

**Construction Industry Council**

**Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme**

Meeting No. 004/21 of the Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (Com-RSC) for 2021 was held on 1 December 2021 (Wednesday) at 2:30pm at Boardroom, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay.

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Summary Notes of the Com-RSC Meeting No. 004/21:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights</b>
4.1	CIC/RSC/M/003/21 (for approval)	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</b> Members confirmed the minutes of the previous Meeting No. 003/21 held on 8 September 2021.
4.2	-	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</b> Nil.
4.3	CIC/RSC/P/043/21 (for approval)	<b>Status of Follow up Actions for Proposed Addition of New Designated Trades</b> According to the established mechanism stipulated in the Rules and Procedures of the Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (the Scheme) and the existing registration framework, the Com-RSC approved in-principle the addition of “False Ceiling” and “Tower Crane (Erecting, Dismantling, Altering Height)” as the 9 <sup>th</sup> and 10 <sup>th</sup> designated trades under the Scheme. The Secretariat would follow up with the refinement of operational details and preparation works for implementation. In view of the orderly execution and operational experiences already gained, the scheduled effective date for the two new designated trades would be of 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2022 with a condensed 18-month grace period. The imposition of subcontract tender limits arrangement would commence from the ninth month after the effective date. Members also took note of the progress of follow up actions of other proposed new designated trades.
4.4	CIC/RSC/P/044/21 (for information)	<b>Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (RSTCS) Operation Report</b> (a) As of the end of October 2021, the total number of registered companies reached 7,776

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		<p>(August 2021: 7,721) in which 1,859 were Registered Specialist Trade Contractors (RSTCs), whereas 164 belonged to Group 2 (August 2021: 161), and 5,917 were Registered Subcontractors (RSs).</p> <p>(b) Members took note of the processing status of applications under the transition arrangement for Group 1 RSTCs of the existing eight designated trades. As of the end of October 2021, there were 121 companies submitted information whereas 76 of them confirmed in compliance to the new registration requirement. The Secretariat took a multi-pronged approach of engaging employers, key trade associations, main contractors and registered companies to urge those relevant companies to submit required information to substantiate compliance to the new registration requirements. Otherwise their registration would be cancelled.</p> <p>(c) The Secretariat continued the promotion of various activities for registered companies for strengthening corporate governance and getting the latest industry news. Highlights were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) conducted a seminar on application of digitised work supervisions for members of the Young Leaders Network of the Scheme on 28 October 2021;</li> <li>(ii) issued electronic direct mail reminders on 1 November 2021 for ICAC “Integrity Charter” programme and the implementation of the new integrity related registration requirements from April 2022;</li> <li>(iii) invited registered companies to join the webinars on the implementation of Security of Payment clauses in public works contracts held on 11 and 16 November 2021; and</li> <li>(iv) a webinar on the Competition Ordinance would be scheduled for 17 December 2021.</li> </ul>
4.5	-	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>(a) In view of achieving effective supervision of registered companies, the Com-RSC approved the Executive Director’s suggestion of having a standardised 3-year registration validity period for RSs, instead of having options on either 3 or 5-year validity under the current mechanism.</p>

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		(b) Com-RSC Chairperson and Members thanked Chairman of the CIC, who would retire from the post on 31 January 2022, for his great support for the implementation of the Scheme.
4.6	CIC/RSC/P/045/21 - CIC/RSC/P/047/21 (for information)	<b>Regulatory Hearing</b> The fourth regulatory hearing of 2021 was conducted. For the case referred by the ICAC which involved two companies, a RSTC was sanctioned with written warning while the other company would be required to provide information for further consideration of their application for registration that was still in progress. The other case of hearing that involved a fatal construction site accident was originally scheduled to be postponed due to time constraints.

*Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Com-RSC and/or full Minutes can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.*