

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 001/20 of the Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY) was held on 4 March 2020 (Wednesday) at 2:30pm by video conferencing (Microsoft Teams).

Present:

Derrick PANG	(DP)	Chairperson
CHAN Kim-kwong	(KCCN)	
CHAN Pat-kan	(CPK)	
Thomas HUI	(HT)	
LEE Sau-king	(LSK)	
Kenneth MO	(KM)	
LO Hong-kam	(LHK)	
Collin CHAN	(CnC)	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
Dennis IP	(DI)	MTR Corporation Limited (MTRC)
Alcohol MOK	(AMO)	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE)
Jesse WONG	(JsW)	Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors (HKIS)
WONG Kwok-keung	(KKW)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors (HKFEMC)
Rex WONG	(RWg)	Hong Kong Construction Association
WU Wai-hung	(WHWu)	Labour Department (LD)

In

Attendance :

CHAN Ka-kui	(KKCh)	Chairman
Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director
Richard PANG	(RPg)	Director – Industry Development
Angela YUEN	(AaY)	Senior Manager - Construction Safety
Tony LAM	(TLam)	Manager - Construction Safety
Stephen LAM	(Slam)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
Timothy LAU	(TyL)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)

Apologies:

Connie YEUNG	(CYG)	
YU Sai-yen	(SYYu)	

MINUTES

Action

1.1 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 004/19

Members took note of Meeting Minutes CIC/CSY/M/004/19 and confirmed the Meeting Minutes of the last meeting held on 28 November 2019.

1.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 4.9 – In view of the recent outbreak of COVID-19, Members agreed that the sharing session by the Labour Department (LD) on the cases of the industrial fatalities in 2018 should be postponed.

1.3 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Training (SST)

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/001/20 regarding the progress of the SST.

The progress of the SST was given as follows:

- For the new courses relating to lifting operation, the compilation of course contents for the A12 course on Construction Materials Rigger and the A12S Construction Materials Rigger and Signalman Silver Card Course would be completed in March 2020. However, the commencement of these courses would be deferred due to the epidemic. For the Lifting Operation Safety Supervisor Course, discussion with stakeholders on the course contents was in progress. The aims and essential contents of the course had been conveyed to the Government and private developers. It was hoped that the clients would include the above course as a contract requirement later. The CIC Secretariat would convey the course contents to the members of the Hong Kong Construction Association and collect comments from them.
- The course contents of the A10 Safety Course on Lift Mechanic had been updated with the addition of training on the maintenance of lift shafts.
- The compilation of course contents for the Safety Training Course for Site Management Staff (Refresher) had been completed.
- The SST agreed to add safety hold points into the contents of the Silver Card safety courses to strengthen the safety awareness of the students. The draft contents had been sent to the SST members for review.

- To strengthen the safety training of divers, meetings with stakeholders had been held. Two divers' associations and related Government Bureau and Department had reached consensus on setting up a training course. The ED of the CIC suggested the SST to prepare a work plan and launch the course as soon as possible.
- All SST members had been re-appointed. The appointment period was from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2022.

Members took note of the progress of the SST.

1.4 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Technical Issues (STI)

CnC briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/002/20 regarding the progress of the STI.

The progress of the STI was given as follows:

- The progress of the research project, viz. “Optimal Use of Internet of Things Technology (IoT) to Prevent Failure of Temporary Support System in Construction”, was reviewed. Members noted that the production of some devices by the Mainland factory would be affected due to the epidemic. The CIC Secretariat would identify construction sites for the trials in this project.
- Regarding the lifting operation safety, the STI had reviewed the existing lifting operation management system and the legal requirements. The SST will draft the reference materials after completing the compilation of course contents for the Lifting Operation Safety Supervisor Course.
- Most of the STI members had been re-appointed except that Mr YU Tak-cheung from the Buildings Department (BD) was replaced by his colleague, Ms YU Po-mei, and the appointment of Mr CHOW Luen-kiu from the Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union (HKCIEGU) was expired. The re-appointment period was from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2022.

Members took note of the progress of the STI.

1.5 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion (SSP)

RWg briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/003/20 regarding the progress of the SSP.

The progress of the SSP was given as follows:

- For the development of the new Safety App, it was planned to use the block chain technology. The App would provide workers with a digital wallet for keeping their CIC cards and certificates.

- The second sharing session for the Construction Safety Week (CSW) 2019 “Site Safety Gathering” was cancelled due to the epidemic.
- The main activities for CSW 2020 were scheduled for 1 - 5 June 2020. The CIC and the Development Bureau (DEVB) would examine whether the activities would need to be deferred.
- In order to strengthen the safety awareness of the ethnic minorities, the SSP would liaise with the LD to collect the statistics on accidents involving ethnic minority workers for analysis. The safety promotion would focus on the trades in which most of these workers were involved.
- All SSP members had been re-appointed. The appointment period was from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2022.

Members took note of the progress of the SSP.

1.6 Progress of the Task Force on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds (TF-TOB)

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/004/20 regarding the progress of the TF-TOB.

The progress of the TF-TOB was given as follows:

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- The CIC Secretariat and the bamboo scaffolding associations had prepared draft guidelines for members’ review.
- The TF-TOB members discussed whether the LD’s mechanism for voluntary notification by property management companies on the commencement of truss-out bamboo scaffolding works in the guidelines.
- The TF-TOB would develop the following:
 - (a) workflow on truss-out bamboo scaffolds from works commencement to completion;
 - (b) safety checking at hold points; and
 - (c) supervision and regulatory inspection arrangements.

