

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 004/19 of the Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY) was held on Thursday, 28 November 2019 at 2:30pm at the Board Room, CIC Headquarters, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Present: Derrick PANG (DP) Chairperson
CHAN Kim-kwong (KKCN)
CHAN Pat-kan (CPK)
CHOW Luen-kiu (LKC) (LKC)
LEE Sau-king (LSK)
Kenneth MO (KM)
YU Sai-yen (SYYu)
LIU Yuk-shing (YsLu) Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE)
Dennis IP (DI) MTR Corporation Limited (MTRC)
Jesse WONG (JsW) Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS)
Rex WONG (RWg) Hong Kong Construction Association
WU Wai-hung (WHWu) Labour Department (LD)

In

Attendance : Richard PANG (RPg) Director – Industry Development
Angela YUEN (AaY) Senior Manager - Construction Safety
Tony LAM (TLam) Manager - Construction Safety
LEE Man-yiu (LMY) Development Bureau
Stephen LAM (Slam) Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
Timothy LAU (TyL) Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)

Apologies: Thomas HUI (HT)
LO Hong-kam (LHK)
Connie YEUNG (CYG)
Collin CHAN (CnC) Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
WONG Kwok-keung (KKW) Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors (HKFEMC)

MINUTES

Action

4.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/19

Members took note of Meeting Minutes CIC/CSY/M/003/19 and confirmed the Meeting Minutes of the last meeting held on 26 September 2019.

4.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 3.10 - The revision on the Guidelines on Site Safety Measures for Working in Hot Weather (Guidelines) would be submitted to the Council for approval in December 2019.

[Post-meeting notes: The Guidelines were issued on 27 December 2019.]

4.3 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Training (SST)

SY Yu briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/023/19 regarding the progress of the SST.

The progress of the SST was given as follows:

- The Hong Kong Institute of Construction (HKIC) had reviewed the course content of its confined space safety training course (which had been revised and recognized by the Labour Department (LD)). The HKIC had also compared it with the course recognized by the Drainage Services Department. It was found that there was no overlapping in the course content. Therefore, both courses would be kept with the training course contents remained unchanged.
- The main target participants of the lifting operation safety supervisor course were frontline supervisors who worked under the main contractors. The course contents of the A12 construction material riggers and the A12S lifting operation signalman in construction sites courses had been finalised. It was expected that the courses with new training contents would start in the first quarter of 2020.
- For the A10 Safety Course on Lift Mechanic, it was suggested adding the maintenance of lift shafts in the course content. The Secretariat, HKIC and the Lift and Escalator Contractors Association would discuss the relevant contents in December 2019.

Members took note of the progress of the SST.

4.4 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Technical Issues (STI)

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/024/19 regarding the progress of the STI.

The progress of the STI was given as follows:

- The progress of the research project, “Optimal Use of Internet of Things Technology (IoT) to Prevent Failure of Temporary Support System in Construction”, was on schedule. The calibration of the newly design prototype had been completed and it was expected the production of all devices would be completed in the first quarter of 2020. Trials would be conducted at some selected construction sites.
- The format of “Good practice on works near false ceilings” was agreed to be delivered as the pictorial safety reference materials. The first draft had been completed and sent to members of STI for comments.
- In view of that the lifting operation safety would be one of the key concerns in 2020, including as the key promotion area in the Construction Safety Week and the lifting supervisor training course would be launched, the STI members agreed that the STI should review the existing lifting operation system and explore the possibility to prepare guidance materials including good practice examples in 2020.

Members took note of the progress of the STI.

4.5 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion (SSP)

RWg briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/025/19 regarding the progress of the SSP.

The progress of the SSP was given as follows:

- For the first phase of the new mobile app project, the major focus was on the development of a digital wallet and its relevant authentication work. It was expected that the contract would be awarded in March 2020 while the new mobile app would be ready by the fourth quarter of 2020.
- A sharing session for the CSW 2019 “Site Safety Gathering” was held on 4 November 2019. Six participating sites were invited to share their experience on how to minimize the risk of falling from height in their construction sites. There were over 300 attendees in this sharing session. Another sharing session was planned to be

held in February 2020.

- The main theme of CSW 2020 would be “Smart Sites x Safety”, which was aimed at enhancing safety by the application of technologies, and the focus would be on lifting operation safety. The follow-up activity of “Site Safety Gathering” would be continued. Taking into account the feedback received from different sites, the VR training software and its compatibility with other relevant VR facilities would need to be further developed in 2020.

Members took note of the progress of the SSP.

