SPRING SINGAPORE CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SINGAPORE STANDARDS – 17 DECEMBER 2013

Singapore Standards are established based on an open system which is also in accordance with the World Trade Organisation requirements. SPRING Singapore is inviting public comments for the following drafts and Singapore Standards:

(I) **Environment**

New

1. **Terminology for waste management**

This standard sets out the definitions of terms used in general waste management. It is intended to help users understand by providing precise technical definitions of terms used in regulatory reference (normative) and industry reference for solid and toxic wastes. It is intended to be the base and common language in communication among organisations and regulatory bodies.

Potential users of the standards include waste collectors, equipment manufacturers and suppliers, consultants, professional engineers, contractors and relevant government agencies.

(II) **Management Systems**

Amendment

2. **Amendment No. 1 to Singapore Standard for water efficiency management systems – Requirements with guidance for use (SS 577 : 2012)**

This amendment changes some recommendations to essential requirements, (e.g. organisations are now required to develop a water balance chart) and also removes some requirements for the water efficiency management policy. Additional information on private water meters have been included in Annex A of the standard. Other changes include the rephrasing of some clauses for better clarity.

*(NOTE: The draft amendment is available for download at: http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments)*

(III) **Electrical**

Withdrawal

3. **Specification for household and similar electrical appliances – Safety (SS 146)**

The following parts of SS 146 are recommended for withdrawal:

The following modifications to Part 2:5 and Part 2:8 shall be incorporated into the “Singapore Consumer Protection (Safety Requirements) Registration Scheme Information Booklet”:

Part 2:5 – “Bare element water heaters are not allowed”;

Part 2:8 – “Bare element water heaters are not allowed” and “Thermal cut-out shall provide all-pole disconnection”.

With the withdrawal of the above standards, users can refer directly to relevant parts of IEC 60335.

NOTE – The 2004 and 2008 editions of SS 146: Part 1 which are used in conjunction with the Parts 2:5 and 2:8 will only be withdrawn if the latter two standards are withdrawn.

(IV) General Engineering and Safety

Review
(NOTE: Review the existing standard to determine if it should be updated, confirmed or withdrawn if they no longer serve the industry’s needs – no new draft/version)


This standard is a guide for the design, construction and use of common scaffolds normally used in construction, maintenance, repair and demolition work.

Users of the standard would include manufacturers and suppliers, testing agencies, contractors, consultants, academia, professional engineers and relevant government bodies.

Copies of the drafts and standards are available at:

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The closing date for comments is 18 February for the establishment, amendment and withdrawal of Singapore Standards and 20 January 2014 for the review of the Singapore Standard.

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Note: Comments are to be submitted through http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments.

For more information on the standards, please contact Mrs Kay Chua, Senior Manager at Tel: (65) 6279 1804 or Email: kay_chua@spring.gov.sg.
Frequently asked questions about public comment on Singapore Standards:

1. **What is public comment?**

   Singapore Standards are established based on an open system which is also in accordance with the World Trade Organisation requirements. These documents are issued as part of a consultation process before any standards are introduced or reviewed. This important stage in the development of Singapore Standards is the Public Comment period. This mechanism helps industry, companies and other stakeholders be aware of forthcoming changes to Singapore Standards and provide them with an opportunity to influence, before their publication, the standards that have been developed by their industry and for their industry.

2. **How does public comment benefit me?**

   The benefits are:
   - It ensures that your views are considered and gives you the opportunity to influence the content of the standards in your area of expertise and in your industry;
   - It enables you to be familiar with the content of the standards before they are published and you stand to gain a competitive advantage with this prior knowledge of the standards.

3. **Why do I have to pay for the draft?**

   The drafts are available for **free viewing** at Toppan Leefung Pte Ltd and the National Library Board at the addresses given above. However, a nominal price of $6.00 per copy of the drafts is charged for copyright and administrative reasons for those who wish to purchase the drafts. National standards are knowledge documents developed by standards committees for the specific industry. The release of the draft for public comment is to allow other members of the industry affected to make the standard more suitable for their use. The charge for public comments on national standards is an international norm for national standards bodies and free distribution is not possible due to copyright reasons as national standards are an embodiment of knowledge. ISO/IEC sells the ISO/IEC draft standards at the full price similar to a published ISO/IEC standard.

4. **Why do I have to pay for the standards which are proposed for review or withdrawal?**

   These standards are available for **free viewing** at Toppan Leefung Pte Ltd and the National Library Board at the addresses given above. However, the normal price of the standard will be charged for those who wish to purchase a copy. At the stage where we propose to review or withdraw the standards, the standards are still current and in use. We seek comments for these standards so as to:
   - provide an opportunity for the industry to provide inputs for the review of the standard that would make the standard suitable for the industry's use,
   - provide feedback on the continued need for the standard so that it will not be withdrawn,

5. **What happens after I have submitted my comments?**

   The comments will be channelled to the relevant standards committee for consideration and you will be informed of the outcome of the committee's decision and you may be invited to meet the committee if clarification is required on your feedback.

6. **Can I purchase drafts after the public comment period?**

   Drafts will not be available after the public comment period.

7. **How do I request for a new standard?**

   You can inform us of your standardisation needs by completing the Proposal Form at [Standards & You](#).