SPRING SINGAPORE CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SINGAPORE STANDARDS – 2 MARCH 2012

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.

One draft to be established as a Singapore Standard:

1. Code of practice for safe use of powered counterbalanced forklifts (Revision of CP 101 : 2004) (S$6.00 per copy)

This Code specifies the safety requirements for the manufacture, application, operation and maintenance of powered counterbalanced forklifts. It also lays down the responsibilities of the various parties involved. It could also be used as a guide to design training courses for the forklift operators.

This Code does not apply to industrial forklifts that do not apply lifting with forks and the use of counterweights for balance.

It was first issued for public comment from 12 August to 13 October 2011. A number of comments were received and they had been resolved thereafter. The following are the main changes to the Code:

a) Made clearer the definitions of “competent person” and “LPG”.

b) Included the following:

i) Forklifts shall not be used for lifting any person by any means at all times. No man-cage or such shall be used on forklifts.

ii) When operating near the edge of the wharf where there is a risk of forklift falling into the water, securing the seat belt may hamper immediate escape. Risk assessment shall be conducted to ascertain if the seat belt should be worn.

iii) No person shall be lifted on a forklift at all times by any means.

iv) Operators shall remove the ignition key before disembarking from the forklift.

v) Speed indicators, selectors or limiter systems are recommended.

vi) Pedestrians to walk on the designated pedestrian walkway.

vii) The tyre shall be in good working condition.

c) Figures 1, 2 and 3 on truck and load CGs were changed for better illustration of shifting of CGs.

d) Removed Annex F on the suggested syllabus of a forklift operator refresher course.

This Code would be of interest to parties across all industries including manufacturers and suppliers, professional engineers, safety professionals, owners and operators of forklifts, safety officers, EHS consultants, academic institutions, relevant government agencies, and Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) professionals, practitioners and supervisory staff.

(Note: CP 101 will carry the prefix ‘SS’ instead of ‘CP’, i.e. SS XXX : 2012, XXX representing the number that will be assigned when the standard is approved, instead of CP 101.)
One Singapore Standard to be withdrawn:

2. Code of practice for food hygiene (General) (CP 3 : 1988)

This Code is proposed for withdrawal following the study of a survey conducted by Singapore Manufacturers’ Federation, Standards Development Organisation (SMa-SDO) in August 2011 on the use of the Code. The National Environment Agency, Agri-Food Veterinary Authority and Singapore Food Manufacturers’ Association also confirmed that this standard is not widely used now.

Seven Singapore Standards and Technical References to be reviewed:

3. Specification for hot-applied thermoplastic road marking materials (SS 498)
   
   Part 1 : 2002 Constituent materials and mixtures
   Part 2 : 2002 Road performance
   Part 3 : 2002 Application of material to road surfaces

   These standards specify the requirements for white, yellow, red and black thermoplastic road marking materials and their constituents that are melted and applied hot to road surfaces, using screeded or sprayed application, as thin superimposed layers for centre lines, edge lines, pedestrian crossing stripes and the like.

   They not apply to thermoplastic materials intended to be inset into the road surface.


   This standard applies to fans for household and similar purposes and to fans for use in ships of electric motor directly driven fans and their associated regulators intended for use on single-phase a.c. and d.c. circuits not exceeding 250 V. This standard is being reviewed with the intention to confirm the standard.

5. Technical reference for cold chain management of vegetables (TR 24 : 2007)

   This TR covers the proper cold chain management of vegetables from the pre-harvest and harvesting practices at the farm, to post-harvest handling, packing / packaging, storage, transportation, distribution, and retail sale, and thereafter purchase by consumers so as to ensure safety and freshness in quality. It is applicable to whole, intact vegetables which have not been further processed. It covers whole leafy, headed, fruited vegetables and herbs.

6. Technical reference for thermal imagers for human temperature screening (TR 15)
   
   Part 1 : 2003 Requirements and test methods
   Part 2 : 2004 Implementation guidelines

   Part 1 specifies the performance requirements and test methods for characterizing thermal imagers used for non-invasive human temperature screening of large groups of individuals under indoor environmental conditions whilst Part 2 provides general guidelines for the implementation of these thermal imagers.
**Two new work items:**

The public can provide comments on the following new standardisation projects which have just commenced:

7. **Code of practice for food storage warehouses**

   This Code will aim to ensure food safety and traceability between point of import and retail. The main stakeholders would be the food storage warehouse operators, food importers, and others associated with the food supply and distribution chain. It would also have an impact on food processing establishments and associated industry associations.

8. **Development of a national standard to replace the Singapore Accreditation Council Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (SAC HACCP) Document No. 2**

   The proposal aims to develop a Singapore Standard to advance the existing SAC HACCP Document No. 2 to a Singapore Standard to be used as a certifiable and auditable standard based on HACCP principles for the industry and recognised by the Singapore Accreditation Council. The main stakeholders include the Restaurant Association of Singapore, Singapore Food Manufacturers’ Association, Singapore Manufacturers’ Federation (food cluster), and Association of Catering Professionals Singapore.

(Note: New work items are at the preparatory stage, thus their drafts are not available at this juncture.)

Copies of the drafts and standards are available for reference/sale at:

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Mon to Fri: 9.30am to 6.00pm
Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays

The closing date for comments is **3 May 2012** for the establishment and withdrawal of Singapore Standards and **3 April 2012** for the review of Singapore Standards and the commencement of new work. The public can send their comments on-line through http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments to:

Head
Standards
SPRING Singapore
1 Fusionopolis Walk
#01-02 South Tower, Solaris
Singapore 138628

**Note:** With effect from January 2010, we accept comments only in electronic formats on-line through http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments or by email to kay_chua@spring.gov.sg (attachments in the email, if any, are to be in revisable electronic formats to enable ease of use by the secretariat).

For more information on the standards, please contact Mrs Kay Chua, Manager at Tel: (65) 6279 1804, Email: kay_chua@spring.gov.sg or Fax: (65) 6659 0639.
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 at the address 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 at the address 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 found at:

8. **How do I get updates of Singapore Standards or standardisation activities?**

   We provide a free email alert service, "Update Me". You can register at:
   http://www.standards.org.sg/Forms/UpdateMe.cfm

   For more information on the national standardisation programme, please visit the Standards Website at: