

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of Technical Committee on Plumbing

Date : 28 February 2017 (Tuesday)
Time : 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Venue : Room 4819, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai

Present :

Chairman

Mr. CHAN Chung Kun Assistant Director/New Territories, WSD

Members

Mr. Gabriel YU Lin Keung	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Mr. Vincent HO Kui Yip	The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Mr. HUNG Chi Kwong	Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Limited
Ms. Sylvia LIU Ping Ching	The Chartered Institute of Plumbing and Heating Engineering – Hong Kong Branch Limited
Mr. MA Yuk Ying	Hong Kong Institution of Plumbing and Drainage Limited
Mr. TANG Kwong Yiu	Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Limited
Mr. CHENG Wai Cheong	Hong Kong Water Works Professionals Association Limited
Mr. TANG Sze Wo	The Hong Kong Registered Contractors Association Company Limited
Mr. Vincent LEE Chi Kin	Hong Kong Construction Association, Limited
Mr. Simon KWOK Tung Keung	Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association Limited
Mr. WONG Wing Wah	Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Limited
Mr. Danny WONG Sing Lam	Contractor's Authorised Signatory Association Limited
Mr. LAU Chun Kay	Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors Limited
Mr. Barry KU Chun Ming	Bun Kee (International) Limited
Mr. Michael CHAN Ka Wah	Kembla (HK) Limited
Mr. HO Yuen Kin	Shun Lee Building Materials & Sanitary Wares Limited
Mr. Coleman TSE Kin Hung	The British Standards Institution Hong Kong
Mr. LEE Wai Kwok	Association of Construction Materials Laboratories Limited
Mr. Vincent LO Wing Shing	The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong (<i>Ad-hoc</i>)
Ms. Karen CHENG Ka Lai	Senior Building Services Engineer/CMD1, Architectural Services Department
Mr. WONG Suen Cheung	Senior Building Services Engineer/WQRST, Housing Department
Mr. KWOK Suk Man	Chief Building Services Engineer/2 (Ag), Housing Department
Mr. Edwin TANG Hoi Kwan	Chief Building Surveyor/New Territories West, Buildings Department (<i>Ad-hoc</i>)

Mr. Kennis WAN Siu Yiu	Engineer (Fire Service Installations), Fire Services Department (<i>Ad-hoc</i>)
Mr. Roger WONG Yan Lok	Chief Engineer/Technical Support, WSD
Mr. LEE Tai On	Chief Electrical & Mechanical Engineer/Maintenance, WSD
Mr. Edmond LAU Chin Hung	Senior Mechanical Engineer/ Material Control, WSD
Mr. Edwin CHAN Wing Chow	Senior Engineer/Technical Support (2),WSD

Secretary

Mr. Calvin LAU Cheuk Fung	Senior Engineer/Technical Support (1)(Ag), WSD
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Note Taker

Mr. Davis WAN Chin Man	Engineer/Technical Support (6), WSD
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In attendance

Mr. Davis WONG Kin Ping	Federation of Hong Kong Property Management Industry
Mr. POON Wai Yee	Hong Kong Licensed Plumbing Professionals Association Limited
Mr. Robin LAW Yuk Fat	Engineer/Technical Support (4), WSD
Mr. Edward Cheng Ching Man	Chemist/Treatment (2)
Mr. Dominic KAN Kwok Wai	Chemist/Water Safety (2)

Absent with apologies

Mr. Ivan HO Man Yiu	The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
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Action by

Opening Remarks

1. The Chairman introduced all present and welcomed them to the 4th meeting of Technical Committee on Plumbing (TCP).

Agenda Items

Item 1 – Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

2. The minutes of the 3rd TCP meeting were confirmed without amendment.

Item 2 – Matters arising from the Last Meeting

(a) New Versions of British Standards (re. para. 20 of 3rd meeting minutes)

3. WSD said that the following four British Standards which had been endorsed in the 3rd TCP meeting had been effective on 14 February 2017:-

- (1) BS EN 12163 : 2016
- (2) BS EN 12164 : 2016
- (3) BS EN 12165 : 2016
- (4) BS EN 12167 : 2016

Item 3 and 4 – Matters arising from the Follow-up Meeting on 21 February 2017

4. The Chairman said that the following items had been discussed in the follow-up meeting held on 21 February 2017. After incorporating the comment from the TCP Members, the proposal had been refined and would be presented to the TCP Members.

