

Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 25th FSSAG Meeting held on 29 June 2010

1. Management Enhancement to Prevent Unauthorized Access to the Sprinkler Subsidiary Zone Valves

FSICA had commented on the draft FSD Circular Letter on Sprinkler Subsidiary Stop Valves Management System. It was recommended that the FSICs would advise owners of the premises or management offices direct about the recommended measures in the Circular. The recommended measures in the Circular would take effect on the date of issue of the Circular letter and sample labels with both Chinese and English would be provided in the Circular Letter.

2. Provision of Visual Fire Alarm (VFA) Flashing Red Light in Hotels, Hostels and Guesthouses

The VAF issue would be brought up for review and discussion in the context of the review exercise of the FSCoP. FSD had received 397 FSD suggestions/comments from 19 professional bodies/departments in the FSI Code review. FSD was analyzing and consolidating the views received.

3. Provision of Control Panel at Caretaker's Office or Management Office

The meeting agreed that the issue would be brought up for review and discussion in the context of the review exercise of the FSCoP.

4. Sprinkler Protection of Concealed Spaces as per BSEN 12845 : 2003

The Loss Prevention Council had lately issued a Technical Bulletin TB 230: 2008: 1 to provide an alternative to Clause 5.4 in BS EN 12845: 2003 and item 2.2 in FSD Circular Letter 3/2006 under the topic of sprinkler protection of concealed spaces. Members agreed to further study the implications of the proposed new standard.

5. Sprinkler Systems Monitoring

According to Annex H, H.2.3 of BSEN 12845:2003 (E), the position of all normally open stop valves should be monitored as the closing of which could prevent the

correct operation of an alarm or indicating device. The exemption of the requirement of providing monitoring device for all gate valves in the pressure switch inside F.S. / sprinkler pump rooms was discussed.

6. Sprinkler Provision for Car Port

The requirements on fire service systems / installations / equipment in Section 4.9 of the FSI Code was discussed and clarified. FSICA had issued two examples to illustrate their understandings of the requirements of the FSI.

7. Sprinkler Provision of Residential Lift Lobby

Clarifications were sought on whether sprinkler protection at the garage would need to be extended to the residential tower lift lobby on G/F. FSICA had brought two examples to illustrate their understandings of the requirements of the FSI. Members understood that the FSI requirements should follow the FSI Code having regard to the intended use.

8. Clean Agent Automatic Fixed Sprayer Units

The issue of import banning of fire extinguishers containing scheduled substances had taken effect as mentioned in the Circular Letter No. 3/2009. New approval would not be given for the sale or supply of these fire extinguishers but those previously type-approved fire extinguishers containing scheduled substances might continue to be used until further notice. The use of the FM200 automatic fixed sprayer units with rated actuating temperature of 74°C to 79°C approved for protecting rooms up to 42.5m³ (as indicated in the List of Approved Portable Equipment at Gazette No. 4/2010) could meet the DG licensing requirements of FSD.

9. FSI Requirements in Construction Site Office

Members were clarified that the fire safety standard and specifications of the building site office should conform to the prescribed requirements for commercial low rise in the *Code of Practice of Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment*.