

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Technology

Meeting No. 005/12 of the Committee on Environment and Technology for 2012 was held on 22 November 2012 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at ZCB, Sheung Yuet Road, Kowloon Bay, Hong Kong.

Summary notes of the Committee on Environment and Technology (Com-ENT) Meeting No.005/12:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
5.1	CIC/ENT/R/004/12	Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Previous Meeting – Members of the Com-ENT confirmed the Progress Report CIC/ENT/R/004/12 of the meeting held on 6 September 2012.
5.2	---	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting: (i) Mr Simon Wong, CEO of LSCM accepted to be the Chair of Task Force on Schematic Design for Application of RFID, GPS and Sensor Technology in Monitoring the Movement of Construction Waste. Members endorsed Mr Simon Wong as a Co-opted Member of the Com-ENT. (ii) Consolidated views regarding Strength of the Hong Kong Construction Industry from CIC had been submitted to DevB. (iii) The English version and Chinese version of Study Report on Research on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles would be published to CIC's website by mid-December 2012 upon no further major comments by Task Force on the Chinese

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		translation.
5.3	(for information)	<p>Presentation on Construction Product Certification in Housing Authority</p> <p>Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA) delivered a presentation on “Implementation of Construction Products Certification in Hong Kong Housing Authority”. They presented the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. the initiative of the implementation of product certification in HKHA is to seek for extra assurance of product quality by using upstream quality control which offers a better guarantee for quality, safety and reliability of products by putting more emphasis on the technical capability of supply factories;2. HKHA currently requires the suppliers of seven major construction materials to obtain certification in stages, they are: Fire-rated timber doors, Panel wall partition, ement products (for architectural use), Tile adhesives, Ceramic tiles, Repair mortars, Aluminium windows and 4-bar hinges assembly. Other products in the pipeline for requiring product certification in the near future are : uPVC drainage pipes & fittings, Close-coupled water closet suites, Mesh reinforcement, Couplers for reinforcement;3. wider implementation of construction product certification needs continuous and wider collaboration with stakeholders from private sector to public sector of the construction industry. <p>HKHA’s product certification scheme was still at the starting stage. Future stages of certification development may include the extension of the product categories and supply regions/ countries.</p> <p>The product schemes being used by HKHA were prepared by relevant Hong Kong professional institutes and were compiled based on international standards. They are open standards such that</p>

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		<p>stakeholders in Hong Kong could make use of these product schemes as their product certification requirement.</p> <p>HKHA estimated that the product certification would not significantly affect the product cost as a whole.</p> <p>Members consented that CIC would be the appropriate body to co-ordinate the preparation of the product schemes in order to encourage the wider adoption of product certification.</p>
5.4	CIC/ENT/P/030/12 (for information)	<p>Report of The Hong Kong Construction Association – Hong Kong’s Construction Industry Vision 2020</p> <p>HKCA has been invited to assign a representative to attend the meeting to present the environmental issues raised in the Vision 2020 report and to respond to questions raised at the meeting, but the representative was not yet confirmed before the meeting.</p> <p>In absence of the spokesman of HKCA for the environment and energy efficiency issues in the Vision 2020, Chairman advised to defer this agenda item to the next meeting.</p>
5.5	CIC/ENT/P/031/12 (for information)	<p>Working Group on Strategic Implementation of Prefabrication and Modular Construction</p> <p>The report was written on the basis of fact finding as per industry practitioners’ current practice and experience sharing only. Phase 2 study would be required to pursue the wider application of prefabrication:</p>

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		<p>1. to define clear objectives of pursuing implementation of prefabrication and modular construction in Hong Kong, for example, whether to tackle manpower shortage issue, to enhance site safety, to improve construction productivity and efficiency, or to improve construction cost effectiveness?</p> <p>2. to carry out benefit analysis and costing analysis to substantiate the opinions collected through experience sharing set out in the phase 1 study report.</p> <p>The report addressed that client’s initiatives and incentives were the key drivers for the adoption of prefabrication. The “Possible Actions” set out were the opinions of the Task Force through experience sharing during the task force meetings, which were included in the report for the consideration of the relevant stakeholders only.</p> <p>Members also suggested:</p> <p>1. extending the scope of study to cover prefabrication of Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MEP) works in future studies; and</p> <p>2. exploring the opportunity of technology driven construction mode to replace current labour intensive construction mode, such as wider use of machinery with complementary new construction process aiming to reduce the reliance on frontline workforce, in future studies.</p>
5.6	CIC/ENT/P/032/12 (for information)	<p>Research Proposals by Research Institutes</p> <p>As there was large amount of information associated with the 52 applications, in order to have the results of applications available by January 2013, Members agreed to set up an ad hoc review group to further assess and finalise the recommendation of the Secretariat on those submitted proposals.</p>

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		<p>Members advised that this review group should also consider the followings during their assessment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the reasonability of the fund request; - whether the proposals fit in the scope of the research policy and funding purpose; - endeavour to use different angles/ perspectives to evaluate the value of the proposals; - use more objective scoring system to come up transparent recommendation. <p>Chairman advised that an agenda item is needed to formulate a mechanism and policy to select, recommend and approve future phases' proposals in the next meeting.</p>
5.7	CIC/ENT/P/033/12 (for discussion)	<p>Revised Categorisation of the CIC Publications</p> <p>For Com-ENT, there was only one publication “Guidelines on Trip Ticket System for Disposal of Construction & Demolition Materials in Private Sector Works”. Members recommended that there was no need to change the name of the Guidelines.</p>
5.8	CIC/ENT/P/034/12 (for discussion)	<p>Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Framework for Construction Materials</p> <p>Members took note of the final report. The Council’s consideration would be requested if the report should be uploaded to CIC’s website for public access.</p> <p>[PMN: the research won the International Innovation and Research Awards 2012 of the Chartered the Chartered Institute of Building under the category of Project Innovation Award.]</p>

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5.9	---	<p>Any Other Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. TVB afternoon program - “Pleasure and Leisure” (“都市閒情”) invited Task Force member on External Wall Tiles Adhesion, Mr. K.K. Kwan, to talk about the maintenance needs of the external wall tiles of their premises. The programme was broadcasted on 8th November 2012.b. CIC is going to organise a technology forum scheduled for 18 January 2013 (14.00 – 17.00 hrs) at ZCB with theme on “Construction for Sustainability” including the elaboration of the research funding policy and arrangement.c. CIC sponsored a BIM conference organised by The Hong Kong Institute of BIM scheduled for 14th December 2012.