

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 001/21 of the Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY) was held on 25 March 2021 (Thursday) at 2:30pm by video conferencing (Microsoft Teams).

Present:	Derrick PANG	(DP)	Chairperson
	Collin CHAN	(CnC)	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
	CHAN Kim-kwong	(KKN)	Hong Kong Construction Sub-contractors Association (HKCSA)
	Thomas HUI	(HT)	Development Bureau (DEVB)
	Dennis IP	(DI)	MTR Corporation Limited (MTRC)
	LI Tat-wai	(LTW)	Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union (HKCIEGU)
	Kenneth MO	(KM)	
	Alcohol MOK	(AMO)	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE)
	Jesse WONG	(JsW)	The 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 (HKCA)
	WU Wai-hung	(WHWu)	Labour Department (LD)
	YU Sai-yen	(SYYu)	
In Attendance :	Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director
	Stephen HO	(SnH)	Assistant Director - Industry Development & Estates Office
	CHU Yin-lin	(YLC)	Assistant Director – Training
	Tony LAM	(TLam)	Acting Senior Manager - Construction Safety
	LEE Man-yiu	(LMY)	Development Bureau (DEVB)
	Timothy LAU	(TyL)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
Apologies:	Stephen LEUNG	(SLKM)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
	LO Hong-kam	(LHK)	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)

MINUTES

Action

1.1 Code of Conduct of Members and Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Members of the Com-CSY took note of the code of conduct of Members and Members had declared no conflict of interest in relation to the matters discussed in this meeting.

1.2 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 004/20

Members took note of Meeting Minutes CIC/CSY/M/004/20 and confirmed the Meeting Minutes of the last meeting held on 3 December 2020.

1.3 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 4.4 – A brainstorming meeting was held on 3 February 2021 to discuss the effective ways to improve site safety. The CIC Secretariat summarised Members’ opinions and presented in agenda item 1.8 below.

Agenda item 4.5 – The “Life First” Campaign would be included as one of the activities of CSW 2021 and the Campaign would be launched in June 2021.

Agenda item 4.12.2 – In response to the revised proposal on “Raising Penalties of the Occupational Safety and Health Legislation” of the Labour Department (LD), CIC had organised two webinars on 8 & 28 January 2021 to collect comments from industry stakeholders. The CIC Secretariat summarised the comments and drafted a letter to the Labour and Welfare Bureau (LWB). The letter was approved by the Council in the meeting held on 26 February 2021. Subsequently, the letter was sent to LWB on 2 March 2021.

1.4 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion (SSP)

RWg briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/002/21 regarding the progress of the SSP.

The progress of the SSP was given as follows:

- a) The development of a new Safety Apps was in progress and user acceptance test would be conducted in April 2021. To cope with

the Blockchain technology for the new Safety Apps, CIC Information Technology Department required purchasing a Cloud server at an estimated cost of HK\$0.5 million. The SSP endorsed the additional budget as it was within the original approved budget for the development of the new Safety Apps.

- b) The theme of the 10th Anniversary of the Construction Safety Week (CSW) 2021 was “Safety x Smart Sites” and focusing on “Lifting and Heavy Machinery Operation”. Major activities included:
 - i) Kick-off Ceremony and Conference: 2 August 2021;
 - ii) Site Visit: 4 August 2021; and
 - iii) Considerate Contractors Site Award Scheme Award Presentation Ceremony: 6 August 2021.
- c) The “Life First” Campaign would be included as one of the activities of CSW 2021. It would be held from June to July 2021, with 4 high-risk trades as the focus areas, including working at height, lifting operation, heavy machinery operation and electrical work.
- d) For Virtual Reality (VR) safety training, CIC would set up a VR cave on a construction site under the Civil Engineering and Development Department for industry use. VR software development and site safety gathering would continue this year.
- e) CIC would purchase innovative devices from Construction Innovation and Technology Fund pre-approval list to promote construction safety.

The Chairperson of the Com-CSY suggested the SSP could summarise all construction fatal cases in the year for industry’s reference (clients, Government Departments, contractors, etc.). This could enhance developer’s awareness of site safety as well.

