

Brief Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and Authorized Persons

Date : 27 February 2018 (Tuesday)
Time : 1500 hours
Venue : Conference Room, Fire Safety Command, FSD

Matters Discussed in the Meeting :

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

The Administration has been in the process of drafting subsidiary legislation for the RFE Scheme. Moreover, FSD conducted a trade consultation in the fourth quarter of 2017 to further seek stakeholders' views on the proposed implementation details of the Scheme. Subject to the progress of drafting, subsidiary legislation would tentatively be introduced into the LegCo for vetting.

Referring to Appendix II under part III (Eligibility Criteria), members enquired whether the acceptance of qualified architect should be included as one of the criteria for registration.

The Chairman reiterated that FSD did not intend to exclude any professional qualifications. Clarification on this issue would be made when preparing further details in near future.

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

Technical workshops / seminars regarding GBP submissions, DG license applications and fire service installations (FSI) acceptance inspections were held for The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) and Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS) on 28.11.2017 and 2.2.2018 respectively.

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

3. *Electro-magnetic Lock*

In dealing with issues concerning electro-magnetic (EM) locks, if an enquiry was submitted to FSD requesting approval of EM lock installation (no matter whether the proposal has been included in GBP), FSD would generally process the application. However, if the EM lock was incorporated in GBP without enquiring/notifying FSD, it would be infeasible to process the case in consideration of the following observations:

- i) Detailed justification for the installation of the EM lock was not shown in GBP;
- ii) Operation mechanism of the EM lock was not clarified in the GBP;
- iii) EM locks were applied together without detailed indication of the installation locations (e.g. FSAP, MoE, MoA) in the GBP.

Member asked whether the doors from the interior of the premises leading into the fireman's lobby could be installed with EM locks.

For fireman's lobby except FSAP, EM locks were acceptable provided that they already conformed to clause D17.4 and D11.4 of FS Code. For FSAP, such access to fireman's lift lobby should not be closed with doors or gates unless that they were capable of being readily openable without the use of a key in accordance with D7.1 of FS Code.

Based on our records, lock to the entrance of FSAP was allowed subject to manual override was provided or such entrance was manned with 24 hours. Nevertheless, the Chairman emphasized that the application of EM lock would be processed on a case-by-case basis.

Furthermore, since EM locks were not FSI, it was suggested that the statement for provision of EM Lock could be put under "General Notes" in GBP, instead of putting under "FS Notes", such that further revision on this provision would not need to be approved by FSD again. Members generally agreed to this arrangement.

4. *Address in FS172*

The address of premises shown on the FS172 should tally with that used on the FS161 and that filed by BD. If the AP proposed to amend

the address of premises on the FS172, FSD would request the AP to provide supporting documents such as RVD's letter to justify for such proposed amendment. The AP should also communicate with BD's case officer for the amended address, either by email or by a letter recording BD's verbal agreement, in order to maintain consistency between various legal documents.

5. **Guidelines on Formulation of Improvement Plans for FSIs in Old Buildings**

In order to safeguard the fire safety when FSIs improvement works were underway, in particular for buildings where improvement works were carried out under the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance (Cap. 502) or the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance (Cap. 572), FSD would promulgate the guidelines on the formulation of FSI improvement plans.

The Chairman supplemented that shutdown of FSI for an unreasonable long period of time or incomplete installation of FSI may constitute a fire hazard, especially for old buildings. In this regard, members were invited to address the seriousness of this issue to the consultants / APs.

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