SPRING SINGAPORE CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SINGAPORE STANDARDS – 9 NOVEMBER 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.

**Thirteen drafts to be established as Singapore Standards:**

1. **Methods of test for paints, varnishes and related materials (SS 5)**

   54 parts of SS 5 are being reviewed. This review is targeted for completion in the second quarter of 2014.

   To date, the following parts have been reviewed and the outcome is given as follows:

   (A) Revision

   **Part A2 : Examination and preparation of samples for testing** (Identical adoption of ISO 1513:2010) ($6.00 per copy)

   Editorial changes, mainly in combining relevant clauses in the 1992 edition of ISO 1513, were made.

   **Part A3 : Preparations of panels prior to testing** (Modified adoption of ISO 1514:2004) ($6.00 per copy)

   This revision contains additional information on preparation of zinc and zinc-alloy coated panels and provides the users with more choices of specifications for each material panel.

   **Part B1 : Determination of film thickness** (Identical adoption of ISO 2808:2007) ($6.00 per copy)

   This revision provides a list of test methods using different types of equipment thus users can select the suitable test methods to use.


   This revision contains additional information and test methods for plastics.

   **Part B7 : Density** (Modified adoption of ISO 2811-1:2011) ($6.00 per copy)

   Changes were made to simplify the standard for better clarity.

   **Part B15 : Determination of a flash point – Closed cup equilibrium method** (Identical adoption of ISO 1523:2002) ($6.00 per copy)

   A clause on “Chemicals and materials” was included which makes the standard more comprehensive. This standard is also suitable for use over a wider temperature range depending on the use of different apparatus.
Part D5: Determination of through-dry state and through-dry time (Identical adoption of ISO 9117-1 : 2009) ($6.00 per copy)

An annex, “Required supplementary information” was integrated in the test report.

Part H7: Rating of degree of chalking by tape method (Identical adoption of ISO 4628-6 : 2011) ($6.00 per copy)

A limiting value of the transmittance of the tape below which chalking is considered to have taken place has been added.

(B) Confirmation with amendment (refer to the section on amendments for more information and free download)

Part A1: 2003 Sampling
Part A4: 2003 Temperatures and humidities for conditioning and testing
Part B13: 2003 Fineness of grind
Part D1: 2003 Wet edge time
Part E1: 2003 Measurement of specular gloss of non-metallic paint films at 20°, 60° and 85°
Part E3: 2003 Visual comparison of the colour of paints

Users of the SS 5 series include test laboratories, paint manufacturers, suppliers, contractors and related government agencies.

2. Specification for laundry detergent powder for household use in manual washing (Revision of SS 231: 1980) ($6.00 per copy)

This standard covers the requirements and methods of sampling and testing for synthetic powder detergents for household washing of laundry by hand. This standard is not intended to address all of the safety concerns, if any, associated with its use. It is the responsibility of the user of this standard to establish appropriate safety and health practices and determine the applicability of regulatory limitations prior to use.

3. Specification for liquid detergent for hand dishwashing (Revision of SS 285 : 1984) ($6.00 per copy)

This standard covers the requirements and methods of test for liquid detergents for hand dishwashing consisting mainly anionic surface active agents (surfactants).

In the revision of SS 231 and SS 285, the requirements and test methods were updated and the amendments made in 1994 were incorporated into the standards.

Users of the standards include test laboratories, manufacturers, purchasers and related government agencies.

4. Specification for GS1 bar coding system (SS 362)


This standard specifies the requirements for the bar code symbology known as EAN/UPC. It specifies EAN/UPC symbology characteristics, data character encodation, dimensions, tolerances, decoding algorithms and parameters to be defined by applications. It also specifies the symbology identifier prefix strings for EAN/UPC symbols.

This standard specifies the requirements for the bar code symbology (known as Code 128) characteristics, data character encodation, dimensions, decoding algorithms and the parameters to be defined by applications. It also specifies the symbology identifier prefix strings for Code 128 symbols.

Those who may be interested in the bar coding standards include the Fast Moving Consumer Goods (FMCG) industry including supermarkets, department stores and manufacturers, manufacturers of bar code equipment and users of bar code technology who will require the standard symbology specifications for developing their equipment and software, as well as the supply chain, shipping and logistics industry.

5. Singapore Standard for green data centres

Part 1 : Energy and environmental management systems (Revision and renumbering of SS 564 : 2010 ) (S$6.00 per copy)

The revision of this standard aligns the requirements of SS 564 with the published SS ISO 50001 : 2011 on energy management. It also renumbers this standard as Part 1 of SS 564. Part 2, which is currently under preparation, will provide guidelines for use.

This standard specifies guidelines for organisations to establish the policies, systems and processes necessary to improve the energy efficiency of their data centres and lessen their impact on the environment. It comprises three key components:

i) A certifiable, management system which provides data centres with a recognised framework as well as a logical and consistent methodology to achieve energy efficiency and continuous improvement.

ii) Recommended metrics for data centres to track their performance, and identify potential areas for improvement.

iii) A set of best practices which data centres can adopt, depending on their needs and requirements.

