

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 002/15 of the Committee on Construction Safety was held on Tuesday, 30 June 2015 at 2:30pm at Meeting Room No. 1, CIC Headquarters, 15/F, Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Present:	CHEUNG Hau-wai	(HWC)	Chairman
	LAI Chi-wah	(CWLi)	
	WONG Sze-chun	(SCW)	
	Victor KWONG	(VK)	Chairperson of Informal Task Force on Site Safety Incidents (ITF-SSI)
	LAU Chi-kin	(CKiL)	Chairperson of Task Force on Review of Working Procedures for Safety (TF-WPS)
	LI Chi-leung	(CLL)	Chairperson of Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites (TF-RMA)
	Francis WONG	(FW)	Chairperson of Task Force on Site Housekeeping (TF-SHK)
	LAM Tat-ming, Terence	(TmL)	Development Bureau (DevB)
	Joel CHAN	(CSC)	Hong Kong Institute of Architects, Authorised Person (HKIA, AP)
	WONG Kwok-keung	(KKW)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors (HKFEMC)
	Winson YEUNG	(WY)	Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC)
	Ronnie NG	(RN)	Hong Kong Federation of Insurers (HKFI)
In Attendance :	Thomas CHAN	(TsC)	Labour Department
	Raymond LAU	(RdL)	Buildings Department
	TSE Kin-leung	(KLTe)	Buildings Department
	Timothy LAU	(TyL)	Housing Authority
	Victor WONG	(VWg)	Senior Manager - Council Services

	Ivan KO	(IK)	Senior Manager - Construction Trade Testing
	Angela YUEN	(AaY)	Manager - Council Services
	Sally LEUNG	(SYLg)	Manager - Council Services
	Serina LAU	(SLau)	Assistant Manager - Council Services
	Alfred LEUNG	(AdLg)	Assistant Manager - Council Services
Presenters :	Julian LEE	(JnL)	Manager - Research
	Florence CHEUNG	(FC)	Mckinsey & Company
Apologies :	Ada FUNG	(AF)	Chairperson of Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft (TF-WLS)
	CHAN Sau-kit, Allan	(SKC)	Chairperson of Task Group on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety (TG-IDS)
	HUI Siu-wai	(SWH)	Director of Buildings
	Steve HOWARTH	(SeH)	MTR Corporation (MTRC)
	CHOW Luen-kiu	(LKC)	
	WONG Wai-man	(WMW)	Construction Site Workers General Union (CSWGU)
	Lawrence NG	(LN)	

PROGRESS REPORT

Action

2.1 Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 001/15 held on 18 March 2015

Members took note of Progress Report CIC/CSY/R/001/15 and confirmed the Progress Report of the last meeting held on 18 March 2015.

2.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 1.14 Details were reported under Agenda item 2.7.
(to follow up the formation of Task Group on

Safety of Mobile Cranes)

Agenda item 1.15 (iv) TmL reported that Development Bureau (DevB) and Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) conducted a preliminary study on the design for maintenance location of air-conditioners after receiving requests from construction practitioners. ArchSD suggested an alternative option of the design, which was inward opening window to facilitate the maintenance of outdoor unit of split type air conditioners.

Members of the Com-CSY raised queries and concern on the proposed design in the meeting such as water proof, noise pollution and temperature control.

It is also suggested to seek for comments on proposed new design from Buildings Department as it may involve amendment on the existing design.

After deliberations, it was suggested to invite Members of the Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites for further review and elaborate on the matter.

(VK joined the meeting at 2:45pm)

Agenda item 1.15 (v) Details were reported under Agenda item 2.15 (to follow up the Mckinsey Report).

Agenda item 1.15 (vii) Details were reported under Agenda item 2.14 (to follow up Fatalities of Construction Industry in 2014).

2.3 Progress of the Task Group on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/008/15 “Progress of the Task Group on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety”.

9 trial run venues for Rear RFID Sensing / Alarm System for Vehicles and 6 trial run venues for Safety Belt Engagement Sensing System were identified. 3 sets of Rear RFID Sensing / Alarm System for Vehicles were prepared by LSCM in early June 2015. The CIC Secretariat is coordinating with LSCM to prepare the reminder and evaluation form for the trial run venues for Rear RFID Sensing / Alarm System for Vehicles and the target trial run schedule would be in September 2015.

Members took note of the progress of the Task Group on Application of Innovative Design to Enhance Construction Safety.

2.4 Progress of the Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/009/15 regarding “Progress of the Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft”.

A Task Group meeting was held on 9 April 2015. Members of the Task Group reviewed the drafted Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works - Builders’ Lift (Passenger Hoist / Builder’s Lift with lift shaft).

Members of the Task Force / Task Group were arranged to attend another site visit to Yoho Town Phase 3, Block 9 on 10 April 2015. 21 Members, including AF, joined the site visit.

