

## 水務監督辦事處 Office of the Water Authority

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Reference

Distribution: To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorised Persons

Dear Sirs,

## WSD Circular Letter No. 2/2003 Amendments to the Hong Kong Waterworks Standard Requirements (HKWSR)

When a water meter is removed from the meter position, the associated pipes and fittings will be subjected to tension under free end condition. There were some instances where compression joints were used in copper pipes at meter positions and they failed suddenly during meter removal. Investigation indicates that the strength of a compression joint at the water meter position may be weakened and the joint becomes loosened after the water meter is replaced several times. Since the condition of the compression joint cannot be readily ascertained by prior visual inspection, compression joints of copper pipes or fittings are considered not suitable for use at water meter positions. In this respect, your attention is drawn to the following amendments to the HKWSR, which will be effective for all plumbing or replumbing proposals submitted on or after 1 March 2003:

HKWSR Chapter 1 Clause 1.3A, Chapter 2 Clause 2.5A, Chapter 3 Clause 3.5A and Chapter 7 Clause 7.4A are added:

"If a section of copper pipe is used either before or after a water meter position, that section of copper pipe between the water meter position and the first pipe clamp should be jointed by screwed joints."

Yours faithfully,

(CHAU Chi Wai, David) for Water Authority

(with Chinese translation)