

Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons

Date : 13 September 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 Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance [FS(B)O], Cap 572, had commenced on 1.7.2007. BD and FSD had jointly conducted a number of introductory seminars for the trade and professionals concerned. In the event that owners encountered practical difficulties in complying with the fire safety requirements under FS(B)O, the enforcement authorities would handle the cases in flexible and pragmatic approach, for which relaxation of some requirements might be granted as appropriate. Some examples of possible relaxation had been laid down in FSD Circular Letter 3/2007 and uploaded to the FSD homepage.

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

As regards the proposal of “Help Desk” service, an information paper had been circulated to the Working Group members for consideration.

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

The guidelines on “Fire protection measures in construction sites of super highrise buildings” would soon be finalized.

4. Graphical Symbol Exit Signs

An FSD Circular Letter promulgating the implementation details of graphical symbol exit signs was under preparation.

5. Uncollected General Building Plans in FSD

The conditions, including fee charging and disposal of uncollected plans, had been put forth as proposed amendments to “Practice Note for Authorized Persons and Registered Structural Engineers 30” (PNAP 30) for BD’s consideration.

6. Staircase Pressurization System

The concerned parties would schedule an additional seminar on “Pressurization of

Staircases” for the trade.

7. Inspection Standard and Arrangement for Sprinkler Installation before Completion of False Ceiling for Complying with LPC Rules

Regarding the size of backing boards/panels required for trapping heat to activate sprinkler heads, some AP representatives had provided the information about heat collecting plate being practiced in other cities for reference. Upon receipt of more data from academic side, the Working Group would further discuss on this item.

8. Smoke Extraction System in Basement Carpark

To address the trade’s concerns, FSD would explore the possibility of formulating some guidelines/ criteria on this subject.

9. Confirmation Letters Required at Application for Fire Services Completion Certificate

Regarding the trade’s concern on the fire rated materials and products, confirmation letter from AP was not required provided that copies of the certificates for lining materials could be provided during site inspection. One single letter to confirm all the involved items was also welcomed.

10. Maintenance of Building FSI

The meeting was informed of a new mechanism on handling FS 251 on defective FSI. FSD Operational personnel at local fire stations would, upon receipt of FS 251 on defective FSI, visit the building to conduct risk assessment. For such cases, warning letters would be issued to owners/ property management for taking remedial action.

11. Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme

A Consultation Paper on the “Implementation of Third Party Fire Safety Certification by Introducing a Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme in Hong Kong”, including the proposed authorization to RFE to certify licensed premises at initial stage, would soon be issued to seek the trade’s comments on its implementation.

END