



NFEC(IPC) Dialogue Session with FSMs and Safety Officers from Industrial Premises WY13





Programme

1500hrs - Registration

1520hrs - Introductory from Deputy Chairperson, IPC

1525hrs - Presentation – 1st Half 2013 Fire Statistics

(by MAJ Samuel Koh from FIU, Operations Department)

1540hrs – Presentation – Common Fire Safety non-compliances

(by MAJ Azmi Adam from Central Enforcement Department)

1600hrs – Dialogue Session (Part 1) – Written Feedback

1630hrs – Light Reception

1650hrs – Dialogue Session (Part 2) – Open Feedback

1715hrs - End of Dialogue Session



Introductory from Deputy Chairperson NFEC (Industrial Premises Committee)





Dialogue Session (Part 1) – Written Feedback





FSM/WSHO

- 1) Fire Risk Assessment comes under the WSH (Risk Management) Regulation. Should this function be led by the WSH Officer or the FSM?
Duties of FSM are as per stipulated in the FSM Regulations.
- 2) Under the Fire Safety Act (Fire Safety Manager), Part III, it is stated that FSMs need to conduct fire drills. It does not state clearly that FSMs have to conduct chemical drills. Thus, whom shall undertake this responsibility? FSM or WSHO? **Under the FSM Regulation the FSM is responsible for the conduct of fire drills and emergency exercises. If P&FM exist in such premises and the ERP provide for such mitigation the FSM is required to exercise such drills.**
- 3) In a case of chemical factory spillage of hazardous chemical, who is to take lead in containing the spill and reporting to the relevant authorities if all 3 different individual (Hazardous Substances Licensee, FSM or WSHO) arrived on site at the same time? Do we depend on chemical company approved procedure for directions? Or is there any clear guideline?
 - **There is no fixed guideline on who to call the relevant authorities. Anyone can report to the relevant authorities in the event of any emergency. Company would have stipulated in their emergency response plan.**





FSM/WSHO

- 4) Senior FSM Scheme – For those who have completed the bizSAFE Level 2 (Developing a Risk Management Implementation Plan)” or have relevant qualification e.g. WSH Officer, can they be exempted from the 16 hours risk assessment module.
 - Syllabus could be exempted on a case by case basis. Appeal can be made to SCDF.
- 5) Senior FSM Scheme – Can the Senior FSM course have the option to be conducted as a part-time course in the evening/weekend instead of during working hours as a lot of FSMs may not have the support of their employers to take on the course Full-time?
 - SCDF is reviewing the option of having a part-time course.
- 6) Can FSMs be issued FSM cards just like WSHOs whom are given WSHO cards by MOM? This can save us the hassle to carry the SCDF letter with us wherever we go.
 - SCDF is of the view that the employer should issue the FSM pass/ Employee pass to the employed FSM in order to help him/her identify themselves to the employed building tenants.





Fire Safety/Enforcement

- 7) For industrial site which do not comply to the latest fire code (eg. PUB feed for sprinklers, without sprinkler pumps and genset), is there a need to include?
 - Under the fire-code, it is still allowed. For more details, please approach the FSSD consultant.
- 8) In the event that submission is not required for an A&A works (eg. no partition or change in layout), who is qualified to design the location and number of exit signs and quantity, types and location of the fire extinguishers?
 - Qualified Person. A submission must be made for any related A&A works that may affect the fire safety measures.
- 9) There is a unit which they do not intend to lease it anymore but there are fire protection system (eg. hosereel, fire extinguisher and sprinkler). Is it a requirement to service or provide fire protection system for units which are not in use anymore? Can we service the fire protection system only when there is any tenants taking up the unit?
 - Yes for all the above. System must be maintained as a whole.





Fire Safety/Enforcement

- 10) There are some units which are only used for storage purpose and tenants enter only to load or unload their goods for maybe only once a week during the day. Therefore, they did not connect any power supply to the unit. These units are well lit during the day without any lightings and located on the ground level. For these units, is it a requirement for the below:-
 - connect power supply only for the exit lights and the exit lights have to be lighted at all times even though it is accessed only once a week?
 - the fire extinguisher to be provided?
 - Yes for all the above.
- 11) In due to the recent fire relate to temporary temple in private house in Bukit Timah. I was very much concern over to see Altar place inside Tenant office in some industries estate. Some place in the middle of where the work activities are carrying out. I am not sure is there any guideline such as safety distance away from the Altar to the combustibile material or the Altar can only place in the office but not in the working activities such as printing of material etc.
 - SCDF do not regulate altar placement.





Fire Safety/Enforcement

12) Is SCDF able to provide more sharing on enforcement issues?

Suggestion:

- 1) Provide case study
- 2) Provide findings results
- 3) Provide real cases of non-compliance and penalty involved on a common platform such as webpage for us to take reference and prevent similar incidents from happening.
- 4) Provide examples where possible and ways to detect the fire safety breaches.

