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17 August 2016

To: All Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,

### Disposal of fire extinguishers

This letter reminds all Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSICs) of the requirement to properly handle and dispose of unserviceable fire extinguishers. RFSICs must follow appropriate procedures when discharging an unserviceable extinguisher or recovering its contents prior to disposal. For details, please refer to the Notes on Fire Extinguishers as set out in Appendix 11 of the Codes of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment and Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installations and Equipment.

The disposal of unserviceable fire extinguishers with contents and stored pressure is subject to control by the Environmental Protection Department under the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354) (the Ordinance) and its subsidiary legislation the Waste Disposal (Chemical Waste) (General) Regulation. Empty fire extinguishers should be properly disposed of or recycled. Illegal dumping of empty extinguishers is an offence under the Ordinance. Any person who illegally disposes of unserviceable or empty fire extinguishers commits a crime and is liable to penalties under the Ordinance upon conviction and may be required to pay for the cost of handling, removal and disposal of such fire extinguishers.

It is the duty of RFSICs to properly dispose of unserviceable or empty fire extinguishers. Improper disposal of such fire extinguishers poses risks to the public and may result in prosecution.

For enquiries, please contact Senior Station Officer (Investigation & Research) at 2733 7827.

Yours faithfully,



(LI Chun-kit)  
for Director of Fire Services