

Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 50th FSSAG Meeting held on 9 January 2017

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

The 10th Sub-working Group (SWG) meeting was held on 2.12.2016. As SWG's members had no further comment on the revised PPA/104 and PPA/104(A)(5th Revision) adopting the new BS 5266-1: 2016 and BS EN 1838: 2013 standards, the draft would be issued to members of FSSAG for final review.

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

The 12th SWG meeting was held on 30.11.2016. The revised draft "Minimum Fire Resisting Cable Requirements for Fire Service Installations" adopting the new fire resisting cable standards was issued to members of the SWG for comment on 9.12.2016. As SWG's members had no further comment on the draft, it would be issued to members of FSSAG for final review.

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 was expected to be launched in the first quarter of 2017 and the enhancement would be announced formally through Circular Letter.

4. Review of the Requirements for Emergency Lighting

The draft meeting notes for the 4th SWG meeting were circulated to SWG members for comment.

5. Review of Clean Fire Extinguishing Agents including Novec 1230

The main context of the draft Circular Letter (CL) was circulated to FSSAG members for comment on 29 December 2016 and only minor comments were

received from members. The final draft of the CL incorporating those comments was tabled for discussion and agreement of FSSAG members in the meeting.

The issue was discussed in the meeting. It was concluded that FSD would revise the draft CL according to the discussion made in the meeting and submit the draft CL to FSD's management for endorsement.

6. 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 draft proposal for implementation of BS 5839-1:2013 and the requirements stipulated in other relevant FSD Circular Letters would be reviewed and discussed in the coming SWG meetings.

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

The relevant Circular Letter was signed and uploaded onto the FSD website in mid-November 2016. As no further discussion was required for the issue, the meeting agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

8. Automatic Actuation Devices for Lifts Not Discharging to Protected Means of Escape (Heading in 46th FSSAG Meeting : FSI Requirements for Buildings with Lifts Serving Direct to Occupancy)

With reference to the revised proposal to override all car calls on upper floors by AAD (Automatic Actuation Device) and initiate the home landing operation, the EMSD had replied with no further comment. As members had no further comment to make, a relevant FSD Circular Letter would be prepared by the New Projects Division of FSD.

9. Fire Alarm Signal and Sounding for AFA System and Sprinkler System for Residential Flats with Open Kitchen

The proposed amendment had been incorporated in the minutes of last meeting and the minutes was endorsed by members of the 50th FSSAG meeting. As no further discussion on the issue was required, the meeting agreed to delete the item in the

next meeting.

10. Operation Instruction Notice of Hose Reel

This item had been thoroughly discussed in the last meeting and members did not have further points to raise. The meeting agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

11. Flashing Requirement for Exit Sign and Directional Sign in Audio / Visual Advisory System (AVAS)

The issue was discussed in the meeting. It was concluded that both FSD and FSICA were asked to give some thoughts on the issue with a view to suggesting some wordings or description that could help clarifying or elaborating the flashing requirement for directional sign in AVAS for discussion in the next FSSAG meeting.

12. Actuation Temperature of Heat detector(s) under the Fire Safety Requirements for D.G. Store

Having discussed with the Dangerous Goods Division, the adjustment proposal was supported. Subject to the approval of the Senior Management, DG Division would amend all relevant F.S. requirements accordingly.

13. Clarification for Actuation and Control for Pressurization of Staircase and Smoke Extraction System

According to Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment, multiplex or similar device should not be used for staircase pressurization systems while control system for smoke extraction systems should be as simple as possible. Therefore, conventional control panel with hard-wiring should be used for these systems unless a project-based approval on use of other complex electronic devices such as listed PLC panels had been given. Regarding provision and locations of control panels, members were recommended to make reference to relevant clauses of the “Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment” and FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2006.

As the FSI/314 involved a lot of designs, contractors should appoint a RPE to

check and ensure that the relevant designs of the project were in compliance with the standards stipulated before submitting FSI/314 to FSD. If alternative design involved, consultant / contractor should seek FSD's approval as early as possible.

14. Alarm and Monitoring of Sprinkler System--BS EN 12845:2003

According to the LPC Rule for Automatic Sprinkler Installations incorporating BS EN 12845 (with suitable modification pertinent to Hong Kong), a single alarm motor and gong might be installed common to a group of wet alarm valves provided that these valves were situated in the same valve room. Besides, it was recommended that an external indicating lamp for each alarm valve should be installed adjacent to the alarm gong with a clear individual notice.

As no further question on the issue was raised, the meeting agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

15. Clarification for System Integrity and Circuitry of Fire Alarm and Detection System--BS 5839-1:2002 + A2 : 2008

Provision of short-circuit or open-circuit isolators was clearly described in the item 2.17 of FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2009. The FSICA's interpretation was considered in line with the requirement and was acceptable provided that the zoning requirements as stipulated in the item 2.24 of this Circular Letter and other relevant requirements as stipulated in the FSI Code and other circular letters were fully complied with.

As no further question on the issue was raised, the meeting agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.