

**Summary of Notes of Liaison Meeting between FSD and the Association of Registered
Fire Service Installation Contractors of HK Ltd. (FSICA)
held on 15 November 2021**

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

Members were briefed on the latest enforcement 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 Work Carried Out by Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors (RFSICs)

Members were briefed on the latest statistics related to surprise checks and audit functional tests conducted by FSD.

1.4 Commissioning of the Integrated Licensing, Fire Safety and Prosecution System

During the period from July to September 2021, the average usage of FS 251 (Barcode) was about 50.4% whilst the average usage of FS 251 (Online Submission) was 4.8%.

The enhancement to the online submission system of FS251 was in progress. The project was scheduled for completion by end of 2021.

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

There were 613 advisory letters (ALs) dispatched to the building owners between July and September 2021. There were 476 numbers of FS 251 received in response to the ALs within the period.

The pictorial labels for hose reel operating procedures had been put to use at all public housing estates in July 2021 successfully.

1.6 FS Water Connection to the Fresh Water Supply System/Roof Tank of Target Composite Buildings (TCBs) under the Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, Cap 572

For incorporation of fresh water supply system into Fire Hydrant/Hose Reel (FH/HR) system, while the improvement works of two TCBs were completed, 13 TCBs were being processed under the pilot scheme. FSI drawings for 11 pilot cases were received by FSD.

1.7 Improvised FH/HR System (Phase III) for TCBs of 7 storeys or above or over 20m in height

As at 15 October 2021, approval was given for a total of 718 TCBs to reduce the capacity of their FS tanks to 4500 litres. FSI drawings for 208 TCBs (out of the 718) were received and 109 numbers of those were approved.

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

From April to June 2021, 322 sets of FSI drawings were received. Only 23 sets (7.1%) were approved on fresh submission whereas 54 sets (16.8%) were approved upon re-submission for twice or more, and 14 sets (4.3%) 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 March 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 numbers 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 20 in October 2021.

1.10 Fire Safety Improvement Works Subsidy Scheme (FSWS)

Eligible applications for FSWS had been prioritized and 'Approval-in-Principle' letters were being issued to the successful applicants by the Urban Renewal

Authority.

1.11 Checklists for Inspection, Testing and Maintenance of FSI

The Annual Inspection (AI) Checklist for sprinkler systems had been announced via FSD Circular Letter No. 8/2020 and took effect on 1 June 2021. In addition, via the FSD Circular Letter No. 7/2021: AI Checklist for Water Supplies was issued on 12 August 2021 and took effect on 1 November 2021. On the other hand, the AI Checklist for FH/HR systems and supply tanks which was issued on 13 December 2019 via FSD Circular Letter No. 4/2019 was currently under review and the revised version would be issued in due course.

1.12 Review of FSI Code

The review of the current FSI Code was in good progress. After consolidating all proposals, a summary of proposed amendments would be prepared. Relevant stakeholders and government departments would be invited to offer comments and views on the proposal shortly.

An information paper on the provision of sprinkler system for car ports had been circulated to relevant stakeholders in May 2021 to seek their views. After receiving all replies, a response to the comments would be prepared.

1.13 Car Parking Facilities with Automated Parking System (APS)

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

1.14 Voluntary Recognition Scheme for FSI Technicians (VRS)

In the Pioneer Programme of VRS, 38 candidates had passed the requisite assessments and were eligible to be recognized as FSI Technicians by FSD. Presentation Ceremony was held on 5 November 2021 to mark the success of the Pioneer Programme and formally confer the certificates to the first batch of FSI Technicians.

1.15 Promotion on Use of Stand-alone Fire Detectors

The amendment regulation became effective on 1 September 2021. A series of promotional activities on use of stand-alone fire detectors were launched by FSD.

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

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

Briefings on the proposed local application of clean agent fire extinguishing systems to NFPA 2001:2018 were conducted in various advisory/liaison groups meetings. After incorporating comments received from the stakeholders, the draft declaration form to be signed by system owner(s)/occupier(s) for verifying maintenance of the related enclosure integrity had been revised and circulated to stakeholders for final comment.

1.17 Legislative Review of the Dangerous Goods Ordinance

Dangerous Goods Ordinance and its subsidiary legislation, which was enacted in 1956, provided for the control on the manufacture, storage, conveyance and use of dangerous goods (DG). There was a need to align the domestic regulatory system with the commonly adopted international standards. The legislative amendments proposal sought to:

- (a) update the existing regulatory system of DG by aligning it with international standards;
- (b) enhance the safety of manufacture, conveyance, storage and use of DG; and
- (c) facilitate the operations of the trade and the daily use of DG by the public without compromising safety.

Subsequent to the passage of the Dangerous Goods (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill by the Legislative Council on 15 September 2021, all the legislative amendment to the Dangerous Goods Ordinance with all subsidiary legislation as well as the technical consequential and related amendments to 6 other ordinances and 25 subsidiary legislation had been completed.

A common commencement date would then be appointed for all the relevant provisions to come into operation, including the Dangerous Goods (Amendment) Ordinance 2002, Dangerous Goods (Application & Exemption) Regulation 2012 (Cap.295E), Dangerous Goods (Shipping) Regulation 2012 (Cap.295F),

Dangerous Goods (Control) Regulation (Cap.295G) as well as other 31 relevant ordinances and regulations. The tentative plan was to commence the operation of all the provisions in the first quarter of 2022.

In order to implement the new regulatory regime, various preparation works were being conducted by FSD. With a view to engaging the views from various trades and government departments during the preparation of codes of practice and guidelines, meetings had been held with the relevant parties in the past few months.

1.18 Implementation of Fire Safety (Industrial Buildings) Ordinance Cap. 636

A presentation on the background and implementation of the Cap. 636 was given by FSD.