

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Good Job Prospects and High Income Await
Well-trained Construction Workers

Hong Kong • 6 August 2014 – Driven by major infrastructure developments, public and private sector projects, along with building repairs and maintenance works, Hong Kong's construction industry is enjoying a golden era. New job opportunities for both skilled and semi-skilled workers in all trades, such as joinery, painting, metal work as well as in trowel trades, are increasing. Quality workers not only have good job prospects but can also receive a very attractive income.

In order to cope with the manpower needs of the industry, the Construction Industry Council (CIC) has been strengthening its training of the new workforce in recent years. For this year, the target is to provide 8,000 new recruits of which 5,200 are from in-house training and 2,800 from cooperative training schemes. The output of training places is mainly as craftsmen who are in great demand at present and forecast to remain so in the near future.

The Basic Craft Course offered by the CIC is designed to provide specialised craft training for youngsters. The course is based on practical technical training and supplemented with theoretical knowledge and site practice. The trainee will obtain "Intermediate Trade Test" qualification upon completion of the course. Over the past years, CIC trainees have been welcomed by employers with an employment rate of over 95%. When they become experienced and skilled, they can take the skilled worker trade tests and obtain the qualification of "Registered Skilled Worker". They can also pursue further training and eventually become trade supervisors or start their own business as a subcontractor.

The Basic Craft Course is a full-time course of one year's duration. The course is tuition free and each trainee will receive a monthly training allowance of \$2,800. Eleven key construction trades are available for enrolment, including bricklaying and plastering, bricklaying and tiling,

construction formwork, carpentry and joinery, painting, decorating and sign-writing, marble laying and metal works, etc. Applicants can select one of the trades based on their own ability and interest. The entry requirement of the course is completion of Secondary 3 or above.

The average starting salary for graduates in August last year was around \$10,000 with some young workers starting on a monthly salary of \$12,000. Due to the attractive salary and good prospects, more than 50% of the trainees were well above the minimum academic requirements. Taking last year as an example, 72% of the trainees possessed high school qualification. It is believed that more and more young people are now interested in joining the construction industry with its promising career prospects.

The Basic Craft Course commences every September and is now open for applications. Applicants can bring with their academic documents to the following training centers from Monday to Friday, 9:00-16:00 for application and interview. For course enquiries, please visit www.hkcic.org or call 2100 9115 / 2100 9119.

1. CIC Kowloon Bay Training Centre (44 Tai Yip Street, Kowloon Bay)
2. CIC Sheung Shui Training Centre (1 Fung Nam Road, Sheung Shui)
3. CIC Kwai Chung Training Centre (7 Kwai Hop Street, Kwai Chung)
4. CIC Aberdeen Trade Testing and Training Centre (95 Yue Kwong Road, Aberdeen)

Media Enquiries

Trainees Recruitment and Career Support Department

Tel: (852) 2100 9114

Fax: (852) 2100 9139

Email: lucypoon@hkcic.org

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