

Construction Industry Council
Committee on Construction Safety

Meeting No. 003/18 of the Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY) was held on 27 September 2018 (Thursday) at 2:30pm at the Board Room, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Summary Notes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/18:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights
3.1	CIC/CSY/M/002/18 (for discussion)	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 002/18 Members confirmed the Minutes of the meeting held on 5 July 2018.
3.2	CIC/CSY/Ac/001/18 (for discussion)	Confirmation of the Summary Note of the Com-CSY Informal Meeting Members confirmed the summary note of the informal meeting held on 10 August 2018.
3.3	CIC/CSY/Ac/001/18 (for discussion)	Matters Arising from the Previous Informal Meeting Agenda item 1 - Details were reported under Agenda item 3.7 (Review of the mechanism of dissemination of safety message). Agenda item 2 - Regarding the meetings with different key stakeholders and workers of ethnic minorities, the CIC Secretariat had arranged a lunch meeting with stakeholders on 4 October 2018. The meeting with ethnic minorities would be arranged in due course. Agenda item 2 - Details were reported under Agenda item 3.5 (Review enhancement of silver card training course). Agenda item 4 - Details were reported under Agenda item 3.8 (Review penalties of Occupational Safety and Health legislation by Labour Department).

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		<p>Agenda item 5 - The revised “Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works (Volume 3 – Throughout the Occupation Stage of Building)” will be discussed in the meeting of the Task Force on Site Safety of Working in Lift Shaft to be held on 10 October 2018.</p> <p>Agenda item 5 - The site visit of the demonstration on Rebar-ABC (Automation bending and cutting) was held on 27 August 2018 and some of the Members joined the site visit.</p> <p>Agenda item 5 - Details were reported under Agenda item 3.9 (Set up of CIC Centre for Construction Safety).</p> <p>Agenda item 5 - In relation to the proposed application of metal scaffolding or matrix scaffolding instead of bamboo scaffolding, the CIC Secretariat had discussed this issue with the Chairperson of the Task Force on Safety of Bamboo Scaffolds and the Chairperson of Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY), and both of them agreed no discussion on the issue was required for the time being.</p>
3.4	CIC/CSY/P/007/18 (for information)	<p>Suggested Initiatives to Improve Site Safety under Worker Registration Suggested initiatives to improve site safety including: explore feasibility to include qualification of safety supervisors on existing Construction Workers Registration Cards, undertake mandatory safety improvement plan for workers, provide free courses with training subsidy, send safety message to workers and new comers, set up a quarterly safety star award scheme and invite them to become safety ambassadors.</p> <p>The Chairperson of the Com-CSY responded that the suggested initiatives would be passed to three Subcommittees under Com-CSY for discussion. The Construction Workers Registration Board (CWRB) could also cooperate with the Subcommittees to generate synergy. The Chairperson of Com-CSY emphasised that the strength of CWRB was to collect the working records of workers in which the data collected could be applied in different fields, e.g. reward the workers, elect the best of the workers, record the accidents in construction sites, etc.</p>

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		<p>Some Members indicated that the data collected by CWRB, including workers' contact information, types of trades and working conditions, could be very helpful for tailor-made safety promotion work under the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion.</p> <p>Executive Director (ED) of the CIC reiterated that CWRB was responsible for collecting and holding the relevant workers' data. The safety promotion was under the purview of Com-CSY and Com-CSY could consider using the workers' data for their promotion work. Registration Services Department was requested to have further study of the feasibility to release the workers' personal data to third party, in particular, in relation to the record of misconduct of workers, which would involve the issues on privacy, fairness, recognition of appraiser and appeal system.</p>
3.5	CIC/CSY/P/008/18 (for information)	<p>Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Training</p> <p>The opening ceremony of "Experiential Learning on Site Safety 2018-19" and its first training course would be held on 1 November 2018 in the Noah's Ark, Ma Wan. Invitation would be sent to Members in due course.</p> <p>Currently, Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA) had 21 types of toolbox talks. The Subcommittee had asked HKCA to review its contents to see if they were up-to-date and sufficient, and suggested HKCA to allow all stakeholders to have access to such information free of charge.</p> <p>In relation to the training provided to the ethnic minorities, the Subcommittee suggested Hong Kong Institute of Construction to provide at least one English class per month to meet the industry needs. Besides, CIC had been continually translating the safety posters and safety alerts into languages of three ethnic minorities (Nepali, Hindi and Urdu). The CIC Secretariat would gather Members' comments on the types of safety materials needed to be translated into languages of ethnic minorities.</p> <p>In relation to CIC's confined space training course and facilities, the CIC Secretariat had arranged a visit to the Fire and Ambulance Services Academy and held a lunch meeting on 21 September 2018.</p>

