

Office of the Water Authority

Immigration Tower
7 Gloucester Road
Hong Kong

(with Chinese Translation)

Telephone 2829 4446

Facsimile 2824 0578

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Distribution : To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorized Persons

Dear Sir,

WSD Circular Letter 1/95

Abandonment of the Use of Unlined Galvanized Steel Pipes as a Fresh Water Inside Service

This circular serves to notify you of the captioned Waterworks requirement which has been introduced by the enactment of the Waterworks (amendment) Regulation 1994 made on 23 December 1994. I wish to draw your attention to the following changes to Regulation 19 and Part 1, Schedule 2 of the Waterworks Regulations, which cover the pipes and fittings installed or intended to be installed :-

- (i) The use of galvanized steel pipes which are without proper internal lining as fresh water inside service in all new buildings and upon renewal of the plumbing system in all existing buildings will be prohibited for applications received after 23 December 1995, i.e. one year after the announcement of the revised regulation. All galvanized steel pipes should have an internal lining approved by this Authority.
- (ii) This requirement does not apply to pipes and fittings installed prior to the date of enforcement of the revised regulation (i.e. 23 December 95) nor to minor repairs to existing plumbing systems.
- (iii) While the use of the unlined galvanized steel pipes is prohibited, other pipe materials such as polyethylene, crosslinked polyethylene and chlorinated polyvinyl chloride have been identified and incorporated into the Schedule.

For the enforcement of the requirement as detailed in paragraph (i) above, all new plumbing proposals received by the Water Authority after 23 December 1995 containing the use of unlined galvanized steel pipes will be rejected.

Yours faithfully,

Signed

(CHAU Chi-wai)
for Water Authority

c.c. Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Association Ltd
Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Ltd
Hong Kong & Kowloon Plumbing & Ironwork Workers Union
Institute of Plumbing Hong Kong Council
Vocational Training Council
Housing Department
Architectural Services Department
Hong Kong Institute of Architect
WWO 15/3318/81
WWO 3318/50