



消防處處長
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處長回顧

對於消防處而言，2008年委實充滿挑戰。我們慶祝了140週年，而我們同時亦完成了幾項獨特而無可比擬的工作。

Director's Review

To the Department, 2008 was a year of challenges. We celebrated our 140th anniversary and at the same time we accomplished some major tasks that were both unparalleled and unprecedented.

去年三月，一艘烏克蘭補給船與一艘散裝貨輪於大小磨刀洲附近海面相撞後，本處隨即派員展開大規模水底搜救行動。補給船傾覆後沉沒在37米深的海床，本處人員，包括91名潛水員，連續八天日以繼夜奮力搜救困於沉船的失蹤海員。在行動中，本處人員充分展示剛勇無懼、克盡厥職的精神，彰顯了本處珍視的服務信念。去年五月，四川發生慘烈的大地震。本處特別救援隊迅速反應，為協助同胞而盡一分力。救援隊43名隊員雖然面對重重危險，而且餘震頻仍，但隊員全力以赴，展現高度專業以及先人後己的精神，因而廣受社會各界讚譽，並且得到國家領導人高度表揚。

在工具及裝備方面，我們將會在今年底前引入一款新式呼吸器，以加強前線人員的行動效能。此外，我們正在評估一款由電池推動的新型爆破工具。我們亦會更換目前已經使用超過十年的無線電系統。同時，我們現正物色一款可為行動人員提供最佳保護的防火外衣。為維持防火外衣在保護方面的耐用性，我們正研究一套周全的清洗及保養方法。

在防火工作方面，鑑於去年八月旺角嘉禾大廈發生五級大火慘劇，而該場大火造成四人死亡，包括兩名消防員殉職，我們隨即採取四管齊下的方式處理舊式樓宇的消防安全問題。除了宣傳及執法之外，我們亦着重主動的定期巡查以及社區的參與。我們於十月成立了一支「特遣執法隊」，主動巡查舊式樓宇，一旦發現任何火警危險，便會即時處理。同時，我們已開始試行「樓宇安全特使」計劃，藉此鼓勵公眾參與保障他們所居住或工作的樓宇。

A massive underwater search and rescue operation was conducted immediately after the collision of a Ukrainian supply vessel with a bulk carrier off Brothers Island in March. Service members, including 91 divers, worked round the clock for eight days to search for missing seamen who were trapped inside the capsized ship which sank to seabed at 37 metres deep. The bravery and dedication demonstrated by members in the operation were a reflection of the values of the Department. In May after the devastating earthquake in Sichuan occurred, our Special Rescue Squad responded swiftly to assist fellow countrymen. Working under extremely dangerous conditions with severe aftershocks happening from time to time, the professionalism and selfless dedication of our 43-member team not only won wide acclaim from the community but also praises from our national leaders.

On the provision of tools and equipment, we will introduce a brand new breathing apparatus to enhance operational efficiency before the end of this year. New battery-powered breaking-in tools are now under evaluation. We will replace the radio system that has been in use for over a decade, and are in the course of identifying a fire tunic which offers the best protection to our firefighters. To retain the fire tunic's protective serviceability, a total approach for cleansing and maintenance is being examined.

In fire protection, we have engineered a four-pronged approach to tackle the fire safety problems of old buildings in the wake of the tragic No.5 alarm fire in Cornwall Court at Mong Kok occurred in August. The fire killed four persons, including two firefighters. Apart from publicity and enforcement, proactive periodic checks and community participation are equally important. We set up the Special Enforcement Unit in October to proactively conduct inspections of old buildings so that any fire hazards detected would be dealt with immediately. A Building Fire Safety Envoy Scheme was also put on trial at around the same time to encourage the public's participation in safeguarding buildings where they live or work.

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在緊急救護服務方面，我們已取得2.4億元的撥款，在2010年之前用以更換196部救護車。首100部救護車將於2009年分批投入服務，而當全數196部救護車投入服務後，救護車的平均車齡將會少於兩年。此外，我們會全力以赴，繼續提升服務質素。為此，我們一直聯同保安局研究推行「救護車調派分級制」。顧問報告現已完成，我們正考慮進行公眾諮詢，蒐集市民對分級制的意見。另一方面，二零零七年推行的「救心先鋒」計劃，由於成效顯著，廣受社會稱許，我們因此會進一步推廣此項計劃。

