

Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 32nd FSSAG Meeting held on 20 March 2012

1. Provision of Visual Fire Alarm Flashing Red Light in Hotels, Hostels and Guesthouses

FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2012 Part I: Visual Fire Alarm Systems as Required under the Design Manual: Barrier Free Access 2008 & Part II: Checklist for Fire Detection and Fire Alarm System to BS 5839-1:2002+A2:2008 was issued on 28 February 2012. The Circular Letter would soon be uploaded to the FSD internet website. As no further action was required for this item, members agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

2. Local Application of the LPC Rules Incorporating BSEN 12845

The final draft was re-circulated for comment again in January 2012 and no further comment was received. In order to suit local practice, List-Item 2.118 had been amended and Item 2.119 added to List Two : Clauses to be replaced by modified conditions – LPC Rules for Automatic Sprinkler Installations Incorporating BS EN 12845:2003. The modified Table TB210.T5 would replace Table 16 to include the pressure requirement for high rise buildings. Subject to final endorsement, FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2012 would be issued and uploaded to the FSD internet website.

3. Separate pump sets for sprinkler installations in high rise buildings

It was concluded in the last meeting that following the same practice and requirement of clause 13.2 of BS 5306 Part 2, separate pump sets or pumps with multi-outlets for sprinkler installation in high rise building should continue to be adopted.

4. Waiving of Fire/Smoke Detector at Top of Lift Shafts

As the requirements on the provision of smoke detector inside the lift shafts had been agreed and cleared in the last meeting, and there was no further follow up action needed, members agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

5. Use of Concealed/Recessed Sprinklers for Ordinary Hazards

It was agreed and concluded by all members in the last meeting that concealed/recessed sprinklers were not suitable for use in sprinkler installation in basement and in areas requiring fast response sprinklers. As no further discussion/action was required for this item, members agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

6. Delisting of Fire Extinguishers Containing Scheduled Substances from the Government Gazette

Notifications were being delivered to owners/building managements of fuel tank rooms approved via Letters of Approval for the storage of Cat. 5 Class 3 DG. As no further action was required for this item, members agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

7. Interlocking of fixed fire pump and intermediate booster pump, sprinkler pump and sprinkler booster pump, etc.

Members discussed the subject matter in detail. The meeting concluded that the current configuration of the interlocking system should be maintained in accordance with the FSCoP and the fixed fire pump and the FS intermediate booster pump should be tested separately in the acceptance inspection. Such arrangement would also be applicable for automatic sprinkler systems and drencher systems with intermediate booster pump.

8. Capacity of Emergency Generator allowable for FS, sprinkler pumps

Members discussed the subject matter in detail. The meeting concluded that for safety reason the capacity of emergency generator had to be calculated according to the requirements of 5.8 of the FSCoP. Special cases might be considered on a case by case basis. The interlocking provision could not be applied on sprinkler system and the emergency generator system, taking into account the possibility of external fire which might operate multiple systems.

9. Audio/ visual advisory (AVA) system

Members exchanged views and discussed the subject matter in detail. Due to the complexity of the subject matter, members agreed to form a sub-working group to deal with the subject matter.

10. Fire Alarm System

Members exchanged views and discussed the subject matter in detail. The meeting concluded that the suggestion made by FSICA to allow locating the main alarm bell within 2m of the hose reel point was considered acceptable provided that the sound pressure level meeting the requirements of FSD.

11. Review of PPA 104 (Issued under cover of FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2006)

This item would be reviewed in the sub-working group meeting which was formed under item 9 above.

12. Application of Heat Collector for Lower Layer Sprinklers

It was clarified in the meeting that the application of heat collector was not a requirement of FSD, so the department would not object FSICA's proposal of not to install heat collector. Nevertheless, members were reminded that the installation of lower layer sprinklers should meet the requirement of FSD.