

Other contributing factors can also lead to incidents. These factors include leak surveys conducted in conditions that prevent gas from properly migrating to the surface, such as after heavy rains or certain soil and surface features. Some incidents indicated leak surveys involving equipment not calibrated properly or not appropriate for the intended use, or personnel not sufficiently trained. If an operator is doing proper leak surveys at regular intervals, an operator can usually detect a leak early, fix the source of the leak, and prevent an incident. There have, however, been cases where a leak survey, using properly calibrated equipment showing no problems, was followed by an incident involving sudden pullout only weeks later.

Follow-up has already occurred with some of the incidents mentioned in this bulletin:

- The NY PSC and the operator agreed to a replacement program involving approximately 45,000 natural gas service lines equipped with couplings.

- In Ohio, nearly 500,000 risers were identified by the PUCO's study as prone to failure. Currently, the PUCO is working with the operators who have these risers and the Ohio Consumers' Counsel to set up replacement schedules and address costs.

- In May 2005, Minnesota's Office of Pipeline Safety issued a compliance order to an operator to replace service lines installed prior to January 1, 1984, or visually inspect the entire service line to verify it contains only mechanical fittings that comply with 49 CFR 192.283(b). Any mechanical fittings identified that did not meet the requirements were required to be replaced.

- The Railroad Commission of Texas has required operators to replace, within a 2-year period, 97,000 remaining old mechanical couplings that have been in service for some 28 to 30 years. In addition, the Railroad Commission of Texas has adopted mandatory replacement programs in an effort to remove compression couplings found leaking on both steel and plastic pipe that are susceptible to pullout.

A number of other studies, tests, and repair or replacement programs, some of them voluntary, have been conducted in other States.

## II. Advisory Bulletin (ADB-08-02)

*To:* All Gas Distribution Operators.

*Subject:* Identifying Issues with Mechanical Coupling That Could Lead to Failure.

*Advisory:* Due to variables related to age of couplings, specific procedures

and installation practices, and conditions specific to certain regions of the country, it is difficult to cite common criteria affecting all failures that operators should address. However, PHMSA advises operators of gas distribution pipelines using mechanical couplings to do the following to ensure compliance with 49 CFR part 192:

(1) Review procedures for using mechanical couplings, including the coupling design and installation and ensure that they meet manufacturer's recommendations;

(2) Review leak survey procedures to ensure that leak surveys are properly conducted, taking into account other contributing factors (i.e., weather conditions, calibration); and,

(3) Review personnel qualifications to ensure they address leak surveys sufficiently.

PHMSA also advises operators of gas distribution pipelines using mechanical couplings to consider taking the following measures to reduce the risk of failures of mechanical couplings:

(4) Use Category 1 fittings only if mechanical couplings are used on pipe sizes 1/2' CTS (Copper Tube Size) to 2' IPS (Iron Pipe Size). Per ASTM D2513-99 titled "Standard Specification for Thermoplastic Gas Pressure Pipe, Tubing and Fittings," Category 1 is a mechanical joint design that provides a seal plus a resistance to a force on the pipe end equal to or greater than that which will cause a permanent deformation of the pipe. At this time there is insufficient data to indicate there are issues involving fittings for larger diameter pipe. PHMSA will revisit if such issues do arise with larger diameter pipe.

(5) Improve recordkeeping on specific couplings that exist, i.e., their type, installation date, maintenance schedule, and any failures encountered, to help identify a trend of problems that may occur with a specific coupling or type of installation.

(6) Consider whether to adopt a full replacement program if there are too many unknowns related to couplings in service.

(7) Work with Federal and State pipeline safety representatives, manufacturers, and industry partners to determine how best to resolve potential issues in their respective state or region.

Documented repair and replacement programs may prove beneficial to all stakeholders involved. If operators are unsure of the appropriate representative, contact the individual(s) listed in this advisory bulletin for further information.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 28, 2008.

**Jeffrey D. Wiese,**

*Associate Administrator for Pipeline Safety.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of Foreign Assets Control

#### Additional Designations of Entities Pursuant to Executive Order 13448

**AGENCY:** Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") is publishing the names of two newly-designated entities whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to Executive Order 13448 of October 18, 2007, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Certain Transactions Related to Burma."

**DATES:** The designation by the Director of OFAC of two entities identified in this notice, pursuant to Executive Orders 13448, is effective February 25, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Assistant Director, Compliance Outreach & Implementation, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue NW., (Treasury Annex), Washington, DC 20220, Tel.: 202/622-2490.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

**Electronic and Facsimile Availability**

Information about these designations and additional information concerning OFAC are available from OFAC's Web site (<http://www.treas.gov/ofac>) or via facsimile through a 24-hour fax-on-demand service, Tel.: 202/622-0077.

**Background**

On October 18, 2007, the President signed Executive Order 13448 (the "Order") pursuant to, *inter alia*, the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*). In the Order, the President took additional steps with respect to, and expanded, the national emergency declared in Executive Order 13047 of May 20, 1997, to address the Government of Burma's continued repression of the democratic opposition. The President identified twelve individuals and entities as subject to the economic sanctions in the Annex to the Order.

