

**Fire Safety Standards Advisory Group (FSSAG)**  
**Matter Discussed in the 74<sup>th</sup> FSSAG Meeting held on 13 December 2023**

**1. *Review on the Application of Flexible Sprinkler Drop in Hong Kong***

It was revealed that the amendment to the technical guidance was recommended for implementation by the forthcoming promulgation of FSD Circular Letter. The relevant FSD Circular Letter was under preparation and expected to be issued in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2024.

**2. *Clarification for Interconnection of Sprinkler Inlets (FSICA)***

With reference to clause 9.8 of the technical guidance for automatic sprinkler installations 2015 incorporating BS EN 12845 in Hong Kong (“Technical Guidance”) regarding the provision of sprinkler inlet interconnected for the sprinkler systems, FSICA sought clarification on the arrangement of the sprinkler inlets in different 45m installation zones.

It was responded that according to FSD Circular Letter No.5/2020 promulgating the Technical Guidance, the requirements of sprinkler inlets were particularly specified under Clause 9.8 that interconnection should be made for the same 45m installation zones in order to assure an effective and efficient water supply from street hydrant through either one of the sprinkler inlets to those zones in case of fire for premises with more than one control valve under the same installation height.

It was further enquired whether the sprinkler inlets in different 45m installation zones can be either “interconnected” or “not interconnected” to match with different building designs.

It was advised that there were no specified requirements in the Technical Guidance on the interconnection of sprinkler inlets of different zones. On this account, with due consideration on enhancing the system reliability and operation efficiency of firefighting, interconnection of all sprinkler inlets of the building is recommended in general unless otherwise specified on project specific basis during processing of building plan submission with due consideration on the special arrangement of sprinkler inlets in relation to building design.

3. ***Trade Facilitation Measures in relation to the Approval of Portable Equipment and Acceptance of Fire Service Installations and Equipment and Fire Safety Products (FSD)***

FSD informed the meeting that since the revised application mechanism for approval of portable equipment in effect on 1 January 2021, the FSD had been maintaining close liaison with members of the trade on the application mechanism. Regarding the extant mechanism of the application for extension of approval validity, the trade revealed that they encountered difficulties in obtaining test report(s) issued within 5 years for products since manufacturers were reluctant to renew the previously issued test report(s) due to the long processing time and costliness.

A Working Group (WG) was formed by representatives from the FSD and FSICA in August 2023, in which the views and difficulties encountered by the applicants, consolidated by FSICA, had been thoroughly discussed.

It was added that the WG came up with a proposal for enhancing the application mechanism, which consisted of 3 parts: enhancement of new application requirements, enhancement of application requirements for extension of approval validity and introduction of Industrial Standards for portable equipment. The proposal had been circulated to members for comments on 14 November 2023.

As no comment was received, the proposal was recommended for implementation and the relevant guidelines would be promulgated vide FSD Circular Letter in due course.

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