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

1.7 Progress of the Task Force on Reviewing the Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders (TF-SRR)

DP briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/005/20 regarding the progress of the TF-SRR.

The Progress of the TF-SRR was given as follows:

The TF-SRR had reviewed the roles and responsibilities of workers. The following suggestions were received:

- To consider implementing a worker-scoring system;
- To promote worker safety by addressing the consequence of violating the rules and enhancing the legal enforcement against workers who have violated the rules (the TF-SRR would review the relevant regulations in due course);
- To enhance the safety training and promotion for workers (this task would be relayed to the STI and the SSP for follow up); and
- To enhance workers' engagement on the preparation of method statement and risk assessment.

The Chairperson of Com-CSY expressed that the TF-SRR had completed the review on all stakeholders' roles and responsibilities. All suggestions received would be reviewed again in the next TF-SRR meeting and a report would be prepared for the Com-CSY. He suggested that different working groups might be formed and additional resources would be required for examining the various suggestions while tasks related to the Design for Safety initiative would be given the first priority.

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

1.8 Progress of the Consultancy Services for the Study of Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/006/20 regarding the progress of the Consultancy Services for the Study of Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry.

The consultant presented the draft final report. The CIC Secretariat had organised 4 consultation forums for different stakeholders of the industry in February 2020, with over 100 participants. Most of the participants expressed that they agreed with the direction and the contents of the report. After deliberations, Members approved the report. The CIC Secretariat and the consultants would prepare reference materials as follow-up work.

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Besides, the consultant also presented the feasibility study of the design for safety, which was one of the additional works for consultancy services for the Study of Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry. Members did not have any comments regarding to the presentation and suggested to

relay the above report to the new Task Force on Design for Safety for consideration.

1.9 Formation of the Task Force on Design for Safety (TF-DfS)

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/007/20 regarding the formation of the Task Force on Design for Safety.

Members discussed the setting up of a Task Force on Design for Safety.

The following draft terms of reference were agreed:

- (a) Formulate the roadmap and strategy on Design for Safety;
- (b) Strengthen the industry's knowledge on Design for Safety and carry out promotional activities; and
- (c) Conduct consultation with the industry to work out the strategy on Design for Safety.

Regarding the composition of the TF-DfS, Members agreed to include representatives from the DEVB, the LD, the Buildings Department, the Hong Kong Housing Authority, the Occupational Safety and Health Council, the Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong, the Hong Kong Construction Association, the Hong Kong Institute of Architects, the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors, the Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies and the Hong Kong Federation of Occupational Safety and Health Associations. In addition, representatives from organisations who have implemented Design for Safety in their projects will be invited as members.

[Post Meeting Notes: The Secretariat had invited the above organisations to nominate their members to join the TF-DfS on 12 March 2020].

1.10 Review of the Task Forces under Com-CSY

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/008/20 regarding the review of the Task Force under Com-CSY.

There were six Task Forces under the Com-CSY. Members approved the following based on their views:

- Four Task Forces would be maintained in operation, including
 - (a) Task Force on Reviewing the Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders (Effective from 4 March 2020, the task force was renamed from “Task Force on Reviewing the Safety Responsibilities and Roles of Key

Stakeholders”.)

- (b) Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft
- (c) Task Force on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds
- (d) Task Force on Safety of Lorry-mounted Cranes
- Two Task Forces would be dissolved, including
 - (a) Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Addition Sites (TF-RMAA)
 - (b) Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds (TF-SOB)

[Post Meeting Notes: The Secretariat had informed members of the TF-RMAA and the TF-SOB about the Com-CSY’s decision on 20 March 2020].

1.11 Application for CIC Research & Development Fund - Lift Car Brackets Installation Robot Assembly

AaY briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/009/20 regarding the application for CIC Research & Development Fund – Lift Car Brackets Installation Robot Assembly.

The applicant briefed Members on their proposal.

Members had the following comments:

- (a) Set up key performance indicators (KPIs) which should be measureable;
- (b) Actual amount of funding support would depend on demonstration of a matching financial benefit to the industry; and
- (c) Special charging rate of the products should be given to the construction industry for a certain period.

After deliberations, Members agreed that the funding support for this research project could be 25%, 50% or 70% of the overall project amount. The applicant should submit the pricing to be offered to the industry when launching the project for different levels of funding support and the measureable KPIs for Com-CSY’s consideration. The CIC Secretariat would send an email to Members after the meeting to invite them to vote whether CIC should approve the said application of research funding.

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[Post-meeting notes: The CIC Secretariat had relayed Members’ comments to the applicant for consideration on 10 March 2020 and invited applicant to provide supplementary information before the end of March 2020. The CIC Secretariat had collected the comments from the Members in May 2020. Except two Members had declared the possible conflict of interest in relation to the above project, all

remaining Members supported the funding support to the project. Almost all of these Members agreed that the funding support was 50% of the overall project amount.]

1.12 Any Other Business

The appointment period of Members of the Com-CSY of this term was from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2022. The composition had the following changes:

- Ir Alcohol MOK Kwok-ho replaced Ir Dr LIU Yuk-shing as a representative from the HKIE.
- Mr CHOW Luen-kiu from the HKCIEGU had finished his term of appointment.

DP welcomed Ir MOK and expressed his gratitude to Mr CHOW and other Members for their contributions to the Com-CSY.

1.13 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 18 June 2020 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at the Board Room, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30pm.

CIC Secretariat
March 2020