After the site visit, some members of the Task Group revised the drafted Guidelines. The revised version was circulated to Task Group Members for discussion.

Another Task Group meeting was held on 22 June 2015 to further review the content of the Guidelines.

Members took note of the progress of the Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft.

2.5 Construction Safety Week 2015

AaY gave a presentation on the “Construction Safety Week (CSW) 2015” and the Associated Activities co-organised by CIC and Development Bureau (DevB) from 27 – 29 May 2015.

The main theme for 4th CSW 2015 was “Construction Workers’ Health and Safety Leadership”, which were consolidating and deepening some

key initiatives/ measures promoted between 2012 and 2014.

It comprised of the following activities:

- Qigong refresher courses and “train-the-trainer” sessions
- Zero Accident Ambassador Award 2015
- Kick Off Ceremony cum Qigong Display Competition
- Conference
- “Construction Safety App” mobile app
- Innovative Safety Initiative Award (ISIA) 2015
- Site Visits
- 21st Considerate Contractors Site Award Scheme (CCSAS) Award Presentation Ceremony

The achievements of the CSW 2015 were as follows:

- More than 400 participants joined the Qigong refresher courses and train-the-trainer sessions. CPD hours were accredited to all participants.
- Over 3,000 construction workers nominated as “Zero Accident Ambassadors”.
- A Kick-off Ceremony cum Qigong Display Competition was held on 27 May 2015. Ir Lee Shing-see, Chairman of the CIC and Mr Paul Chan, Secretary for Development were the officiating guests of the opening ceremony at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Eight final teams comprising about 200 construction workers performed their Qigong Display Competition at Golden Bauhinia Square.
- Representatives from the General Administration of Sport of China were invited to be the adjudicators for the final of Qigong Display Competition. They also demonstrated Qigong at various prestigious structures in Hong Kong.
- About 1,000 people attended the Conference. 9 speakers were invited, including a speaker from Taiwan.
- A mobile app, “Construction Safety App” was launched in the Conference to provide instant safety related messages and guidelines to construction workers. Over 5,000 people downloaded the app.
- The ISIA award presentation ceremony was held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre on 27 May 2015, with a total of 33 awarded entries from 102 applications.

- More than 300 industry practitioners visited 11 exemplary work sites that demonstrated good safety performance.
- The CCSAS award presentation was held at the Kowloonbay International Trade & Exhibition Centre on 29 May 2015. 307 entries were submitted and 59 work sites were commended.
- To promote CSW 2015, videos were broadcasted on the TV wall in Hong Kong Times Square, Chungking Mansions, Roadshow and Buzplay, advertorials in several newspapers. This event was successful with wide attention from 26 pieces media coverage.

TmL provided supplementary information that the mobile app “Construction Safety App” would be kept on updating to enrich the information and appealed Members to promote and support the app.

2.6 Progress of the Experimental Learning on Site Safety 2015

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/010/15 regarding “Progress of the Experimental Learning on Site Safety 2015”.

This was the first time that the CIC would co-organise the Safety Training Scheme “Experimental Learning on Site Safety 2015” with Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA). The aim of the scheme is to give the students a firsthand experience on site safety and hazard so that they may be prepared to protect themselves and workers. It will also help to induce the concept of designing for safety when they involve in design work in the future.

To inspire more undergraduates’ awareness in construction safety as well as preparing those who wish to join the construction industry in the near future, more related departments of universities and institutions (12 related departments of 5 local universities and 2 higher education institutions) were invited to join the Scheme this year.

The opening ceremony and the first training course would be held on 27 August 2015 at Noah’s Ark of Ma Wan. Members of Com-CSY would be invited to attend the ceremony.

Members took note of the “Progress of the Experimental Learning on Site Safety 2015”.

[Post Meeting Note: Ir HON Chi-keung, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Development Bureau, Ir S. S. LEE, Chairman of

the CIC, and Mr. TSUI Wai-tim, Vice-President of HKCA and Chairman of Health and Safety Committee would be the officiating guests.]

2.7 Formation of Task Group on Safety of Mobile Cranes

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/011/15 regarding “Formation of Task Group on Safety of Mobile Cranes”.

The new Task Group on Safety of Mobile Cranes was formed under Com-CSY which comprised of representatives from Labour Department (LD), Transport Department (TD), Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD), HKCA, The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE), Hong Kong Professional Hoisting Engineering Association (HKPHEA), Professional Crane Lorry Association (PCLA), Hong Kong Federation of Occupational Safety and Health Associations (HKFOSHA), Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) and CIC Training and Development Section. AF would be a Chairperson of the Task Group. The first meeting would be held on 2 July 2015.

Members took note of the “Formation of Task Group on Safety of Mobile Cranes”.

