

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 2:30 pm at the Board Room, 38/F, COS Centre, 56 Tsun Yip Street, Kwun Tong, Kowloon.

Summary Notes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 003/21:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
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	CIC/CSY/M/002/21	Confirmation of the Minutes of the Com-CSY Meeting No. 002/21 Members of the Com-CSY confirmed the minutes of the Meeting held on 24 June 2021.
3.3	CIC/CSY/M/002/21	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.

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3.4	(Powerpoint Presentation) (for information)	<p>Report on Fatal Accidents in the Construction Industry and “Life First” Campaign</p> <p>The CIC Secretariat briefed Members on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 promote these videos through YouTube in October 2021.
3.5	CIC/CSY/P/016/21 (for approval)	<p>Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Promotion (SSP)</p> <p>The progress of the SSP was given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 of the VR download platform is satisfactory. (c) The Opening Ceremony and Conference of the CSW 2021 were held successfully in August 2021. 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. <p>After the meeting, the CIC Secretariat would email relevant information regarding the CSW 2021 to Members of the Com-CSY for reference.</p> <p>Subsequently, Members of the Com-CSY agreed to upload the information on fatal accidents to the “Life First” website for the construction industry’s reference.</p>

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		<p>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.</p>
3.6	CIC/CSY/P/017/21 (for approval)	<p>Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Training (SST) The progress of the SST was given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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 accordingly. <p>The Chairperson of the Com-CSY suggested that a brainstorming session on RMAA should be included in the next Com-CSY meeting.</p> <p>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.</p>
3.6.1	(Powerpoint Presentation) (for information)	<p>Progress of revamp of the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre The progress was given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Online application for safety courses was launched in August 2021, and more than 900 online applications were received. (b) The “Construction Industry Safety Foundation Certificate Course” launched in September 2021 for

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		<p>full-time students of the HKIC. The CIC Secretariat would arrange a trial class for Members of the Com-CSY in November 2021.</p> <p>Members of the Com-CSY noted the progress of the revamp of the HKIC - Kwai Chung Campus Safety Training Centre.</p>
3.7	CIC/CSY/P/018/21 (for approval)	<p>Progress of the Subcommittee on Safety Technical Issues (STI) The progress of the STI was given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (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) was issued in September 2021. A relevant webinar was conducted on 13 September 2021, and more than 800 participants had attended. <p>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.</p>
3.7.1	CIC/CSY/P/019/21 (for approval)	<p>Progress of the Task Force on Design for Safety (TF-DfS) The progress of the TF-DfS was given as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Regarding the study for the “Development of the Design for Safety Management System and

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		<p>Training Programme”, the TF-DfS had approved in principle the literature research report submitted by the consultant.</p> <p>(b) The consultant reported the contents of the research plan, including timetable, plan details, etc.</p> <p>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.</p>
3.7.2	(Powerpoint Presentation) (for information)	<p>Discussion on Pay for Safety Scheme</p> <p>The Executive Director of the CIC 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.</p>
3.7.3	(Powerpoint Presentation) (for information)	<p>Discussion on Safety Performance Assessment</p> <p>The CIC Secretariat briefed Members on the following:</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>Members of the Com-CSY agreed to engage the consultant.</p>
3.7.4	CIC/CSY/P/020/21 (for approval)	<p>Reference Materials on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry</p> <p>The CIC Secretariat briefed Members on the following:</p> <p>(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.</p> <p>(b) The “General Reference Materials” would be published first, and the final draft would be emailed</p>

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		<p>to Members of the Com-CSY for approval after the meeting.</p> <p>(c) Four sets of “Critical Processes Practical Reference Materials” for different trades will be published by the end of this year after consultation.</p>
3.7.5	CIC/CSY/P/021/21 (for endorsement)	<p>Proposed Revision on Guidelines on Site Safety Measures on Working in Hot Weather</p> <p>(a) The Labour Department suggested that contractors should provide construction workers with anti-heat stress uniforms to strengthen the prevention and avoid workers from getting heatstroke.</p> <p>(b) The CIC Secretariat would email the information to Members of the Com-CSY for endorsement after the meeting.</p>
3.8	CIC/CSY/P/022/21 (for approval)	<p>Application for Research Funding</p> <p>The CIC Secretariat reported that in April 2021, the CIC Research and Technology Development Fund received five applications related to construction safety, none of which were supported.</p> <p>Members of the Com-CSY approved not to support the applications related to construction safety.</p>
3.9	(Powerpoint Presentation) (for information)	<p>Brainstorming Session</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ways to improve safety performance in private sector – to be discussed at the next meeting 2. Suggestion on the adoption of Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) and management of mobile Elevated Work Platform from Gammon Construction Company <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Some Members of the Com-CSY had reservations on mandating the implementation of CDM in Hong Kong for the reasons below: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) It was disagreed that 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.

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		<p>(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.</p> <p>(iv) There was concern on the market's ability in adapting CDM/DfS.</p> <p>(b) The Chairperson of the Com-CSY 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.</p> <p>3. Ways to reduce use of bamboo scaffolding</p> <p>(a) The Chairperson of the Com-CSY 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.</p> <p>(b) The Hong Kong Housing Authority stated that they would select trial projects to mandate the use of metal scaffolding for further review.</p> <p>(c) The Chairperson of the Com-CSY suggested that the CIC Secretariat could collect and study the practices of using bamboo scaffolding in construction sites and make suggestions for improvement.</p>
3.10	-	Any Other Business Nil

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Com-CSY and/or the full Minutes can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.