

**Summary of Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and the Association of Registered
Fire Service Installation Contractors of HK Ltd (FSICA)
held on 12 August 2021**

1.1 Improvement of Fire Safety under the Fire Safety (Commercial Premises) Ordinance

Members were briefed on the latest inspection statistics.

1.2 Proposal to Improve Fire Safety in Private Buildings

Members were briefed on the latest enforcement statistics.

1.3 Checking the Standard of Maintenance Works Carried Out by Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSIC)

Members were briefed on the latest statistics related to the surprise checks conducted by FSD.

1.4 Commissioning of the Integrated Licensing, fire Safety and Prosecution System (LIFIPS)

During the period from April to June 2021, the average usage of FS 251 (Barcode) was about 48.2% whilst the average usage of FS 251 (Online Submission) was 3.7%.

1.5 Annual Inspection of Fire Service Installations and Equipment (FSIs)

641 advisory letters (ALs) were dispatched to the building owners between April 2021 and June 2021. There were 437 nos. of FS 251 received in response to the ALs within the period.

The 2nd stage of trial use of the Pictorial Label for Hose Reel Operating Procedures was commenced in April 2021 and feedback from Housing Department would be collected upon the completion of 2nd stage.

1.6 FS water connection to the fresh water supply system/roof tank of target composite buildings under the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, Cap 572

Regarding incorporation of fresh water supply system into FH/HR system, 13

TCBs were accepted under the pilot scheme, with two TCBs with FSDn complied with.

1.7 Improved FH/HR System (Phase III) for Targeted Composite Buildings of 7 storeys or above or over 20 m in height

As at 15.7.2021, approval was given for a total of 718 TCBs to have the capacity of their FS tanks reduced to 4,500 litres. FSI drawings for 183 TCBs (out of the 718) were received and 99 nos. of those were approved.

1.8 Checklist for Major Defects of FSI Drawings Submission under Cap. 502 / Cap. 572 launched in 2015

From January to March 2021, 324 sets of FSI drawings were received. Only 40 sets (12.3%) were approved on fresh submission whereas 69 sets (21.3%) were approved upon re-submission for the second or more time, and 16 sets (4.9%) failed on checklist screening.

1.9 General Procedures for Handling Shutdown of FSI

Subsequent to the implementation of revised handling procedures of FSI shutdown for work(s) with effect from 1.3.2021, RFSICs should use the new version of Shutdown Notice (SDN) when notifying FSD of FSI Shutdown overnight or for more than 24 hours continuously. In March 2021, 900 number of obsoleted versions of SDN were received by FSD. After explaining and reminding the concerned RFSIC, the number of obsoleted versions of SDN received decreased significantly to 77 in June 2021.

Besides the use of obsoleted form, common errors were noted as tabulated below:

- Missing FS251 no. when submitting extension (Part II) / completion (Part III);
- Over-length shutdown/extension period
- Reporting non-9-major FSI;
- Shutdown of FSI is not affecting whole building (i.e. report shutdown for individual unit/floor);
- Wrongly input works under 502/572/636.

1.10 Decommissioning of the Existing FSI under FS(B)O Cap. 572

Regarding the arrangement for existing dry riser / fire extinguisher which would be redundant upon provision of a fire hydrant /hose reel system made under Direction, FSD would issue a letter to the building owners advising them of the options, i.e. removal / retaining / conversion (applicable to dry riser only), of the existing dry riser / fire extinguisher.

In addition, the building owners would be reminded that it was the responsibility of owners of FSI to keep them (including both the newly provided and the retained existing FSI) in efficient working order at all time and have such FSI inspected by a RFSIC at least once in every 12 months in accordance with the Fire Service (Installations and Equipment) Regulations, Cap. 95B.

As no further discussion on the issue was required, the item was agreed to be deleted in the next meeting.

1.11 Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme (FSWS)

Issuance of 1st batch to 3rd batch “Approval-in-Principle” letters (AIP) for successful applicants of the 1st FSWS round were completed whereas the 4th to 6th batch of AIP were still being processed by URA. The AIP letters for the applicants of 2nd round FSWS would be issued accordingly after all the AIP letters have been issued. FSD would update the situation with URA and provide assistance if necessary.

1.12 Checklists for Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of FSI

The introduction of AI checklist for sprinkler system was promulgated via FSD Circular Letter No. 8/2020 on 15.12.2020. Moreover, the Chinese version of the AI checklist for sprinkler system was also introduced via FSD Circular Letter No. 3/2021 on 7.4.2021. the AI checklist for sprinkler system had taken effect since 1.6.2021.

Besides, the AI checklist for Water Supplies would be issued in September 2021 and the implementation would fall on November 2021. Meanwhile, the AI checklist for FH/HR system and Supplies Tank were under reviewed and comments from FSICA had been received and were being studied.

1.13 Review of FSI Code

Updating of the current FSI Code was still in progress and would be circulated to the trade for views / comments once available. For the Information Paper on fire safety requirements for car ports, it had already been circulated to relevant stakeholders on 21.5.2021. The feedback was supportive in general.

1.14 Car Parking Facilities with Automated Parking System

Comment on the Information Paper from a department was still pending. Notwithstanding that, several government projects had already adopted the APS in the developments. The proposed fire safety requirements in the Information Paper could also be provided accordingly. Further development on the FSI provisions for Car Parking Facilities with APS would be reported in the next meeting.

1.15 Voluntary Recognition/Training Scheme for FSI workers (VRS)

The 1st and 2nd meeting of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) was held on 7.5.2021 and 14.7.2021 respectively. In the meetings, the results of survey conducted by FSD in December 2020 to January 2021 were presented and the proposed curricular and framework of the Scheme were discussed. In the latter meeting, the Training Plans, Code of Conduct and Application Procedures were endorsed.

According to the latest implementation plan, core module of the training had been scheduled for 8.9.2021 to be conducted by FSD and ICAC, whilst selective modules of the training for Oct 2021 would be conducted by VTC. The first batch of recognized FSI Technicians would be ready in November 2021.

Meanwhile, FSD was working on the promotion materials and application details.

1.16 Promotion on use of Stand-alone Detectors

The amendment regulation was gazetted on 4.6.2021 and tabled at the Legislative Council for negative vetting on 9.6.2021. The legislative amendment was expected to be passed on 16.8.2021 and become effective on 1.9.2021. Upon passing of amendment regulation, a series of promotional activities would be launched by FSD.

1.17 Local Application of Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems to NFPA 2001:2018

In connection with the release of the standard NFPA 2001:2018 for local designs, installations, tests and maintenance of clean agent fire extinguishing systems for areas sensitive to fixed fire suppression system using water, technical changes were spotted which attracted the interest of the department and the trade stakeholders as the changes could have implications on the building enclosure and system configuration. In order to implement the relevant changes locally using the most reasonable, practical and feasible approach, reviews and discussions were launched in the meeting of FSSAG since 2019 and the implementation scheme was in general agreed in May 2021.