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		<p>Members of the Subcommittee suggested extending the existing confined space practical training and working out time table for the enhancement of training contents and including 4 in 1 training facilities (manhole, hand dig tunnel, water tank and box culvert works).</p> <p>For strengthening existing silver card safety training, there were 12 types of silver card courses and the Subcommittee was now reviewing the training courses to see if existing types of training and the contents of training courses were suitable for the industry especially for high risk works.</p>
3.6	CIC/CSY/P/009/18 (for information)	<p>Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion</p> <p>The theme of the Construction Safety Week (CSW) 2019 is “Innovation in Safety” and it would focus on the high risk works. The highlight activities would include the Safety Gathering in Construction Sites Campaign, Kick-off Ceremony and Conference, Award Presentation Ceremony for 25th Considerate Contractors Site Award Scheme, Safety Video Competition and Site Visit. It was suggested suspending to organise the Qigong train-the-trainer course for one year as many site supervisors had joined the course before.</p> <p>The Chairperson of Com-CSY supplemented that in order to attract more frontline workers to join CSW 2019, we should enhance the Safety Gathering in Construction Sites Campaign. For the afternoon session of the Conference, we should cooperate with the industry stakeholders for sharing the hot topics in stakeholders’ interest. ED suggested that, starting from CSW 2019, CSW should focus on one or two subjects so that the industry could make improvement in accordance with these specific subjects.</p> <p>For the mobile app “Construction Safety App”, it was considered that the time required for development of a new mobile app was quite long and therefore it was suggested to use other means (such as SMS) to carry out promotion work to frontline workers. Members were now considering the feasibility of the development of a new mobile app. Besides, according to the information provided by the CIC Information Technology Department, there were 7 CIC active mobile apps. The Subcommittee suggested that the CIC could explore the possibility of merging these active mobile apps to increase</p>

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		<p>their effectiveness.</p> <p>The Chairperson of Com-CSY recommended that the Subcommittee should develop an overall safety promotion plan in 2019 in the next Subcommittee meeting.</p>
3.7	CIC/CSY/P/010/18 (for information)	<p>Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Technical Issues</p> <p>For reviewing CIC’s existing mechanism of releasing safety messages, the Subcommittee agreed that the formality, response time, contents, targets and channels of existing mechanism were efficient and effective to the industry. They would forward to their main contractors, subcontractors, workers and supervisors once they have received CIC’s safety messages. Therefore, no amendment to the existing mechanism was required.</p> <p>Regarding the application for the CIC Research and Development Fund for the project “Optimal Use of Internet of Things Technology (IoT) to Prevent Failure of Temporary Support System in Construction” by Chu Hai College of Higher Education, the CIC Secretariat would arrange a visit to the relevant laboratory in Chu Hai College of Higher Education for Members of the Subcommittee so as to know more about the details of the research.</p> <p>In the Subcommittee meeting of 18 September 2018, the Members of the Subcommittee endorsed the Safety Alert No. 002/18 – “Safety Precaution for Dengue Fever Infection” (Safety Alert). After deliberation, Members of the Com-CSY has approved the Safety Alert. The CIC Secretariat would arrange the issue of the Safety Alert and submit it to the Council Meeting for information (Annex).</p> <p>(Post-meeting note: The Safety Alert No. 002/18 was issued on 5 October 2018.)</p>
3.8	CIC/CSY/P/011/18 (for information)	<p>Progress of the Task Force on Reviewing the Safety Responsibilities and Roles of Key Stakeholders</p> <p>The research on “Reviewing the Safety Responsibilities and Roles of Key Stakeholders” is divided into</p>

