

Minutes of the 8th Meeting of Technical Committee on Plumbing

Date : 25 June 2018 (Monday)
Time : 2:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Venue : Room 4505A, Immigration Tower, 7 Gloucester Road, Wan Chai

Present :

Chairman

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

Members

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| Mr. CHUNG Chi Ming | The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers |
| Mr. Ivan HO Man Yiu | The Hong Kong Institute of Architects |
| Mr. HUNG Chi Kwong | Hong Kong Plumbing and Sanitary Ware Trade Association Limited |
| Ms. 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. POON Wai Yee | 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. Gary LEE Yin Ling | Registered Minor Works Contractor Signatory Association Limited |
| Mr. Vincent LEE Chi Kin | Hong Kong Construction 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. Jason CHENG Kai Chun | Shun Lee Building Materials & Sanitary Wares Limited |
| Mr. WONG Ka Man | Association of Construction Materials Laboratories Limited |
| Mr. Coleman TSE Kin Hung | The British Standards Institution Hong Kong |
| Mr. Vincent LO Wing Shing | The Real Estate Developers Association of Hong Kong (<i>Ad-hoc</i>) |
| Mr. YAU Kwan Shing | Chief Building Services Engineer 2, Housing Department |
| Mr. Roger WONG Yan Lok | Chief Engineer/Technical Support, WSD |
| Mr. CHO Ping Ho | Chief Electrical & Mechanical Engineer/Maintenance, WSD |
| Mr. Gary IU Pun Yan | Divisional Officer (Policy)1 (Ag), Fire Services Department (<i>Ad-hoc</i>) |
| Mr. LEUNG Ka Fung | Senior Project Manager 233, Architectural Services Department |
| Ms. Anny LAW Pui Sze | Senior Building Surveyor/NTW 2, Buildings Department(<i>Ad-hoc</i>) |
| Mr. Calvin LAU Cheuk Fung | Senior Engineer/Technical Support (2),WSD |
| Mr. Edmond LAU Chin Hung | Senior Mechanical Engineer/Material Control, WSD |

Mr. Ricky LUI Wing Kit Senior Mechanical Engineer/Material Testing Lab, WSD

Secretary

Mr. IP Chit Ki Senior Engineer/Technical Support (1), 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

Ms. Irene TONG Sze Yin Engineer/Technical Support (1), WSD

Mr. Tenny FU Sau Bong Engineer/Technical Support (2), WSD

Mr. Daniel YEUNG Chin Ho Engineer/Technical Support (4), WSD

Mr. Max TONG Man Kit Engineer/Technical Support (5), WSD

Absent with apologies

Mr. Vincent HO Kui Yip The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors

Mr. Danny WONG Sing Lam Contractor's Authorised Signatory Association Limited

Action by

Opening Remarks

1. The Chairman introduced new Members and welcomed all Members to the 8th meeting of Technical Committee on Plumbing (TCP).
2. WSD said that the AOB item 7(iii) in the meeting agenda had been updated as “Proposed remedial measure for prolonged stagnation after disinfection in new plumbing works”.

Agenda Items

Item 1 – Confirmation of the Minutes of the Last Meeting

3. The minutes of the 7th TCP meeting had been confirmed and posted on WSD website on 1 February 2018.

Item 2 – Matters arising from the Last Meeting

(i) Updates on Surveillance Programme (re. Para. 6(4) to 6(6) of 7th meeting minutes)

4. WSD briefed the meeting that after the 7th TCP Meeting, the Material Sub-group meeting had been held in January 2018 to collect views from Members. The revised proposal incorporating Members' comment was then submitted to the Development Bureau (DEVB) for review. The proposal was further revised incorporating DEVB's comment and WSD would brief Members on the latest proposal in due course.

(ii) New Master Metering Requirement for Fresh Water, Temporary Mains-water for Flushing (TMF) Inside Service and Fire Service (re. Para. 9(3) and 9(5) of 7th meeting minutes)

5. WSD briefed the meeting that after the 7th TCP Meeting, another meeting with relevant stakeholders had been held to further discuss the subject matter and the master meter requirements were revised incorporating Members' comment.

