

Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons

Date : 15 March 2007 (Thursday)
Time : 1500 hours
Venue : Conference Room, Fire Safety Command, FSD

Matters Discussed in the Meeting :

1. Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, Cap. 572

The LegCo Panel on Security had given endorsement for the official implementation of Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance [FS(B)O], Cap 572, with effect from 1.7.2007. It was expected that the enforcement authorities, BD and FSD, would complete 9,000 pre-1987 target composite buildings in the first ten years and then with 3,000 residential buildings. BD and FSD would adopt a pragmatic and flexible approach in taking enforcement actions under Cap. 572. In addition, if the building owners had difficulties with their improvement works under Cap. 572, a “Building Management and Maintenance Scheme” being administered by the Hong Kong Housing Society could provide them with both technical and financial assistances. Financial assistance could also be obtained from the “Building Safety Loan Scheme” administered by the Buildings Department.

2. Proposed New Arrangements for the Submission of Fire Service Installation Drawings for New Development

As regards the proposal of “Help Desk” service, a working group comprising stakeholders including members of FSICA, HKIE, HKIA, HKIS and FSD had been set up.

3. Fire Protection Measures in Construction Sites of Super Highrise Buildings

The guidelines on “Fire protection measures in construction sites of super highrise buildings” were being drafted.

4. Graphical Symbol Exit Signs

An information paper on the designs of graphical symbol exit sign had been prepared by the working group formed under the Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG). The issue would be put forth for discussion in the coming meeting of FSSAG.

5. Uncollected General Building Plans in FSD

Legal advices on the procedures for disposal of prolonged uncollected plans had been

sought. To recover the unpaid fees for F. S. Certificates, Department of Justice would issue warning letters on behalf of FSD to remind the applicants that legal proceedings would be taken in case they still failed to pay fees and collect certificates.

On the other side, with regard to those uncollected plans being kept by FSD, letters would be issued shortly to remind the applicants that if they still failed to collect their plans within a specified time, those plans would be destroyed by FSD.

6. Staircase Pressurization System

A seminar on “Pressurization of Staircases” jointly organized by IFireE (HK Branch) and HKIE (Building Services Division) was successfully conducted on 1.2.2007. IFireE, HKIE and HKIA would further look into the matter to see whether additional seminar would be arranged for the trade.

7. Design of Fuel Tank Room

A “DOs and DON'Ts for Siting and Design of Fuel Tank Room for Emergency Generators” had been issued and uploaded onto the FSD homepage under the heading “Information Release – Fire Safety”.

8. Inspection Standard and Arrangement for Sprinkler Installation before completion of false ceiling for complying with LPC Rules

A working group with stakeholders would be called for with a view to identifying the best and practical ways to resolve the problem.

9. Zoning of Fire Alarms

FSD had recently conducted a review on Unwanted Alarms (UA) in Hong Kong. In the review, some mitigating measures to reduce the number of UA and to lower the nuisance caused to building occupants were recommended. FSD would draw up a detailed strategy for the implementation of the recommendations. APs would be reminded that for sprinklered commercial and hotel building projects, fire alarm on actuation were to sound on the floor below and two floors above the floor involved.

10. Provision of Service, Maintenance and Operation of the Computerized Fire Alarm Transmission System (CFATS)

A total of 4 service providers had commenced the provision of service, maintenance and operation of the CFATS in January 2007. Such information have been uploaded onto FSD homepage under the heading “What’s New”.

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