

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

<u>United for Construction Safety Measures Kick-off Ceremony 2025</u> <u>Improve Construction Safety Levels by Joint Efforts of the Industry</u>

Hong Kong • 2 April 2025 – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) today held the United for Construction Safety Measures Kick-off Ceremony 2025 at CIC–Zero Carbon Park, with various stakeholders from the industry joining to stand in unity to show their support in the adoption of a multi-pronged approach to further enhance safety standards in the construction industry. Today's event included a sharing on Smart Site Safety System (4S), a kick-off ceremony of the Frontline Personnel Safety Performance Recording Scheme (FPSPRS), and a signing ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding with the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC).

Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, stated in his opening speech that it's everyone's responsibility to uphold construction site safety and urged practitioners to fully perform their duties. He further added that the CIC would continue to promote more safety-related initiatives and work with the industry to create a safer working environment, with the aims to uplift the image of the industry and attract talents to join.

Kick-off Ceremony of the Frontline Personnel Safety Performance Recording Scheme

To strengthen the safety culture within the industry, stakeholders must pool their efforts and coordinate closely. With more than a year of consultation, the CIC has established the Frontline Personnel Safety Performance Recording Scheme (Safety Recording Scheme). The Safety Recording Scheme introduces a standardised system to record both the merit and demerit safety performance of Frontline Personnel, and by encouraging Frontline Personnel to actively participate in safety training, the Safety Recording Scheme aims to cultivate safe construction habits, and to establish and promote safety culture at construction sites.

For detailed information of the Scheme, please visit: <u>safetyrecording.cic.hk</u>.

CIC x OSHC Signing Ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding

Today's event also featured the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the CIC and the OSHC, strengthening the work safety management, construction quality, and professionalism of the erection and dismantling of truss-out scaffolds and further securing workers' safety.

The MoU was signed by Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC and Ms. Bonnie YAU, Executive Director of the OSHC, witnessed by Mr. Johnny CHAN, Deputy Secretary for Development (Works) 2 of the Development Bureau, Mr. Vincent FUNG, Deputy



Commissioner (Occupational Safety and Health) of the Labour Department, Mr. Lawrence NG, Chairperson of the Task Force on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds of the CIC, and Ms. Ada FUNG, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Safety and Health Certification Scheme Steering Committee and Construction Industry Safety & Health Steering Committee of the OSHC.

Under the "Truss-out Scaffolding Safety Accreditation Scheme", OSHC will assist enterprises in implementing safety management systems, provide subsidies for purchasing safety equipment, and offer safety training and audits. Meanwhile, the Hong Kong Construction Industry Trade Testing Centre under the CIC will provide simulated scenarios for the stringent safety audit of the "Truss-out Scaffolding Safety Accreditation Scheme". Together, the CIC and the OSHC will promote the importance of safety management, construction quality of truss-out scaffolding works.

Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of the CIC, stated, "As the industry leader, the CIC continuously promotes construction safety. In 2023, the CIC launched the 'Truss-out Scaffolder Safety Training', allowing practitioners in this field to obtain recognised qualifications based on their work experience and skills. Companies involved in the erection and dismantling of truss-out scaffolding for repair and renovation works can also register as the 21st designated trade under the CIC's 'Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme' (RSTCS) from 1 January 2025 onwards. Registered contractors will be eligible to bid for more new contracts. The CIC anticipates that this collaboration with the OSHC will further strengthen the industry's professional development and safety management while promoting good practices and construction safety."

In addition, becoming a registered specialist trade contractor under the "Truss-out Scaffolding" allows contractors to enjoy premium discounts on employee compensation insurance offered by the Employees' Compensation Insurance Residual Scheme Bureau, which will provide a more comprehensive protection for truss-out scaffolding workers.

Sharing on the Implementation of Smart Site Safety System

On the 20th of May last year, the CIC and the Development Bureau have collaborated to establish the Smart Site Safety System Labelling Scheme (4SLS) to drive the full adoption of 4S in construction projects. Since the launch of the Scheme, over 520 construction projects from both the public and non-public sectors have received the plaques. To further promote the advantages of adopting 4S, the CIC has invited representatives from the participating project to share their experience to encourage more practitioners to participate in the scheme.





Over 120 guests and industry representatives support the United for Construction Safety Measures Kick-off Ceremony 2025



Ir Prof. Thomas HO, Chairman of the CIC, urges the industry to keep safe together





Mr. Tommy PONG (middle), Director of Cheung Hing Construction Company Limited and Mr. Jacky NG (left), Safety Director of Cheung Hing Construction Company Limited share their insights on the implementation of 4S



The officiating guests hosts the Kick-off Ceremony of the Frontline Personnel Safety Performance Recording Scheme

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About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.