

Fire Safety Standards Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matters Discussed in the 11th FSSAG Meeting (held on 19.12.2006)

1. Proposed Generic Design for Fuel Oil System for Upper Floor Generators

An internal working group consisting of members from DGD, NP and Policy Division had been set up to formulate a set of general guidelines in the form of Do's and Don'ts on the design of fuel tank room for trade's general information. The guidelines were being fine-tuned and would be published once finalized.

2. Fire Protection Requirements in Construction Sites

The comments from all invited stakeholders were being fine-tuned. A meeting amongst the stakeholders would be arranged shortly to discuss about the implementation details.

3. New Arrangement for the Submission of Fire Service Installation Drawings for New Developments

It was preliminarily agreed that a new mechanism in the form of 'help desk' service by FSD would be adopted to provide more specific and concrete advice to the industry for replacing the current submission mechanism. A sub-working group would be formed to formulate the details of the new mechanism and the criteria for initiating project based discussion.

4. Graphical Symbol Exit Signs to be Used in Hong Kong

The members of the sub-working group in the meeting on 13.11.2006 agreed that (i) graphical symbol with both texts, (ii) texts only and (iii) graphical symbol only exit signs instead of the two types of exit sign could be acceptable for used for new buildings in future. For new buildings.

5. Standard Testing Arrangement for Street Fire Hydrants

All members present agreed that the by-pass pipes would be required for gravity system with elevated street hydrant tank above the pump sets.

6. Information Paper on Weight Limit of Portable Fire Extinguisher (PE)

All members were invited to offer comments on this paper which could be returned to the Secretary for consolidation.

7. Review of Requirements for AFA System by adopting BS 5588: Part 1: 2002

The 1st sub-working group meeting was held on 24.10.2006 while the 2nd meeting would be held on 20.12.2006.

8. Emergency Lighting System

After the internal review, it was agreed that the BS standard and relevant requirements should be adhered to in view of the following:

- a. The requirements were clear and unambiguous.
- b. The requirements could ensure the lives' safety in case of black out and failure of one light.
- c. The relevant requirements were the results of studies of BSI. Before the availability of further study which supported the relaxation, BS5266: Part1 should be strictly followed.

It was also clarified that FSD had been continuously monitoring the progress of recognition of laboratories by liaising with the Hong Kong Accreditation Services. FSD would review the market situation and make necessary adjustment to the execution

9. Installation of Lower Layer Sprinkler Heads below Suspended Ceiling

According to the decision of the last meeting, this issue was tabled in the last liaison meeting with AP on 14.12.2006. The representatives of AP would consult their trades and make feedback later. Michael LAM clarified that the proposal for the consideration of AP was only one of their proposals.

According to FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2006, under BS5266: Part 1, hot wire test was required for emergency light. It was clarified that HK Accreditation Services had confirmed that their laboratories could conduct this test in Hong Kong.

10. Strict Compliance with Alarm Zoning of AFA System with MFA System According to Section 4 of Part VIII of FSD Circular Letter No. 4/96

In order to rectify the abnormality relating to unwanted false alarm, members are reminded to observe the zoning arrangement stipulated in section 4 of Part VIII of FSD Circular Letter No. 4/96.