

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

### Matters Discussed in the 55<sup>th</sup> FSSAG Meeting held on 29 June 2018

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

The updated draft of PPA 104 and PPA 104A had been circulated to members for final review. Members were requested to advise their comments in one month for onward preparation of FSD Circular Letter for formal promulgation.

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

In view of the full speed progress on Sub-working group (SWG) for BS EN 12845:2015, BS 5839-1:2017 and BS 5266-1 concurrently, the forming of the new SWG for fire resisting cables requirements would be halted at present. During the interim, if problems encountered in a project, FSD of FSD should always be approached for advice. If the problem really could not be solved at the working level and required clarification in the FSSAG meeting, it could be brought up for discussion. Meanwhile, the item would be put on shelf until the restart of the SWG meeting.

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

The enhancement programme was in Final stage (Phase 5). A study on the incorporation of continuous surveillance mechanism for quality assurance was still being conducted. The Fire Protection Notice No.15 with the Circular Letter would be launched in due course.

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

The 6<sup>th</sup> SWG meeting would be arranged later. The update would be reported in the next meeting.

**5. 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 notes of last meeting was issued and the corresponding sections of 2017 edition had been sent to members for their review on the standard. It was planned to meet the SWG members in August 2018.

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

It had been agreed in the last meeting that the real site test with different flashing lights color would be carried out to test the performance of different color of flashing light. The revised proposal for site test had been received and circulated to all members for comments on 9 April 2018. [Post-meeting Notes : A demonstration test regarding the flashing effect on visual part of AVAS was arranged by FSICA on 11 July 2018 for FSSAG members. A “Flashing Test Record for Visual Part of AVA System” prepared by FSICA was forwarded to all FSSAG members on 26 September 2018 for information.]

**7. Review on LPC Sprinkler Rules 2015 incorporating BS EN 12845**

The sub-working group (SWG) for Review on LPC rules incorporating BS 12845-2015 had been set up. The first and second SWG meetings were held on 10 May 2018 and 6 June 2018 respectively. The next meeting was scheduled for 4 July 2018. The targeted date to accomplish this task was early 2019.

**8. Briefing to the Construction Industry in relation to Building Plan Submission and FSI Acceptance Inspection on 24.11 2017**

To facilitate the construction industry in meeting the huge upsurge demand for infrastructure and building construction, FSD had taken initiatives on conducting a briefing to the construction industry for sharing views on Building Plan Submission and FSI Acceptance Inspection on 24.11.2017. After the briefing, a series of initiatives had been adopted and implemented by FSD for further enhancing the overall effectiveness of acceptance inspection. Another briefing was then conducted on 25.6.2018 for reviewing the effectiveness of various initiatives, such as: pre-inspection meeting and document checklist etc., with various trade

representatives. The response was very supportive.

During the briefing conducted on 25.6.2018, some attendees asked if FSD could release the vetting result of FSI/314 submission for smoke control systems to the owner of the project. FSD critically reviewed the request and FSID could copy comments arising from FSI/314 drawings vetting to the AP or owner of the project for their information if they could provide a duly signed consent form with relevant contact information to FSID under the cover of FSI/314 submission. Upon no adverse comment received for the proposal, the proposal would be implemented shortly to further enhance the transparency of the submission vetting of FSI/314 for smoke control systems. [Post-meeting Notes : The proposal was discussed in the Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons on 22.8.2018 and the proposal was agreed by all members of the meeting.]

Some members requested FSD to simplify the document checklist. After discussion, it seemed difficult to simplify the checklist due to technical requirements. Members were suggested to give further thought to this issue and try to come up with some proposals for discussion in the next meeting.

#### **9. Exit Sign (Clause 5.10 of COP)**

It was agreed in the meeting that this item would be merged with item 12 for discussion. Such being the case, item 9 would be deleted in the next meeting.

#### **10. Fire Service Equipment Product Approval**

According to FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2007, if the FS products or equipment were not listed products, they could be submitted to FSD for assessment with valid test reports to verify their compliance with the related standards. To strictly follow the requirements, FSD would request for the valid test reports for the products or equipment with maximum validity of 10 years. Other than the test reports, assessment reports on the performance of the products or equipment would only be deemed as supporting reports based on the valid test reports. Members were reminded to note that assessment report was not equivalent to test report. Assessment report only served for reference.

**11. FSD Approval for Fire Resistant Cable and FS Equipment**

Regarding the acceptance of fire service installations and equipment (FSI), any FSI which was required by FSD for the protection of buildings should be of an accepted type. If the equipment had not yet been listed by Product Certificate Bodies (PCBs), it should be accepted by FSD. Procedure of application for acceptance as stated in FSD Circular Letter 1/2007 should be followed.

**12. Colour Contrast for Exit and Directional Sign**

The proposed colour combination prepared by FSICA was discussed in detail but no solution could be come up in the meeting. The issue would be further discussed in the next meeting.

**13. Review and evaluation of Sprinkler Stop Valve Management System (SSSMVS) and Stop Valve Management System (SMVS)**

It was agreed in the meeting that the issue was worthwhile for consideration and discussion in FSSAG meeting. Nevertheless, as the issue would involve the concern of other stake-holders, the meeting agreed that initial consultation amongst relevant parties would be conducted and if possible the result could be reported in the next meeting.

**14. Fire Shutter Operation**

The inspection requirements on the actuating detectors controlling the fire shutters for fire compartmentation should follow the requirements of 5.2 of the FSCoP. Actuation of any one detector for fire shutters forming compartment should operate all fire shutters for that fire compartment openings. However, in case the operation of fire shutters was formulated in the fire engineering report, the endorsed principle laid down in the fire engineering reports should be followed to achieve the formulated fire safety strategy. Regarding the fusible link, Members should note that it was under the requirement of Buildings Department and was not FSI. Such being the case, the fusible link would not be discussed in the meeting.

**15. Minor Changes on Smoke Extraction Drawing (SED) or Staircase Pressurization Drawing (SPD) occurred after approval**

The issue was discussed in detail. The discussion revealed that the issue might cause some technical and administrative problems that would affect many parties concerned. For submission of plan, it was understood that one of the important points during the FSD's acceptance inspection was the matching of the original approved plan with the final revised plan. According to current practice of FSD, priority would be given to the first submission of plan and the final plan. In order to shorten the lead time for submission of revised plan, it might consider putting all the minor changes/revision of the project taken place during the interim in the final plan for submission.