1 Oct 2012

All Site Investigation Contractors
All Professional Engineers

Cc: Main Contractors and other interested parties
(See Distribution List)

BCA and GeoSS JOINT CIRCULAR - Accreditation scheme for site investigation firms in Singapore

Site investigation plays an important role in providing information for understanding the engineering properties of soils and rocks. Qualified Persons rely on such information to design foundation for buildings, underground structures and tunnels. Therefore, it is essential that site investigation works are carried to the highest standard and accurate information is obtained that can reflect the actual soil conditions at the site.

2. In recognition of the importance of site investigation works, BCA's licensing scheme for specialist builders, which was implemented in Dec 08, requires site investigation firms carrying out site investigation to be licensed as specialist builders. To further enhance the competency and professionalism of the site investigation firms, the GEOSS, BCA and LTA in collaboration with the Singapore Accreditation Council (SAC) officially launched an accreditation scheme (under the Accreditation of Inspection Bodies for Site Investigation Scheme) for site investigation firms in Singapore on 10 May 2012. This accreditation scheme aims to enhance the quality and standard of site investigation practices in Singapore.

3. We therefore strongly encourage all site investigation firms to apply and join the accreditation scheme. The scheme will help to maintain the quality management system and technical competencies of the firms, and hence enhance the users confidence. In addition, it can help facilitate trade and market access to regional or international market.

4. BCA is studying the need to require specialist licensed builders for site investigation work to be accredited under SAC's Accreditation of Inspection Bodies for Site Investigation Scheme as one of the requirements for renewal of their license. If feasible, this can take effect from 1 Jul 2014.
5. For details of the SAC's Accreditation of Inspection Bodies for Site Investigation Scheme, you may refer to http://www.sac-accreditation.gov.sg/documents.asp. If you need further clarification, you may email to geoss@nus.edu.sg or Poh_Teh_Yaw@bca.gov.sg.
CIRCULAR DISTRIBUTION LIST

ASSOCIATIONS / SOCIETIES

PRESIDENT
INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS, SINGAPORE (IES)
70, BUKIT TINGGI ROAD
SINGAPORE 289758
ies@iesnet.org.sg

PRESIDENT
ASSOCIATION OF CONSULTING ENGINEERS, SINGAPORE (ACES)
18 SIN MING LANE
#06-01 MIDVIEW CITY
SINGAPORE 573960
secretariat@aces.org.sg

PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE CONTRACTORS ASSOCIATION LIMITED (SCAL)
CONSTRUCTION HOUSE
1 BUKIT MERAH LANE 2
SINGAPORE 159760
enquiry@scal.com.sg

PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS (SIA)
79 NEIL ROAD
SINGAPORE 088904
info@sia.org.sg

PRESIDENT
SOCIETY OF PROJECT MANAGERS (SPM)
MACPHERSON ROAD P.O.BOX 1083
SINGAPORE 913412
sprojm@yahoo.com

PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF BUILDING LIMITED (SIBL)
70 PALMER ROAD,
#03-09C PALMER HOUSE
SINGAPORE 079427
josephine@sib.com.sg

PRESIDENT
REAL ESTATE DEVELOPERS’ ASSOCIATION OF SINGAPORE (REDAS)
190 CLEMENCEAU AVENUE
#07-01 SINGAPORE SHOPPING CENTRE
SINGAPORE 239924
enquiry@redas.com

PRESIDENT
SINGAPORE INSTITUTE OF SURVEYORS & VALUERS (SISV)
110 MIDDLE ROAD #09-00
CHIAT HONG BUILDING
SINGAPORE 188968
sisv.info@sisv.org.sg