2.8 Anti-Heat Stress Construction Uniform

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/012/15 regarding “Anti-Heat Stress Construction Uniform” (uniform).

The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and CIC entered into an agreement in the Press Conference on 1 April 2015. PolyU licensed the technology of the uniform to the CIC.

The uniform made its debut at the Construction Safety Week 2015 on 27 May 2015.

The CIC received positive feedback from the industry about this uniform. CIC received 14 number of enquiries from different companies about the new uniform. To ensure the fabricated uniforms meet the required standards, laboratory test was required.

Instead of producing uniforms to construction companies, CIC would sublicense this technology of the uniform to interested contractors, and they could fabricate the uniforms under the specification provided by

PolyU.

The new set of uniform is planned to be used as CIC trainee uniforms in the new terms of this year, ie. September 2015, if possible.

AaY explained that the colour of the uniform should only be light blue as it was considered to be the best color for the anti-heat stress function. Moreover, different contractors may have their own uniform color. It was inconvenience for the workers to change the uniforms when they work at different construction sites.

VK expressed the gratitude for the contribution of FW. During the overseas visit with HWC and SYLg in the “31st International Congress on Occupational Health” in Korea in May 2015, the overseas scholars have also expressed interest and appreciation on this uniform especially working under very hot weather conditions. It was worth supporting research on safety related technologies.

Members agreed to recommend the Four-parties Uniform Working Group (工人制服四方小組) including DevB, CIC, HKCA and Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union (HKCIEGU) to explore the possibility to adopt this new set of uniform to replace the existing CI uniform in the near future.

Members took note of the progress of Anti-Heat Stress Construction Uniform.

2.9 Progress of Tai Po Training Ground Enhancement Project

(CSC joined the meeting at 3:30pm)

AaY gave a presentation on the “Progress of Tai Po Training Ground Enhancement Project”.

The Enhancement Project for the Tai Po Training Ground aims at building up the brand name of CIC and to set up a role model housekeeping centre for the construction industry.

The project included new setup and arrangement on facilities and arrangement, trade test and training area, and also upgrading entrance portal, turnstile (access control), changing room and smart lockers, centralised store room, internal transport – tow tractor, multifunction shelter, water filled barrier, signage for road marking and way finding. The whole project is targeted to be completed by end of year 2015/early year 2016.

VK suggested to consider an emergency evacuation plan as this Training Ground is located in the vicinity of the town gas production plant nearby.

Members took note of the progress of Tai Po Training Ground Enhancement Project.

(See item 2.15 which was reported before item 2.10)

2.10 Progress of the Informal Task Force on Site Safety Incidents

VK, the Chairperson of the Informal Task Force on Site Safety Incidents (ITF-SSI) gave a verbal report on the progress of the ITF-SSI.

VK reported that the Construction Safety Poster No. P-CSY-001-15 “Work Safety on Vessels and Construction Over Water” was formally published on 22 April 2015. The next Poster would be about “Tips of Using Safety Helmets” as it is important for workers to aware of the safety measures in wearing safety helmets.

Members took note of the progress of the ITF-SSI.

2.11 Progress of the “Task Force on Review of Working Procedures for Safety”

CKiL, the Chairperson of the Task Force on Review of Working Procedures for Safety (TF-WPS) gave a verbal report on the progress of the TF-WPS.

Members of the Task Force on Review of Major Construction Method Statements were informed on the rename and revised Terms of Reference of the Task Force. They were also invited to continue to serve the TF-WPS. Besides, revised assignment brief of the Consultancy Services on Safety Working Procedures Preparation Guidelines for Three Identified High Risk Construction Activities for the Construction Industry of Hong Kong was circulated to Members of the Task Force for final review before conducting the tender package.

Members took note of the progress of the TF-WPS.

2.12 Experience Sharing for the Benchmarking Study Tour in Singapore

The experience sharing presentation would be postponed to the next Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/15.

2.13 Progress of the Safety Experience and Training Centre (SETC) (Phase 1) for the Construction Industry

SYLg reported the progress of the Safety Experience and Training Centre (SETC) (Phase 1) for the Construction Industry.

The funding request for Phase 1 of the SETC was endorsed by Com-ANF on 15 May 2015. Tender package for the Consultancy Services on Design and Project Management for the SETC (Phase 1) was issued on 3 June 2015. Tender briefing was held on 11 June 2015. 5 tenders were received and a tender assessment was held on 27 June 2015. No tenderer's return qualified for the award. It may be due to lack of experience for the Consultants as no similar experience was made in Hong Kong.

Members shared their tendering process experience and agreed that SETC is the first project in Hong Kong and thus may encounter difficulties.

Alternative approach would be considered in re-tendering process in selecting appropriate Consultant.

