



水務署
Water Supplies Department

總部 Headquarters

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16 January 2023

Distribution: To all Licensed Plumbers and Authorized Persons

Dear Sirs,

WSD Circular Letter No. 8/2022
Proposed Amendments to
“Technical Requirements for Plumbing Works in Buildings”,
“Guide to Application for Water Supply” and “WSD’s Website”

This Circular Letter introduces the new requirements as recommended by the Third Party Audit of the Drinking Water Quality Management System of the WSD.

New Requirements

2. To operate in co-ordination with the recommendations, WSD’s publications “Technical Requirements for Plumbing Works in Buildings” and “Guide to Application for Water Supply”, and the WSD’s website have been reviewed to incorporate the new requirements, which are summarized in **Appendix I**.

Effective Date

3. The above requirement shall take immediate effect.

Enquiry

4. Should you have any enquiry, please contact our Engineer/Technical Support(5) at telephone no. 2829 4574.

Yours faithfully,

(Original Signed)

(YAU Hau Yin)
for Water Authority

Encl.
(with Chinese translation)

c.c.
Housing Department (Attn: SM/QM)
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
The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering – Hong Kong Branch
Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Ltd.
Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Ltd.
Hong Kong Water Works Professionals Association Ltd.
The Hong Kong Institution of Plumbing and Drainage Ltd.
Plumbing Technology Student Association
The Association of Registered Fire Service Installation Contractors of Hong Kong Limited
Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong
Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education
Hong Kong Institute of Construction, Construction Industry Council

The Hong Kong Construction Association, Ltd.
Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association Ltd.
The Hong Kong Federation of Electrical & Mechanical Contractors Ltd.
Contractor's Authorised Signatory Association Ltd.
Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Ltd.
Hong Kong Registered Contractors Association Company Ltd.
Hong Kong Licensed Plumbers Union Limited
Hong Kong Metropolitan University Li Ka Shing School of Professional and Continuing Education
The Association of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (Hong Kong) Ltd.
Pipeman Engineering (International) Limited
Hong Kong Institute of Water and Sanitation Safety

WSD 3318/15/81

New Requirements

<i>No.</i>	<i>Recommendations</i>	<i>Proposed amendments</i>
1	To provide standards for the mesh installed on the vent pipe and the overflow pipe cap of potable fresh water tank	<p><u>Proposed amendment to “Technical Requirements for Plumbing Works in Buildings” (TR)</u></p> <p>Proposed New TR#6.2.4.4.10: Any openings of storage cistern shall be properly covered with non-corrodible or corrosion-resistant mesh (with size of opening not more than 2 mm) to prevent the ingress of any small animal, insect or foreign matter into the water tank.</p>
2	To provide requirement of the sealing of entry points of water tanks	<p><u>Proposed amendment to TR</u></p> <p>Proposed New TR#6.2.2.6: All sealing compound, cover or other materials, no matter in contact or not in contact with potable water, adopted for sealing any opening at the internal surface of potable water cisterns shall be non-toxic.</p>
3	To specify the relative heights and juxtaposition of various water cisterns to reduce the risk of cross contamination of drinking water	<p><u>Proposed amendment to TR</u></p> <p>Proposed New TR#6.2.1.2.2: A non-potable water cistern shall not be placed above a potable water cistern in the same compartment of the building. If a cistern for non-potable water is placed above a cistern for potable water due to site constraints, a physical break must be provided between the cisterns, such that the walls and slabs of the cisterns are separated. Full justifications and details for such arrangement shall be provided to the WA for consideration and approval.</p>
4	To conduct flow tests to avoid misconnections between potable and non-potable water pipes	<p><u>Proposed amendment to TR</u></p> <p>Proposed amendment to TR#4.1.1.3: Plumbing designers should, as far as practicable, avoid using the same pipe size and material for potable and non-potable water (including cleaning, irrigation, fire service, flushing etc.) at the same location in order to avoid misconnection of potable water to non-potable supplies. If same pipe size and material cannot be avoided at the same location, pipe identification marking (such as colour code, trade, destination, direction of flow or classification code) shall be provided for identification purpose.</p> <p><u>Proposed amendment to “Guide to Application for Water Supply” (Guidebook)</u></p> <p>Proposed new Section 4.4.5:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mitigate the risk of cross-contamination by ensuring no

Appendix I

		<p>misconnection of potable to non-potable supplies for plumbing installations in new buildings, plumbing designers should, as far as practicable, avoid using the same pipe size and same material for potable and non-potable water at the same location.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• During interim or final inspection, if inside service for non-potable and potable water, of the same size and same material, are found placing adjoining to each other, the responsible Licensed Plumber (LP) will be required to carry out a flow test upon request from the Water Authority (WA) to demonstrate that there is no misconnection.• The method of the flow test shall be proposed by the responsible LP and agreed by the WA. The tests shall be arranged by the LP and witnessed by representatives of the WA. If the flow test could not be arranged during the inspection, the LP should fix another day for the test. Form WWO 46 Part V(a) will only be issued after the WA considered that there is no risk of misconnection of pipes and the results of the final inspection are satisfactory.
5	To advise property management team on maintenance of pumps	<p><u>Proposed amendment to the WSD's website</u></p> <p>Proposed additional guidelines for maintenance of water pumps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The fresh water plumbing system in a building often includes two water pumpsets (one in operation and one in standby).• Registered agents or management offices should remove stagnant water in standby pumps and checking their functionality by switching over the two pumps according to the operation maintenance manual from the designer/supplier/manufacture, or more frequently if necessary.