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		<p>two phases. The first phase is to collect data so as to make comparison between Hong Kong and other 3 cities. This phase would be finished within 6 months. The second phase is mainly focused on suggestions for improvement for working at height safety. A working group would be set up for monitoring the progress and output of the consultancy research.</p> <p>The Task Force invited Ms Eliza WONG in the capacity of a developer (owner) to share views on the safety role of developers in construction site safety and experience of her company in managing construction safety.</p> <p>Regarding the questionnaire on safety responsibilities and roles of owners, the CIC Secretariat compiled the information provided by the Members of the Task Force and made a brief analysis. The Task Force would select 8 to 10 topics for further discussion in the next Task Force meeting. It was expected that a longer period would be required for the discussions for 6 numbers of key stakeholders. The CIC Secretariat would arrange a special meeting for the discussion for the owner's part.</p> <p>LD informed that they would upload the conviction records onto their website in October 2018 for public access. LD would launch a public consultation exercise in 4th quarter 2018 in relation to their proposal to raise the penalties in the law on the Occupational Safety and Health (for both Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Chapter 509) and Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance (Chapter 59)).</p>
3.9	CIC/CSY/P/012/18 (for information)	<p>Setting up of CIC Centre for Construction Safety</p> <p>The CIC Centre for Construction Safety would be under the management of a safety expert, who would provide safety authoritative view and expert advice to the industry, and give direction and support in the preparation of safety alerts, guidelines, publications, videos and showcase of exhibits of safety.</p>

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		The Chairperson of Com-CSY indicated that the purposes of setting up the CIC Centre for Construction Safety were to establish an authoritative and representative unit which would act as a spokesman for the industry and to give suggestions and advice on technical issues and good practices.
3.10	Presentation	CIC Research and Development (R&D) Funding Model Members took note of the new funding model. Regarding the suggestions for research topics relating to construction safety, the CIC Secretariat would send an email to invite Members to suggest research topics after meeting. (Post-meeting note: The invitation email was sent to Com-CSY member on 28 September 2018.)
3.11		AOB <u>Constructor's Sharing Seminar</u> Hong Kong Housing Authority indicated that they had organised a contractor's sharing seminar recently. Some suggestions about construction safety for preventing serious accidents in construction sites had been collected and they would pass the suggestions collected to the CIC Secretariat for reference. The Chairperson of Com-CSY suggested that the CIC Secretariat could compile the information about high risk works systematically for promotion in future so as to enhance the safety awareness of workers. The Chairperson of Com-CSY advised that the CIC Secretariat should circulate recent accident cases and relevant information to the Members of Com-CSY to decide what specific trades/ works to put more effort for our work.

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Committee on Construction Safety and the full meeting minutes can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.



Dengue fever is an acute infection caused by the dengue viruses. This disease is transmitted to human through the bite of infective mosquito. To prevent dengue fever, construction industry stakeholders including contractors, subcontractors, employers, and construction site workers should strictly implement the following mosquito prevention and control measures:

Contractors / Subcontractors / Employers should:

- Assign staff for the control and prevention of mosquitoes on site.
- Tidy up the construction site regularly, at least once a week and check for any accumulations of stagnant water.
- Remove all stagnant water and eliminate the source(s).
- Cover all containers that hold water to prevent mosquitoes from accessing the water.
- Fill up or wrap up the vertical poles of the bamboo to prevent accumulations of stagnant water.
- Dispose of objects that can contain water; such as empty lunch boxes, cans, disused articles and tyres; into covered container(s) and remove them from site regularly (at least once a week).
- Carry out larviciding at mosquito breeding sources or potential breeding grounds that are inaccessible or could not be eliminated.
- Install mosquito screens on windows and doors.
- Provide construction site workers with appropriate *DEET-containing insect repellent, especially when working in scrubby areas.
- Appoint professional pest control contractors to carry out mosquito control measures, such as fogging, whenever necessary.
- Regularly arrange toolbox training for construction site workers on the prevention of mosquitoes.
- Record clearly the locations of all breeding and potential breeding grounds of mosquitoes identified during inspection and the follow up actions taken.
- Contact the district pest control offices or Pest Control Advisory Section of the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department on mosquito control or prevention on technical issues.

Construction Site Workers should:

- Wear loose, light-coloured and long-sleeved tops and trousers.
- Apply *DEET-containing insect repellent on the clothing and exposed parts of the body according to the label instructions.



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- Avoid using fragrant cosmetics or skin care products during outdoor activities.
- Tidy up the construction site and check for any accumulations of stagnant water.
- Remove all stagnant water and eliminate the source(s).
- Change the water in flower vases and clear the water in the saucers of potted plants at least every week to prevent breeding of mosquitoes. The use of saucers should be avoided whenever possible.
- Cover all containers that hold water to prevent mosquito from accessing the water.
- Properly dispose of the articles that are able to contain water such as empty lunch boxes, cans and tyres.
- Avoid keeping used tyres on the site, or otherwise make large holes thereto to prevent water trapping if used tyres are adopted for particular purposes.

Staff working in sites on hills or slopes with scrub:

- Should wear loose, light-coloured, long-sleeved tops and long trousers.
- Should apply *DEET-containing insect repellent on the clothing and exposed parts of the body according to the label instructions.
- Should kill and repel adult mosquitoes resting on the vegetation in the locale where work to be carried out by carrying out fogging or using “fumigators” if the site is not easily accessible:
 - (i) Appoint professional pest control contractors to carry out fogging.
 - (ii) Assess the occupational safety and health risks arising from fogging or “fumigation” and implement all control measures effectively to minimise the risks.
 - (iii) Carry out the fogging or “fumigation” once the staff have reached the locale and before they start performing their work.
 - (iv) Carry out the fogging or “fumigation” in and on the periphery of the locale.
 - (v) Select those “fumigators” which only need adding water to the product for releasing the insecticide to kill or repel the mosquitoes.
- Should be provided with a water based insecticide spray with knock-down effect for killing adult mosquitoes which may attack them when they are performing their work.
- Must not leave any article which may hold water on the work site.



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**CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY COUNCIL**
建造業議會

Safety Precaution for Dengue Fever Infection

Safety Alert No. 002/18

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Reference Materials:

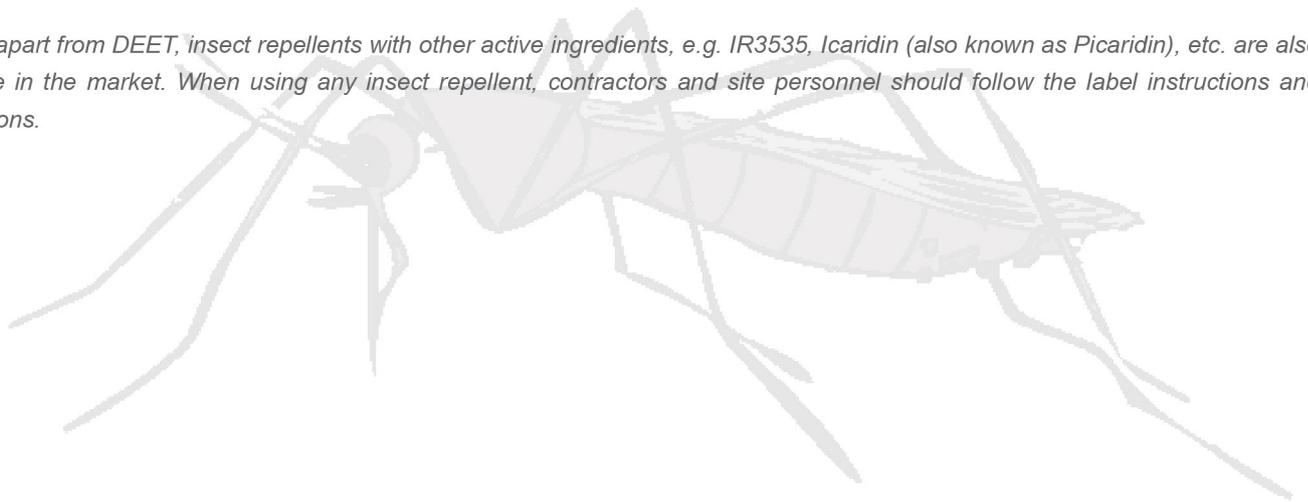
Centre for Health Protection of the Department of Health website

