

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Construction Site Safety

Meeting No. 004/10 of the Committee on Construction Site Safety was held on Wednesday, 10 November 2010 at 2:30 pm at Room 1201, Murray Building, Garden Road, Central.

Present:	CHEUNG Hau-wai	(HWC)	Chairman
	AU Choi-kai	(CKA)	
	CHEW Tai-chong	(TCC)	
	Thomas HO	(TH)	
	KO Jan-ming	(JMK)	
	LAM Oi-ki, Peter	(OKL)	
	WAN Koon-sun	(KSW)	
	WONG Chik-wing, Mike	(MW)	
	LEUNG Man-ho	(MHL)	Development Bureau
	Derrick PANG	(DP)	Hong Kong Construction Association (HKCA)
	William Siu	(WS)	Hong Kong Construction Sub-contractors Association
	KUOK Hoi-sang	(HSK)	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors
	Dominic LAM	(DL)	Hong Kong Federation of Insurers
	Philip CHAN	(PhCN)	Hong Kong Institute of Architects
	Victor KWONG	(VK)	Hong Kong Occupational Safety and Health Association
	James BLAKE	(JB)	Kowloon-Canton Railway Corporation
	TSO Sing-hin	(SHT)	Labour Department
	LAU Chi-keung	(CKeL)	Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong
In Attendance :	LEUNG Chi-kai	(CKaL)	Buildings Department
	Francis OR	(FO)	Drainage Services Department
	Ngai Man-kin	(MKN)	Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees' General Union
	Terry CHING	(TCG)	Housing Authority
	George WONG	(GW)	MTR Corporation
	Dennis IP	(DI)	MTR Corporation
	Terrence LI	(TeL)	MTR Corporation
	Christopher TO	(CT)	Executive Director
	Charles WONG	(CWG)	Director (Training)
	Alex LEUNG	(AL)	Senior Manager (Council Services) 1
	Li Gui-yi	(GYL)	Senior Manager (Research)

	Raymond KWOK	(RKK)	Manager (Council Services) 3
Apologies :	CHOW Luen-kiu	(LKC)	
	KWAN Yuk-choi	(YCK)	
	PANG Long	(LP)	Construction Site Workers General Union
	Ian EDWARDS	(IE)	Hong Kong Construction Association
	LAI Chi-hung	(CHL)	Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees' General Union (HKCIEGU)
	David TSE	(DdT)	Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association
	LAU Chi-kin	(CKiL)	Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
	Ada FUNG	(AF)	Housing Authority
TANG Wah-shing	(WST)	Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC)	

PROGRESS REPORT

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4.1 Confirmation of the Progress Report of the Com-CSS Meeting No. 003/10 held on 11 August 2010

Members took note of Progress Report CIC/CSS/R/003/10 and approved the progress report of the last meeting held on 11 August 2010.

4.2 Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Agenda item 3.2 Members noted and agreed that the recommended safety precautionary measures for working with material hoistways in construction sites should be issued by the Com-CSS Chairman to HKCA and relevant trade associations and professional bodies for their reference.

Agenda item 3.4 Presentations from MTRC and Housing Authority on induction training and near-miss accident reporting would be discussed at Agenda item 4.8 and 4.9.

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Agenda item 3.5 Reports from Labour Department (LD) regarding the necessary follow-up actions so as to prevent similar fatal accidents from happening again would be discussed at the next meeting.

LD

Agenda item 3.6 The CIC Secretariat would coordinate with MTRC and Drainage Services Department (DSD) for the organisation of a sharing workshop for the safety management of tunnelling works.

**CIC/
MTRC/
DSD**

Agenda item 3.9 It had been suggested that the principle of Pay for Safety Scheme (PFSS) might be adopted in the Operation Building Bright (OBB) programme. Buildings Department (BD) and LD were requested to discuss the proposal with Housing Society and URA. The direction for the enhancement of RMAA works safety as deliberated by the Task Force would be reported at Agenda item 4.12.

4.3 Draft Responses to Letter (dated 17 May 2010) of the Hong Kong Occupational Safety and Health Association

Members noted the suggestions raised by the Hong Kong Occupational Safety and Health Association (HKOSHA) for the improvement of Hong Kong construction site safety. Members agreed to invite representative from HKOSHA to present and share their suggestions for consideration by the Com-CSS. Meanwhile, an interim reply would be issued to HKOSHA for their record.

HKOSHA

(Post meeting note: A reply letter was sent to HKOSHA by the CIC Secretariat on 13 Jan 2011.)

4.4 Proposed Revision to the Code of Practice for Safe Use of Tower Cranes published by Labour Department

The CIC Secretariat reported that the CIC Chairman had received a letter from LD seeking the views of CIC on LD's proposed amendments to the Code of Practice for Safe Use of Tower

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Cranes (the CoP).

Members noted the amendments proposed by LD in the CoP and the comments received from the Task Force. After deliberation, it was agreed that the technical comments raised by the Task Force, together with a request for amending the title/ contents of the CoP to differentiate it with the CIC Guidelines, would be issued to LD for its consideration.

(Post meeting note: The consolidated comments on the proposed amendments to LD's CoP were issued to LD on 7 December 2010.)

