

## **Toast Rack: that sinking feeling**

**Mark Footer**  
**March 14, 2010**

According to a study commissioned by the Harbour Business Forum and carried out by a team of students from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, in the United States, Hong Kong's waterfrontage is poorly designed and, in many places, dangerous.

Among the many criticisms in the study is that what appear to be lifebelts attached to railings at the Sam Ka Tsuen Typhoon Shelter, in Lei Yue Mun, are, in fact, decorative and made of metal; throw one of these to a drowning fisherman and all you'll do is speed up the process. The question is, why are we being told this by a group of youngsters from America? Did it never occur to anyone involved in the planning, constructing, painting, erecting or maintenance of these pieces of whimsy - or to anyone else in the city, for that matter - that pretending to have life-saving devices in areas where life-saving devices might be needed in a hurry was not a particularly clever thing to do?

