

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 003/16 of the Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY) was held on Wednesday, 14 September 2016 at 2:30pm at Meeting Room No. 1, CIC Headquarters, 15/F, Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Present:	Ada FUNG	(AF)	Chairman / Chairperson of Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft (TF-WLS)/ Chairperson of Task Force on Safety of Lorry-mounted Cranes (TF-LMC)
	CHAN Chi-chiu	(CCC)	
	HUI Siu-wai	(SWH)	
	LAI Chi-wah	(CWL <i>i</i>)	
	Lawrence NG	(LN)	
	WONG Sze-chun	(SCW)	
	Victor KWONG	(VK)	Chairperson of Task Force on Site Safety Incidents (TF-SSI)
	WU Wai-hung	(WHW <i>u</i>)	Chairperson of Task Force on Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) sites (TF-RMA)
	Raymond CHEUNG	(WMC)	Development Bureau (DevB)
	Joel CHAN	(CSC)	Hong Kong Institute of Architects (HKIA)
	CHOW Luen-kiu	(LKC)	Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union (HKCIEGU)
	LIU Yuk-shing	(YsLu)	Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE)
	NG Choi-wah	(NCW)	Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association (HKGBCA)
	WONG Kwok-keung	(KKW)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors (HKFEMC)
	Bonnie YAU	(BYu)	Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC)
In Attendance :	Raymond LAU	(RdL)	Buildings Department (BD)

	Timothy LAU	(TyL)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
	Ivan KO	(IK)	Senior Manager - Construction Trade Testing
	James WONG	(JsW)	Assistant Manager – Research & Development
	Angela YUEN	(AaY)	Manager - Council Services
	Sally LEUNG	(SYLg)	Manager - Council Services
	Serina LAU	(SLau)	Assistant Manager - Council Services
Presenters:	Jiayu CHEN	(CJY)	The City University of Hong Kong
	Andrew LEUNG	(ALg)	The City University of Hong Kong
	Vincent YAN	(VYn)	The Education University of Hong Kong
Apologies:	MO Kon-fei, Kenneth	(KM)	
	WONG Nai-keung, Philco	(NKW)	
	YU Sai-yen	(SYYu)	
	CHAN Sau-kit, Allan	(SKC)	Chairperson of Task Force on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety (TF-IDS)
	Francis WONG	(FW)	Chairperson of Task Force on Site Housekeeping (TF-SHK)
	CHENG Hok-chung	(CgHC)	Construction Site Workers General Union (CSWGU)
	Ronnie NG	(RNG)	Hong Kong Federation of Insurers (HKFI)

PROGRESS REPORT

Action

3.1 Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 002/16 held on 29 June 2016

Members took note of Progress Report CIC/CSY/R/002/16 and

confirmed the Progress Report of the last meeting held on 29 June 2016.

3.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 2.7 Details were reported under Agenda Item 3.9 (to follow up the Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety).

Agenda item 2.14 (iv) Details were reported under Agenda Item 3.10 (to follow up Suggestions on Maintenance Works in Existing Buildings).

3.3 Amended Operation Framework of CIC Research Fund and Proposal of Research Agenda

JsW briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/016/16 regarding “Amended Operation Framework of CIC Research Fund and Proposal of Research Agenda”.

The six previously funded projects related to construction safety would be monitored by the Task Force on Research. The project principal investigators would be invited to deliver presentations of their research progress and outcomes at the Com-CSY meetings and seek Com-CSY Members’ advice on project implementation.

For the future research projects, Com-CSY shall be responsible for proposing research agenda, selection and monitoring of research projects, as well as implementation of the research outcomes. Ir Chan Chi-chiu would represent Com-CSY to review the new research projects in the Task Force on Research.

Members took note of the amended operation framework of CIC Research Fund and endorsed the four proposed research areas, including accident prevention, safety of RMAA works, design for safety and new technologies for enhancing construction safety. Specific topics on research areas would be further discussed by Members.

3.4 Pilot Medical Examination Scheme for Construction Workers

Vyn, the Education University of Hong Kong, gave a presentation on the research project “Pilot Medical Examination Scheme for

Construction Workers”.

This research project was conducted from July 2014 to August 2016 with aiming to analyse construction workers’ general health conditions in terms of their gender, age and work trades. 1,217 construction workers participated in the Pilot Medical Examination Scheme and provided blood samples and completed questionnaires on socio-demographic characteristics, pain experience and management, dietary and lifestyle behaviors.

Three main findings were as follows:

- Common health problems of construction workers included overweight, hypertension, high blood cholesterol level and diabetes;
- There were associations between gender, age, education level and health conditions;
- The occurrence of pain was associated with gender, age, education level, warm-up exercise before working and physical activities.

