

## **Minutes of the 6th Meeting of Technical Committee on Plumbing**

Date : 17 August 2017 (Thursday)  
Time : 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Venue : Room 4819, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai

### **Present :**

#### Chairman

Mr. Roger WONG Yan Lok                      Assistant Director/New Territories (Ag), WSD

#### Members

Mr. CHUNG Chi Ming	The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Mr. Ivan HO Man Yiu	The Hong Kong Institute of Architects
Mr. Daniel CHANG Wai Ip	The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors
Mr. HUNG Chi Kwong	Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Limited
Mr. Eric WONG Siu Wing	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. Kenneth WONG Siu Keung	The Hong Kong Registered Contractors Association Company Limited
Mr. Simon KWOK Tung Keung	Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association Limited
Mr. Vincent LEE Chi Kin	Hong Kong Construction 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. Terence LEONG Wai Keung	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. Jason CHENG Kai Chun	Shun Lee Building Materials & Sanitary Wares Limited
Mr. LEE Wai Kwok	Association of Construction Materials Laboratories Limited
Ms. Davis Leung	The British Standards Institution Hong Kong
Mr. Vincent LO Wing Shing	The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong ( <i>Ad-hoc</i> )
Mr. LO Kam Cheung	Chief Building Services Engineer/4, Architectural Services Department
Ms. Karen CHENG Ka Lai	Senior Building Services Engineer/CMD1, Architectural Services Department
Mr. YAU Kwan Shing	Chief Building Services Engineer/2, Housing Department
Mr. AU Wing Hung	Chief Building Surveyor/New Territories West, Buildings

Ms. Midco MA Ching Wah Department (*Ad-hoc*)  
Engineer (Fire Service Installations)2, Fire Services Department (*Ad-hoc*)  
Mr. LEE Tai On Chief Electrical & Mechanical Engineer/Maintenance, 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

Note Taker

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

In attendance

Mr. Terry KUNG Ting Wai Mechanical Engineer/Material Control, WSD  
Mr. Daniel YEUNG Chin Ho Engineer/Technical Support (4), WSD  
Mr. WONG Hei Nok Engineer/Technical Support (5), WSD  
Mr. WONG Suen Cheung Senior Building Services Engineer/WQRST, Housing Department

**Action by**

**Opening Remarks**

1. The Chairman expressed grateful to Members for attending the meeting upon a short notice. He introduced all present and welcomed them to the 6th meeting of Technical Committee on Plumbing (TCP).

**Agenda Items**

**Item 1 – Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting**

2. The minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> TCP meeting were confirmed without amendment.

**Item 2 – Matters arising from the Last Meeting**

**Surveillance Programme for the General Acceptance System (re. para. 8 of 5th meeting minutes)**

3. WSD briefed the meeting that subsequent to a follow-up meeting with the Members concerned, the amended TCP Paper No. 10/2017 incorporating Members' comment and a draft Circular Letter had been circulated to Members for comment. All comment from Members had

been received on 16 October 2017.

Member asked regarding the plumbing materials which had been installed on site, if their General Acceptances (GA) were subsequently suspended/removed under the Surveillance Programme, whether they were still fit for purpose, provided that there was evidence such as purchasing order to prove these plumbing materials had been purchased prior to the suspension/removal of GA. Members also asked whether WSD would accept other documents such as Letter of Intent as evidence of procurement.

WSD noted the above comment and would further clarify this issue in the Circular Letter. WSD added that apart from the purchasing order, WSD would also consider accepting other documents as evidence of procurement.

WSD

### **Item 3 – Draft WSD Circular Letter No. 8/2017 - New Commissioning Requirements for New Plumbing Works**

4. WSD took the meeting through WSD Circular Letter no. 8/2017 (re. Appendix 1) regarding the new commissioning requirements for new plumbing works. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Members asked either WSD or Laboratory would be responsible for taking the overnight water samples as required in Stage 1 New Commissioning Requirements in the draft Circular Letter.

WSD replied that WSD would take the overnight water sample for data acquisition and evaluation and the collection of water sample would be on a voluntary basis.

