

Construction Industry Council
Construction Industry Training Board

Meeting No. 009/15 of the Construction Industry Training Board for 2015 was held on 27 October 2015 (Tuesday) at 10:30am at Conference Room, CIC Headquarters, 15/F Allied Kajima Building, 138 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong.

Summary Notes of Meeting No. 009/15 of the Construction Industry Training Board for 2015:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
9.1	CIC/CTB/R/008/15	Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of 8th CITB Meeting held on 17 September 2015.
9.2	CIC/CTB/R/008/15	Matters arising from the last meeting Members noted that: i) Development Bureau had provided supplementary information for questions regarding if semi-skilled workers and skilled workers could carry out soldering of water pipes; if the work was required to be carried out under the supervision of a licensed plumber; and if enough licensed plumbers were there to supervise all the work. Yet, the industry had given grave concern that there might not be enough licensed plumbers to carry out waterworks and hoped to seek clarification of the extent of work that must be carried out under a licensed plumber's supervision. Chairman requested the Member in attendance to reflect the views to the newly-established Advisory Board on Licensing of Plumbers and follow up on the matter. It was also opined that workers who obtained qualifications from CIC as skilled workers in plumbing were capable of carrying out the work, and hoped that substitution of licensed plumbers by skilled workers in plumbing could be strived for; ii) Tai Po District Council and related representatives of residents had been approached regarding the concern of the impact on the view of landscape due to the erection of one more tower crane at Tai Po Training Ground. However, the parties involved had expressed opposition. CIC, through the Tai Po District Officer of Home Affairs Department, would have a first meeting with resident representatives in December 2015 in an attempt to convince them to understand the needs of the industry and to change their stand; and iii) since the launch on 1 September 2015 up till 19 October 2015, Advanced Construction Manpower Training Scheme-Pilot Scheme had received 170 applications for Structured On-the-job Training Courses and 24 applications for Skills Enhancement Courses.
9.3	CIC/CTB/P/094/15 (for discussion)	Report on benchmarks of efficiency for full-time courses (employment rate and retention rate) Members noted the employment rates and retention rates of full-time courses during the periods of graduation from 1 January to 31 May 2015 and in the year 2014. However, the definition of denominator, i.e. the number of graduates, was different in the calculation of the two benchmarks, so it was not easy to grasp the results generated. As such, the calculation of the two benchmarks would have to be reviewed to enhance consistency. In addition, apart from listing the required data on two benchmarks, the reports in future had to attach the data on those benchmarks discussed before so that Members could get a whole picture of the review.
9.4	CIC/CTB/P/095/15 (for discussion)	Proposal of purchasing two new excavators and the tender documents Members endorsed the captioned proposal.
9.5	CIC/CTB/P/096/15 (for reference)	New design for Trade Testing Certificate Members noted the background of revising the design for trade testing card and issuing a A4-sized certificate.

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		Security features of the new design were also noted. Members hoped that all trade certificates of the holder could be listed on one card for the convenience of workers.
9.6	CIC/CTB/P/097/15 (for reference)	<p>Summary report of 5th meeting of Task Force on Training in 2015</p> <p>Members noted the captioned report, which included that proposals made by course advisory panels in the future should be supported by data, justifications and long-term planning rather than just based on personal views or experience.</p>
9.7	CIC/CTB/P/098/15 (for reference)	<p>Summary report of 5th meeting of Task Force on Trade Testing in 2015</p> <p>Members noted the captioned report and that there was still no significant increase in the applications for trade tests. Observations made at present revealed that workers over 30 years old would mainly become skilled workers through registrations for senior workers. This phenomenon might affect the number of applications for trade tests in the future. It was also opined that attention needed to be paid to workers engaged in repair and maintenance work. They accounted for a large group of workers. Strategies had to be formulated to appeal to them to submit applications for trade tests. Chairman summarized that it was necessary to follow up the effect of age on the number of applications and the proposal of attracting workers in repair and maintenance sector to apply for trade tests. The target number of applicants from the two routes should also be adjusted based on the data collected by outreach teams from each construction site. Although the number of applications for trade tests was higher than the target, some members worried that the figures might still lag behind. Chairman proposed to further strengthen promotion.</p>
9.8	CIC/CTB/P/099/15 (for reference)	<p>Summary report of 4th meeting of Steering Group on Implementation of CWRO Amendments in 2015</p> <p>Members noted the captioned report and CITB would follow up the issue regarding the low pass rate of individual trade tests. Members also delved into the reasons for relatively low pass rate of these trade tests for construction workers. Chairman opined that the overarching principle of the review was to ensure the alignment of the testing with the actual work processes on sites. For other additional skills, it could consider providing additional tests to certify more extensive scope of skills for achieving the qualifications of skilled masters. The related task force could take follow-up actions in that direction.</p>
9.9	Any Other Business (A.O.B)	<p>Visit of Head of Personnel Department of Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of the PRC</p> <p>Members noted that Deputy Counsel-Division Head, Department of Personnel, Ministry of Housing and Urban-Rural Development of PRC would come to Hong Kong in mid December 2015. The Deputy Counsel would like to know more about the training of construction workers in Hong Kong and would pay a visit to CIC.</p> <p>Skills Enhancement Courses under Advanced Construction Manpower Training Scheme</p> <p>Members agreed that the unions concerned would be reimbursed half of the operating costs upon commencement of the skills enhancement courses while the remaining half would be paid after the courses ended. It was also agreed that Hong Kong Confederation of Trade Unions could add a skills enhancement course on “Electrical Wireman”.</p>

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Construction Industry Training Board can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.