

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 003/21 of the Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY) was held on 23 September 2021 (Thursday) at 2:30pm at the Board Room, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Present:	Derrick PANG	(DP)	Chairperson
	Collin CHAN	(CnC)	Airport Authority Hong Kong (AAHK)
	CHAN Kim-kwong	(KCCN)	Hong Kong Construction Sub-contractors Association (HKCSA)
	Dennis IP*	(DI)	MTR Corporation Limited (MTRC)
	LO Hong-kam	(LHK)	The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST)
	Kenneth MO	(KM)	
	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)
	Paul WU	(WuCM)	Development Bureau (DEVB)
	WU Wai-hung	(WHWu)	Labour Department (LD)
	YU Sai-yen	(SYYu)	
In Attendance :	Albert CHENG	(CTN)	Executive Director
	Daniel SUEN	(DSn)	Director - Industry Development
	Stephen HO	(SnH)	Assistant Director - Industry Development & Estates Office
	CHU Yin-lin*	(YLC)	Assistant Director - Training
	Tony LAM	(TLam)	Acting Senior Manager - Construction Safety
	Patrick YEUNG	(PTY)	Principal - Kwai Chung Campus
	Emily SER	(ESe)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
	Timothy LAU	(TyL)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
	WOO Ming-lau	(WOML)	Labour Department

Apologies:	LI Tat-wai	(LTW)	Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union (HKCIEGU)
	Stephen LEUNG	(SLKM)	Hong Kong Housing Authority (HKHA)
	Alcohol MOK	(AMO)	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE)
	MOW Tai-hing	(THM)	The Federation of Hong Kong Electrical & Mechanical Industries Trade Unions (FHKEMITU)

* attended the meeting online via Microsoft Teams

MINUTES

Action

3.1 Code of Conduct for Members and Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Members of the Com-CSY noted the Code of Conduct for Members and declared no conflict of interest in relation to the matters discussed in the meeting.

3.2 Confirmation of the Minutes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 002/21

Members noted Meeting Minutes CIC/CSY/M/002/21 and confirmed the Meeting Minutes of the last meeting held on 24 June 2021.

3.3 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 2.7 – Regarding the establishment of safety training courses for professionals in the industry, the CIC Secretariat had made a preliminary assessment and would communicate with the professional bodies at a later stage. The CIC Secretariat would report the progress to the Members of the Com-CSY in due course.

Agenda item 2.7 – The CIC Secretariat sent an email to Members of the Com-CSY on 19 July 2021 regarding the information on “No. of Valid Card/Certificate Holder” of the “A12 Course on Construction Materials Rigger”, “A12S Silver Card Course on Construction Materials Rigger and Signalman” and “Certificate for Lifting Safety Supervisors” for reference.

Other issues would be reported in the following agenda items.

3.4 Report on Fatal Accidents in the Construction Industry and “Life First” Campaign

TLam briefed Members on fatal accidents in the construction industry and “Life First” Campaign as follows:

- a) As of 23 September 2021, 13 fatal accidents were recorded.
- b) “Life First” Campaign Recognition was successfully held in the “Construction Safety Week 2021” (CSW 2021).
- c) The online platform for participants uploading good practices for

sharing with the industry was launched in July 2021, and more than 3,000 activity reports were uploaded.

- d) Positive feedback was received from the industry regarding the three safety promotion videos produced under the “Life First” campaign. The CIC would further promoted these videos through YouTube in October 2021.

3.5 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion (SSP)

RWg briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/016/21 regarding the progress of the SSP.

The progress of the SSP was given as follows:

- a) Since August 2021, the new Safety App has been made available for downloading from the app store and promoted through different social media channels. As of September 2021, more than 110,000 users had downloaded the new safety app.
- b) The Virtual Reality (VR) safety training kit for lifting and heavy machinery safety has been developed and will be launched after the final test running on the VR download platform is found satisfactory.
- c) The Opening Ceremony and Conference of the CSW 2021 were held successfully in August 2021, and more than 2,700 participants had attended the event.
- d) Members noted that uploading the information on fatal accidents to the “Life First” webpage might not be appropriate due to the ongoing legal process and the accuracy of the information.

After the meeting, the CIC Secretariat would email relevant information regarding the CSW 2021 to Members of the Com-CSY for reference.

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Subsequently, Members of the Com-CSY agreed to upload the information on fatal accidents to the “Life First” website for reference by the construction industry.

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the SSP held on 31 August 2021 and noted the work progress of the various tasks.

3.6 Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Training (SST)

SY Yu briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/017/21 regarding the progress of the SST.

The progress of the SST was given as follows:

- a) The “Silver Card Course for Concreter” was launched in September 2021.
- b) A review of the existing training equipment of the Safety Experience Training Centre was conducted. Some equipment would be replaced according to the needs of the industry.
- c) The “Experiential Learning on Site Safety Training Scheme 2021-2022” would be launched in September 2021, and the Kick-off Ceremony was scheduled for 22 November 2021.
- d) The SST agreed that a separate mandatory construction safety training course (green card) for RMAA was not required, since most of the workers engaged in the RMAA works hold a valid green card under the existing legislation requirement, and the course content had already covered most of the risks related to the RMAA works. The CIC Secretariat would participate in the meetings of the Task Force on RMAA and report the above conclusion to the Task Force on RMAA accordingly.

DP suggested that a brainstorming session on RMAA should be included in the next Com-CSY meeting.

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Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the SST held on 2 September 2021 and noted the work progress of the various tasks.

3.6.1 Progress of revamping the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre

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

The progress was given as follows:

- a) Online application for safety courses has launched in August 2021, and more than 900 online applications were received.

