



水務署

Water Supplies Department

香港灣仔告士打道七號入境事務大樓
Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Hong Kong

電子郵件
e-mail wsdinfo@wsd.gov.hk

電話
Telephone 2829 4367

圖文傳真
Facsimile 2824 0578

檔號
Reference (1) in WSD 3318/50 Pt.5

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Distribution: To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorised Persons

Dear Sirs,

WSD Circular Letter No. 1/2015
Prohibition of Using Leaded Solder at Fresh Water Inside Services and
New Parameters for Testing of Water Sample

Water Supplies Department is responsible for the enforcement of the Waterworks Ordinance and Regulations. We therefore highly concern with the quality of water supplied in Inside Services. In accordance with the “Waterworks Ordinance”, it is the responsibility of the licensed plumbers to construct and install Inside Service and to ensure the materials of water pipes and fittings installed/to be installed are in compliance with the requirements and/or standards stipulated in “Waterworks Regulations”. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of the Ordinance shall be guilty of an offence and may also be subject to disciplinary action under the regulations.

I like to remind you that the requirement of using lead-free solders for copper pipes at fresh water Inside Services is specified in the standard as stipulated in the Waterworks Regulations. For all applications for new water supply (for example Part I of Form No. WWO 46) submitted on or after 13 July 2015, if soldering is used in the connection between water pipes, a supporting document of lead free grade soft solder or filler metal used in soldering, brazing and/or welding construction methods is required.

In light of the recent cases of lead level of water samples found in the Inside Services exceeding the acceptance criteria, further to WSD Circular Letter No. 2/2012, we add new parameters for testing of water samples. The four additional test parameters and the acceptance criteria are as follow:-

Test parameters	Acceptance Criteria
Lead (μ g/l)	≤ 10
Cadmium (μ g/l)	≤ 3
Chromium (μ g/l)	≤ 50
Nickel (μ g/l)	≤ 70

Should you have any enquiries, please contact our Engineer Mr. Ken CHAN at Tel. No. 2829 4453.

Yours faithfully,

Original signed

(Michael CL LEUNG)
for Water Authority

(with Chinese translation)

c.c. Housing Department
Buildings Department
Architectural Services Department
Fire Services Department
The Hong Kong Housing Society
The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Hong Kong Federation of Plumbing & Drainage Ltd.
The Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering – Hong Kong Council
Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Ltd.
Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Association Ltd.
Hong Kong Plumbing General Union
Hong Kong Water Works Professionals Association Ltd.
The Hong Kong Institution of Plumbing and Drainage Ltd.
The Association of Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited
Real Estate Development Association of Hong Kong
WSD 3318/15/81
WSD 3608/9/27/95
WSD 1612/4/7