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**FIRE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
FIRE PROTECTION COMMAND**

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18 June 1997

FSD Circular Letter No. 7/97
Revised Fire Services Requirements for Refuge Floors

Further to my Circular Letter No. 1/97 issued on 13.2.1997 regarding the review on Fire Services requirements for refuge floors, the captioned issue was tabled for discussion in the Consultation Meeting on Review of Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSI Code) between this Department and representatives of concerned professional bodies and government departments held on 26.5.1997.

With a view to standardizing drencher requirements for refuge floors provided in high rise buildings which may have different fire service installations, members thoroughly deliberated the matter and agreed that all external wall openings of refuge floors shall be protected by an external drencher system. The alternative of providing external sprinkler heads for these openings in lieu of the drencher system was considered not appropriate due to the different function of sprinklers to that of a drencher system. Accordingly such designs will no longer be accepted.

This revised requirement will be applicable to all projects for which the initial building plan submission is received by this Department on or after 1.9.1997. However, project architects are strongly advised to adopt the revised requirement before the aforesaid effective date.

The requirements for refuge floors will be incorporated into the revised version of the FSI Code in due course.

Signed
(HSU King-ping)
for Director of Fire Services