

Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 13rd FSSAG Meeting (held on 22.6.2007)

1. Fire Protection Requirements in Construction Sites

The draft guidelines on “Fire protection measures in construction sites of super highrise buildings” were under reviewed by the Department at present.

2. New Arrangement for the Submission of Fire Service Installation Drawings for New Developments

It was agreed that the ‘Help Desk’ service in lieu of current Stage I Submissions would be feasible and explored for further implementation. Before the formal implementation, the current practice remained unchanged.

3. Graphical Symbol Exit Signs to be Used in Hong Kong

It was agreed that the design of exit signs within a single development should be consistent. For those provided in existing buildings. A Circular Letter for formal promulgation of the agreed design of exit signs would be issued accordingly.

4. Standardization of Testing Arrangement for Street Fire Hydrants

This latest version would be disseminated to members for comments.

5. Review of Requirements for AFA System by adopting BS 5839: Part 1: 2002

There had already been five meetings since the establishment of the subworking group. The review was up to Clause 25 of the Standard. The next meeting would be held on 12.7.2007.

6. Emergency Lighting System - FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2006

Currently there were two types of emergency lights conforming to the requirements of PPA/104A available in local market. The following website would allow anyone to access the most updated product and laboratory information.

<http://www.itc.gov.hk/en/quality/hkas/hoklas/directory/ee.htm>

7. Installation of Lower Layer Sprinkler Heads below Suspended Ceiling

A working group meeting with both the representatives of the AP and the FSICA was held on 13.6.2007. It was expected that further meeting of the working group would be needed to review all reference information collected. The details of the meeting would be confirmed in due course.

8. Uploading of Abridged Notes of Meeting onto FSD Website

The abridged notes of meeting up to the 11th FSSAG meeting had already been uploaded to the Department website.

9. The Acceptability on the Use of LCD Display ‘Only’ for Addressable Fire Alarm Panel in Addressable AFA System for Indicating the Zone Number and Zone Name of Fire Alarm Location

After exchanging views amongst members, it was concluded that LCD ‘only’ display was not desirable. To facilitate the efficient and effective operation of the frontline fire crews, LED display was needed.

10. Prescribed Condition for Accepting Single Sprinkler Tank for Multiple Buildings

The acceptance on the shared tank design would involve the Department’s full deliberation on different aspects such as system reliability, system configurations, ownership of system, potential risk, etc. There was no hard and fast rule on the application of special arrangements/designs of sprinkler systems to any development.

It was suggested that members and the trade should approach the New Projects Division for consultation if there was any uncommon system design prior to plan submission.

11. Location of Manual Call Point at Storey Exit to Staircase

For smoke lobby to where the sole exit door of a plant room/utility room/toilet was discharged. It was clarified and agreed by all that the item 2.2 in the Circular Letter no. 1/2002 was clear. According to it, the manual call point under such circumstances should be located inside the protected lobby before the entrance to the staircase.

12. Proper Maintenance of FSIs to Ensure Their Efficient Working Order

FSD was determined to enhance the related laws enforcement subsequent to the two

recent serious fire. Members were advised to ensure that prompt notification to FSD for shut down of FSIs or any change in information as required under the Fire Service (Installations Contractors) Regulations should be made, or otherwise FHAN would be served if such situation was identified.

13 Subsidiary Zone Valves

Members were advised that FSD would take action to strictly prevent the vandalism to the sprinkler subsidiary valve with a view to ensuring the effective operation of the sprinkler system. Members were requested to take proper action to physically secure the valves in open position.