- 10. LC expired
- 11. Absence of documents called for in the LC
- 12. Insurance cover effective date
- 13. Combined transport document pitfalls
- 14. Bills of lading confusion pitfalls
- 15. Specific ports of lading and discharge
- 16. Transport document signing capacity pitfalls
- 17. House airway bill pitfalls
- 18. Qualified LCs
- 19. Special conditions in LCs
- 20. Groundnuts vs peanuts
- 21. Soft clauses in LCs
- 22. FOB pitfalls
- 23. Incoterms pitfalls
- 24. Incompatible terms in LCs
- 25. Issuing bank wishes to protect itself
- 26. Terms and conditions dominated by a powerful seller
- 27. Inspection certificate trap
- 28. LC charges pitfalls
- 29. Expiry date and place of presentation trap

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Case studies on 30 Pitfalls, Tricks and Traps in Letters of Credit Transaction **By Victor Tan**

Trainer Profile – Mr. Victor Tan

Victor has been in the Banking Industry for the last 15 years covering the operational areas of International Trade Finance including Remittances, Imports, Exports and Guarantee departments. He has worked with various International Banks since 1977, starting with Standard Chartered Bank, Amsterdam-Rotterdam Bank, Bangkok Bank, Royal Trust Merchant Bank and lastly Barclays Bank, where he was the Deputy Head, Trade Finance, on leaving the banking industry in 1992. He is now an Independent Training Consultant and conducts Company In-house training for corporate clients as well as Public Seminars both locally and overseas regularly. He is a Life Associate Member of The Chartered Institute of Bankers, London and he holds a Master of Business Administration Degree from University of Strathclyde (UK)