

6 November 2009

To: Trade Unions and Contractor Associations
in the Building Industry

Dear Sir/Madam,

Training Courses for Registration as Registered Minor Works Contractor

Upon the enactment of Buildings (Amendment) Ordinance 2008 and Building (Minor Works) Regulation, the Buildings Department is planning to implement the Minor Works Control System (MWCS). The MWCS will provide a simplified control mechanism to facilitate the carrying out of building works that are minor in nature without prior approval of plans by the Building Authority (BA). Registered General Building Contractors can carry out all minor works whilst Registered Specialist Contractors can carry out minor works under the respective categories of specialized works. Apart from these registered contractors, a new register of Registered Minor Works Contractor (RMWC) will be established under the Buildings Ordinance.

Minor works are classified into class I, class II and class III minor works, according to their nature, scale and complexity as well as the risk to safety they pose. Classes I and II minor works contractors are companies, while class III minor works contractors can be companies or individuals.

Practitioners in the construction industry are eligible for registration as RMWC provided that they possess the qualification, experience and competency specified by the BA. To prepare for them to register as RMWC, the following training / top-up courses have been organized :-

(A) **Course 1: Authorized Signatory (RMWC (Company)) Top-up Course**

To allow time for the existing minor works practitioners operating under the name of a company to prepare for the registration, a transitional arrangement is provided under the MWCS. Within the 2 years transition period, current practitioners not yet acquiring the requisite academic qualifications but possessing adequate working experience may apply for registration as RMWC (Provisional). RMWC (Provisional) can apply for full registration as an RMWC (Company) when its Authorized Signatory has completed the above course. The course is scheduled to be held in 2010 and 2011 only and will be terminated thereafter. The course will be provided by the Construction Industry Council Training Academy (CICTA), the Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education of Vocational Training Council (IVE), the Industrial Centre of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU) and the School of Professional and Continuing Education of the University of Hong Kong (HKU).

(B) **Course 2: RMWC (Individual) Class III Minor Works Training Course**

Individual self-employed workers with suitable qualifications and experience are eligible for registration as RMWC (Individual) to undertake class III minor works. The completion of this 6-hour course is one of the requisites for the registration. This course is fully subsidized by the Government on a first-come first-served basis due to limit of funding. Each person is entitled to claim the subsidy once only. This course will be provided by CICTA, IVE and PolyU.

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(C) **Course 3: Authorized Signatory (Registered Specialist Contractor (Ventilation Works Category) Continuing Development Course in Type E Minor Works**

The course is intended for those current Authorized Signatory of Registered Specialist Contractors (Ventilation Works Category) who wishes to be registered for Type E minor works (i.e. works relating to structures for amenities) but does not possess the academic training in building technology at Certificate Level. The course, which lasts for 6 to 8 hours, will be provided by CICTA, IVE, PolyU and HKU.

Enquires of enrolment can be made direct to the following training institutes on the exact dates, venues and course fees :

- (a) Construction Industry Council Training Academy :
enquiry no. 2903 0617 (For Courses 1 and 3)
enquiry no. 2903 0606 (For Course 2 only)
webpage: <http://cicta.hkcic.org/>
- (b) Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) of Vocational Training Council
enquiry no.: 2436 8505
webpage : http://www.vtc.edu.hk/live/ty/cn/chin/cou_c.htm
- (c) Industrial Centre, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University:
enquiry no.: 3400 2828 / 2766 7630
webpage : <http://www.ic.polyu.edu.hk/oess/RMWC/index.htm>
- (d) HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education :
enquiry no.: 2508 8833
webpage : <http://www.hkuspace.hku.hk>

Registration of RMWC is scheduled to commence in December 2009. I would be grateful if you would distribute the above information to your members in the industry who may be interested in the forthcoming registration. If there is any query regarding the registration of RMWC, please feel free to contact Registration Unit of this Department at telephone no. 26261192 or visit Building Department's webpage : <http://www.bd.gov.hk>.

Yours sincerely,



(**HO Kwok-hung**)
Assistant Director / Support (Acting)
for Director of Buildings

c.c. : Construction Industry Council Training Academy
Hong Kong Institute of Vocational Education (Tsing Yi) of
Vocational Training Council
Industrial Centre, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
HKU School of Professional and Continuing Education