SSP

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the SSP held on 3 February 2021 and took note of the work progress of various tasks.

1.5 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Training (SST)

SYYu briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/003/21 regarding the progress of the SST.

The progress of the SST was given as follows:

- a) There were 18 fatal accidents in the construction industry in 2020.
- b) The draft contents of “Silver Card Course on Concreter” and “Certificate Course for the Basic Safety Training of Industrial Diver” had been completed and would be submitted to the course committee for review.
- c) For exploring new safety training courses, it was recommended to set up a high-level safety card course, focusing on cultivating and enhancing safety awareness of industry professionals through role-playing, VR training, group discussions and instructor sharing. In the first stage, full-time students of HKIC would be the target and HKIC would consider launching the course to industry after reviewing the effectiveness of the course and the needs of the industry.
- d) The Safety Experience Training Center (SETC) was opened in 2019 with 8 themes to train the trainees and industry professionals and they could experience and understand the potential risks of the construction site. HKIC would optimize the existing facilities and exhibits.
- e) Mr CHAN Pak-kan had resigned from the SST due to health reasons.

The Chairperson of the Com-CSY suggested exploring the establishment of safety training courses for professionals in the industry. The CIC Secretariat would follow up with HKIC. SST & HKIC

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the SST held on 4 March 2021 and took note of the work progress of various tasks.

1.6 Progress of revamp of the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre

YLC gave a presentation on the progress of revamp of the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre.

The progress was given as follows:

- a) The applications of green card courses had been reopened in February 2021.

- b) The waiting time for “A12 Course on Construction Materials Rigger” and “A12S Silver Card Course on Construction Materials Rigger and Signalman” was about 3 to 4 months. To cope with the demand, HKIC had opened additional classes in March 2021 to shorten the waiting time.
- c) The 3-year work plan included the following:
 - i) optimize full-time courses, including green card and safety awareness training, which was expected to be completed in September 2021;
 - ii) optimize SETC and review the existing facilities and exhibits and it was expected to be completed in the second quarter of 2022; and
 - iii) review the designated industry safety training (silver card) courses, which were expected to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2022.

The Executive Director of CIC suggested that HKIC to report on the waiting status of the silver card courses at the next Com-CSY meeting.

HKIC

Members of the Com-CSY took note of the progress of revamp of the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre.

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

CnC briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/004/21 regarding the progress of the STI.

The progress of the STI was given as follows:

- a) Regarding the issue on the “safety performance assessment” of contractors and workers, the STI agreed to focus on recording worker’s positive safety behaviours, and the CIC Secretariat would report the plan to members in due course.
- b) The research project, “Optimal Use of Internet of Things Technology (IoT) to Prevent Failure of Temporary Support System in Construction”, had completed two field tests and it was expected to submit the final report in April 2021.
- c) The research project, “Lift Car Brackets Installation Robot Assembly”, had completed the first, second and third milestones. The STI agreed to release the research funding in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the STI held on 3 March 2021 and took note of the work progress of various tasks.

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

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/005/21 regarding the progress of the TF-TOB.

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

- a) The consultant had completed the load tests on the typical designs of truss-out bamboo scaffolds in December 2020. The report had been submitted and approved by the TF-TOB for incorporation into the “Guidelines on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds’ Safety Enhancement and Notification Arrangement” (Guidelines).
- b) The CIC Secretariat held discussion sessions with the Buildings Department, Labour Department and the industry on the contents of the Guidelines. The TF-TOB had agreed to the contents of the “Guidelines”. The draft Guidelines would be submitted to the Com-CSY Members for endorsement after the meeting and the “Guidelines” were expected to be published in May 2021.

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the TF-TOB held on 26 February 2021 and took note of the work progress of various tasks.

1.7.2 Progress of the Task Force on Design for Safety (TF-DfS)

DP briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/006/21 regarding the progress of the TF-DfS.

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

- a) Regarding the appointment of consultants to conduct a research, the tendering process had been commenced in March 2021. It was estimated that the entire tendering process would take about two months to complete.
- b) For promotion, it was recommended to firstly promote design for safety to construction related courses at universities, and the industry.