- <http://www.chp.gov.hk/en/features/38847.html>

Food and Environmental Hygiene Department website

- <https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/pestcontrol/Pcas.html>
- https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/pestcontrol/library/pdf_pest_control/mosquito_construction_workers.pdf
(Guidelines on Mosquito Prevention for Workers in Construction Sites)
- https://www.fehd.gov.hk/english/pestcontrol/library/pdf_pest_control/mosquito_construction_contractors.pdf
(Guidelines on Mosquito Prevention for Contractors of Construction Sites)

**DEET - apart from DEET, insect repellents with other active ingredients, e.g. IR3535, Icaridin (also known as Picaridin), etc. are also available in the market. When using any insect repellent, contractors and site personnel should follow the label instructions and precautions.*



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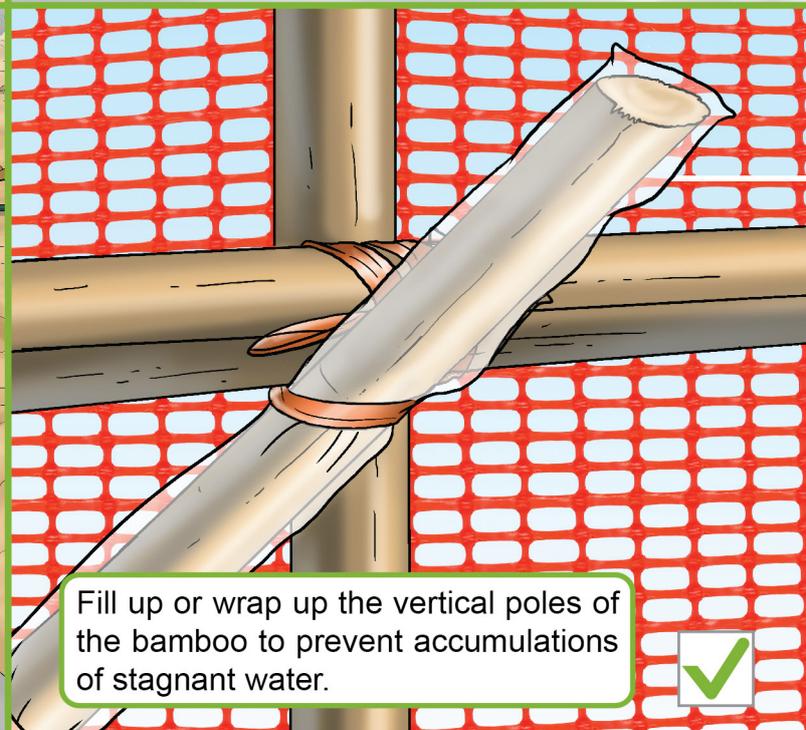
Remove all water collections and eliminate the source(s).



Appoint professional pest control contractor to carry out mosquito control measures.



Clear up the drainage channel to prevent clogging.



Fill up or wrap up the vertical poles of the bamboo to prevent accumulations of stagnant water.



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