After deliberations, association between painful locations and different trade category, comparison between sampling data and general public by age group would be included in a final report.

Some Members suggested exploring the relationship between sudden death and heart disease, expanding sampling size, using random sampling, exploring the feasibility of tracking studies and collaboration with Labour Department if further research studies would be conducted. The above suggestions would be follow-up by the Research and Development Team.

JsW

(CSC left the meeting at 3:37pm)

3.5 Gyroscopic Stabilizers for Construction Cranes and Gondolas

ALg, the City University of Hong Kong gave a presentation on the research project “Gyroscopic Stabilizers for Construction Cranes and Gondolas”.

The purpose of this research project was using gyroscopic stabilizers to control cargo vibration in construction cranes and gondolas. The loading test of 5kg in laboratory was completed and the research project was finished already.

After deliberations, Members concerned the feasibility of using this stabilizer for loading of 5-ton in construction sites and query the

application in construction industry. The above concerns would be follow-up by the Research and Development Team.

JsW

3.6 Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works (Volume 4) – Builders' Lift within Lift Shaft

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/017/16 regarding “Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works (Volume 4) – Builders' Lift within Lift Shaft”.

After the publication of the Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works (Volume 3) – Throughout the Occupation Stage of Building (Volume 3 of the Guidelines) in November 2013, Chairperson and Members of the Task Force of Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft (TF-WLS) agreed to develop the Guidelines on Builders' Lift (Passenger Hoist /Builder's Lift within lift shaft) to provide technical guidance and safety requirements to promote the use of Builders' Lift during construction period.

After a series of thorough deliberations during several meetings of Task Group and Task Force, the latest Guidelines in bilingual version (incorporated with appropriate comments received) was made.

Members endorsed the final draft Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works (Volume 4) – Builders' Lift within Lift Shaft. The finalised Guidelines would be submitted to the Council for approval at its upcoming meeting scheduled for 28 October 2016.

[Post Meeting Note: The finalised Guidelines was approved in the CIC Meeting No. 005/16 on 28 October 2016. The CIC Seminar would be held at the Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups Building on 11 January 2017.]

3.7 Progress of the Task Force on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety

The presentation on the “Progress of the Task Force on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety” would be postponed to the next Com-CSY Meeting No. 004/16.

3.8 Proposed Membership List & Terms of Reference of the Further Restructured Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites

WHWu, Chairperson of the Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites (TF-RMA) briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/018/16 regarding the “Progress of the TF-RMA”.

In the Com-CSY Meeting No. 002-16 held on 29 June 2016, Members endorsed the revised Membership List and TOR of the restructured TF-RMA. After the meeting, a discussion was made with the TF-RMA Chairperson, Com-CSY Chairperson and Senior Management of the CIC. It was agreed to further streamline the composition of the Membership of TF-RMA and to make its Terms of Reference (TOR) more tasks specific.

The proposed membership list of the further restructured TF-RMA was streamline from 32 to 18. After deliberations, Members endorsed the proposed membership list in principle and agreed the suggestion from AF to put those organisations who have removed in the membership list into the consultation list for consultation if necessary. Besides, Members endorsed TOR of further restructured TF-RMA.

(YsLu left the meeting at 4:43pm)

3.9 Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety

WHWu, Chairperson of the TF-RMA briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/019/16 regarding the “Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety”.

The “Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety” aims at promoting work-above-ground safety, including the use of proper working platforms and stringent control on use of ladders to prevent fatal accidents from “fall from height”.

With the support and input from the Chairperson of the TF-RMA, the Guidelines on Safe Use of Light-duty Working Platforms (Step Platforms and Hop-up Platforms) and Mobile Working Platforms was drafted and discussed with TF-RMA Members at its Meeting No. 001-15 held on 11 November 2015. After the Meeting, it was amended, refined and renamed as “Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety”. It was recommended necessary precautionary measures to enhance safety on work-above-ground, including task-specific risk assessments,

appropriate method statements, use of suitable working platforms or other safe means of support and stringent control on use of ladders.

After a series of thorough deliberations during several meetings of Task Force, the latest Guidelines in bilingual version (incorporated with appropriate comments received) was made.

After deliberations, a Member addressed the concern on prohibiting ladders for all electrical work in implementation. WHWu would look the matter and see if it was possible to fine tune the wordings of the Guidelines. Members endorsed the final draft Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety in principle with some minor amendment. The finalised Guidelines would be submitted to the Council for approval at its upcoming meeting scheduled for 28 October 2016.

[Post Meeting Note: The finalised Guidelines was approved in the CIC Meeting No. 005/16 on 28 October 2016 and was published on 22 November 2016. The CIC Seminar would be held at the Construction Industry Resource Centre on 6 December 2016.]