- b) The “Construction Industry Safety Foundation Certificate Course” was launched in September 2021 for full-time students of the HKIC. The CIC Secretariat would arrange a trial class for Members of the Com-CSY in November 2021. CIC
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HKIC

Members of the Com-CSY noted the progress of the revamping the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre.

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

CnC briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/018/21 regarding the progress of the STI.

The progress of the STI was given as follows:

- a) The research project, “Mechanical Performance of Wire Ties for Reinforcement Cages”, was not supported.
- b) The “Lift Car Brackets Installation Robot Assembly” research team had applied for additional fees on equipment replacement after the trial test. The CIC Secretariat and the Department of Productivity considered that the application for an additional fee is not valid due to the unchanged project scope. The CIC Secretariat had sent an email to the STI members to seek for the final decision.
- c) The research team of the project “New Generation Green and Healthy Jackhammers with Integrated Bio-Inspired Anti-Vibration Handles” had submitted the progress report. The STI agreed to release research payment based on the contract and project progress.
- d) The “Guidelines on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds’ Safety Enhancement and Notification Arrangement” (Guidelines) were issued in September 2021. A relevant webinar was conducted on 13 September 2021, and more than 800 participants had attended.

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the STI held on 1 September 2021 and noted the work progress of the various tasks.

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

DP briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/019/21 regarding the progress of the TF-DfS.

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

- a) Regarding the study for the development of the Design for Safety management system and training programme, the TF-DfS had approved in principle the literature research report submitted by the consultant.
- b) The consultant reported the contents of the research plan, including timetable, plan details, etc.

Members of the Com-CSY approved the summary notes of the meeting of the TF-DfS held on 3 September 2021 and noted the work progress of the various tasks.

3.7.2 Discussion on Pay for Safety Scheme

CTN indicated that the CIC would discuss with the Development Bureau about the review of the current pay for safety scheme for public works, and plan to promote the scheme to contractors in the future.

3.7.3 Discussion on Safety Performance Assessment

TLam briefed Members on safety performance assessment as follows:

- a) The STI agreed to use records of positive safety behaviours of contractors and workers as a reference for accessing their safety performance in the first instance. The recommendation to engage a consultant to develop the evaluation criteria was made.

Members of the Com-CSY agreed to engage the consultant.

3.7.4 Reference Materials on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/020/21 regarding the “Reference Materials on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry”.

TLam briefed Members on the following:

- a) To increase the awareness of stakeholders’ safety responsibilities, the CIC Secretariat would produce reference materials on the safety roles and responsibilities of the key stakeholders in the construction industry.

- b) The “General Reference Materials” would be published at first, and the final draft would be emailed to Members of the Com-CSY for approval after the meeting. CIC Secretariat
- c) Four sets of “Critical Processes Practical Reference Materials” for different trades will be published by the end of this year after consultation.

3.7.5 Proposed Revision on Guidelines on Site Safety Measures on Working in Hot Weather

WOML briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/021/21 regarding the proposed revision on the “Guidelines on Site Safety Measures on Working in Hot Weather”.

The Labour Department suggested that contractors should provide construction workers with anti-heat stress uniforms to strengthen the prevention of workers’ heatstroke.

The CIC Secretariat would email the information to Members of the Com-CSY for endorsement after the meeting. CIC Secretariat

3.8 Application for Research Funding

TLam briefed Members on the paper CIC/CSY/P/022/21 regarding the application for research funding.

TLam reported that in April 2021, the CIC Research and Technology Development Fund received five applications related to construction safety, none of which were supported.

Members of the Com-CSY approved that the applications related to construction safety were not supported.

3.9 Brainstorming Session

DP indicated that point 1) would be discussed in the next meeting and only points 2) & 3) would be discussed this time.

- 1) Ways to improve the safety performance in the private sector – to be discussed in the next meeting
- 2) Suggestions on the adoption of Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) and management of mobile Elevated Work

Platform from Gammon Construction Company

- a) Some Members of the Com-CSY had reservations on mandating the implementation of CDM in Hong Kong for the reasons below:
 - i. It was disagreed that the UK's construction safety performance was better than that of Hong Kong and there were doubts about the effectiveness of CDM in the UK.
 - ii. One of Com-CSY Members raised the comment that CDM may cause serious project delay given the example of the UK's High-speed Rail II projects.
 - iii. It was considered not suitable for mandating CDM/DfS by legislation without consensus on a CDM framework suitable for the Hong Kong construction industry.
 - iv. There was concern on the market's ability in adapting CDM/DfS.

 - b) DP indicated that CDM could help improve construction safety. However, other supporting facilities for implementation, including personnel training, regular system review, etc., should be in place before CDM should be adopted. The construction industry was in the process of appreciating the benefits of CDM and searching for a suitable CDM framework for use in the Hong Kong condition. It was hoped that through discussions with stakeholders in the industry, a consensus could be reached on ways to implement and adopt CDM in Hong Kong.
- 3) Ways to reduce use of bamboo scaffolding
- a) DP indicated that the newly issued "Guidelines on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds' Safety Enhancement and Notification Arrangement" were of great help in improving the safety of using bamboo scaffolding.
 - b) The Hong Kong Housing Authority stated that they would select trial projects to mandate the use of metal scaffolding for further review.
 - c) DP suggested that the CIC Secretariat could collect and study practices of using bamboo scaffolding in construction sites and make suggestions for improvement.

3.10 Any Other Business

Nil.

3.11 Next Meeting

The next meeting would be held on 8 December 2021 (Wednesday) 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 5:40pm.

CIC Secretariat
September 2021