Your Ref: 

Our Ref: CD/FSSD/12/02/03/01

Date: 25 Aug 2017

Registrar, Board of Architects
Registrar, Professional Engineers Board
President, Singapore Institute of Architects
President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore
President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore

Dear Sir/Mdm

ADVISORY ON THE USE OF CLADDINGS ON EXTERNAL WALLS OF BUILDINGS

On 6 Feb 2017, SCDF issued a circular on the “Fire Safety Guidelines (2017) for Certification of Fire Safety Products/Materials” to the building industry. Annex A of the circular provides a list of regulated fire safety products with their acceptable test standard(s), product certification scheme and the surveillance regime.

2. This circular serves to remind QPs on the tests required for composite panels used as claddings on external walls of buildings. The permitted test standard(s) are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Usage of composite panel</th>
<th>Test standard(s)</th>
<th>Acceptance Criteria</th>
<th>Remarks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cladding on external wall</td>
<td>BS 476 Part 4; or</td>
<td>Meet the criteria stipulated in BS 476 Part 4</td>
<td>1) The test sample shall be stripped to expose the core material and the fire tests shall be carried out on the core material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS 476 Part 11; or</td>
<td>Meet the criteria stipulated in BS 476 Part 11</td>
<td>2) External wall for mounting of composite panels shall have a fire resistance rating of at least 1 hour.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>BS 476 Part 7 &amp; BS 476 Part 6; or</td>
<td>BS 476 Part 7: Class 1 &amp; BS 476 Part 6: Class 0</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>EN 13501-1; or</td>
<td>Class B or better</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3. QPs and RIs are reminded to check the test report and Certificate of Conformity (COC) to ensure that fire tests are carried out on the core material of the composite panel when tested to BS 476 Part 4, BS 476 Part 11, BS 476 Part 7 & BS 476 Part 6 or EN 13501-1. If QPs and RIs are in doubt, notwithstanding the test report and COC, they may wish to consider obtaining cladding samples from the site for fire tests by an accredited testing laboratory.

4. Please convey the contents of this circular to members of your Board/Institution/Association. This circular is also available in CORENET-e-Info: http://www.corenet.gov.sg/einfo. For any clarification, please contact Mr. Pang Tong Teck at DID: 68481403 or Email: pang_tong_teck@scdf.gov.sg.

Yours faithfully

(transmitted via email)

MAJ Tan Chung Yee
Fire Safety & Shelter Department
for Commissioner
Singapore Civil Defence Force
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