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**FSD Circular Letter No. 1/97**

**Fire Services Requirements for Refuge Floors**

With the publishing of the Code of Practice for the Provision of Means of Escape in Case of Fire 1996, the provision of Refuge Floor has been made mandatory for buildings exceeding 25 storeys in height. In this respect, the Fire Services requirements stipulated in the “Standard Fire Services Requirements for the Refuge Floor (NP/107)” have been reviewed. As most of the requirements will be covered by the revised Code upon its implementation on 1.12.1996, the “Standard Fire Services Requirements for Refuge Floor” will no longer be necessary.

The purpose of this Circular Letter is to advise on the provision of fire service installations (FSIs) required under paragraph 21.2(h) of the Code. In this respect, the FSIs to be provided shall be :-

- (a) those FSIs that are required to be provided in the building in accordance with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment, such as sprinkler system, fire hydrant/hose reel system, emergency lighting, exit sign and manual fire alarm shall also be extended to the Refuge Floor(s); and
- (b) an external drencher system with an independent water supply shall be provided to protect all external wall openings. The system shall be automatically operated by a quick opening valve or deluge valve which is operated by a system of approved heat detectors or sprinklers installed in the same areas as the drencher system, together with manual control. For buildings where a sprinkler system is provided, external sprinkler heads can be provided in

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Sprinkler or drencher system is not required on roof even though it is designed as Refuge Floor. However, other FSIs shall still be provided.

The current edition of the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment is now under review and these Requirements will be stipulated in the revised version.

Signed  
(LAM Chun-man)  
for Director of Fire Services