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the TF-DfS held on 5 March 2021 and took note of the work progress

of various tasks.

1.7.3 Discussion on the current Pay for Safety Scheme

TLam gave a presentation on the current Pay for Safety Scheme.

Presentation was given as follows:

- a) The Task Force on Reviewing Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders suggested reviewing the current pay for safety scheme. The CIC Secretariat collected opinions from industry stakeholders and suggested the following proposal for replacing some existing items:
 - i) Task-tied payment items
 - compliance check on method statement of high-risk Activities instead of payment item for provision of safety officer;
 - senior management of the contractor and subcontractor joining weekly safety walk; and
 - preparation and implementation of site welfare and logistic plan.
 - ii) Performance-tied payment items
 - implement audit scheme on high-risk activities; and
 - Utilise un-used payment and set up a matching fund for contractors to apply by proposing new safety initiatives.

A Com-CSY Member suggested that the CIC Secretariat might take reference to the existing pay for safety scheme of the Government Works Departments, the Hong Kong Housing Authority and the MTR Corporation Limited and integrate the information for discussion by the industry.

CIC
Secretariat

1.8 Follow-up Work for Brainstorming Meeting

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/007/21 regarding the follow-up work for Brainstorming Meeting.

TLam briefed Members on the following:

- a) The suggestions could be divided into the following 5 areas to improve safety performance:
 - i) safety planning, method development, and execution of high-risk activities;
 - ii) stakeholders' responsibilities (clients + workers);
 - iii) implementation of design for safety;
 - iv) enhancing RMAA support and focus; and
 - v) improvement of private sector safety performance.

- b) 2021 business plan of the construction safety department had included the elements of the above five areas.

The Executive Director of CIC pointed out that CIC had a meeting with RMAA works representatives in early March 2021, and suggested that the CIC Secretariat to communicate with the respective person in charge.

CIC
Secretariat

Members of the Com-CSY took note of the summary notes of the brainstorming meeting held on 3 February 2021.

1.9 Progress of 2021 Business Plan

In addition to the above reports, TLam reported the progress of other projects as follows:

- a) The reference materials for the safety roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders would be available for the Com-CSY's endorsement in the second quarter of 2021.
- b) Carry out the review of the pay for safety scheme.
- c) Two webinars would be held in May and July.

Members of the Com-CSY took note of the progress of 2021 business plan.

1.10 Any Other Business

1.10.1 In order to have more flexibility in handling the ad hoc safety publications (e.g. safety messages in response to fatal accidents, Good Practice on Preventive Measures Against COVID-19 for Construction Site, etc.), it is suggested to release the ad hoc safety publications to the public upon the approval of the Chairperson of the Com-CSY. Therefore, CIC could have a quick response to the ad hoc issues within a short period of time. The action would be reported in the Com-CSY meeting for Members' information. Members approved the said suggestion.

1.10.2 The CIC Secretariat reported the following issues:

- (a) LD invited opinions from the industry on the consultation paper on "Refinement of Statutory Notification Mechanism of Construction Works". The CIC Secretariat had consolidated the opinions from the industry and relayed to LD on 2 March 2021;

- (b) The CIC Secretariat briefed the contents of the “Life First” Campaign 2021;
- (c) CIC was a co-organiser of the “Construction Industry Safety Promotional Campaign”;
- (d) CIC was the supporting organisation of the “Construction Safety Incentive Safety for Construction Practitioners of Diverse Race 2020-2021”;
- (e) LD nominated the CIC Secretariat as a member of the Disciplinary Board Panel of Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Safety Management) Regulation; and
- (f) The CIC Secretariat briefed the direction of future cooperation between the Construction Safety Department and other departments regarding safety elements.

1.10.3 Change of the Com-CSY Members was as follows:

- (a) Mr CHAN Pak-kan had resigned from the Com-CSY due to health reasons; and
- (b) Mr Stephen LEUNG replaced Ms Connie YEUNG as a Member of the Com-CSY.

1.11 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on 24 June 2021 (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 4:25pm.

CIC Secretariat
March 2021