

Construction Industry Council

Committee on Productivity

Meeting No. 004/18 of the Committee on Productivity (Com-PRO) was held on Wednesday, 12 December 2018 at 9:30am in Seminar Room A, CITAC, G/F, HKIC Kowloon Bay Campus, 44 Tai Yip Street, Kowloon Bay, Kowloon.

Summary Notes of the Com-PRO Meeting No. 004/18

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
4.1	CIC/PRO/M/003/18	Confirmation of Minutes of the Previous Meeting Members confirmed the minutes of the Com-PRO Meeting No. 003/18 without any amendment.
4.2	-	Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting Item 3.2: For the research proposal entitled “Smartphones on Next-generation Monitoring Devices for Construction-induced Vibrations and Noise”, the researcher was reviewing the research agreement. Phase 1 work of the research study would likely commence in March 2019. Item 3.4: Through circulation, Members endorsed the final report of the consultancy on “Investigating the Potential of Implementing Robotics and Automation in the Context of Large-scale Housing Development for Hong Kong”. Item 3.5: The final reports of the consultancy studies (i) “Assessing the Performance of the Hong Kong Construction Industry, Key Performance Indicators (KPI): An International Comparison” by the University of Hong Kong (HKU) and (ii) “Benchmarking the Construction Trade Productivity in Hong Kong” by the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) had been circulated for Members to review on 3 December 2018. <i>[Post-meeting note: Members endorsed the two final reports.]</i>

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
4.3	-	<p>Progress Update on the Construction Innovation Expo and Conference 2019 (CIE2019) The Committee Secretariat reported that over 600 invitations of Expression of Interest (EOI) had been sent to local, the Mainland, and overseas construction-related companies, organisations, and trade associations.</p> <p>44 EOIs were received as at 11 December 2018. The Committee Secretariat would keep inviting more exhibitors, establish an organising committee and engage an event management company for the CIE2019. Members had no objection to pay a deposit to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC) for securing the booking of exhibition hall.</p> <p>Members agreed to focus on the quality of exhibits rather than the quantity, and suggested to provide a flexible booth layout plan and to set up themed pavilions at the exhibition hall.</p>
4.4	-	<p>Progress Update on the Establishment of Buildoffsite Hong Kong Mr. Tim HALL from Buildoffsite UK updated the progress on the establishment of Buildoffsite Hong Kong (BoS-HK). Four workshops and several individual meetings were organised from 6 to 11 December 2018 to engage founding members and introduce the establishment of BoS-HK. Around 40 organisations including government bodies, clients, material suppliers, contractors and consultants had signed up as founding members.</p> <p>The Committee Secretariat presented the 3-year pilot scheme for this alliance, comprising policy drivers and technical enhancements that would facilitate offsite construction. The official launching is planned to be held in March 2019.</p>
4.5	CIC/PRO/P/007/18 (for endorsement)	<p>Proposed Task Force on DfMA in Construction The Committee Secretariat presented the proposal on establishing a Task Force to promote Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA) and drive offsite construction in Hong Kong. Proposed terms of reference of the Task Force were: (i) to monitor the establishment of Buildoffsite Hong Kong (BoS-HK),</p>

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
		<p>(ii) to provide guidance and comments on the operation of BoS-HK, and (iii) to promote the adoption of DfMA in the Hong Kong construction industry.</p> <p>Members suggested to seek Council’s consideration for a higher level of leadership on the establishment of the Task Force on DfMA in Construction. In this way, the resource deployed within the CIC to promote MiC, DfMA and BoS-HK could be organised for stronger synergies. The Committee Secretariat would follow up Members’ suggestion.</p>
4.6	CIC/PRO/P/008/18 (for discussion)	<p>Preliminary Strategies on Improving Time, Cost and Quality (TCQ) Performance of the Hong Kong Construction Industry</p> <p>Mr. Peter WEILEY from Advisian presented a list of preliminary strategies to improve the industry’s performance for the Phase II of the consultancy study on “Improving Time, Cost and Quality Performance of the Hong Kong Construction Industry” (the Consultancy Study).</p> <p>There were 6 recommendations related to construction productivity, viz. (i) capturing industry performance data, (ii) enhancing buildability/ delivery strategy/ programme feasibility through Building Information Modelling, Early Contractor Involvement and Design Quality Indicator, (iii) creating the environment for innovation adoption, particularly MiC (including financial and statutory incentives), (iv) developing and implementing value-based procurement for design consultancy, (v) enhancing regulatory approval process, and (vi) continuous enhancement for construction professionalism. Members agreed with the directions of the 6 recommendations.</p>
4.7	-	<p>Presentation on the Study on Standardisation of Hoarding / Covered Walkway Design in Construction Industry of Hong Kong</p> <p>Prof. Ir Dr Eddie LAM and Prof. C.S. POON (the Team) from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) presented the findings of the study on “Standardisation of Hoarding / Covered Walkway Design in Construction Industry of Hong Kong” (the Study) commissioned by the Hong Kong Construction</p>

Agenda Item	Paper	Major Resolutions/ Progress Highlights
		<p>Association Limited (HKCA). The report concluded and recommended that it is viable to implement prefabricated modular hoarding system in Hong Kong.</p> <p>Members had concerns on the storage for the recycled material of hoarding, the related management plan on storage, and quality certification of using recycled materials. Site constraints could also limit the standardisation of hoarding system. The Team took note of Members' concerns and feedback.</p>
4.8	-	<p>Study on Revisiting Current Design Practices</p> <p>The Committee Secretariat presented the background of the proposed study on revisiting current design practices. A high steel ratio was found in reinforced concrete structures and many conflicts had to be resolved on site nowadays. These situations would lead to higher construction cost and lower construction productivity.</p> <p>Members expressed their views on the current design practices, viz. lack of detailed design, poor design quality, unclear scope of works and certain procurement practices. After much deliberation and considering that the proposed study would need to be more focused to achieve useful outcomes, the Chairperson suggested to put the proposed study on hold.</p>
4.9	-	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>There was no other business.</p>
4.10	-	<p>Next Meeting 001/19</p> <p>The next meeting would be held in March 2019. The Committee Secretariat would inform Members once the meeting details are confirmed.</p>

Remarks: The mentioned papers discussed at the Committee on Productivity and the full minutes can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.