

Ref: PC-080808

SPRING SINGAPORE CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SINGAPORE STANDARDS – 8 AUGUST 2008

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.

Two drafts to be established as Singapore Standards:

1. Specification for graphical symbols – Safety colours and safety signs

Part 2 : Design principles for product safety labels (Identical adoption of ISO 3864-2 : 2004)
(S\$6.00 per copy)

This standard establishes additional principles to SS 508-1 – “Design principles for safety signs in workplaces and public areas” for the design of safety labels for products, i.e. any items manufactured and offered for sale in the normal course of commerce, including but not limited to consumer products and industrial equipment. The purpose of a product safety label is to alert persons to a specific hazard and to identify how the hazard can be avoided.

Part 4 : Design principles for graphical symbols for use in safety signs (Identical adoption of ISO 3864-3 : 2006) (S\$6.00 per copy)

This standard gives principles, criteria and guidance for the design of graphical symbols for use in safety signs as defined in SS 508-1 and the safety sign element of product safety labels as defined in the draft SS 508-2 (see above).

Those who would be interested in the standards include factory personnel, safety officers, consultants, suppliers, educational institutions, the construction and shipbuilding industries, and the Ministry of Manpower.

One draft amendment to be incorporated in the Singapore Standard:

2. Amendment No 1 to Code of practice for electrical installation (CP 5 : 1998) (S\$6.00 per copy)

In this amendment, a new Appendix 7 on the revised cable core colours is introduced. The single-phase colours of red phase and black neutral are replaced by brown phase and blue neutral. These colours have been used in appliance flexible cables since 1969. The three-phase phase colours are brown, black and grey instead of red, yellow and blue. Where a circuit includes a neutral or mid-point conductor identified by colour, the colour used shall be blue. In all installations the earth or protective conductor will remain green-and-yellow.

A new Section 612 Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Power Supply Systems under Part 6 – Special Installations or Locations is also introduced. The requirements apply to electrical installations of PV power supply systems including systems with a.c. modules.

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An Industry Consultation Session to gather feedback on the Amendment will be held on 29 August 2008 (Fri) at the SPRING Singapore Auditorium from 1.30 pm - 5.30 pm. For more details / registration, please visit www.standardseminars.com/cp5.

One new work item:

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

3. Code of practice for earthworks in the vicinity of underground electric cables

The intent of this code is to minimise the number of damages to electric cables caused by earthworks undertaken by contractors and to lower the number of cable damage incidents causing power outages and/or voltage dips, which could adversely affect electricity consumers.

This code will set guidelines on all forms of earthworks carried out in the vicinity of underground electric cables. In addition, it will specify an effective cable damage prevention system of work and provide practical preventive measures to avoid damage to cables in different situations, including works that involve excavation e.g. construction of buildings, roads, viaducts, flyovers and sewers; laying of pipes and cables; soil investigation works; boring, dredging, jacking and piling; and sinking of earth rods.

The code will be of interest to earthworks contractors, licensed cable detection workers and government agencies like EMA, HDB, LTA and PUB.

(Note: The work item is at the preparatory stage, thus the draft is not available at this juncture.)

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

SNP Corporation Ltd
1 Kim Seng Promenade #18-01
Great World City East Tower
Singapore 237994

Customer Service Hotline: (65) 6826 9691
Fax: (65) 6820 3341
Email: singaporestandardseshop@snpcorp.com
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 **9 October 2008** for the establishment and amendment of Singapore Standards and **9 September 2008** for the commencement of new work. The public can send their comments on-line through http://www.spring.gov.sg/public_comments or by post or fax (65) 6278 6990 to:

Head
Standardisation Department
SPRING Singapore
5th Level Podium Block
2 Bukit Merah Central
Singapore 159835

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) 6278 6990.

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 SNP 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, withdrawal or archival?

These standards are available for **free viewing** at SNP 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, withdraw or archive 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,
- provide feedback to update the standard proposed for archival given that an archived will be kept in its present form and will not be updated.

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. What is archival of standards?

Archived standards are standards that are not expected to change over time, and are still in use. A review would be initiated only upon a request from the industry or the standards committee.

7. Can I purchase drafts after the public comment period?

Drafts will not be available after the public comment period.

8. How do I request for a new standard?

You can inform us of your standardisation needs by completing the Proposal Form found at:
http://www.standards.org.sg/files/invitation_to_new_standards.htm

9. 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>.