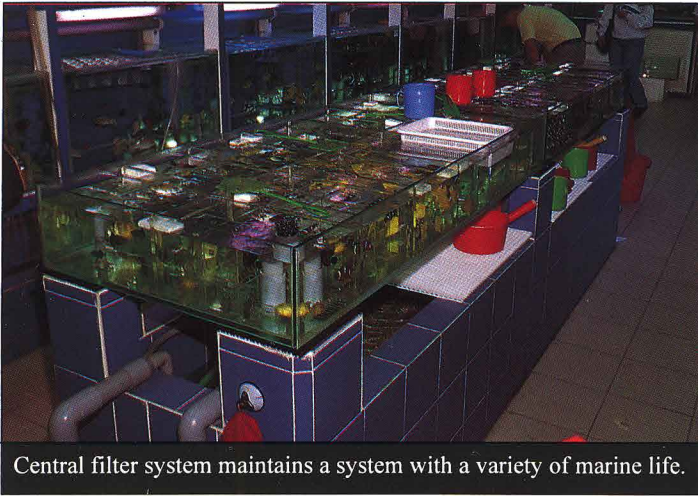


# International Report: Hong Kong

Marine Aquarist™ Hong Kong correspondent is Mr. Jimmy Cheung. Mr. Cheung has had years of experience with marine fish, reef invertebrates and other forms of aquatic displays. Mr. Cheung is the managing director of the largest supplier of quality aquarium items in Hong Kong and Southeast China. He is an international traveler and is recognized as an aquatic authority and is frequently called upon to act as a consultant to many aquatic projects. Fax +852-24136284.



Central filter system maintains a system with a variety of marine life.

The general population of Hong Kong is about six million people. Most of the people reside in apartments in two main living areas. These areas are Hong Kong Island with about 100 stores. The other area is Kowloon with about 200 stores. There is a total of about 45 stores that sell marine fish and colorful invertebrates. Due to the close proximity to the Philippines, Indonesia and the Indian Ocean the most popular marine fish come from these collecting areas. However a large selection of Caribbean, African and Red Sea fish are always available at significantly higher prices.

## Marine fish and invertebrates from the Red Sea, Indo Pacific, Hawaii, Caribbean, Indian Ocean and Africa are all in Hong Kong.

The Hong Kong approach to marine aquarium keeping is unique. Most customers experiment until they can keep marine life with a minimum of equipment. Undergravel and over the tank filters are the most popular. Trickle filters were introduced in 1993 and their advantages are being realized. A few progressive stores are utilizing central filtration systems with trickle filters. BI OX® is the medium of choice because of its unparalleled 'usable surface area'™, allowing for smaller and more efficacious filters.



Aquariums in retail stores are heavily stocked with a variety of marine life. Most fish and invertebrates are sold soon after their arrival. Many hobbyists quarantine their new pets prior to introducing them into their display aquariums.



Wall of marine aquariums in one of the larger stores shows some of the variety of marine fish available to Hong Kong hobbyists.

## Common and rare fish are displayed side by side.



Many stores are located in one area. Tung Choi Street is commonly called "Fish Street". This is in the Mongkok District of Kowloon.



75 gallon reef aquarium with dozens of healthy corals. This tank is located by a large window and natural light is used to display the tank inhabitants. BI OX® is used in an under the tank trickle filter.

Virtually every new aquarium product from the US, Europe and Asia are tested and evaluated in Hong Kong. Only items that prove their value are accepted.

All aquariums in this article are using 100% Marine Environment® dual phase formula™ or BIO-SEA® Marinemix. The leading marine salt in Hong Kong is Marine Environment®. The next most popular salt is BIO-SEA® Marinemix. The most popular group of additives and supplements is the REEF SYSTEM™ from Aqua Craft®. BI OX® is recognized as the most efficient and valuable filter medium.. ❖