

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Environment and Technology

Meeting No. 005/10 of the Committee on Environment and Technology for 2010 was held on 7 October 2010 (Thursday) at 2:30 pm at Hong Kong Construction Association, 16/F, 180 – 182 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong.

Summary notes of the Committee on Environment and Technology (Com-ENT) Meeting No.005/10:

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
5.1	CIC/ENT/R/004/10	Confirmation of the Progress Report – Members of the Com-ENT confirmed the Progress Report CIC/ENT/R/004/10 of the meeting held on 24 August 2010.
5.2	---	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting: (i) Research on Establishing a Hong Kong Based Carbon Labelling Framework for Construction Materials – the CIC approved commissioning the HKU to conduct the research. (ii) CIC Research Funding Application Procedures – the proposal would be re-considered by the Committee on Administration and Finance (Com-ANF) at its meeting held on 8 October 2010. (iii) Research on Adhesion Technologies for External Wall Tiles and Rendering – apart from the Architectural Services Department, two developers had agreed to provide suitable sites for on-site testing. For confidentiality, the names of the developers and the corresponding sites would not be mentioned in the study report. As the use of glass mosaic tiles as finishes to external walls of buildings had become obsolete, Members considered research into glass mosaic tiles unnecessary. (iv) Forum on the use of standardisation and modularisation in Hong Kong works

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		projects – the Secretariat would discuss with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers to co-organise the forum. (v) Other matters arising were covered at the later part of the meeting.
5.3	---	Use of Building Information Modelling (BIM) – Members received presentations on the subject from the Housing Department and The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Though such technology would impact the whole construction supply chain and cause changes in work processes, it would greatly improve building workflows and productivity. Indeed, the Building and Construction Authority of Singapore had allocated SGD250 million to set up the Construction Productivity and Capability Fund and part of the funding was designated to support the use of BIM. After deliberation, Members agreed to organise a forum to explore its applications in local works projects.
5.4	CIC/ENT/P/026/10	Draft Guidelines on Trip Ticket System for Disposal of Construction & Demolition Materials in Private Sector Works – the third draft of the Guidelines was prepared with reference to stakeholders’ comments and the Technical Circular (Works) No.6/2010 issued by the Development Bureau in September 2010. After deliberations, Members supported submission of the Guidelines to the CIC for approval subject to further refinements to the draft provided by Members in the following week before submission to the CIC.
5.5	CIC/ENT/P/027/10	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Construction Industry – Members agreed that the KPIs under discussion should serve as a tool to analyse and guide the performance of the local construction industry while helping assess the performance of the construction industry in Hong Kong against other countries. Yet, it was reminded that in the context of comparison, such as the comparison of accident statistics between Hong Kong and other countries, the difference in the definition of the relevant indicators in different countries should always be made clearly with care to avoid any misunderstanding of the results and

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		conclusions. The subject would be further discussed at the coming meetings.
5.6	CIC/ENT/P/028/10	Task Force on River Sand Substitutes Research – Members agreed that the Research on River Sand Substitutes for Concrete Production and Cement Sand Mortar Production (Research-RSS) should be conducted in two phases with an ultimate aim of developing a set of practical guidelines and specifications on river sand substitutes for the production of concrete and cement sand mortar. The Research-RSS (Phase One) would be a 6-month desktop research to identify suitable river sand substitutes for practical applications in the local construction industry. The Phase Two would involve extensive laboratory and on-site testing. After deliberations, Members approved the tender documents for Research-RSS (Phase One) as annexed to the Paper. Funding request and tender exercise would be arranged as per paragraphs 2.4 and 2.54 of the Paper.
5.7	CIC/ENT/P/029/10	<p>Task Force on Research Activities – For the Construction Technology Forum to be held on 10 December 2010, Members decided to hold it in Holiday Inn Golden Mile Hotel in Tsim Sha Tsui where adequate facilities for sit-down lunch could be provided. Registration fee would be charged to avoid no-shows and yet it would be set at a minimal rate. Members also noted that the Construction Technology Forum would not be acknowledged as continuing professional development activities. Members agreed that the Committee should hold 2 to 3 seminars/forums in 2011. Members concerned about the resources for organising more seminars and inclined not to conduct a seminar on low carbon construction in the near future.</p> <p>Some Members asked whether the Task Force on Research Activities should be dismissed after addressing the issues covered in its terms of reference. Members would review the arrangement after deliberations on the CIC Research Funding Application Procedures.</p>

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5.8	CIC/ENT/P/030/10	Public Consultation on Hong Kong's Climate Change Strategy and Action Agenda – Members would meet the Environmental Protection Department and its consultant and the Hong Kong Green Building Council to deliberate on the subject in order to help formulate CIC's responses to the consultation. Members would then make recommendations to the CIC for approval at the Council meeting to be held on 17 December 2010.
5.9	CIC/ENT/P/031/10	Tentatively Meeting Schedule for 2011 was issued.
5.10	---	Any Other Business – Noting that construction workers had to bring along multiple cards such as Construction Workers Registration Card and Green Card at workplace, the Com-ENT was requested to look into the issue and explore means to coordinate concerned systems to reduce the number of cards. As such, the Secretariat was directed to consult industry stakeholders such as Construction Workers Registration Authority, Hong Kong Construction Association and construction workers unions on the current practices and identify the root causes of the problem.