

Ref: PC-120908

SPRING SINGAPORE CALLS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS ON SINGAPORE STANDARDS – 12 SEPTEMBER 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.

Four drafts to be established as Singapore Standards:

1. Specification for QR code (Modified adoption of 18004 : 2006) (\$6.00 per copy)

This Singapore Standard defines the requirements for the symbology known as QR Code 2005. It specifies the QR Code 2005 symbology characteristics, data character encoding methods, symbol formats, dimensional characteristics, error correction rules, reference decoding algorithm, production quality requirements, and user-selectable application parameters, and lists in an informative annex the features of QR Code Model 1 symbols which differ from QR Code 2005.

To guide potential users of QR Code in Singapore on the implementation of QR Code Standard in their businesses, additional informative national annexes on utilising QR and micro QR codes and examples of applications have been included.

Applications of the QR Code in the healthcare sector are also included because this sector has adopted the QR Code in patient identification and medicine administration traceability using QR Code printed on patients' wrist bands.

This standard also enables solution providers to have a better understanding of the QR Code so that they can develop various innovative solutions such as those for the healthcare, logistics, manufacturing and telecommunications sectors.

2. Code of practice for lighting of work places (SS 531) (Review of SS CP 38 : 1999 and SS CP 87 : 2001)

Part 2 : Outdoor (Modified adoption of CIE S 015/E-2005) (S\$6.00 per copy)

The standard specifies lighting requirements for outdoor work places which meet the needs for visual comfort and performance. All usual visual tasks are considered. It does not specify lighting requirements with respect to the safety and health of workers at work, although the lighting requirements, as specified in the standard, usually fulfil safety needs. This part neither provides specific solutions, nor restricts the designers' freedom from exploring new techniques nor restricts the use of innovative equipment. In addition, the need to consider energy and sustainability of the lighting installation are highlighted in the document.

Part 3 : Lighting requirements for safety and security of outdoor work places (Identical adoption of ISO 8995-3:2005/CIE S 016/E-2005) (S\$6.00 per copy)

This standard specifies the lighting requirements which will contribute to the visual needs for safety and security within outdoor work places.

These 2 standards would be of interest to lighting installation designers, lighting products manufacturers /suppliers, developers, building owners, architects, port operators, shipyards, industrial sites and storage areas, fuel filling stations, saw mills, occupational and safety specialists, the Ministry of Manpower and the Building and Construction Authority.

3. Specification for restraint belts (Review of SS 402 : Parts 1 and 2 : 1997) (S\$6.00 per copy)

This standard describes the essential characteristics of restraint belt. It gives guidance for the maintenance, inspection and storage of restraint belts and prescribes a performance test. Recommendations for fixtures for the attachment of belts are included.

Those interested in this standard include suppliers, testing bodies, the construction industry, safety officers/consultants, government agencies such as the Ministry of Manpower and the Building and Construction Authority.

One amendment to draft Singapore National Annex issued for public comment on 4 July 2008:

4. Singapore National Annex (NA) to SS EN 1991-1-1. Eurocode 1 – Actions on structures. Part 1-1 : General actions – Densities, self-weight, imposed loads for buildings'

The Draft Singapore NA to SS EN 1991-1-1 was released for public comment from 4 July to 5 September 2008. Arising from comments received, it is proposed to align Clause NA.2.5 'Reduction factor for imposed loads for floors and accessible roofs' with the UK NA requirement based on BS 6399, which is more consistent with the local practice and to allow for greater flexibility in meeting tenancy use by owners during the lifespan of the building. Therefore, the draft Singapore NA to SS EN 1991-1-1 Clause NA.2.5 is proposed to be amended as follows:

"The reduction factor α_A should be determined using Equation (NA.1) instead of SS EN 1991-1-1:2008, Equation (6.1):

$$\alpha_A = 1.0 - A / 1000 \geq 0.75 \quad (\text{NA.1})$$

where

A is the area (m²) supported.

NOTE – Loads that have been specifically determined from knowledge of the proposed use of the structure do not qualify for reduction."

One draft amendment to be incorporated in the Singapore Standard:

5. Amendment No. 1 to Specification for quality management for bunker supply chain (QMBS) (SS 524 : 2006)

In this amendment, the definitions and the sampling requirements for loading of products from oil terminals are amended to be in line with SS 600 : 2008 – 'Code of practice for bunkering'. The amendment also clarifies the intent on SS 524 which covers the entire management system from product procurement to delivery of bunker by bunker tankers in the Port of Singapore.

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

Seven Singapore Standards to be withdrawn:

6. Specification for portable cable reels for domestic and similar purposes (SS 307 : 1996)

This standard is proposed for withdrawal as the local industry can make direct reference to IEC 61242 : 1995.

7. Specification for safety of toys (SS 474 : Parts 1 to 6 : 2000)

This standard is proposed for withdrawal given that the local industry can make direct reference to the ISO 8124 and EN 71 series of standards for safety of toys now that all the parts of ISO 8124 are complete. For toys imported into Singapore, the requirements of the country of origin or those of the ISO and EN 71 are applicable.

Two Singapore Standards to be reviewed:

8. Specification for 13A plugs and socket-outlets (SS 145)

Part 1 : 1997 – Rewirable and non-rewirable 13A fused plugs

Part 2 : 1997 – 13A switched and unswitched socket-outlets

Part 1 specifies requirements for 13A fused plugs having insulating sleeves on line and neutral pins whilst Part 2 specifies requirements for 13A switched and unswitched shuttered socket-outlets.

They are used for household, commercial and light industry purposes, with particular reference to safety in normal use. They are suitable for the connection of portable appliances, sound-vision equipment luminaires, etc. in a.c. circuits only, operating at voltages not exceeding 250 V r.m.s. at 50 Hz

As BS 1363 – 13A plugs, socket-outlets, adaptors and connection units, Parts 1 and 2 on which the Singapore Standards are based had recently undergone amendments, it is essential that the Singapore Standards are reviewed and updated accordingly.

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

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

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

The closing date for comments is **13 November 2008** for the establishment, amendment and withdrawal of Singapore Standards and **13 October 2008** for the review of Singapore Standards. 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
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SPRING Singapore
5th Level Podium Block
2 Bukit Merah Central
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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>.