Item 3 – Approval process for application for water supply for new buildings adopting modular integrated construction (MiC) method

6. WSD took the meeting through TCP Paper no. 2/2018 (re. Appendix 1) regarding the approval process for water supply for new buildings adopting MiC method. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Members asked whether personnel who fulfilled the qualification of Independent Certifying Body (ICB)'s signatory could become the ICB.

WSD replied that the ICB shall be a listed consultant company under the Building Services Category of Architectural and Associated Consultants Selection Board and employed by the Applicant for the Project.

- (2) Members opined that some information including supervision plan and the name of licensed plumber (LP) might not be available at the time of submission of WWO 542. As such, they might not be able to submit WWO 542 and WWO 46 at the same time.

WSD would review.

WSD

- (3) Members opined that private sectors might not be keen on the adoption of MiC

if the inspection by ICB would cause burden on the project time and cost. Members also said that it was not practical to have independent checking for every discipline in a project.

WSD replied that it was the government policy to encourage the industry to adopt MiC. At the same time, it was important that the workflow had to comply with relevant statutory requirements.

- (4) Members expressed concern on WSD's random audit checks for opening up at least one module randomly selected on site for verifying ICB's certification and said that it might lengthen the construction process.

WSD would review.

WSD

- (5) Members asked whether the proposal would cover the exposed pipes and fittings.

WSD replied that if the exposed pipes and fittings could be inspected and tested by WSD after the MiC was delivered to Hong Kong, inspection by ICB would not be necessary.

The meeting generally supported the framework of the proposal. WSD would consider Members' comment and further develop the details of the proposal for future implementation.

WSD

Item 4 – Random inspection of plumbing works

7. WSD took the meeting through TCP Paper no. 3/2018 (re. Appendix 2) regarding the standing arrangement for random inspection of plumbing works. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Members opined that apart from telephone notification, WSD might notify the concerned LP of the details of random inspection through email to facilitate the LP to coordinate with the main contractor for arrangement of the random inspection.

WSD would fine tune the details of the arrangement accordingly.

WSD

- (2) Members asked whether the enforcement action of surprise check on identity

of construction personnel during the pre-arranged random inspection would cause suspension of the construction works.

WSD replied that the contravention would not lead to suspension of construction works.

In conclusion, the meeting endorsed TCP paper No. 3/2018.

Item 5 – Proposed revisions on technical requirements (on the direct supply mode of fresh water in new buildings)

8. WSD took the meeting through TCP Paper no. 4/2018 (re. Appendix 3) regarding the revisions on technical requirements. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Members opined that WSD should specify the maximum height of new buildings for allowing direct water supply. Members also advised that the height of podium for new buildings was usually about 15 meters high.

WSD would specify the maximum height of building in the revised proposal.

WSD

- (2) Members asked whether the proposal would cover the existing buildings.

WSD replied that the proposal was only applicable to new buildings.

- (3) Members asked if the water supply for the upper floors was effected by indirect supply, whether the water supply for the lower floors could be effected by direct supply.

WSD clarified that all the floors of a new building should be provided with indirect water supply once it exceeds the maximum height specified.

Subject to the above comments, the meeting endorsed TCP paper No. 4/2018.

Item 6 – Control measures of materials installed/used in potable water tanks of inside service

9. WSD took the meeting through TCP Paper no. 5/2018 (re. Appendix 4) regarding the

control measures of materials installed/used in potable water tanks. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Members asked whether the testing of ladder by the laboratory would be carried out on a project basis or the testing was required for each ladder in the same project.

WSD replied that the testing of ladder should be carried out on a project basis. WSD would consider to accept mill test certificate to verify the steel grade of ladder.

- (2) Members asked about the testing standard for the non-metallic parts of water tanks.

WSD replied that the testing standard for non-metallic parts should be in accordance with BS 6920. WSD would further clarify the components in the water tank which required submission.

- (3) Members asked whether the construction of water tanks should be supervised by LP.

WSD replied that water tank was classified as fitting as stipulated in the WWO and therefore its construction should be supervised by LP.

