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LICENSING AND CERTIFICATION COMMAND
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30 June 2022

To: Recipients of FSD Circular Letters

Dear Sir/Madam,

FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2022

Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems – Review and Annual Inspection of Enclosure Integrity

This Circular Letter serves to announce the requirement of **review and annual inspection of enclosure integrity** for premises being protected by Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems (“the system”) complying to the NFPA Standard 2001: 2018 edition or edition thereafter (“the Standard”).

NFPA Standard 2001 is one of the standards accepted by the Fire Services Department (FSD) which is widely adopted by the trade for the application of clean agent fire extinguishing systems in Hong Kong. According to the Standard, it is required for approval of installations that “*quantitative results shall be obtained and recorded to indicate that the specified agent concentration for the specified duration of protection...*”. In view that such provision is to ascertain the enclosure integrity of maintaining the clean agent concentration during system’s operation, the applicability and practicability of the requirement for the local adoption had been discussed in the Fire Safety Standards Advisory Group (FSSAG). After comprehensive discussions and extensive consultations with the trade and respective stakeholders, the FSSAG had agreed that a test report justifying the compliance of the enclosure integrity with the Standard shall be submitted in the following circumstances: -

(a) Installation in New Buildings

The test report(s) with the signature of a Registered Fire Service Installation Contractor (RFSIC), who is responsible for the installation works, shall be submitted along with the documents for application of acceptance inspection in new buildings as stipulated in FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2020.

(b) Installation of New System in Occupied Premises

The test report(s) with signature of an RFSIC, who is responsible for the installation works, shall be submitted together with a Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FS 251), in addition to Form FSI/314A along with required plans and documents pursuant to FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2021.

According to the Standard, any changes in the premises' barrier integrity or enclosure dimensions could result in the inability of the enclosure to maintain the clean agent concentration during operation. Hence, it is the responsibility of RFSICs to verify that no alteration and addition works, which may affect the room integrity, has been conducted in the enclosure when they are appointed to carry out an annual inspection for the system pursuant to regulation 8(1) of the Fire Service (Installations and Equipment) Regulations, Chapter 95B of the Laws of Hong Kong. In this connection, a declaration form attached in **Annex I** is devised to facilitate the RFSIC concerned to ascertain the system conforming with the Standard. A copy of the completed declaration form should be forwarded to FSD along with the relevant copy of FS 251.

The above arrangement will take effect from **1 August 2022** for a trial period of two years, after which a review will be conducted pertinent to the local situation.

For enquiries regarding new system installations as well as inspection, maintenance or repair matters of the system, please contact our Fire Service Installations Division at 3961 5217 or Fire Service Installations Task Force at 2733 1567 respectively during office hours.

Yours faithfully,



(WONG Ka-wing)
for Director of Fire Services

Encl.

Declaration Form

Room Integrity for Premises Protected
by Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing System

Building Address: _____

Location of protected premises: _____

System: *NOVEC1230 / FM200 / Others (Please specify) _____

To: _____
(Registered Fire Service Installation Contractor)

We, the * Owner / Occupier of the protected premises, hereby declare that within the period from _____ to _____ (dd/mm/yyyy), there had been **NO** alteration and addition works which may affect the room integrity.

Declaration Party

* Owner / Occupier of the premises

Acknowledgement Party

Registered Fire Service Installation Contractor

FS 251 Serial No. : _____

(Chop & Signature)

(Authorized Signature)

Name : _____

Name: _____

Company Name : _____

FSIC RC No. : (RC _____ / _____)

Name of FSIC: _____

Tel. : _____

Tel. : _____

Date : _____

Date : _____

(* delete as appropriate)

Notes:

1. The room integrity test is NOT related to the functionality of the Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing System.
2. Owner/occupier of the protected premises bears the responsibility to rectify any defects related to the room integrity.
3. This Form shall be submitted together with the Certificate of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FS251) of the system to FSD.
4. Factors affecting the room integrity include alteration to the enclosures (i.e. walls, ceiling slabs and floor slabs) of the protected premises, and/ or adding / removing cables / services running through the enclosures.

