

**Construction Industry Council**

**Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme**

Meeting No. 002/22 of the Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (Com-RSC) for 2022 was held on 1 June 2022 (Wednesday) at 2:30pm at Boardroom, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay and via video conferencing.

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Summary Notes of the Com-RSC Meeting No. 002/22:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights</b>
2.1	CIC/RSC/M/001/22 (for approval)	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>  Members confirmed the minutes of the previous Meeting No. 001/22 held on 2 March 2022.
2.2	-	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</b>  To be covered under Agenda Item 2.4 and 2.6 respectively.
2.3	CIC/RSC/P/018/22 (for approval)	<b>Addition of “Building Drainage Installation” as Designated Trade</b>  The Hong Kong Plumbing & Sanitary Ware Trade Association (HKP&SWTA) submitted a letter on 1 April 2022 for adding “Building Drainage Installation” as the 11 <sup>th</sup> designated trade under the Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (RSTCS) to the Com-RSC. Members deliberated the guiding principles, procedures and registration arrangements which included the brief scope of designated trade, sub-contract tender limits, registration requirements and transitional arrangements etc. in accordance to the Rules and Procedures

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		<p>of the RSTCS. Members also took note of trade practices and responses made by the representatives from HKP&amp;SWTA. The Com-RSC approved the addition of “Building Drainage Installation” as designated trade of the Scheme and corresponding amendments to the Rules and Procedures. The registration for “Building Drainage Installation” designated trade would be scheduled for implementation on 1 September 2022 with 18 months of transitional period for existing relevant Registered Subcontractors, in which the sub-contract tender limit for Group 1 companies would be imposed on public works contracts from nine months after the implementation date.</p>
2.4	CIC/RSC/P/019/22 (for approval)	<p><b>Proposal on Automatic Suspension of Registration on Fatal Accidents and the Relevant Amendments in RSTCS Rules and Procedures</b></p> <p>Members took note of the current regulatory action mechanism and procedure in public works contracts of Development Bureau and after extensive deliberation, the Com-RSC agreed to set up a task group to follow-up the subject matter in view of complexity of accidents on construction sites and the need to balance with procedural fairness.</p>
2.5	CIC/RSC/P/020/22 (for endorsement)	<p><b>2023 Detailed Business Plan and Budget</b></p> <p>Members deliberated and endorsed the 2023 detailed business plan and budget with key items below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) Handle 3,100 different types of applications and 6,000 enquiries;</li> <li>(b) Collect violations information of registered companies and take appropriate regulatory actions for established cases upon legal advice to be solicited, as if necessary;</li> </ul>

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		<p>(c) Prepare proposal of new designated trades and holistically review registration requirements in order to continuously uplift the Scheme’s professionalism;</p> <p>(d) Complete the transitional arrangements for the three newly added designated trades;</p> <p>(e) Develop Good Practice Manuals for four designated trades; and</p> <p>(f) Conduct a series of promotional activities for nurturing young leaders and enhancing professional recognition of registered companies.</p> <p>Members also took note the Finance Department would consolidate all budgets and work plans of committees and departments for Council’s approval with adjustment made according to the overall budgetary targets.</p>
2.6	CIC/RSC/P/021/22 (for information)	<p><b>Brainstorming Session - Explore the idea of adding Suspended Bamboo Scaffolding as new designated trade</b></p> <p>The Com-RSC agreed in principle with the addition of Suspended Bamboo Scaffolding as new designated trade. However, the registration requirements, transitional period arrangement and promotions channels would need to be further discussed with scaffolding trade associations and unions after cooperating with the overall strategy of the Committee on Construction Safety and the review on respective workers’ registration arrangement.</p>
2.7	CIC/RSC/P/022/22 (for information)	<p><b>Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (RSTCS) Operation Report</b></p> <p>(a) As of the end of April 2022, the total number of registered companies was 7,764 (January 2022: 7,840) in which 1,402 (January 2022: 1,834) were Registered Specialist Trade Contractors (RSTCs) and 6,362 (January 2022: 6,006) were Registered Subcontractors (RSs);</p>

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		<p>(b) The 3-year transitional arrangement for Group 1 RSTCs of the seven designated trades was completed on 31 March 2022;</p> <p>(c) Executive Director of the CIC wrote to major employers on 6 June 2022 to appeal for their support for engaging registered companies in their construction contracts and provided with a set of model clauses prepared by CIC’s quantity surveying consultant for facilitating the adoption of the RSTCS;</p> <p>(d) The Secretariat commenced the development of “Good Practice Manual” on safety and quality aspects of different designated trades with less available common standards in order to enhance stakeholders’ understandings on standard practices, application of innovative technologies and cross trade collaboration etc. The Hong Kong Polytechnic University was appointed as the consultant and started developing “Good Practice Manual” for three designated trades, namely Concreting, Concreting Formwork and Reinforcement Bar Fixing since March 2022 for target completion by end of 2022;</p> <p>(e) An “Achievement Highlights” designated webpage on the Scheme Website was launched in the end of May 2022 for promoting registered companies’ successful stories and their experience sharing on application of innovative technologies towards the general public and industry stakeholders;</p> <p>(f) The Secretariat met the chairperson of the Young Members Committee of Hong Kong Construction Sub-Contractors Association and the chairperson and committee members of the Youth Committee of Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Federation on 18 May 2022 for exchanging views on development direction of the Young Leaders Network of the RSTCS.</p>
2.8	-	<b>Any Other Business</b>

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		The term of office of incumbent members would end on 15 July 2022 while the Council had approved appointment of Members of the new term of office on 22 April 2022. Com-RSC expressed gratitude to retiring members for their supports rendered on implementation of the RSTCS.

*Remarks: The mentioned papers and/or progress reports discussed at the Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.*