Fire Safety Standards Advisory Group (FSSAG)

Matter Discussed in the 82nd FSSAG Meeting held on 15 January 2026

1. ***Establishment of "One-stop Coordination Office for New Fire Protection Facilities Acceptance" (OFFA)「新建消防設施一站式驗收統籌辦公室」(「消防驗收統籌辦」)***

After the establishment of OFFA, the Fire Services Installations (FSI) acceptance inspections (as at 31 December 2025) for all 161 projects of regular scale were completed within the target timeframe of 35 working days (for non-public housing projects) or 22 working days (for public housing projects), which illustrated the enhancement of the overall efficiency of FSI acceptance inspection.

The upgraded function of FSD Mobile Application in relation to the new searching function of the FSI/501 application status was extended to RFSICs on 24 November 2025. It facilitated both APs and RFSICs to effectively monitor the status of the application.

In summary, since its establishment in March 2025, OFFA had continuously refined procedures and technology to enhance the efficiency of FSI acceptance inspection for new buildings and projects. This improvement streamlined inspections and supported business operations while benefiting the public. As no further discussion on the issue was required so far, it was proposed and members agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

2. ***Review on the Specification of Static/Dynamic Smoke Extraction System***

Comments from members had been reviewed by FSD. Following to the review, it was proposed to establish a sub-working group to review the comment and formulate the relevant specification. It was anticipated that the first meeting of the sub-working group was scheduled in Q1/2026 and the review would be completed by Q4/2026 tentatively. After the meeting, invitation email was to be sent to professional bodies/government departments requesting nominations for representatives to the working group. Members were encouraged to provide comments and share insights on the subject matter.

3. **Suggestion on Acceptance of Definitions on Smoke Detector and Heat Detector include Non-point Type Detectors**

It was noted that the subject matter was discussed in detail at the last meeting, and no further updates have been provided on this issue. Accordingly, it was proposed and members agreed to delete the item in the next meeting.

4. Proposal for Adoption of Alternate Technology for Building Fire Signal Connection to Fire Services Communications Centre (FSCC) via Direct Telephone Link (DTL) (Appendix I)* (FSICA)

With reference to Appendix I, FSICA briefed current practices in using DTL for transmitting fire alarms via the Computerized Fire Alarm Transmission System (CFATS) service providers to the FSCC. It was proposed the adoption of alternate communication technologies, such as optical fibre or Cat 5 network system, to serve the same purpose.

FSD informed the meeting that a joint sub-working group between FSD and FSICA was held on 28 November 2025 to assess the technical feasibility of introducing alternative communication technologies, such as optical fibre and copper wire, in parallel with the existing DTL for transmitting fire alarms via CFATS service providers to the FSCC.

During the working group meeting, FSD informed FSICA that Office of the Communications Authority had confirmed the existing Services-Based Operator Licences for "Security and Fire Alarm Signals Transmission Services" under Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) did not restrict the medium of telecommunication. Therefore, there should be no regulatory restriction in using optical fibre and copper wire for providing Direct Line Service.

On the other hand, stakeholders were invited to approach service providers of CFATS operators (i.e. Chubb, Lik On and Jardine) to inquire whether they were willing to provide Fire Alarm Signals Transmission Service using optical fibre and copper wire. In future, stakeholders may approach OFFA if they wish to seek further technical advice on using optical fibre and copper wire for providing Fire Alarm Signals Transmission Services.

5. Review of BS EN12845:2015 TB210.7.5.2 Sprinkler Duty Pump Start and Standby Pump Activation Requirements (Appendix II)* (FSICA)

With reference to Appendix II, FSICA briefed the meeting on the requirements according to BS EN12845:2015 TB210.7.5.2, the first main pump, or duty pump,

must be set to start at a pressure greater than 0.8P, and the second main pump, or standby pump, should start at a lower pressure setting of not less than 0.8P. The change-over transition between duty and standby pump must be set very close to avoid unwanted operation of sprinkler main pump and lead to the occurrence of nuisance fire alarm signal. It was proposed referring to clause 5.14(d) of the Code of Practice 2022, should the duty pump electrically or mechanically fail to operate within 15 seconds, the standby pump should be energized to take over the role of the duty pump.

In response, FSD informed the meeting that the sprinkler pump designed to provide automatic fire suppression upon activation, while the fire service pump manually activated for use with fire hydrants and hose reels during emergencies. According to TB210.7.5.2, to prevent all pumps in a multiple pump system from starting simultaneously, the first main pump should be set to activate at a pressure greater than 0.8P. In a duplicated pump system, the second main pump should be set to a lower pressure, but no less than 0.8P. For the jockey pump, it should be regulated to keep the trunk main pressure at the design value, but does not exceed (P+0.5) bar.

Given the aforementioned requirements, the settings of the jockey pump, specifically its cut-in pressure, could be adjusted appropriately to ensure sufficient pressure differential for the activation of both duty pump and standby pump. It was believed that such adjustment could reduce unintended activation of the standby pump without the need of an additional activation time delay device/settings, thereby keeping the reliability of the system as required.

Members exchanged their views and experience concerning the arrangement of the related pressure settings to ensure system stability and avoid unintended pump changeover and activation. It was suggested that members could approach FSD for further discussion on specific scenarios as needed.

**Remark: To avoid confusion, the appendix was not attached.*

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