This standard applies to both data centre services provided as in-house support to organisations and those provided as outsourced services to clients. It is expected to be used by data centre operators, certification bodies, engineering consultants and vendors.

Seven draft amendment to be incorporated in the Singapore Standards:

6. Amendments to Methods of test for paints, varnishes and related materials (SS 5)

Amendment No. 1 to Part A1 : 2003 Sampling

Amendment No. 1 to Part B13 : 2003 Fineness of grind

Amendment No. 1 to Part E1 : 2003 Measurement of specular gloss of non-metallic paint films at 20°, 60° and 85°

Amendment No. 1 to Part E3 : 2003 Visual comparison of the colour of paints

The reference list of ISO standards was updated in the above parts of SS 5.
Amendment No. 1 to Part A4 : 2003 Temperatures and humidities for conditioning and testing

In the National Foreword, the conditions of temperature and relative humidity applicable to Singapore’s climate were rephrased for better clarity.

Amendment No. 1 to Part D1 : 2003 Wet edge time

Editorial changes were made in the Foreword.

7. Amendment No. 2 to Specification for scouring powder (SS 190 : 1978)

This amendment includes the primary and ultimate biodegradability test methods in informative Annexes H and I respectively.

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

One Singapore Standard to be withdrawn:


Checks with EMA, Singapore Power and SCDF suggested that the code is no longer relevant to the energy industry. This code may be more applicable to forklifts using LPG as a form of fuel usage. However, the safe use of LPG in forklifts has been addressed in SS 573 : 2012 – “Code of practice for safe use of powered counterbalanced forklifts”. Therefore, this code is proposed for withdrawal.

Three Singapore Standards to be reviewed:


The standard specifies the construction and testing of the unit to ensure that it performs reliably to provide illumination, ventilation and emergency alarm in the event of a failure of the normal power supply.

The review is made with the intention to withdraw the standard and to include relevant requirements on emergency power supply as an amendment to SS 550 : 2009 – “Code of practice for installation, operation and maintenance of electric passenger and goods lifts”.


The code specifies the design, construction, installation, testing, inspection, operation and maintenance of permanently installed new electric lifts, with traction or hydraulic drive, serving defined landing levels, having a car designed for the transportation of persons or persons and goods, suspended by ropes and moving between guide rails inclined not more than 15° to the vertical.

The review is required to include two proposed amendments – emergency power supply (relevant requirements from SS 209 which will be proposed to be withdrawn) and unintended car movement protection.

SS 209 and SS 550 are used by professionals in the building, construction and lift sectors.

This code provides guidelines on the designs and improvements of working situations to make the workplace safer, more comfortable and more productive. It covers the fundamentals of office ergonomics including physical, environmental and psychosocial elements.

The purpose of this code on office ergonomics is to provide guidance to users, employers and manufacturers responsible for the introduction of occupational health practices, the specification and procurement of office equipment.

It is proposed to review the code to keep up-to-date with the changing work environment, for example, laptops instead of personal computers are very commonly used in workplaces nowadays.

**One new work item:**

The public can provide comments on the following new standardisation project which has just commenced:

12. **Singapore Standard for Senior care, day care, dementia day care and day rehabilitation centres**

The standard will guide the delivery of senior care, day care, dementia day care and day rehabilitative services provided in a non-residential, centre-based setting covering areas of care procedures, staff competency, maintenance of facilities, governance, etc.

The standard can be used by operators of senior care, day care, dementia day care and day rehabilitation centres to provide good quality care to clients who make use of their facilities.

(Note: The announcement of the new work is to create awareness and to obtain any initial feedback for possible inclusion in the draft. As this new work item is at the preparatory stage, its draft is not available at this juncture. Once the draft Singapore Standard is ready, they will be released for a 2-month public comment.)

Copies of the drafts and standards are available at:

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<td>Customer Service Hotline: (65) 6826 9691 Email: <a href="mailto:singaporestandardseshop@toppanleefung.com">singaporestandardseshop@toppanleefung.com</a> Contact person: Mr Rahman Daud</td>
<td>Viewing hours: Mon to Sun: 10 am to 8.30 pm. Email <a href="mailto:ref@nlb.gov.sg">ref@nlb.gov.sg</a> or sms: 9178 7792 to schedule an appointment to view the standards.</td>
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<td>Operating Hours: Mon to Fri: 9.30am to 6.00pm Closed on Saturdays, Sundays and Public Holidays</td>
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The closing date for comments is **10 January 2013** for the establishment, amendment and withdrawal of Singapore Standards and **10 December 2012** the review of Singapore Standards and the commencement of the new work. The public can send their comments on-line through [http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments](http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments).

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**Note:** Comments are to be submitted on-line through [http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments](http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments).

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 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 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.