- Yes. Sharing made will be updated on SCDF and NFEC websites. FSM briefing yearly slides were also uploaded onto SCDF websites.

http://www.scdf.gov.sg/content/scdf_internet/en/building-professionals/fire-safety-manager.html





CERT

- 13) The Fire Safety Act is one of the many regulations listed within CP79 CoP SMS for Construction Site. Do WSH officers need to set up CERT for construction site holding MOM Factory Licence, NOT SCDF Fire Certificate.
 - No. Only premises designated to appoint FSM need to form CERT.
- 14) My company operates 24/7 and requires a CERT SMC. In the absence of a senior management representative outside standard office hours, whom can I appoint to be the SMC? There are only technicians and operators, outside office hours. And can the same person be appointed the SMC for all shifts?
 - Company can assign the responsibility/authority to any person they deemed fit.
- 15) FSMs managing buildings under MCST have the same problem as me. That is, to form CERT. The Council Members are reluctant to volunteer and high turnover of security officers and cleaners. Hope SCDF can do something about this.
 - Company can base on the resources available in their premise to form the CERT.
- 16) Pertaining to CERT, is there a mandatory training requirement of the CERT members? What training do personnel need to take in order to qualify themselves to be appointed SIC/SMT in CERT?
 - Yes. More details can be found at:
http://www.scdf.gov.sg/content/scdf_internet/en/building-professionals/fire-safety-licensing-and-enforcement.html





CERT

- 17) For premises with only one(1) diesel tank of 1000 litres capacity; installed in outdoor open air condition; recommended CERT equipment which is meant for Equipping risk in premises <5 metric ton P & FM could be overly provided. Can the Authority consider recommending CERT equipment for a new category of risk premises with up to 1000 litres diesel storage tank installed in outdoor open air condition?
 - No P&FM license is needed for this case. There is no need to form a CERT if the company only store the mentioned 1000 litres of diesel.
- 18) Under Fire Safety Act CAP. 109A, Rg 3 Part III,
 - 7g) “train, coordinate and supervise the Company Emergency Response Team for the premises in first aid, firefighting and evacuation in the event of fire or other related emergencies”;
 - 7h) “train the occupants in the premises in first aid, firefighting and evacuation in the event of fire or other related emergencies”;Under WSH (First Aid) Regulation, it only recognise MOM ATP Occupational First Aid + AED Course. Can FSM or WSHO after passing OFA + AED Course in turn train the occupants & CERT on first aid? Is this valid? Do FSMs or WSHOs need to be ACTA trained to do so?
 - No such requirement.





CERT

- 19) The CERT guide seems to have very demanding expectation on organization occupying the premises. Eg. Premises storing more than 5 MT petroleum & flammable material is recommended to be equipped with firefighting suit, breathing apparatus.

If a fire is out of control and requires more aggressive firefighting equipment, deploying CERT would be considered demanding. Organization will have to be selective when hiring as cost for maintaining CERT will impact profitability.

An occupier is also responsible to protect human & assets as well as to prevent emergency incident but this should not endanger voluntary employee to attend to aggressive/ demanding emergency situation. The main objective should be to prevent loss of lives and minimize damages.

What is the level of competency, capability & equipment that CERT must have or it is based on risk characteristic of the premises?

- More details can be found at:

http://www.scdf.gov.sg/content/scdf_internet/en/building-professionals/fire-safety-licensing-and-enforcement.html





In-Place Protection

- 20) For IPP, it is mentioned that ventilation systems, including air-con should be shut down which also applies so during a drill. How can this be done without affecting operations and production? This (shutting down ventilation systems) does not seem practicable even in the event of an actual IPP.

- For IPP, it is mentioned that ventilation systems, including air-con should be shut down which also applies so during a drill. How can this be done without affecting operations and production? This (shutting down ventilation systems) does not seem practicable even in the event of an actual IPP.

Studies have shown that ventilation system in buildings is one of the means where contaminated air may infiltrate from outside. When this happens, it will potentially expose occupants to adverse health effects as well as contaminating the interiors of the building. Hence, it is important to shut down the ventilation system in the rooms used for IPP during occupation. Exception may be considered if the building has included additional safety features (eg. chemical filters at air inlets) into the design of the ventilation system.

For drills and exercises, FSM may decide to omit the physical shutting down of the ventilation system in rooms used for IPP if doing so would affect the ongoing plant operations. However, the FSM shall ensure that the person assigned to this responsibility is familiar with the procedure during an actual emergency.





Others

- 21) Not all FSMs and Safety Officers were able to attend the seminars and workshops that were held, due to the reasons such as budget issues, lacked of company support, medical, overseas attachments etc. They will miss out on important information and updates and they are unable to get the materials from any of the organization.

Is it possible to have the material posted onto a common webpage for sharing purposes? Or selling the material at a lower price? Or upon request, the material be released to the requestor?

- Materials are available on SCDF and NFEC websites.





Tea Break

Please be back in 20mins





Dialogue Session (Part 2) – Open Feedback

(Please indicate your Name and Organisation)





Thank you

