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消防安全總區

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31 October 2016

To: Recipients of FSD Circular Letters

Dear Sirs/Madams,

**FSD Circular Letter No. 5/2016**  
**Revised Supply Tank Requirement for Hose Reel System**  
**in Connection with the Enforcement of**  
**the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572), Laws of Hong Kong**

This Circular Letter serves to announce the revised supply tank requirement for hose reel system in connection with the enforcement of the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572) (here-in-after as 'the Ordinance'). This Circular Letter should be read in conjunction with FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2007.

At present, a fire hydrant/hose reel system is required for certain types of composite buildings and domestic buildings (here-in-after as 'target buildings') in accordance with the provisions of the Ordinance. In enforcing the Ordinance in a flexible and pragmatic manner, target buildings of six storeys or below or less than 20 metres in height with one of the major facades accessible by fire appliances via the emergency vehicular access, the fire hydrant/hose reel system requirement may be relaxed such that only the installation of a hose reel system is required. The relaxation has been detailed in FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2007. As a general rule, a hose reel system shall be equipped with a supply tank of 2,000 litres effective capacity. However, some building owners still encounter difficulties in installing the supply tank owing to spatial/structural constraints. In the light of this, FSD has conducted a risk assessment study with a view to further assisting the building owners concerned to comply with the fire safety improvement requirements.

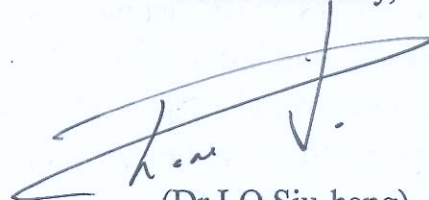
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The study demonstrates that the supply tank requirements can be appropriately adjusted with reference to FSD's emergency response time. Currently, this Department pledges to respond to building fire calls within 6 minutes in built-up areas and within 9 to 23 minutes in areas of dispersed risks and isolated developments. With due consideration of the said response time and the objective to improve fire safety standards under the Ordinance, the requirement for the effective supply tank capacity of the hose reel system for target buildings has been revised and tabulated below:

For Target Buildings within:	Requirements for the Effective Supply Tank Capacity of the Hose Reel System (in litres)
Built-up Areas	500
Dispersed Risks and Isolated Developments Areas	750 to 1,500

The revised supply tank requirement for hose reel system has taken effect on 12 October 2016.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr LO Siu-hang)  
for Director of Fire Services