

# **Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)**

## Matters Discussed in the 45<sup>th</sup> FSSAG Meeting held on 14 September 2015

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

As further comments had been received from the Hong Kong Electrical Contractors' Association (HKECA) on Emergency Lighting System with Central Power Supply which had not been discussed in the 8<sup>th</sup> Sub-working Group meeting, a meeting would have to be arranged to discuss the comments.

### **2. Review on fire resisting cable requirements for fire service installations**

The draft FSD Circular Letter (CL) on the revised minimum fire resisting cable requirements for fire service installations had been submitted to the management of FSD for deliberation.

If the item on the exempted list in the CL was observed in doubt or with complicated situation, it was better to seek FSD's advice or to use fire resisting cables, especially those areas not protected by sprinklers. Fire safety concept should better be applied during design stage and the proper use of fire resisting cables was crucial for the continuous operation of FSI in case of a fire. The Sub-working Group would continue to work out how to extend the protection to cover the FSI component devices.

### **3. Enhancement on Application procedure for Approval/Acceptance of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSI) and other Products**

The enhancement programme was in Phase 5 (Final stage). The revised Fire Protection Notice No.15 would be launched in due course, and the enhancement would be announced formally through FSD Circular Letter.

### **4. Review of the Requirements for Emergency Lighting**

The 1st Sub-working Group meeting had been held on 5.5.2015. The 2nd Sub-working Group meeting had been held on 11.9.2015 and relevant standards/documents/codes of practice were identified to be studied.

**5. Proposed Symbol for Novec 1230 Fixed Sprayer Units**

The proposed revision on the Para. 8 of Part VIII FSCL No. 4/96 and the comparison table had been forwarded to FSSAG's members for comment on 25.6.2015. Comments received were being studied. It had been observed in the course of study that some information on clean agents were outdated. Such being the case, members had no objection to expand the scope of review on the subject matter and amend this item to read as "Review of Clean Fire Extinguishing Agents including Novec 1230" with effect from the next FSSAG meeting.

**6. FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2015 "Documents Required for Application for Compliance Inspection on Fire Service Installations"**

As FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2015 had been issued and took effect since June 2015, members agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

**7. Requirements for Calibration and Tamper-proof for Testing Instruments Used for Compliance Inspections**

The draft FSD Circular Letter on the calibration requirements for testing instruments used for compliance inspections of fire service installations had been submitted to the management of FSD for deliberation.

**8. Implementation of BS 5839: 2013 "Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems for Buildings – Part 1: Code of Practice for Design, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Systems in Non-domestic Premises"**

The requirements of BS 5839:2013 were being reviewed. The 1st Sub-working Group meeting would be held in October 2015. Critical issues encountered in the course of the review could be discussed and dealt with separately.

**9. Provision of securing devices to prevent the Gate Valve of FS tank from being tampered or inadvertently turned off**

It was noted during a recent post-fire investigation that a gate valve installed along the piping system of a Fire Hydrant / Hose Reel System was shut in the `close

position' by unknown person(s) thus rendering the system not in efficient working order which might constitute a fire hazard within the meaning of section 2 of the Fire Services Ordinance, Cap 95, Laws of Hong Kong. To prevent the recurrence of similar incident, it was proposed to adopt a Gate Valves Management System (GVMS), which was similar to the Sprinkler Subsidiary Stop Valve Management System as promulgated in FSD Circular Letter No. 4/2010

After discussion, it was concluded that a draft FSD Circular Letter regarding the subject matter would be circulated to members for comments before the next FSSAG meeting.

#### **10. Emergency Power supply for Lift Homing**

Members exchanged views and discussed the issue in detail. Due to the complexity of the issue, it was concluded that FSD would list out the conditions and requirements for providing emergency power supply from the building emergency generator for lift homing operation while representatives of FSICA to gather views of their members, in particular electrical contractors on the impact of the subject matter. With all these additional information in hand, the issue could be further discussed in the next meeting.

#### **11. Provision of Sprinkler Inlet**

In view of its technicality and to assure correct interpretation of the modified clause adopted in FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2012, FSD would conduct an in-house discussion on the subject matter before clarifying the system flow requirement for calculation of the provision of sprinkler inlet.