LSB NOTICE ON SINGAPORE HEIGHT DATUM (SHD) IN SURVEY PLANS – IMPLEMENTATION ADVICE

To Registered Surveyors (RS),

The Land Surveyors Board (LSB) had recently sent a notice on the above to the relevant agencies/authorities on the adoption of SHD.

2. A copy of the LSB Notice is attached for your information.

3. Whilst LSB do anticipate that the notice may not be complied with at times i.e. the false datum of +100m still being used in the contract specifications, it will be good that RSs:

(i) Advise the Agencies' Superintending Officer (SO) on the SHD and the LSB Notice;
(ii) Get the SOs confirmation if the false datum of +100m is to be adopted.

4. Please note that LSB is not expecting RSs to be policing the subject matter but to help raise the awareness amongst the calling agencies and to respond professionally i.e. alerting / advising the SOs on the subject matter above. It is for the SOs to decide on their requirements after RSs have done their due diligence in advising the SOs.

5. The Board looks forward to your participation and contribution to bring our industry forward.

6. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Ho
Registrar
LAND SURVEYORS BOARD
http://www.minlaw.gov.sg/lsb

See enclosed LSB Notice (also posted in LSB website)
LSB NOTICE ON SINGAPORE HEIGHT DATUM (SHD) IN SURVEY PLANS - IMPLEMENTATION ADVICE

TO AGENCIES IN CC LIST

Dear Sir,

The subject matter refers.

2. The following notice issued by the Land Surveyors Board (LSB) is to ensure that all survey plans submitted to Agencies are based on the Singapore Height Datum (SHD) of 0.000m where measurements of vertical distances are concerned.

3. This is to address topographical, engineering and building contracts currently specifying the use of false datum of +100m (also known as ‘PWD Datum’).

4. With the introduction of SHD, it should be adopted for all new contracts henceforth where heights are concerned since the use of false datum of +100m may cause confusion due to the underground levels where parts of it may exceed 100m below SHD. In addition, using only one and true datum (SHD) will avert undue complications with the implementation of Building Information Modelling (BIM). Hence, LSB advocates that the industry should adopt only one datum i.e. SHD = 0.000m across the agencies.

5. In this regard, LSB would also like to draw your attention to Chief Surveyor’s Circular 2/2015 on SHD in Survey Plans and the requirements for all jobs submitted to Chief Surveyor w.e.f. 15th June 2015. For easy reference, a copy of the circular with the relevant Annex is enclosed with this notice. The circular is also published in SLA’s website vide: http://www.sla.gov.sg/Pressroom/Circulars/LandSurvey.aspx

6. I would appreciate it if you can communicate this advisory to the relevant section in your agency.
Yours sincerely,

Soh Kheng Peng  
(computer-generated-deemed-signed)  
PRESIDENT  
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cc

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CS CIRCULAR 2/2015

Our Ref : SLA/SVY 251/72 Vol 7

Date: 11 May 2015

CS Circular No. 2/2015

To: All Registered Surveyors

Singapore Height Datum in Survey Plans

Related amendments have been made to the Boundaries and Survey Maps Act (BSMA) as a result of the State Lands (Amendment) Act 2015.

2. The key changes include:
   (a) Introduction of the term 'bench mark'
   (b) Introduction of the term 'Singapore Height Datum (SHD)'
   (c) Making it clear that a survey control mark includes a 'bench mark'
   (d) Every bench mark placed under the supervision of the Chief Surveyor is conclusive evidence

3. The concept of SHD is not new. The vertical distance of a 'bench mark' (also known as Vertical Control Point) from the SHD is the "Reduced Level" indicated in the product purchased from INLIS.

4. With these changes, all Registered Surveyors shall use the Singapore Height Datum in survey plans submitted to the Chief Surveyor where measurement of vertical distance from the SHD is involved. The statement "Reduced Levels are based on Singapore Height Datum = 0.000m" shall be shown as such.

5. This will mean that Reduced Level values shall be based on the Singapore Height Datum (for example in the Cross Section Diagram of survey plans showing airspace/subterranean lots).
6. Annex A provides a sample illustrating the new requirements in survey plans.

7. This new requirements will be take effect for job submitted from 15 June 2015.

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for Chief Surveyor
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ANNEX A OF SAMPLE SURVEY PLAN

Reduced levels are based on Singapore Height Datum = 0.000m

[Diagram showing survey data and levels]