- (4) Members asked whether WSD would accept stainless steel grade 304 in addition to stainless steel grade 316.

WSD would not accept stainless steel grade 304. WSD had made reference to other international standards including United Kingdom, Japan and Singapore and steel grade 316 was adopted in these countries.

- (5) Members opined that WSD should also accept copper material in addition to steel material.

WSD would review.

WSD

- (6) Members asked the method to verify steel grade 316 during site inspection.

WSD replied that documentary proof would suffice.

- (7) Members opined that WSD should provide Members with more information on the proposal before implementation.

In conclusion, Members generally supported the proposal. WSD would provide Members with more details on the proposal and the implementation schedule in due course.

WSD

Item 7 – AOB

(i) Proposal of not posting the surveillance results of "Pass" cases on the WSD website

10. WSD briefed the meeting on the proposal for not posting the surveillance results of “Pass” cases on the WSD website. Members opined that the proposal might have adverse effect on the transparency of the surveillance program and the public right to know and said that WSD should maintain the current arrangement. WSD agreed to maintain the current arrangement.

(ii) Proposed minor adjustment on the procedures of the Scheme on Voluntary Submission of Inspection Checklists

11. WSD briefed the meeting on the two minor adjustments (i) requesting the representative of the qualified person to fulfill the required qualification; and (ii) WSD would issue “Notification of the Selected Locations for Voluntary Submission of Final Inspection Checklists” to the concerned qualified person. Members asked whether the proposed submission of inspection checklist was on a voluntary basis. WSD replied that the participation to the proposed scheme was on a voluntary basis. In conclusion, the meeting endorsed the proposal.

(iii) Proposed testing of free residual chlorine in pipes for prolonged stagnation after disinfection in new plumbing works

12. WSD briefed the meeting on the proposed testing on the existence of free residual chlorine prior to meter installation. Member’s opinion and WSD’s reply were as follows:

- (1) Members asked whether the proposed testing covered the plumbing works in new building projects.

WSD replied that the proposed testing covered the connection points for master meter installation in new building projects.

- (2) Members expressed concern that water supplies in some new building projects might not be able to effect within 7 days after disinfection and the proposed testing might be adopted.

WSD replied that the proposed testing aimed to replace the retaking of water samples in case the 7-day requirement could not be complied with.

In conclusion, WSD said that the implementation schedule and details of the proposed measures would be announced in due course.

WSD

(iv) Audit of water sampling tests for commissioning of new buildings/village houses

13. WSD briefed the meeting on the proposed audit arrangement. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Members asked whether WSD would take the water sample for audit purpose at the same time as the taking of water samples by the accredited laboratory.

WSD would consider Members' comment.

WSD

- (2) Members expressed concern on the water sampling for audit check by WSD might have different results with that of the accredited laboratory.

WSD replied that in case the testing results of water samples collected by WSD were different from that of the accredited laboratory, WSD would coordinate with the relevant licensed plumber to investigate the causes of difference in the testing results.

In conclusion, Members generally supported the proposed audit checking. WSD said that the implementation details of the proposal would be announced in due course.

WSD

(v) Submission of review checklist for plumbing proposal for new building projects

14. WSD briefed the meeting on the proposal regarding submission of review checklist together with the plumbing proposal. Member's opinion and WSD's reply were as follows:

- (1) Member asked the duration for WSD to approve the plumbing proposal if the review checklist had been submitted.

WSD replied that the time taken for WSD to give approval for the plumbing proposal would depend on the nature and complexity of the plumbing projects.

- (2) Members asked about the purpose of the review checklist.

WSD replied that the submission checklist aimed to reduce the need of resubmission due to non-compliance with technical requirements. WSD said that there would be briefing sessions to the relevant stakeholders for the proposals.

- (3) Members opined that it might not be necessary for the Authorized Person (AP) to sign on the submission checklist because the AP had already signed on the WWO 542 form.

WSD would review.

In conclusion, Members endorsed the proposal. WSD would seek Members' views on the updated review checklists in due course.

WSD

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