

Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons

Date : 28 November 2017 (Tuesday)
Time : 1500 hours
Venue : Conference Room, Fire Safety Command, FSD

Matters Discussed in the Meeting :

1. **Registered Fire Engineer (RFE) Scheme**

FSD/SB were in the course of compiling a consultation document to solicit views on the RFE Scheme from the trade. Issues to be consulted would include, among others, (a) the required qualification and experience of an RFE; (b) the composition of various boards under the RFE Scheme; and (c) disciplinary mechanism for RFE.

2. **Improvement Measures for Processing General Building Plans**

Technical workshops/seminars targeted for the professionals of building industry were held from time to time, in order to enable the professionals to maintain a good quality of GBP submissions in order to reduce the processing time of GBP submissions, DG license applications and fire service installations (FSI) acceptance inspections. Last technical seminar was held for The Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA) on 7.10.2017 with a positive feedback. Next technical workshop/seminar was scheduled for 28.11.2017 for The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE). Another technical workshop/seminar for the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) would be arranged in January 2018.

Furthermore, a briefing on expedition of GBP processing and acceptance inspection of fire service installations was also held on 24.11.2017 by FSD to stakeholders in architecture, construction and engineering industries, and representatives from private corporations and various government departments. The briefing aimed to reiterate the required standards for approving GBP and FSI acceptance inspection, and to seek collaboration with all stakeholders in ensuring the quality of GBP submissions for individual project and proper installation of FSIs.

Mr. Ivan HO expressed his gratitude, on behalf of HKIA, to FSD on the efforts made in conducting these workshops/seminars.

With positive feedbacks from HKIA, the Chairman appreciated HKIA's high participation rate in this seminar, and supported similar exchange through various channels in future.

3. **Requirements on Application for Compliance Inspection of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSI)**

In recent months, FSD was exploring possible means to strengthen capacity in handling the upsurging FSI compliance inspections. It was noted that apart from the increasing number of completed projects, other factors such as scale, complexity and design of a wide range of buildings and infrastructure projects also significantly increased the workload of FSD. After reviewing inspection records, it was revealed that a certain amount of additional workload and redundant work were incurred by the poor quality of FSI installed and poor site condition that were not ready for compliance inspection.

In view of the above, Authorized Persons (AP) and Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSIC) were reminded on the requirements stipulated in FSD Circular Letter No. 1/2015, and their obligations to ensure that the project site conditions should be ready for inspection with FSI properly tested. By signing the Form FSI/501, the AP and RFSIC of the project indeed certified that the site was ready for inspection and the FSI installed should be in efficient working order. If AP/RFSIC failed to discharge the aforementioned duty, FSD might consider referring the case to relevant disciplinary board or professional institutions for necessary follow-up action.

The Chairman reiterated that the professional standard should be upheld such that the above-mentioned examples of poor quality of FSI installed / poor site conditions could be avoided. In this regard, members were invited to bring this issue back to respective professional bodies for further discussion.

END

