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21 November 2005

To : Recipients of FSD Circular Letters

Dear Sirs/Madams,

FSD Circular Letter No. 5 /2005

Codes of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment and Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installations and Equipment (July 2005)

This Circular Letter announces that the 1998 edition of Codes of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment and Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installations and Equipment has been revised. The new edition (July 2005) has incorporated with, inter alia, various provisions of fire service requirements promulgated in existing Circular Letters. In this connection, a summary table showing those existing Circular Letters which have been incorporated in the new edition of Codes is attached at Appendix I for reference.

The above new edition of Codes will be implemented with effect from **16.12.2005**. They are fully applicable to all new submissions of building plans received by Buildings Department from the implementation date inclusive and subsequently endorsed by this Department.

In respect of building projects with building plans approved by this Department before the implementation date, the fire service requirements prevailing at the time of approval are still applicable.

In respect of fire service requirements imposed under various licensing regimes, the fire service requirements prevailing at the time of approval are still applicable.

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For building plan submissions after the implementation date involving major alterations and additions in existing buildings in excess of 50% by volume or where new Occupation Permit is required, the fire service requirements as stipulated in the new edition of Codes may be imposed.

Printed copies of the English version of the new edition of Codes are now available for sale at the Publications Sales Unit, Room 402, 4/F., Murray Building, Garden Road, Central, Hong Kong at HK \$28 per copy. The Chinese version is under printing and will be available for sale before end of this year.

Both English and Chinese versions of the new edition of Codes are available on the FSD website : www.hkfsd.gov.hk.

For the purpose of the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance and the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, the 1994 edition of the Codes will continue to be applicable.

Opportunity is taken to remind all Class 3 registered FSI contractors that the revised version of maintenance label for portable hand-operated approved appliance as promulgated in paragraph 2.19 of the Special Supplement No. 4 to Gazette No. 31/2004 issued on 30.7.2004 has taken effect on 1.2.2005. The old label as depicted in Appendix D of Part VI in Circular Letter No. 4/96 has become obsolete and no longer valid since 1.2.2005.

Yours faithfully,

(CHOW Wing-tak)
for Director of Fire Services

**Existing FSD Circular Letters which have been incorporated in the new edition of
Codes of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment and
Inspection, Testing of Installations and Equipment (July 2005)**

Circular Letter Number	Subject
1/2004	Checklist for the Inspection of Fire Detection and Alarm Systems
1/2003	Minimum Fire Resisting Cable Requirements for Fire Service Installations
2/2002	Hot Smoke Test on Smoke Extraction System
2/2000	Exit and Directional Signs
7/1999	Installation & Maintenance of Audio/Visual Advisory System Emergency Generator, Emergency Light & Exit Sign
4/1999	Shut-down of Building FSIs for Works
1/1999	Repair/Maintenance of Building FSI
7/1997	Revised Fire Services Requirements for Refuge Floors
3/1997	Checklist for Shutter Installation
1/1997	Fire Services Requirements for Refuge Floors
1/1995	Checklist for Detection System in accordance with FOC Rules for Automatic Fire Alarm Installations (12 th Edition)