



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

電子郵遞
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 T.J.3

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Distribution: To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorised Persons

Dear Sirs,

**WSD Circular Letter No. 5/2015
Water Sampling and Solder Joint Sampling and Testing
for Newly Installed Fresh Water Inside Service**

In response to recent feedback from the industry concerning WSD Circular Letter No. 1/2015, a guideline for water sampling in newly installed fresh water inside service for testing is attached at Annex. This guideline aims at standardizing the number and location of water samples to be taken. The related sampling procedure and cleaning procedure for sampling bottles to be complied with are available in WSD's webpage ([http://www.wsd.gov.hk/filemanager/en/share/pdf/Water Sampling Procedure and Cleaning Procedure for Sampling Bottles-e.pdf](http://www.wsd.gov.hk/filemanager/en/share/pdf/Water_Sampling_Procedure_and_Cleaning_Procedure_for_Sampling_Bottles-e.pdf)). Please make clear these requirements to the relevant accredited laboratories when you request them to collect water samples. Water supply will only be effected subject to results of all water samples meeting the acceptance criteria stated in WSD Circular Letter No. 2/2012 and 1/2015.

Separately, during inspection of the inside service, non-destructive tests on solder joint samples selected by our representatives will need to be carried out. A guideline for solder joint sampling and testing is also attached at the same Annex.

Should you have any enquiries, please contact our Engineer Ms. K L FOK at telephone no. 2829 5657.

Yours faithfully,

Original signed

(LAM Ching Man)
for Water Authority

Encl.

(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

Guidelines for Water Sampling and Solder Joint Sampling for Newly Installed Fresh Water Inside Service

Type	Water Sampling for Each Building	Solder Joint Sampling for Non-destructive Test of Lead Content for Each Building
(a) Building of storey ≥ 4	<p><u>Indirect Supply System</u> Samples shall be collected at the following locations: (i) sump tank (one sample); (ii) roof tank (one sample); and (iii) for each downpipe, one sample each for drinking water taps (normally kitchen tap) located at extremities of the upper zone, middle zone and lower zone selected by representatives of the Water Authority.</p> <p><u>Direct Supply System</u> One sample each from drinking water taps at: (i) extremity of the supply system; and (ii) another location selected by representatives of the Water Authority.</p> <p><u>Underground Fresh Water Mains</u> One sample at each connection point selected by representatives of Water Authority.</p>	<p>During inspection of concealed pipes and fittings, 2 joints selected by representatives of the Water Authority for each inspection.</p> <p>During final inspection, 2 joints selected by representatives of the Water Authority for every 5 storeys*, including: (i) one joint at communal pipes; and (ii) one joint in individual units.</p>
(b) Village House (c) Building of storey < 4	<p>One sample from a drinking water tap (normally kitchen tap) selected by representatives of the Water Authority.</p> <p><u>Underground Fresh Water Mains</u> One sample at each connection point selected by representatives of the Water Authority.</p>	2 joints selected by representatives of the Water Authority.
(d) Separate Meter	One sample from a water tap located at the extremity of the supply system.	1 joint selected by representatives of the Water Authority.

* For four-storey building, 2 joints will be selected including one joint at communal pipes and one joint in individual units.

Remark :

1. The method of non-destructive tests on solder joints shall be agreed by the Water Authority. The tests shall be arranged by the Licensed Plumber (LP) and witnessed by representatives of the Water Authority. The Water Authority may choose to carry out the test itself if considered necessary.
2. For non-compliance on solder joints sampled, the LP shall examine all the pipe joints in the concerned part of inside service and rectify the non-compliance. After the rectification works have been completed, the LP shall apply to the Water Authority for re-inspection of the concerned part of inside service. Sampling of the pipe joints shall be conducted for non-destructive testing in accordance with the above table.
3. For water samples to be tested by accredited laboratories, the water samples shall be taken on site by the accredited laboratories in accordance with the sampling procedures developed with reference to ISO 5667 Part 5 and cleaning procedures for sampling bottles which are available in WSD's webpage.
4. If any water sample fails to pass the test, the LP is required to investigate and take the necessary rectification action. After the rectification works have been completed, water samples shall be re-taken in the concerned part of inside service for testing.