4.6 Progress of the Task Force on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds (TF-TOB)

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/026/19 regarding the progress of the TF-TOB.

The progress of the TF-TOB was given as follows:

- A meeting had been held with Prof. Chung Kwok-fai of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University to discuss the engineering calculation and load test for truss-out scaffolds. Prof. Chung expressed that he was able to carry out the engineering calculation and load test for the five typical truss-out scaffolds designs.
- Members of the TF-TOB agreed to carry out load test after completing the engineering calculation to ensure the stability of the truss-out scaffolds. The Chairperson and members of the TF-TOB noted that additional resources would be required for conducting the load test.
- Regarding the High Court case involving an accident in which a worker fell to his death from height, the LD revealed that according to the High Court’s judgement, the Competent Person (CP) who immediately supervise the workmen carrying out scaffolding works shall not actively engage himself or herself in the carrying of the works. The LD would take this judgement as the law enforcement standard when enforcing this legal provision in future and would issue a letter to remind main contractors and scaffolding companies on the above judgement.

Members took note of the progress of the TF-TOB.

4.7 Progress of the Task Force on Reviewing the Safety Responsibilities and Roles of Key Stakeholders (TF-SRR)

DP briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/027/19 regarding the

progress of the TF-SRR.

The Progress of the TF-SRR was given as follows:

In the last meeting, the TF-SRR reviewed a list of items proposed by members of the TF-SRR in relation to the roles of the main contractor and the subcontractor. After deliberations, the following items were selected to be reviewed in detail in future:

- Clarification of the division of responsibilities between the main contractor and the subcontractor and standardization of the contract between them should be considered. In particular, the provision of working platforms, scaffoldings and power supplies at reasonable locations should be addressed in the contract;
- Site safety would be affected directly or indirectly depending on whether the “Extension of Time” would be handled by the architect or consultant within a suitable timeframe;
- The suitability of safety training for subcontractors and workers should be reviewed;
- The feasibility for main contractor to implement a safety scoring system on subcontractors and workers should be further discussed; and
- The “Pay for Safety Scheme” should be reviewed and consideration should be given to whether it could be extended to subcontractors.

The TF-SRR would consolidate all suggestions from the stakeholders and prepare an action list and a report once the review of workers’ responsibilities was completed tentatively in January 2020.

Members took note of the progress of the TF-SRR.

4.8 Suggestion on the extension of the Consultancy Services for the Study of Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/028/19 regarding the suggestion on the extension of the Consultancy Services for the Study of Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry.

The research study was divided into two phases. Phase I of the study was completed in June 2019, including 9 consultation sessions held for different stakeholders. Phase II of the study had started. It was expected that the work could be completed in November 2019. In view of the experience in Phase I consultation sessions, the Working Group on the Study of Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the

Hong Kong Construction Industry considered that the consultants needed more time for consultation in Phase II. Therefore, it was suggested to defer the completion date of Phase II to the first quarter of 2020.

After deliberations, Members approved the said suggestion.

4.9 Summary on Industrial Fatalities of Construction Industry in 2018

WHWu briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/029/19 regarding summary on Industrial Fatalities of Construction Industry in 2018.

WHWu expressed that there were 14 fatal industrial accidents in the construction industry in 2018, and presented briefly information related to the accidents. The types of accident were as follows:

- Fall of person from height – 11 cases;
- Trapped in or between objects – 1 case;
- Contact with electricity or electric discharge – 1 case; and
- Struck by moving vehicle – 1 case.

The Chairperson suggested that SST could consider jointly organising a sharing session with the LD for the construction industry. The LD welcomed the suggestion.

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4.10 Tentative Meeting Schedule for Year 2020

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/030/19 regarding the Tentative Meeting Schedule for Year 2020.

Members took note of the tentative meeting schedule for Year 2020.

4.11 Report of Recent Activities

AaY briefed Members on the recent activities are as follows:

- (a) Two seminars on safety of lift shaft works were held at the CIC Construction Innovation and Technology Application Centre on 17 October, with about 300 participants.
- (b) A sharing session for Site Safety Gathering, which was the follow-up activity of the Construction Safety Week 2019, was held at the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Building on 4 November, with about 300 participants.
- (c) An opening ceremony of the programme on Experiential Learning on Site Safety 2019-20 was held at Noah's Ark, Ma Wan on 6 November. A total of 13 faculties from 10 tertiary institutions

joined the programme.

Members took note of the recent activities.

4.12 Any Other Business

There were no other items raised.

4.13 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 4 Mach 2020 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm at the Board Room, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30pm.

CIC Secretariat
November 2019