(SCW left the meeting at 5pm)

3.10 **Follow up work with the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions**

WHWu, Chairperson of the TF-RMA briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/020/16 regarding the “Follow up work with the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions”.

The Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions (HKFTU) wrote a letter to the Com-CSY Chairperson on 15 June 2016 to express their concern and gave suggestions on maintenance works in existing buildings. CIC preliminarily replied HKFTU on 22 June 2016. Members agreed TF-RMA to follow-up the suggestions.

Some Members of TF-RMA held a first meeting with representatives from the HKFTU on 12 September 2016 to discuss their suggestions and concerns. A follow-up meeting with representatives from HKFTU is targeted to be held later for collecting views on the “Facilities for External Inspection and Maintenance of Buildings” Checklist.

Members took note of the follow up work with the Hong Kong Federation of Trade Unions.

3.11 **Formation of Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds**

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/021/16 regarding “Formation of Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds”.

In July 2016, CIC received some stakeholders’ concerns on work safety of bamboo scaffolds and using planks to construct three consecutive layers of working platforms on bamboo scaffolds according to the CIC Guidelines on “Planking Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds” (CIC Guidelines) issued in 2014. It was suggested to explore the possibility to use and promote the closely placed bamboo scaffolds.

An informal meeting, chaired by Ms Ada Fung, Com-CSY Chairperson, was held on 31 August 2016. Representatives from Labour Department (LD), Developers, Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA), Hong Kong Construction Sub-Contractors Association (HKCSA) and Hong Kong Federation of Occupational Safety and Health Associations (HKFOSHA), Hong Kong & Kowloon Scaffolders General Merchants Association, Hong Kong & Kowloon Bamboo Scaffolding Workers Union (Tung-King), engineer, main contractor with well-experienced in using closely placed bamboo scaffolds and CIC Secretariat attended the meeting. During the meeting, it was agreed to set up a Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds under Com-CSY to review the content of CIC Guidelines issued in 2014, explore the possibility of using closely placed bamboo scaffolds and issue relevant safety guideline if necessary.

After deliberations, Members endorsed Ir LAU Chi-kin, Registered Structural Engineer to be a Chairperson of this Task Force. Members also endorsed proposed Terms of Reference and membership list with addition of the representatives from the Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union (HKCIEGU) and the Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association (HKGBCA).

Ir LAU Chi-kin, Registered Structural Engineer was proposed to be a Co-opted Member of Com-CSY 2016-2018 and seek for approval by the Council at its upcoming meeting scheduled for 28 October 2016.

[Post Meeting Note: CIC Secretariat has sent the invitation email for nomination of Member to the Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds to proposed membership list on 27 September 2016 and sent the appointment letters to the Task Force Members on 9 November 2016. Ir LAU Chi-kin was approved to be a Co-opted Member of Com-CSY 2016-2018 in the CIC Meeting No. 005/16 on 28 October 2016 and appointment letter was sent to him on 31 October 2016.]

3.12 Progress update of the McKinsey Report follow up

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/022/16 regarding the “Progress update of the McKinsey Report follow up”.

CIC Secretariat reported proposed action items of 15 recommendations from the McKinsey Interim Report. For the “establish an intervention program to correct poor safety behaviours (targeting all contractors and not only public works contractors)” in recommendation 32, and “examine feasibility to establish affordable healthcare options for construction workers” in recommendation 39, which are out of the authority of the Com-CSY and CIC due to its restricted power stated under the CIC Ordinance. It was suggested passing to Council Meeting for further discussion.

3.13 Any Other Business

(i) Opening Ceremony of the “Experimental Learning on Site Safety 2016”

An opening ceremony and the first training course of the Safety Training Scheme “Experimental Learning on Site Safety 2016” with the HKCA would be held on 26 September 2016 at Noah’s Ark of Ma Wan. Members were invited to attend.

[**Post Meeting Note:** Mr Chan Ka-kui, CIC Chairman and Ms Ada Fung, Com-CSY Chairperson were one of the officiating guests; while Mr Lawrence Ng, Council Member and Com-CSY Member, and Mr Chow Luen-kiu, Com-CSY Co-opted Member attended the opening ceremony on 26 September 2016]

(ii) Building Safety Week 2017

The Buildings Department would organise Building Safety Week 2017 on 18-24 March 2017. AF suggested including RMAA in this event.

(NCW left the meeting at 5:35pm)

(iii) Construction Safety Week 2017

The scale of Construction Safety Week (CSW) 2017 would be similar to CSW 2016 and would be held in September 2017.

3.14 Next Meeting

7 December 2016 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm at Board Room, 38/F, COS

Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:40pm.

CIC Secretariat
November 2016