

Fire Safety Standard Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 58th FSSAG Meeting held on 29 March 2019

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

As all comment from FSSAG's member on PPA 104 and 104A (5th Revision) had been cleared, the draft guidelines and relevant circular letter had been submitted to the Senior Management of FSD for endorsement.

2 Enhancement on Application Procedure for Approval/Acceptance of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSI) and other Products

The draft revised version of Fire Protection Notice No.15 and FSI application form had been circulated to the members of FSSAG after last meeting and comments were received from members. The working group was studying the comments and preparing the final draft of the Notice which would then be submitted to the Senior Management for endorsement before issue.

3 Review of the Requirements for Emergency Lighting

The 8th sub-working (SWG) meeting was held on 4.3.2019. The overall review on BS5266 and BSEN1838 was completed. The review result had been circulated to all SWG members for final review.

4 Implementation of BS 5839: 2017 “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 review was still underway with all members' open and active discussions and review on the Standard with due careful deliberation. The 7th meeting was held on 8.3.2019 and the 8th SWG meeting would be held on 29.4.2019.

5 Review on LPC Sprinkler Rules 2015 incorporating BS EN 12845

The 8th sub-working group (SWG) meeting was held on 20 February 2019, all the contents on LPC Rules incorporating BS EN 12845 had been gone through during the meetings and the first draft review would soon be circulated to the members of

SWG for further review and comments. The targeted date to accomplish this task was within year 2019.

6 Review and evaluation of Sprinkler Stop Valve Management System (SSSMVS) and Stop Valve Management System (SMVS)

Building Services Operation and Maintenance Executives Society (BSOMES) had been contacted and they would like to send representative to attend the FSSAG meeting on ad hoc basis. Members of FSSAG had no objection to the aforesaid arrangement, BSOMES would be invited to send representative to attend the next FSSAG meeting scheduled for June 2019. Liaison with REDA was still underway. The meeting agreed to invite REDA to send representative to attend the next FSSAG meeting.

7 Proposed Amendment to FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2005

During the last FSSAG meeting, the draft copy of the revision was circulated for seeking members' view. As there was no comment received after one month, the draft was sent to the Senior Management of FSD for consideration. The FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2019 was then issued on 15.1.2019 for promulgating the updated requirements. As the task was completed, this item would be deleted in the next meeting.

8 Alarm Signals and Display for Automatic Fixed Installation other than Water and Drencher System (FSICA)

Regarding "Automatic fixed installation other than water (Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing System)", items 1 and 2 were considered appropriate to be connected to the Fire Services Communication Centre (FSCC) as the scenario would likely involve fire and rescue that required immediate attention and action. Items 3 and 4 were considered not necessary to be connected to the FSCC because the system could be switched to the manual mode waiting for the building management to assess if the situation should be reported to the Police. Since the Drencher System was considered as a supplementary provision, it was considered not necessary to have a direct line connecting to the FSCC. Furthermore, it was recommended that a one-line system routed through the building was preferable because multi-alarm might cause unnecessary extra manpower during operation. FSD would only consider the provision of two-line system on a case-by-case basis.

No matter what kind of automatic system applied, all fire safety related standards should be taken into account at the design stage. FSICA would revise where appropriate the content according to the discussion made in the meeting for further discussion in the next FSSAG meeting.

9 Smoke Extraction System associated with Fire Engineering Design with Verification by Hot Smoke Test (HST)

FSD reminded that HST was a test required by FSI Code in case the criteria laid down in the Codes of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSI Code) and FSD Circular Letter (CL) No. 2/2002 were met.

Before carrying out the HST according to FSI Code for verifying the performance of SES on site, the APs/consultants/ Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSICs) would be required to submit a HST methodology to the Fire Service Installations Division for review and acceptance.

HST should be conducted at the final stage of acceptance inspection. To facilitate the trade to successfully conduct the HSTs, the APs/consultants/RFSICs were reminded to conduct their own mock-up tests without the attendance of FSD prior to the formal HSTs in the acceptance inspection.

10 Points to note during Inspection, Maintenance, Modification or Repair of FSI

FSD had recently issued an Advisory Letter (AL) to all Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSICs) on the points to note during the inspection, maintenance, modification or repair of fire service installations and equipment (FSI), in particular on the following aspects:-

- Notification mechanism for shutdown of FSI;
- Minimizing the impacts of FSI works;
- Proper maintenance of moving parts of FSI systems; and
- Duty and responsibility of RFSICs.

11 Guidance Notes on Submission, Approval and Acceptance Inspection of FSI in Modular Integrated Construction Building Projects (FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2019)

FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2019 – “Guidance Notes on Submission, Approval and Acceptance Inspection of Fire Service Installations and Equipment in Modular Integrated Construction Building Projects” was issued to all recipients of FSD Circular Letters and Authorized Persons on 22 march 2019.

The Guidance Notes aimed to facilitate the industry in meeting the standards and requirement of Fire Service Installations and equipment (FSI) for building projects adopting Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) method. The arrangement of submission, approval and acceptance inspection of FSI in MiC building projects were generally the same as conventional building projects and FSD would adopt the same standard in scrutinizing general building plan submissions and conducting FSI acceptance inspections. Notwithstanding the above, all RFSICs were requested to strictly adhere to the relevant procedures and requirements stipulated in the FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2015.

12 Checklists for Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of FSI

For the purpose of offering guidelines for FSI annual inspection or maintenance procedures, “Inspection, Testing and Maintenance Checklists” in respect of Fire Hydrant / Hose Reel Systems and Supply Tanks specifying the maintenance and testing requirements had been firstly introduced. Views and comments amongst relevant parties / stakeholders on the contents of checklists would be collected. Checklists for other systems would also be introduced in due course.