New Commissioning Requirements for New Plumbing Installations and Enhanced Workflow for Online Replumbing Works

5. WSD took the meeting through TCP papers no. 5/2017 (re. **Appendix 1**) regarding the new commissioning requirements for new plumbing installations and the enhanced workflow for online replumbing works. Members' opinions and WSD's replies were as follows:

- (1) Members opined that the proposed effective date, i.e. April 2017, for implementing the new commissioning requirements was too tight and more tests should be carried out under different situations for studying the practicality of the new commissioning requirements.

WSD said that the test results obtained so far consistently revealed that the new commissioning requirements were practically feasible. Nevertheless, WSD would take Members' comments into consideration and agreed to carry out more tests on the new commissioning requirements before implementation.

WSD

- (2) Members expressed concern over the additional time required for carrying out flushing protocols if the water sample test results were failed. Members said that the additional time might cause delay in obtaining occupation permit for the buildings concerned.

WSD said that the views of the developers on the above issue had been sought. The time gap between completion of plumbing works and occupation of the buildings was about nine months. However, the duration between carrying out the flushing protocol and obtaining the water sample test results

was only about 6 days. There would be sufficient time for carrying out the flushing protocol as required. WSD also appealed Members' support to test the new commissioning requirements in their new building projects.

- (3) Members expressed concerned over the time taken for using temporary construction supply for flushing purpose. Members added that the implementation of new commissioning requirements would have impacts on the programme of existing projects and therefore proposed to defer the implementation of the new commissioning requirements.

WSD agreed to consider administrative measures for providing sufficient amount of temporary water supply for flushing purpose.

WSD

- (4) Members enquired whether the new commissioning requirements: (i) was applicable to fresh water supply system and (ii) had any impact on the requirements of General Acceptance of WSD.

WSD replied that the new commissioning requirements would be applicable to potable fresh water supply system and not affect the requirements of General Acceptance of WSD.

- (5) Members expressed concern over the leaching of heavy metals from copper alloy fittings and enquired whether the proposed flushing protocol could effectively reduce the risk of leaching of heavy metals from copper alloy fittings, which were in compliance with WSD's requirements, into the plumbing system.

WSD replied that some research studies as well as the test results for the new commissioning requirements also revealed that the flushing protocol could effectively reduce the leaching of heavy metals from copper alloy fittings to the plumbing system.

- (6) Members enquired about the definition of online replumbing works.

WSD replied that the online re-plumbing works were carried out along the existing alignment by directly replacing the existing plumbing installation with the new plumbing installation.

- (7) Members enquired whether the use of integral solder ring fittings (solder

contained therein was lead-free solder in accordance with the relevant BS) would be treated as solder joint. Also, Members pointed that it was not necessary to apply solder wire as touch-up externally to the completed integral solder ring fittings according to the manufacturer's installation instruction, which was well acknowledged by most experienced plumbing trade workers.

WSD

WSD replied that as long as the integral solder ring fitting used was in compliance with the requirements of the General Acceptance of WSD, the solder contained should be lead-free solder. WSD clarified that the use of integral solder ring fitting would not be categorized as solder joint.

- (8) Members opined that the pretreatment might not be feasible to be carried out on site due to the limitation of space.

WSD replied that the proposal would allow the pretreatment process to be carried out off site.

- (9) Members suggested using the tender date to replace the submission date of the WWO 542 form.

WSD agreed to take Members' comments into consideration.

- (10) Members proposed WSD to include licensed plumbers as the independent checkers and proposed WSD to provide top up courses for the existing licensed plumbers to become independent checkers.

WSD agreed to take Members' comments into consideration.

- (11) Members proposed WSD to provide Members with Chinese translation for the meeting documents in the TCP meetings.

WSD said that the TCP meeting would make reference to the common practice of other committees. Nevertheless, WSD would provide Members with Chinese translation (e.g. Powerpoint slides) in the meetings if required.

In conclusion, the meeting endorsed TCP paper No. 5/2017.

Item 5 – AOB

6. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.
