

<u>Construction Industry Council Publishes</u> <u>Research on River Sand Substitutes for</u> <u>Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production</u> <u>(Phase Two) Final Report</u>

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) today released the *Research on River Sand Substitutes for Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production (Phase Two) Final Report* (Phase Two Final Report). This Phase Two Final Report aims to report the research study on the formulation of practical solutions for using river sand substitutes in Hong Kong as well as the development of standards and specifications.

In view of an acute shortage of river sand, the CIC has launched a two-phase research project entitled "Research on River Sand Substitutes for Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production" to explore possible river sand substitutes as fine aggregate for local use.

After completion of first phase of the research project, the CIC published the *Research on River Sand Substitutes for Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production (Phase One) Final Report* (Phase One Final Report) in April 2013, identifying suitable river sand substitutes for practical applications in the local construction industry. After completion of Phase One study, four new standards were published. The four standards were reviewed in the second phase study.

The second phase of the research project was to conduct comprehensive laboratory tests by technicians and field trials by experienced workers in order to develop manufactured products as suitable river sand substitutes and to draft a Recommended Specifications for the river sand substitutes. The research outcomes were presented in the Phase Two Final Report.

"It is important to evaluate characteristics of the identified substitutes so that the potential users would better understand the major differences between river sand and river sand substitutes," Ir Kevin POOLE, Chairman of the Committee on Environment, Innovation and Technology of the CIC said.

"A set of practical guidelines and specifications on the river sand substitutes are essential for adoption in both public and private works projects in Hong Kong." Mr. HO Wai-wah, Chairman of the Task Force on River Sand Substitutes Research added.



The Phase Two Final Report is available for download on the CIC's website www.cic.hk.

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 Government, provide training and registration for the construction workforce and serve as a communication channel for Government to solicit advice on all construction-related matters.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.

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