

April figures show rise in re-exports

HONGKONG's re-exports to all major markets — an increasingly important component of total exports — have increased in value terms in April over the same month last year.

Re-exports to Japan, West Germany, China, Taiwan and the United Kingdom rose substantially by 86 per cent, 63 per cent, 50 per cent, 44 per cent and 39 per cent respectively.

The United States, the second largest re-export market by value, accounted for \$3.46 billion worth of goods re-exported in April — representing an increase of 27 per cent over April last year.

According to detailed breakdown figures from the Census and Statistics Department, domestic exports in April to all major markets also increased in value terms over that of a year ago although the rate of increase varied.

Substantial growth was recorded in domestic exports to Singapore, the Netherlands, China and the UK

with rates of 38 per cent, 25 per cent, 25 per cent and 22 per cent respectively.

Domestic exports to the US, Hongkong's largest market, grew by only one per cent.

Imports from the US, however, registered growth of 41 per cent, while that from Switzerland was 37 per cent, South Korea 36 per cent, and China and Taiwan, 30 per cent each.

Comparing the first four months this year with the same period last year, the markets with the largest growth in re-exports were Japan, West Germany, the UK, Taiwan and Australia, with increases of 86 per cent, 75 per cent, 53 per cent, 49 per cent and 46 per cent respectively.

On the same basis of comparison, domestic exports to Singapore, France, China and the UK grew by 42 per cent, 25 per cent, 24 per cent and 23 per cent respectively.

Domestic exports to the US increased by a marginal two per cent only.