4.5 Progress Report of Meeting No. 001/10 of the Task Force on Permanent Safety Features

Members noted that the Task Force had completed its task for improving the safety of working at height at new buildings. The Com-CSS invited the Task Force to also investigate any safety features that would be suitable for old and existing buildings.

4.6 Technical Guidelines for the Design, Installation and Maintenance of Cast-in Anchor Devices

Members deliberated on the draft technical guidelines and agreed that the intention of paragraph 15 was to specify the requirements for the AP/RSE to inform the concerned parties including building owners and managers to take necessary steps to ensure the proper use of cast-in anchors for operation/ maintenance purpose. It is NOT the intention of the Task Force to specify any specific responsibility in the Technical Guidelines, such as the responsibility of appointing Registered Professional Engineer (RPE) for pre-use inspection. This was a matter falling within the responsibility and purview of building owners and property management companies to decide in future. Members also recommended some other amendments to the technical guidelines. The finalised draft after incorporating the suggested revisions would be submitted to the CIC for approval in December 2010 under a separate paper.

(Post meeting note: At the CIC Council Meeting held on 17 December 2010, some Members considered that the adoption of cast-in anchors might have adverse aesthetic implication to the building design, and also create potential difficulties for property

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management. The CIC requested the Com-CSS and the Task Force to review the technical guidelines accordingly.)

**HWC/
JMK**

4.7 Briefing on the Technical Visit to Taiwan and the 18th China, Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macau Occupational Safety and Health Symposium

The Com-CSS Chairman briefly reported the experience acquired and shared his insights on site safety issues from the visit. It was noted that HKOSHA would make a more detailed presentation in the Com-CSS meeting in future.

HKOSHA

4.8 Experience Sharing of MTRC Induction Training for New Site Staff

Representative from MTRC introduced their site safety induction training and the “iSafe” campaign which aimed to promote the concept of “safety starts with me”. Members highly appreciated the nine standard questions pre-set by MTRC for workers to consider before commencement of work. Besides, Members also agreed that it would be worthwhile to study the development of safety management system under the supply chain of construction projects. The CIC Secretariat was requested to include the MTRC’s approach in the Com-CSS’s research for further consideration.

4.9 Experience Sharing of “Near-miss” Case Reporting by MTRC and Housing Authority

Representatives from MTRC and Housing Authority shared the development and implementation details of their respective near-miss case reporting system with Members. After discussion, it was suggested that representatives of HKCA to convene a discussion with the representatives of MTRC, Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association (HKGBCA), Hong Kong Construction Sub-contractors Association (HKCSA) and the Hong Kong Federation of E&M Contractors (HKFEMC) in the Com-CSS to discuss the feasibility of implementing near-miss reporting system in the private sector.

**HKCA/
MTRC/
HKGBCA/
HKCSA/
HKFEMC**

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4.10 Key Performance Indicators for Construction Industry

The CIC Research Team briefed Members on the findings of an international review of KPIs adopted by overseas construction industry. Some KPIs for assessing and benchmarking the performance of Hong Kong construction industry were also proposed for consideration by Members.

Members took note of the recommendations and requested the CIC Research Team to provide further analysis and options for review.

(PhCN left the meeting at 5:10 pm)

(JMK and CKeL left the meeting at 5:20 pm)

4.11 Progress of Activities of the Task Force on Working in Hot Weather

JB reported that the HKU Research Team had commenced pre-study at three construction sites in August and September 2010 as scheduled. To facilitate the administration of the consultancy contract, the Com-CSS agreed to delegate to the Task Force the authority to endorse deliverables under the contract except for critical matters and key issues.

4.12 Progress Report of Meeting No. 001/10 of the Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites

SHT briefed Members on the Paper CIC/CSS/P/033/10 about the Task Force meeting held on 29 Oct 2010. Members noted that Buildings Department (BD) would follow up with the previous suggestion of the Com-CSS regarding the possible adoption of Pay for Safety Scheme (PFSS) in the Operation Building Bright (OBB) programme with Housing Society and Urban Renewal Authority (URA).

BD

4.13 Progress of Activities of the Task Force on Review of Major Construction Method Statements

An informal meeting was held on 1 Nov 2010 to discuss the

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strategy and approach for the Task Force. LD would provide statistics on site accidents to facilitate the Task Force in determining which areas/ trades in the construction industry should be prioritised for study and review.

4.14 Progress of Activities of the Task Force on Site Safety Training

CWG updated Members that the proposed safety training for site supervisory level staff had been finalised. Regarding the training for site managerial staff, details such as exemption criteria and refresher course were under fine-tuning.

4.15 Year Plan – Progress Review

Members noted the progress of various prioritised tasks identified under the endorsed Year Plan 2010/11 for the Com-CSS.

4.16 Meeting Schedule for 2011

Members noted the tentative meeting schedule of the Com-CSS in 2011.

4.17 Any Other Business

The HKCSA informed the CIC Secretariat on 5 November 2010 that Mr William SIU was nominated to join the Com-CSS as a co-opted member.

(Post meeting-note: The Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union informed the CIC Secretariat on 6 December 2010 that Mr CHOW Ping-wai would replace Mr LAI Chi-hung to join the Com-CSS as a co-opted member.)

4.18 Next Meeting

25 March 2011 (Friday) at 2:30 pm at Room 1201 Murray Building.

All

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

CIC Secretariat
March 2011