

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Construction Site Safety

Meeting No. 002/11 of Committee on Construction Site Safety (Com-CSS) was held on Friday, 17 June 2011 at 2:30p.m. at Meeting Room No. 1, CIC Headquarters, 15/F, Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

The following items have been discussed at the Com-CSS Meeting No. 002/11:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
2.1	CIC/CSS/R/001/11	Confirmation of the Progress Report – Members of the Com-CSS approved the Progress Report CIC/CSS/R/001/11 of the last meeting held on 25 March 2011.
2.2	CIC/CSS/R/001/11	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting – Regarding the feasibility of adopting Pay for Safety Scheme (PFSS) to Repair, Maintenance, Alternations and Additions (RMAA) works, an informal discussion with Buildings Department (BD), Housing Society (HS) and Urban Renewal Authority (URA) was held on 7 June 2011. HS and URA stated their role as “fund management” and expressed reservation for them to implement the concept of Pay for Safety Scheme (PFSS) on the Operation Building Bright (OBB) projects. Nevertheless, they would consider to bring the issue back to their relevant committee(s) for discussion.

2.3	CIC/CSS/P/027/10	<p>Discussion on Report of the Workshop on “How to Improve Hong Kong Construction Safety” of the Hong Kong Occupational Safety and Health Association (HKOSHA) – Members discussed the possible development of construction safety knowledge platform. A Member raised that the main contractor should be responsible for all safety issues at site, and had to ensure information on safety be disseminated to all workers, including the sub-contractors, at site. Legal advices would be sought by the Labour Department (LD) before the possible issuance of safety alerts to the industry so as to prompt the industry’s awareness on latest safety incident or accidents. Members also discussed that Construction Design & Management (CDM) Regulations might not lead to better safety performance. The principles of CDM could be considered by the Task Force on Review of Major Construction Method Statements in its work. Besides, it was discussed and believed that there existed a need to provide safety training to senior management of the construction industry. The above issues would be followed up by the respective Task Forces under the Com-CSS.</p>
2.4	CIC/CSS/P/004/11	<p>Preliminary Reports on Fatal Accidents occurred in the Construction Industry in 2010 - The preliminary reports on 11 fatal cases occurred in the construction industry in 2010 were discussed. A new Working Group on Site Safety Incidents was setup aiming at better making use of the analysis and information provided by LD. Mr Victor Kwong of HKOSHA was appointed by the Committee as the chairman of this new Working Group.</p>

2.5	CIC/CSS/P/015/11	Progress of Activities of the Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft - Members noted that the draft Guidelines for Stage 2 had been discussed and would be updated accordingly. However, in view of different installation methods for different site conditions, it might take some time in the finalisation of the Guidelines for Stage 2.
2.6	CIC/CSS/P/016/11	Progress of Activities of the Task Force on Review of Major Construction Method Statements - Members endorsed the amended Terms of Reference proposed by the Task Force. Labour Department (LD) was requested to provide more detailed information and analysis (particularly on high risk construction activities) for further discussion. The Task Force considered to engage a consultant to perform a study to identify activities of high safety hazards to construction site workers and personnel in the works sequences, and recommend enhancement to relevant method statements for improving their safety aspects. The scope, approach and estimated lump sum consultancy fee for the mentioned study would be discussed in the next Task Force meeting.
2.7	Verbal Report	Progress of Activities of the Task Force on Working in Hot Weather - Members took note of the progress of the HKU Research Team on the Hot Weather Research Study. The Research Team had conducted preliminary analysis and the on-site data collection of main study had been started on 6 June 2011. The Research Team was working on the review of current practices and the draft review should be completed shortly.
2.8	CIC/CSS/P/017/11	Technical Guidelines for the Design, Installation and Maintenance of Cast-in Anchor Devices - The Guidelines were planned for issuance in July 2011 (Post Meeting Note: the Guidelines were formally issued on 8 July 2011.). The CIC Chairman would be invited to send a request to the Director of Buildings for his consideration of formulating practice notes based on the Technical Guidelines.

2.9	CIC/CSS/P/018/11	Guidelines on Handling Construction Work Injury and Fatal Accident Cases – Members noted that the finalised Guidelines were planned for issuance in July 2011 (Post Meeting Note: the Guidelines were formally issued on 22 July 2011.).
2.10	CIC/CSS/P/019/11	Guidelines on the Application of Pay for Safety Scheme (PFSS) - Comments had been received from Development Bureau (DevB), Buildings Department (BD) and Housing Authority (HA) on the draft Guidelines on the Application of PFSS. As some of the comments would probably need to be discussed and agreed in details, it was suggested to organise a meeting with DevB, BD and HA on it.
2.11.1	AOB	CIC received HKIE's letter of 12 May 2011 regarding the installation of PVC/ PVC twin cables in Buildings. The letter stated the concern of a member of the public about an occasion where PVC/ PVC twin cables were found on the surface of the wall and with plaster over it that might have a safety impact. Against the backdrop of the safety of the community and the workers themselves, the HKIE suggested the CIC to bring attention to all relevant trades of the industry, in addition to the electrical ones that this method of cables installation could still be predominately found in older buildings. Members of Com-CSS were asked to consider disseminating such information to their respective organisations and trades for their information and discussion.
2.11.2	AOB	The Task Force on Refuse Disposal was requested to evaluate and identify possible improvement initiatives on site cleanliness and tidiness.

2.11.3	AOB	A Technical Seminar on Safety of Tower Cranes was being organised and would be held on 22 July 2011 at Regus Conference Centre. The objective of the Seminar would be to promulgate the Guidelines on Safety of Tower Cranes (Version 2) and allow the sharing of experience in the adoption of the same. Members were encouraged to promote such to their respective organisations (Post Meeting Note: The Technical Seminar was successfully held on 22 July 2011 with a full house of audience.).
--------	-----	--