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Distribution : To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorised Persons

Dear Sir,

**WSD Circular Letter No. 2/98**  
**Amendments to the Hong Kong Waterworks**  
**Standard Requirements (HKWSR)**

Your attention is drawn to the following amendments to the Hong Kong Waterworks Standard Requirements (Revised August 1995) which will be effective on all first submission of plumbing proposals on or after 1 October 1998 :

- a. HKWSR Chapter 4 Clause 4.1 is amended to read :

*"Cisterns shall be fitted with a ball valve and a fullway gate valve at the inlet in the case of a gravity supply or with an automatic control switch and without any stop valve in the case of a pumped supply. The ball valve or control switch shall shut off the supply when the water level is 25mm below the invert of the overflow pipe or the warning pipe if there exists one. The invert of the inlet pipe or the face of the outlet nose of the ball valve shall be not less than 25mm above the top of the overflow pipe. All overflow and warning pipes of potable water storage cisterns shall be constructed of non-metallic pipe materials."*

- b. HKWSR Chapter 4 Clause 4.4 is amended to read :

*"Where necessary a warning pipe may be installed in addition to an overflow pipe. Except that a warning pipe can be of any size not less than 25mm in diameter, it shall comply with all other requirements of an overflow pipe. The warning pipe shall be installed at a level below the overflow pipe and shall be extended to outside of the building periphery for roof cistern or outside the pump room for sump cistern."*

- c. HKWSR Chapter 4 Clause 4.7 is amended to read :

*"When the storage cistern for potable water is to be placed adjoining to a storage cistern for non-potable water, a physical break shall be provided between the two cisterns, i.e. walls and slabs of the two cisterns must be separated while tie beams linking the cisterns for structural requirement are acceptable. The tie beams shall be constructed in such a manner that cross contamination of two cisterns via the tie beams is not possible."*

- d. HKWSR Chapter 4 Clause 4.9 is amended to read :

*"It is stipulated in Clause 5(1) of the Wells and Water Storage (Urban Council) By-Laws [HK Law Chapter 132] that every water storage tank and cistern shall at all times be kept in a clean and wholesome condition. In this respect, every cistern is recommended to be thoroughly cleaned and scrubbed with a solution of chloride of lime or bleaching powder containing not less than fifty parts of chlorine in one million parts of water at least once every three months. A notice plate / board should be provided to record the dates of cleaning of the water cisterns. The notice plate / board together with the cleaning dates records should be securely fixed at a conspicuous location easily accessible and visible by the residents and the building management staff."*

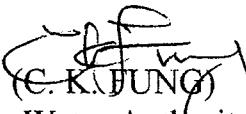
- e. HKWSR Chapter 4 Clause 4.13 is amended to read :

*"To facilitate cleansing of water storage cisterns, all internal surfaces of floors, walls ( to full height ) and soffits (except the cistern openings) of potable water storage cisterns should be lined with a white non-toxic smooth finish such as ceramic tiles. In connection with this, it is also advisable to have the same finish for the internal surfaces of floors and walls of flushing and fire service water storage cisterns."*

- f. HKWSR Chapter 9 Clause 9.14 is amended to read :

*"Fire hose reel outlets shall be housed in glass-fronted cabinets secured under lock and key. The glass panel shall be of a frangible type and shall not exceed 1.5mm in thickness, and that it shall be of such size and design so as not to cause any undue obstruction to the free use of the hose reel. Furthermore, a metal or plastic striker shall be provided in the vicinity of the cabinet for the purpose of breaking the glass panel in case of emergency."*

Yours faithfully,

  
(C. K. FUNG)  
for Water Authority

(with Chinese translation)

c.c. WSD 3608/9/27/95  
WSD 1493/50 Pt.10