Section 1 of the Order blocks, with certain exceptions, all property and

interests in property that are in, or hereafter come within, the United States, or with the possession or control of United States persons, of the persons listed in the Annex, as well as those persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to satisfy any of the criteria set forth in subparagraphs (b)(i)–(b)(vi) of section 1. On February 25, 2008, the Director of OFAC exercised the Secretary of the Treasury's authority to designate, pursuant to one or more of the criteria set forth in section 1, subparagraphs (b)(i)–(b)(vi) of the Order, the following two entities, whose names have been added to the list of Specially Designated Nationals and whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to Executive Order 13448:

1. AUREUM PALACE HOTELS AND RESORTS (a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE HOTEL AND RESORT (BAGAN); a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE HOTEL AND RESORT (NGAPALI); a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE HOTEL AND RESORT (NGWE SAUNG); a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE HOTEL AND RESORT GROUP CO. LTD.; a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE HOTEL RESORT; a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE RESORTS; a.k.a. AUREUM PALACE RESORTS AND SPA), No. 41 Shwe Taung Gyar Street, Bahan Township, Yangon, Burma; Thandwe, Rakhine, Burma [BURMA]

2. MYANMAR TREASURE RESORTS (a.k.a. MYANMAR TREASURE BEACH RESORT; a.k.a. MYANMAR TREASURE BEACH RESORTS; a.k.a. MYANMAR TREASURE RESORT (BAGAN); a.k.a., MYANMAR TREASURE RESORT (PATHEIN); a.k.a. "MYANMAR TREASURE RESORT II"), No. 41 Shwe Taung Gyar Street, Bahan Township, Yangon, Burma; No 56 Shwe Taung Gyar Road, Golden Valley, Bahan Township, Yangon, Burma [BURMA]

Dated: February 25, 2008.

**Adam J. Szubin,**

*Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Office of Foreign Assets Control

#### Additional Designations of Individuals and Entities Pursuant to Executive Order 13448

**AGENCY:** Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control

("OFAC") is publishing the names of three newly-designated individuals and four entities whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to Executive Order 13448 of October 18, 2007, "Blocking Property and Prohibiting Certain Transactions Related to Burma."

**DATES:** The designation by the Director of OFAC of three individuals and four entities identified in this notice, pursuant to Executive Orders 13448, is effective February 25, 2008.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Assistant Director, Compliance Outreach & Implementation, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW. (Treasury Annex), Washington, DC 20220, Tel.: 202/622–2490.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Electronic and Facsimile Availability

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Section 1 of the Order blocks, with certain exceptions, all property and interests in property that are in, or hereafter come within, the United States, or within the possession or control of United States persons, of the persons listed in the Annex, as well as those persons determined by the Secretary of the Treasury, after consultation with the Secretary of State, to satisfy any of the criteria set forth in subparagraphs (b)(i)–(b)(vi) of section 1. On February 25, 2008, the Director of OFAC exercised the Secretary of the Treasury's authority to designate, pursuant to one or more of the criteria set forth in section 1, subparagraphs (b)(i)–(b)(vi) of the Order, the following three individuals and four entities, whose names have been added to the list of Specially Designated Nationals

and whose property and interests in property are blocked pursuant to Executive Order 13448:

#### Individuals

1. LAW, Steven (a.k.a. CHUNG, Lo Ping; a.k.a. HALIM, Abdul; a.k.a. LAW, Stephen; a.k.a. LO, Ping Han; a.k.a. LO, Ping Hau; a.k.a. LO, Ping Zhong; a.k.a. LO, Steven; a.k.a. NAING, Htun Myint; a.k.a. NAING, Tun Myint; a.k.a. NAING, U Myint), 8A Jalan Teliti, Singapore, Singapore; 3 Shenton Way, #10–01 Shenton House, Singapore 068805, Singapore; No. 124 Insein Road, Ward (9), Hlaing Township, Rangoon, Burma; 61–62 Bahosi Development Housing, Wadan St., Lanmadaw Township, Rangoon, Burma; 330 Strand Rd., Latha Township, Rangoon, Burma; DOB 16 May 1958; alt. DOB 27 Aug 1960; POB Lashio, Burma; citizen Burma; Passport 937174 (Burma) (individual) [BURMA].

2. LO, Hsin Han (a.k.a. LAW, Hsit-han; a.k.a. LO, Hsing Han; a.k.a. LO, Hsing-han), 60–61 Strand Rd., Latha Township, Rangoon, Burma; 20–23 Masoeyein Kyang St., Mayangone, Rangoon, Burma; 20B Massoeyein St., 9 Mile, Rangoon, Burma, Burma; 330 Strand Rd, Latha Township, Rangoon, Burma; 20 Wingabar Rd, Rangoon, Burma; 36 19th St., Lower Blk, Latha Township, Rangoon, Burma; 47 Latha St., Latha Township, Rangoon, Burma; 152 Sule Pagoda Rd, Rangoon, Burma; 126A Damazedi Rd, Bahan Township, Rangoon, Burma; DOB 1938; alt. DOB 1935 (individual) [BURMA].

3. NG, Sor Hong (a.k.a. LAW, Cecilia; a.k.a. LO, Cecilia; a.k.a. NG, Cecilia; a.k.a. NG, Cecilia), 3 Shenton Way, #10–01 Shenton House, Singapore 068805, Singapore; 150 Prince Charles Crescent, #18–03, Singapore 159012, Singapore; DOB 1958; citizen Singapore; Identification Number S1481823E (Singapore); Chief Executive, Managing Director, and Owner, Golden Aaron Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Director and Owner, G A Ardmore Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Chief Executive, Director and Owner, G A Capital Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Director and Owner, G A Foodstuffs Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Chief Executive, Director and Owner, G A Land Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Director and Owner, G A Resort Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Chief Executive, Director and Owner, G A Sentosa Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Chief Executive, Director and Owner, G A Treasure Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Director and Owner, G A Whitehouse Pte. Ltd., Singapore; Chief Executive, Manager, and Owner, S H Ng Trading Pte. Ltd., Singapore (individual) [BURMA].