

26 July 2022

To : ALL Authorized Persons
Registered Structural Engineers
Registered Geotechnical Engineers
Registered Inspectors
Registered General Building Contractors
Registered Specialist Contractors
Registered Minor Works Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,

Amendments to Code of Practice for Foundations 2017

The Technical Committee (TC) on the Code of Practice for Foundations 2017 (the Code) set up by the Buildings Department (BD) regularly collects views and feedback from the practitioners and the stakeholders arising from the use of the Code, and reviews the contents thereof for recommending the necessary update.

2. Having considered the TC's recommendations, certain amendments to the Code (as detailed at the Appendix) are promulgated with immediate effect from the date of this letter. The amendments have been uploaded to BD website www.bd.gov.hk under the "Codes, design manuals and guidelines" page of the "Resources" section.

3. The amendments to the Code include:

- (a) clause 4.2.2(2)(a) – exclusion of category 3 intermediate soil from the requirement of plate load test;
- (b) clause 5.3.3(1)(a) and (b) – clarifications on the proof test requirement for tension piles, and the checking of the related soil column and rock or soil cone;
- (c) clause 5.3.3(2)(b) and figure 5.1 – clarifications on the checking of overlapping effect on rock cone failure for piles with rock socket, and the assessment concerning the rock cone and soil column;
- (d) clause 5.3.3(3)(c) and figure 5.2 – clarifications on the checking of overlapping effect on soil cone failure for piles in granular soil, and the assessment concerning the soil cone and soil column; and
- (e) list of figures – corresponding amendment to the titles of the figures.

Yours faithfully,



(AU-YEUNG Hoi-pang)
Assistant Director / New Buildings 2
for Building Authority