Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Technology

Meeting No. 001/11 of the Committee on Environment and Technology for 2011 was held on 13 January 2011 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at Hong Kong Construction Association, 16/F, 180 – 182 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Summary notes of the Committee on Environment and Technology (Com-ENT) Meeting No.001/11:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
1.1	CIC/ENT/R/005/10	Confirmation of the Progress Report – Members of the Com-ENT confirmed the Progress Report CIC/ENT/R/005/10 of the meeting held on 7 October 2010.
1.2		 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting: (i) Forum on standardisation and modularisation in Hong Kong works projects would be held in April 2011 with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers be the co-organiser. (ii) Forum on Building Information Modelling (BIM) would be held in the second half of 2011 and the Hong Kong Institute of BIM would be invited to co-organise the forum. (iii) Guidelines on Trip Ticket System for Disposal of Construction & Demolition Materials in Private Sector Works would be published shortly. (iv) CIC's feedback on the Public Consultation on Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda was issued to the EPD on 7 January 2011. (v) Presentation/ research materials relating to the Construction Technology Forum would be uploaded to the CIC website for sharing with the public after obtaining consents from the speakers. (vi) Small-scale workshops with participation of down-stream construction practitioners would be held in March/ April 2011 to help identify research and development opportunities.

CIC/CMT/P/001/11 (for discussion)

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1.3	CIC/ENT/P/001/11	Construction Workers Registration Card and Qualification Records – Members considered an interim solution to create a database for construction-related vocational qualifications to facilitate inspection by concerned authorities or agents, thus reducing the number of cards to be carried by construction workers while working on sites. A Member pointed out that some concerned ordinances required workers to "carry" the cards with them and a web-based database might not be a feasible solution to the problem. As the Development Bureau (DEVB) had studied the problem of multiple construction-related cards, the DEVB was requested to provide Members with relevant findings. In addition, there were worker cards issued by individual companies such as contractors and the Hong Kong Construction Association would meet with some card system providers to explore possible solutions. Discussion would be continued at the next meeting.
1.4		Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Construction Industry – the draft was being revised with reference to comments from all CIC committees.
1.5	CIC/ENT/P/002/11	Commitment towards Sustainable Urbanisation in Hong Kong – Construction Industry Perspective – Members reviewed the research proposal and requested additional information from the research team for further consideration at the next meeting. As the research brief had been submitted by the research team to the AsiaConstruct Network for sharing with other participating Asian cities, it would be unlikely that the CIC could put the research proposal out to tender and appoint another research institution to undertake the research. Members suspected that the CIC might not have adequate resources and expertise to develop a comprehensive research brief should the CIC consider initiating a similar research on sustainable urbanisation. A Member pointed out that it would deserve considering single tender invitation should good justifications such as specialties of the research, capabilities of the research team and project relevancy to the construction industry be given.
1.6	CIC/ENT/P/003/11	Progress of the Research on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles and Rendering – Members received a presentation on the draft Review Report with highlights on the initial findings

CIC/CMT/P/001/11 (for discussion)

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		about the problems of detachment of external wall tiles and the proposed laboratory testing from the research team AECOM. Members considered that the initial findings and the proposed laboratory testing were on the right track and advised AECOM to proceed with the research project.
1.7	CIC/ENT/P/004/11	Members took note of the procurement status of the Research on River Sand Substitutes for Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production (Phase One).
1.8	CIC/ENT/P/005/11	Members took note of the progress report of the Research on Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Framework for Construction Materials.
1.9		Any Other Business – Members agreed to set up a task force to study the adoption of modular construction in Hong Kong and associated manpower issues with a view to improving the construction process and alleviating the problem of manpower shortage in certain trades.