

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **The Construction Industry Council Holds Lifting Safety Practical Workshop Teaching Hands-On Skills to Strengthen Safety Awareness**

**Hong Kong • 19 January 2024** – With an aim to enhance safety awareness among the industry practitioners, the Construction Industry Council (CIC) organised a “Lifting Safety Practical Workshop” (the Workshop) at the HKIC - Kowloon Bay Campus today. A professional consultant was invited to provide technical guidance to the representatives from the works departments of the government, associations, institutions, and contractors on policy, strategy, operations, and behaviour, to strengthen the industry’s awareness on lifting operation safety.

The CIC is highly concerned about the spate of fatal lifting accidents happened last year. The CIC has hence established the “Task Force on Construction Lifting Safety” in November 2023 to review the cause of the lifting accidents and examine existing operational standards and procedures with key industry stakeholders. The Task Force also discussed how to enhance training, improve assessment methods and strengthen individual safety responsibilities to raise workers’ safety awareness and technical proficiency.

After a thorough review and discussion, in response to the Task Force’s recommendations, the CIC organised this two-day “Lifting Safety Practical Workshop”. Today, on the first day of the workshop, Mr. Alvin YU, Adjunct lecturer, Housing, Transport and Built Environment of HKU SPACE detailly went through the roles and responsibilities of stakeholders in lifting safety, while on the second day, participants will visit a construction site to observe the proper lifting procedures, followed by group discussion and analysis. Through progressive practical guidance, the workshop aims to help industry stakeholders to establish a safe lifting operation system prior to work commencement. The workshop received active participation from industry stakeholders with positive responses, commended the course was practical and helpful in establishing a systematic operating procedure.

“Industry stakeholders must work together to improve lifting safety by properly planning the lifting procedures, enhancing fatal zone management, conducting regular inspection on critical parts of the lifting gear, ensuring the appointed lifting supervisor and other relevant personnel have completed relevant trainings. Industry stakeholders ought to understand their safety roles and responsibilities and continuously improve the lifting safety culture.” Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC said. He further



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emphasised that the construction industry must widely adopt innovative construction methods and technologies such as Smart Site Safety System, Design for Safety, Multi-trade Integrated Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing (MiMEP) and construction robots to improve the safety level of construction sites.

The CIC has also published a new reference material, the "Standard and Guide on Lifting Operation", and related safety publications, providing useful information on lifting work to the industry in pictorial format and an easy-to-understand manner. The content includes the major hazards of crane lifting operations, roles and responsibilities of key personnel, industry good practices and the advantages of using different innovative technologies. The CIC urges all stakeholders in the industry to make good use of the newly published guidelines and lifting safety-related publications, as well as to enroll in the "Certificate for Lifting Safety Supervisors" course organised by the Hong Kong Institute of Construction. Through theoretical and practical lessons, participants can deepen their understanding of lifting operations and enhance their supervision skills, ensuring safe lifting operations.

In addition, the Hong Kong Institute of Construction's San Tin Training Ground opened at the end of last year, offers Safety Training Course for Construction Workers of Specified Trade – Rigger (A12 Silver Card). With an additional capacity of 3,000 training and testing places this year, it helps workers obtain the relevant qualifications more quickly and trains more talents with lifting safety knowledge for the industry.

Safety is the cornerstone of our industry's development, the CIC appeals to the industry stakeholders to prioritise worksites' safety and protect the lives of all workers. Together we strive to create a safer, healthier and more sustainable future.



Mr Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC, emphasises that the industry stakeholders ought to understand their safety roles and responsibilities and continuously improve the lifting safety culture



Mr. Alvin YU, Adjunct lecturer, Housing, Transport and Built Environment of HKU SPACE, provides technical guidance on lifting operation safety to the representatives from the works departments of the government, associations, institutions, and contractors on policy, strategy, operations, and behaviour



Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC (1<sup>st</sup> row: 3<sup>rd</sup> left); Mr. NG Kwok-ming (1<sup>st</sup> row: 2<sup>nd</sup> left) and Mr. PUN Ka-keung (1<sup>st</sup> row: 2<sup>nd</sup> right), Members of Task Force on Construction Lifting Safety; and Mr. Alvin YU, Adjunct lecturer, Housing, Transport and Built Environment of HKU SPACE (1 row: 3<sup>rd</sup> right), pose for a photo with the participants

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### **About the Construction Industry Council**

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit [www.cic.hk](http://www.cic.hk) for further details.