Members took note of the progress of the SETC (Phase 1) for the Construction Industry.

2.14 Fatalities of Construction Industry in 2014

The presentation would be postponed to the next Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/15.

2.15 Consultancy Services on Development Strategy for the Hong Kong Construction Industry

AaY reported that the Draft Two Report from McKinsey & Company was sent to members by email on 5 June 2015, while Chapter 2 - Vision for Growth and Sustainability and Chapter 5 - Building a Safer Construction Environment were the most important for members'

comments.

FC gave a presentation on the consultancy study for construction industry, especially on construction safety.

The research findings were:

- (1) Decline in accident rate has slowed, while casualty rate has held constant.
 - Public works (e.g. HKHA) have achieved better safety performance than private.
 - Noticeable proportion of accidents and casualties occur in RMAA.
- (2) Low adoption of safety in design practices.
- (3) High mobility of workers among different worksites and fragmented contracting culture.
- (4) Ambiguity remains regarding ownership of safety responsibilities among main contractors and sub-contractors.
- (5) Workers' deeply rooted mindset and behaviors.
 - The average age in HK is 46, which is the highest when compared with America, England and Singapore. It is difficult for well-experienced workers to change the mindset.

Suggestions on key improvement directions are:

- (1) Revisit current structure and enforcement of safety legislation and guidelines for reducing under reporting and enhancing deterrent.
- (2) Promote safety considerations in design and project management, such as design for safety industry award, construction design and management regulations, etc.
- (3) Improve hazard communication and knowledge of safety issues between CIC, DevB, LD, OSHC, etc.
- (4) Encourage ownership of safety responsibilities between constructors and sub-constructors. The existing scheme "pay for safety" is a good example.
- (5) Encourage adoption of safety-enhancing facilities, technologies, and construction methods to reduce accident rate.
- (6) Consider better healthcare benefits for workers.

After discussion, some of the Members have the following feedback:

- (1) The accident rate calculation principles and values vary from countries by countries. It is a bit misleading to simply referring to a particular countries' value with Hong Kong.
- (2) Many CIC publications (such as Guidelines, Safety Alerts, Posters, etc) and Com-CSY events (such as Construction Safety Week and other technical seminars), launching of Construction Safety Apps and Anti- Heat Stress Construction Uniform were not being recognized. Mckinsey is welcome to approach Com-CSY and the CIC Secretariat if needed for more information.
- (3) Critical review is required to identify the items that are worthwhile to conduct before making solid recommendations.
- (4) The appropriateness and practicability of the recommendation items and implementation parties need more justifications (for instance it has mentioned to impose legislative restrictions regarding alcohol and drug usage during construction working hours in Recommendation No. 33 but how serious is the alcohol and drug problem in the construction sites when compared with other fatal accident cases. Any survey / statistics to support the recommendations).
- (5) More solid implementation procedures and cases reference are required.
- (6) CIC, Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) and Labour Department (LD) have regular meetings to update the progress and status of one another. Co-operations are made from time to time on needy basis and overlapping of works are thus minimised. For critical items and crucial aspect, more than one party may address to the matters in different aspects.
- (7) Analysis of the implications on inadequate contract period to the accident rate in the various sectors such as MTR/Public Housing/private development/major civil works etc was suggested to McKinsey, majority of the practitioners including HKIA has the impression that the fatal accident and lack of safety consideration were possibly indirectly related to the aggressive programme set by the decision makers. A study of the contract period of similar contract in other major cities may be helpful to review whether Hong Kong is over aggressive in all the major civil and building works.
- (8) The statutory approval process in Hong Kong is getting longer and

longer due to the newly introduced regulations and bureaucracy of the government departments. Either the approval process and procedures need to be streamlined or the key decision makers should be adjusted their mindset to accept a longer period of development process. McKinsey can research further on this.

After deliberations, CIC Secretariat would send the final drafted report to Members within one week after this meeting. Members were invited to provide their feedback and comments to CIC Secretariat for consolidation by early August 2015.

[Post Meeting Note: CIC Secretariat sent the final drafted report to Members by email on 4 July 2015 and sent the consolidated feedback and comments (i.e. 10 members have provided comments) to CIC JnL for follow-up on 1 September 2015.]

2.16 Any Other Business

- (i) HWC reported that CLL would be retired soon and expressed a gratitude for his past contribution to the Committee.
- (ii) HWC also reported that VWg would be transferred to the Training & Development Section of the CIC commencing 1 September 2015 and expressed a gratitude for his past contribution to the Committee.

2.17 Next Meeting

9 September 2015 (Wednesday) at 2:30 pm at Meeting Room No. 1, CIC Headquarters.

[Post Meeting Note: The next Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/15 would be re-scheduled on 23 September 2015 (Wednesday)]

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:15pm.

CIC Secretariat
August 2015