SPRING SINGAPORE CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SINGAPORE STANDARDS – 14 OCTOBER 2011

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 the use of timber in buildings (Revision of CP 1 : 2001) (S$6.00 per copy)

This code deals with the use of timber in the building industry. It lays down requirements regarding design, quality of material and its application. It represents a standard of good practice and therefore takes the form of recommendations.

Changes made to the 2001 edition include the updating of data on timber species and classifications and the exclusion of strength requirements of various timber species, which can be referred to in SS CP 7, and omission of health hazard chemicals as timber preservatives.

Those who may be interested in the standard include architects, manufacturers, testing bodies, consultants and engineers.

(Note: CP 1 will carry the prefix ‘SS’ instead of ‘CP’, i.e. SS XXX : 2011, XXX representing the number that will be assigned when the standard is approved, instead of CP 1.)

Four draft amendments to be incorporated in the Singapore Standards:

2. Amendment No. 1 to Specification for restraint belts (SS 541 : 2008)

This amendment is issued to include the length of salt spray test on the load-bearing metal components


BCA has announced plans to accept the Singapore version of the Eurocodes (SS ENs and the Singapore National Annexes) from 1 April 2012. To facilitate the transition to the new SS ENs, there will be a co-existence period of 2 years for relevant design standards such as SS CP 65 and SS CP 73 with the SS EN from the commencement date of adoption of SS ENs (refer to BCA circular dated 26 September 2011).
The amendments to SS CP 65 and CP 73, for use during the transition to SS EN, are issued to update the reference standards. These SS CPs will be withdrawn at the end of the transition period as per Eurocodes implementation schedule in Singapore.

(Note: The draft amendments are available for download at: http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments)

Twenty-six Singapore Standards to be reviewed:

6. Specification for electrical apparatus for explosive gas atmospheres (SS 254)
   Part 0 : 2001 General requirements
   Part 2 : 2002 Pressurized enclosures “p”
   Part 6 : 2003 Increased safety “e”
   Part 10: 2003 Classification of hazardous areas
   Part 11 : 2003 Intrinsic safety “i”
   Part 14 : 2005 Electrical installations in hazardous areas (other than mines)

The above standards on electrical apparatus of explosive gas atmospheres will be reviewed with the intention to withdraw them as users can refer directly to the latest relevant parts of IEC 60079.

7. Specification for identification cards - Integrated circuit(s) cards with contacts (SS 372)
   Part 1: 2000 Physical characteristics
   Part 2: Dimensions and location of the contacts (was numbered as SS ISO 7816-2:1988)
   Part 3: 2000 Electronic signals and transmission protocols
   Part 4: 1999 Interindustry commands for interchange

The review of SS 372 will be carried out with the intent to withdraw the standards as users can refer directly to the relevant parts of ISO 7816.


10. Specification for debit and credit card applications on smart card (SS 484 : 2000)


The intended outcome of the review of the above smart card and stored value card standards is to confirm SS 467 and SS 468, withdraw SS 484 as it is no longer in use and to update SS 518 and SS 529.

13. Specification for bitumen based primers for cold or hot application (SS 82 : 1972)


15. Specification for bitumen for road construction (SS 84 : 1972)
16. **Specification for bitumen emulsion for road construction** (SS 85 : 1990)
17. **Methods of sampling and testing bitumens** (SS 86 : 1988)
20. **Code of practice for the storage of flammable liquids** (SS 532 : 2007)
23. **Specification for mineral solvents (white spirit and related hydrocarbon solvents) for paints and other purposes** (SS 88 : 1978)

The standards on petroleum, petroleum products and paints (items 13 to 23) are initiated for review to determine if they are still relevant for use and then to update, withdraw or confirm them accordingly.

For more information on the standards to be reviewed, please visit the Singapore Standards eShop / e-Catalogue at: [http://www.singaporestandardseshop.sg](http://www.singaporestandardseshop.sg).

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

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Great World City East Tower
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Contact person: Mr Rahman Daud

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

The closing date for comments is **15 December 2011** for the establishment and amendment of Singapore Standards and **15 November 2011** for the review of Singapore Standards. The public can send their comments on-line through [http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments](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](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, Senior Administrative Executive 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:

http://www.standards.org.sg/index.cfm