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消防安全總區

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26 June 2025

To: Recipients of FSD Circular Letters

Dear Sir/Madam,

FSD Circular Letter No. 2/2025
Fire Safety Requirements for Data Centres

This Circular Letter serves to announce the new requirements for data centres in the *Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment, September 2022* (“FSI Code”).

Given the increasing demand for data centres, it is imperative to introduce a new classification of premises, i.e., data centre, in the FSI Code. Subsequent to a comprehensive review with the engagement of professional bodies, trades and government departments, this new classification together with associated requirements will be included in relevant paragraphs of the FSI Code with effect from **1 August 2025**. Please see the enclosed amendment sheet for details.

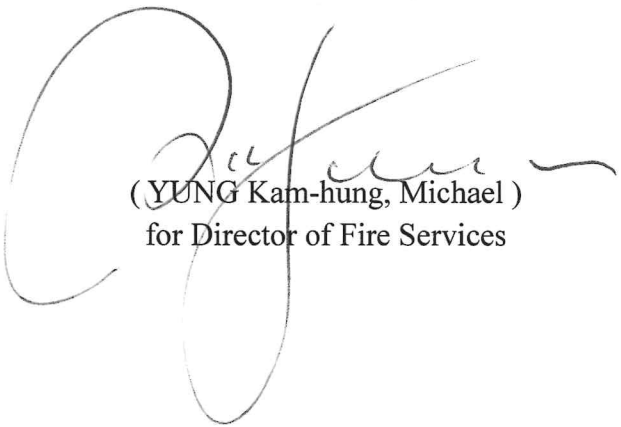
For the avoidance of doubt, the following types of building plans received by this Department on or after the effective date shall demonstrate the compliance of the new requirements:

- (i) new submission of building plans for new building; and
- (ii) new submission of building plans for existing building of which not less than one half measured by volume is rebuilt or which is altered to such an extent as to necessitate the reconstruction of not less than one half of the superficial area of the main walls, or where a new occupation permit shall be issued.

Notwithstanding the above, please follow the extant procedures in seeking formal approval for alteration of fire service installations and equipment in existing data centres according to the new requirements.

For enquiries, please contact Senior Divisional Officer (New Projects) at 3971 4600.

Yours faithfully,



(YUNG Kam-hung, Michael)
for Director of Fire Services

Encl.

**Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment
(September 2022)**

Amendment Sheet Serial No. 2/2025

- (1) Insert definition of “Data Centre” in paragraph 3.1:

“Data Centre” means

Premises used for data processing services but exclude activities involving direct provision of customer services, retail services or goods, which often attract a large number of visiting members of the public to the premises.

- (2) Insert a new classification of premises in CLASSIFICATION OF PREMISES AND AREAS OF SPECIAL RISKS in PART IV and re-number the following CLASSIFICATION OF PREMISES AND AREAS OF SPECIAL RISKS:

4.21 Data Centres

4.22 *Domestic Buildings—Low Rise (up to and including 3 storeys in height)*

4.23 *Domestic Buildings—Low Rise (over 3 storeys in height)*

4.24 *Domestic Buildings—High Rise*

4.25 *Consumer Electrical Equipment: incorporating transformers, switchgear; generators/alternators requiring separate installations*

4.26 *Explosive Production and/or storages*

4.27 *Garages*

4.28 *Hotels—Low Rise*

4.29 *Hotels—High Rise*

4.30 *Industrial/Godown Buildings—Low Rise*

4.31 *Industrial/Godown Buildings—High Rise*

4.32 *Institutional Buildings—Low Rise*

4.33 *Institutional Buildings—High Rise*

4.34 *Kitchens (other than kitchens in domestic premises)*

4.35 *Lift Motor Rooms*

4.36 *Lifts not Discharging to Protected Means of Escape*

4.37 *Mechanical Plant Rooms (Group I)*

4.38 *Mechanical Plant Rooms (Group II)*

4.39 *Passenger Terminals/Stations*

4.40 *Petro-chemical Complexes*

4.41 *Railway Marshalling Yards*

4.42 *Refuge Floors*

4.43 *Road Tunnels*

- 4.44 *Shipyards*
- 4.45 *Substation/Switchgear Buildings*
- 4.46 *Telephone distribution equipment, computer installation and similar installations*

(3) Insert the following FSI into the REQUIREMENTS section of paragraph 4.21 with:

- (i) *Automatic actuating devices*
- (ii) *Automatic fixed installation other than water*
- (iii) *Emergency generator*
- (iv) *Emergency lighting*
- (v) *Exit sign*
- (vi) *Fire alarm system*
- (vii) *Fire control centre*
- (viii) *Fire detection system*
- (ix) *Fire hydrant/hose reel system*
- (x) *Fireman's lift*
- (xi) *Portable hand-operated approved appliance*
- (xii) *Sprinkler system*
- (xiii) *Ventilation/air conditioning control system*

(4) Insert the following sub-paragraphs into the EXTENT section of paragraph 4.21:

- (i) *As required by that equipment which needs to be automatically actuated.*
- (ii) *To be provided to areas where the use of water is undesirable for the occupancy or trade.*
- (iii) *An independently powered generator of sufficient electrical capacity to meet the fire service installations and fireman's lifts it is required to provide.*
- (iv) *Emergency lighting shall be provided throughout the entire building and all exit routes leading to ground level.*
- (v) *Sufficient directional and exit signs to ensure that all exit routes from any floor within the building are clearly indicated as required by the configuration of staircases serving the building.*
- (vi) *One actuating point and one audio warning device to be located at each hose reel point. Visual alarm signals shall be provided where necessary in accordance with current Design Manual: Barrier Free Access. This actuating point shall include facilities for fire pump start and audio/visual warning device initiation.*

- (vii) *Minimum of one, additional to be provided according to the complexity of the building.*
- (viii) *To be provided in areas not covered by automatic fixed installations.*
- (ix) *There shall be sufficient hydrants and hose reels on each floor. Fire hydrants shall be provided in all approach lobbies to required staircases or required staircase enclosures. For buildings not having the required staircase, fire hydrants shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Director of Fire Services. Hose reels shall be provided to ensure that every part of the premises can be reached by a length of not more than 30 m of hose reel tubing.*
- (x) *As required by the Code of Practice for Fire Safety in Buildings.*
- (xi) *As required by occupancy.*
- (xii) *Required for data centres with total floor areas exceeding 230 square metres and to cover all parts of the data centres including staircases, common corridors and toilets.*
- (xiii) *When a ventilation/air conditioning control system to a building is provided, it shall stop mechanically induced air movement within a designated fire compartment.*

(5) Insert the following sub-paragraphs into the ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS section of paragraph 4.21:

- (i) *All linings for acoustic and thermal insulation purposes in ductings and concealed locations shall be of Class 1 or 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame as per British Standard 476: Part 7 or its international equivalent, or be brought up to that standard by use of an approved fire retardant product.*
- (ii) *All linings for acoustic, thermal insulation and decorative purposes within protected means of escape shall be of Class 1 or 2 Rate of Surface Spread of Flame as per British Standard 476: Part 7 or its international equivalent, or be brought up to that standard by use of an approved fire retardant product.*
- (iii) *Any intended storage or use of dangerous goods as defined in Chapter 295 of the Laws of Hong Kong should be notified to the Director of Fire Services.*

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