作為精英部隊，我們推出誠信管理計劃，印發「行為及紀律守則」，為我們的誠信管理路向，釐定有力而便於推行的方法。另一方面，本處已成立火警調查組，以期提升屬員調查火警的專業能力。此外，我們亦成立「壓力輔導組」，負責處理屬員的心理需要。

消防處一直十分重視訓練，務使屬員與時並進。為了加強前線消防人員在事故現場的指揮能力，位於黃大仙消防局內的「現場指揮系統訓練中心」已於零八年正式啟用。此外，為潛水組提供全天候訓練設施的昂船洲潛水基地，亦將於二零零九年啟用。另一方面，我們正向政府全力爭取撥地，興建一所新的消防訓練學院，以取代八鄉消防訓練學校。我很高興在此匯報，我們已經初步爭取到一幅位於將軍澳的新校用地。

On emergency ambulance services, we have secured funding amounting to \$240 million to replace a total of 196 ambulances by 2010. The first 100 ambulances are scheduled to be put into service in 2009 in batches. When all the 196 ambulances are in service, the average age of our ambulance fleet will be under two years. We will continue our efforts to enhance service quality. In this regard, we have been examining implementation of the Medical Priority Despatch System in conjunction with the Security Bureau. The consultancy report has been completed and we are considering conducting a public consultation to gauge the public's views on the System. Meanwhile, the Heart Saver Scheme introduced in 2007 has proved to be effective and well received by society. We will continue our efforts to further expand the Scheme.

To build a robust workforce, we have successfully rolled out the Integrity Management Programme, and published the Code on Conduct and Discipline that will provide us with a powerful and convenient tool to chart our course in integrity management. The Fire Investigation Team for raising fire investigation expertise and the Stress Counselling Team for addressing psychological needs of members have been established.

We put great emphasis on training to keep the brigade abreast of the latest developments. The Incident Command Training Centre at Wong Tai Sin Fire Station was commissioned in 2008 to strengthen frontline staff's command ability. The Diving Base on Stonecutters Island will be ready in 2009 to provide an all-weather training facility for the Diving Team. Meanwhile, we are endeavouring for the allocation of a site to build a new fire services academy to replace the Fire Services Training School at Pat Heung. I am glad to report our initial success in securing a replacement site at Tseung Kwan O.

要回顧二零零八年，我們當然不能夠不提「職系架構檢討」。去年十一月，紀律人員薪俸及服務條件常務委員會（下稱「紀常會」）向行政長官提交了一份報告。「紀常會」在報告內提出了多項建議，包括調整員佐級及主任級職系的起薪點及頂薪點、增設一項新津貼以反映所涉及的特殊能力及危險，以及增設員佐級基本職級人員的長期服務增薪點。「紀常會」亦認同，相對於其他紀律部隊，消防人員的工作時數較長。根據政府提出毋須耗用額外資源、不涉及額外人手，以及維持現時公眾服務水平的三個前提，我們正在探討一些試行方案。

回顧過去，我們要感謝諸位消防前賢，他們矢志追求卓越，為我們創下種種懋績，使我們可以在他們所建立的良好基礎上，開展新的工作計劃。展望未來，我們仍然秉承「精誠卓越，為民解困」的宗旨，並以「擁抱轉變，迎接未來」的態度，奮厲苦幹，穩步發展。我深信，憑着全體人員專業盡責的服務精神，我們當必剛堅勇毅，無懼考驗，全力克服未來的種種挑戰，繼續為市民提供優質服務。

We cannot end our review without mentioning the Grade Structure Review. In November, the Standing Committee on Disciplined Services Salaries and Conditions of Service (SCDS) submitted its report to the Chief Executive. The report contained a series of recommendations including adjustments in the minimum and maximum scale of the rank and file and officers' grades, introduction of a new allowance to recognise special competence and danger as well as additional long service increments in the rank and file basic ranks. The SCDS also recognised the extra long working hours of fire personnel amongst all disciplined forces. Based on the Government's three prerequisites of being cost neutral, not involving additional manpower and maintaining the same level of service to the public, we are exploring possible options for trial run.

In retrospect, we have to thank our great predecessors for their relentless pursuit of excellence that has allowed us to build upon their success. Looking ahead we will continue our commitment to strive for excellence while rising up to new challenges and changes that come with time and from our community. And I believe that with the dedication and support of our Service members, we will have no fear in overcoming any new challenges that lie ahead and at the same time providing quality service to the community.

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