

# **Fire Safety Standards Advisory Group (FSSAG)**

## **Matters Discussed in the 4<sup>th</sup> FSSAG Meeting (held on 24.3.2005)**

### **1. Inspection Procedures for Staircase Pressurization System**

The finalized Checklist had been sent to members for comment and Circular Letter would be issued after consolidation of members' comments.

### **2. Proposed Generic Design for Fuel Oil System for Upper Floor Generators**

Re-submission of design proposal from the HKIE was awaited.

### **3. Guidelines on VAC Control Systems**

Draft FSD Circular Letter on VAC control systems was prepared, pending minor amendment of drawings from Arch SD.

### **4. Fire Protection Requirements in Construction Sites**

The Real Estate Developers Association supported the provision of temporary "dry risers" for super high rise buildings under construction. Standard design schemes were being prepared and would be sent to members for comments.

### **5. New Arrangement for the Submission of Fire Service Installation Drawings for New Developments**

FSD Circular Letter was issued on 24.3.2005 and the 6-month trial period would take effect from 1.5.2005. The target processing time of submissions would be adjusted from 20 calendar days to 20 working days.

### **6. CoPs for Minimum FSI and Equipment and Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installations and Equipment**

Final proof-reading was underway.

**7. Full Load Test for Emergency Generators**

Different methods for conducting annual test of emergency generators were discussed and the Chairman reminded members that the aim of such test was to ensure they could function properly in an emergency situation.

**8. Connection of Non-FSI Electrical Load to Emergency Generators**

The Chairman reminded members that FSD would not allow non-FSI connections to Emergency Generators and this specification would be stipulated in the revised CoP for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment.

**9. Graphical Symbol Exit Signs to be Used in Hong Kong**

A sub-working group, chaired by SDO(NP), was formed to make recommendations on whether/how to adopt graphical symbol exit signs in Hong Kong.

**10. Fireman's Lifts as FSI**

FSD clarified that the annual maintenance of Fireman's Lifts by registered lift contractors was under the purview of EMSD. The periodic examination and testing of lift would include verification of the specific functions of lifts according to Section F of the Code of Practice on the Design and Construction of Lifts and Escalators. However, the statutory requirement did not cover lifts located in buildings under the control of the Housing Authority, or lifts belonged to the local Government, the Central People's Government or foreign Governments.

The Chairman pointed out that there were inconsistency in the description on annual certification of maintenance for Firemen's lift between the extant English and Chinese versions of CoP for Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of Installation and Equipment. He clarified that the English version was to be adopted. Members were reminded that Fireman's Lifts in new developments should be included in FSI/501 submission to FSD.

**11. Maximum Number of Residential Towers to be Supported by an**

## **Emergency Generator**

FSD clarified that share use of emergency generator by different building blocks was not desirable and it would only be approved on project basis. In view of potential problems in management and law enforcement, such practice should be discouraged.

### **12. Emergency Lighting Circuiting**

In response to an enquiry on the requirement for separation between the emergency lighting circuits of staircases and lobbies, FSD advised that according to BS5266: part 1, emergency lighting systems should be designed to ensure that a fault or failure in any one luminaire would not reduce the effectiveness of the system. For emergency lighting system in hotels, members should approach the Licensing Authority of the Home Affairs Department for advice.

### **13. CCTV Camera in Main Fire Escape**

Concerning CCTV camera installation in main entrance lobby of buildings, FSD considered that they should be of non-combustible type if located in the main entrance lobbies forming part of the MOE. In case of doubt, enquires should be made to the Buildings Department.

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