- (2) Members opined that apart from the licensed plumbers, WSD might also need to notify the developer and contractor concerned of taking overnight water samples.

WSD replied that the consent from the concerned parties would be obtained prior to taking overnight water samples. WSD added that there would be a transition period after the issue of the Circular Letter allowing trade practitioners to get used to the new commissioning requirements including the systematic flushing and 6-hour stagnation water samples.

- (3) Member expressed concern on the possible leaching problem for end piping which might be resulted from exposure to direct sunlight. Members also asked whether WSD would consider taking water samples from piping without exposure to direct sunlight.

WSD replied that WSD had carried out trials in some public housing estates, including end piping with exposure to direct sunlight and the water sampling results were satisfactory. Therefore, WSD considered that exposure of end piping to direct sunlight had no direct correlation with water sampling results. WSD also added that water samples would be taken at the extreme end of piping and the location would be randomly selected.

- (4) Members proposed to extend the 1 month period upon issue of WWO 46 Part V for submitting the 6 hours stagnation test report with satisfactory results.

WSD would take into account different considerations such as the scale of the plumbing projects and adjust the 1 month period if appropriate.

- (5) Members enquired whether the water tanks in construction sites could be exempted from the requirement of 6 hours stagnation water sampling because the stagnation for water samples would obstruct the operation of the construction site.

WSD replied that in general water supply in a construction site would be supplied by a construction meter and therefore the stagnation for water samples in the water tank would not lead to suspension of water supply.

- (6) Members asked about the purpose of requiring the licensed plumber to submit the undertaking form.

WSD replied that the undertaking form aimed at ensuring that the licensed plumbers had carried out the systematic flushing as required in the Circular Letter.

- (7) Members enquired about the rationale for using 6 hours stagnant water sampling.

WSD replied that 6 to 12 hours stagnant water sampling had been used internationally including Canada and America. The implementation of 6 hours

stagnation water sampling in Hong Kong was considered appropriate taking into account the situation in Hong Kong. WSD added that after data acquisition and evaluation for certain period, WSD might consider implementing a longer time stagnation in the future.

- (8) Members opined that the new commissioning requirements including the systematic flushing and 6 hours stagnation water sampling could not be carried out unless the consent from the client was obtained.

WSD replied that if the consent from the client could not be obtained, the licensed plumbers could report the case to WSD for follow up action.

The meeting generally supported the proposed new commissioning requirements. WSD would further revise the draft WSD Circular Letter incorporating comments from Members.

WSD

#### **Item 4 – Review on Master Meter Room Size**

5. WSD took the meeting through TCP papers no. 13/2017 (re. Appendix 2) regarding the proposed change on the master meter room requirements. WSD said that the revised requirements would be stipulated in the new Technical Manual to be issued in early 2018. Members' opinions and WSD's replies were as follows:

- (1) Member enquired about the possible implication such as the size of thrust block resulting from the proposed reduction on the straight length.

WSD replied that as the diameter of pipe and the direction of water flow remained unchanged, the size of thrust block would be the same.

- (2) Members enquired about the possibility of using automatic meter reading (AMR) system in the future.

WSD replied that the new meter room had reserved spare space for implementing AMR system in the further.

- (3) Members enquired whether the proposed deletion of bypass had been accepted by the Fire Services Department.

WSD replied that the proposal would be circulated to the Fire Services Department for comment before implementation.

In conclusion, the meeting endorsed TCP paper No. 13/2017.

**Item 5 – AOB**

Voluntary GA\* Scheme on Quality Plumbing Materials

6. Members asked whether there were any products in the market complying with the requirements in the GA\* Scheme.

7. WSD replied that in general, the stainless steel products would comply with the requirements in GA\* Scheme. As regard to copper alloy products, WSD was clarifying the testing requirements with Australia and would update the Suppliers in due course.

WSD

Building Management Week 2017

8. WSD invited Members to participate the Building Management Week which would be held on 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2017. The 4-day event included an Opening Ceremony, Workshop, Symposium and Carnival. WSD appealed Members' supports on the event and said that the invitation letters would be sent to all Members after the meeting.

9. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm.

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