

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

2 December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Amendments to Code of Practice for  
Dead and Imposed Loads 2011**

The Technical Committee (TC) on the Code of Practice for Dead and Imposed Loads 2011 (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 the necessary update.

2. Having considered the TC's recommendations, certain amendments to the Code (as detailed at Annex) are promulgated. These amendments will be effective on 1 February 2021 (i.e. upon the coming into operation of the new Building (Construction) Regulation). The amendments have been uploaded to BD website [www.bd.gov.hk](http://www.bd.gov.hk) under the "Code and design manuals" page of the "Resources" section.

3. The amendments include:

- (a) Table 3.13 of clause 3.8.1 of the Code – revision on the height requirements for the line load to be applied on protective barriers; and
- (b) clause 3.11 of the Code – incorporation of the prescriptive requirements on the "Notice as to Load" of regulation 19 of the Building (Construction) Regulations.

Yours faithfully,



( HO Hon-kit, Humphrey )  
Assistant Director/New Buildings 2  
for Building Authority

**Amendments to the Code of Practice for Dead and Imposed Loads 2011**  
**( December 2020 )**

Legends:  Amended  
 Deleted

**Amendments to the Code of Practice for Dead and Imposed Loads 2011**

Item	Current version	Amendments
1. Contents	<p>3 IMPOSED LOADS</p> <p>3.1 General</p> <p>3.2 Class 1 to 5: Imposed Loads for Domestic, Office, Social, Commercial, Administration and Industrial Floor Uses</p> <p>3.3 Class 6: Imposed Loads for Vehicular Traffic and Parking Areas</p> <p>3.4 Class 7: Imposed Loads for Roofs</p> <p>3.5 Class 8: Imposed Loads for Affiliated Building Elements</p> <p>3.6 Partitions (positions of which are not indicated on building plan)</p> <p>3.7 Reduction of Distributed Imposed Loads on Beams and Vertical Members</p> <p>3.8 Horizontal Imposed Loads on Protective Barriers</p> <p>3.9 Surcharges and Lateral Loads on Earth Retaining Structures</p> <p>3.10 Dynamic Loads</p>	<p>3 IMPOSED LOADS</p> <p>3.1 General</p> <p>3.2 Class 1 to 5: Imposed Loads for Domestic, Office, Social, Commercial, Administration and Industrial Floor Uses</p> <p>3.3 Class 6: Imposed Loads for Vehicular Traffic and Parking Areas</p> <p>3.4 Class 7: Imposed Loads for Roofs</p> <p>3.5 Class 8: Imposed Loads for Affiliated Building Elements</p> <p>3.6 Partitions (positions of which are not indicated on building plan)</p> <p>3.7 Reduction of Distributed Imposed Loads on Beams and Vertical Members</p> <p>3.8 Horizontal Imposed Loads on Protective Barriers</p> <p>3.9 Surcharges and Lateral Loads on Earth Retaining Structures</p> <p>3.10 Dynamic Loads</p> <p><b>3.11 Notice as to Load</b></p>

2. Table 3.13<sup>1</sup>

**Table 3.13  
Minimum Horizontal Imposed Loads on Protective Barriers  
to Restrict or Control Movement of Persons**

Category	Line Load to be applied at a height of 1.1m above the floor level (kN/m)	Uniformly distributed load to be applied on the infill between floor and top rail (kPa)	Concentrated load to be applied on any part of the infill between floor and top rail (kN)
Areas where congregation of people is not expected	0.75	1.0	0.5
Areas where people may congregate but overcrowding is not expected	1.5	1.5	1.5
Areas susceptible to overcrowding	3.0	1.5	1.5

**Table 3.13  
Minimum Horizontal Imposed Loads on Protective Barriers  
to Restrict or Control Movement of Persons**

Category	Line Load to be applied <sup>Note</sup> (kN/m)	Uniformly distributed load to be applied on the infill between floor and top rail (kPa)	Concentrated load to be applied on any part of the infill between floor and top rail (kN)
Areas where congregation of people is not expected	0.75	1.0	0.5
Areas where people may congregate but overcrowding is not expected	1.5	1.5	1.5
Areas susceptible to overcrowding	3.0	1.5	1.5

Note: The line load is to be applied at a height of 1.1 m above the floor level or the top edge of the protective barrier, whichever is the lower.

<sup>1</sup> The height requirements for the line load to be applied on protective barriers are revised.

3. Clause 3.11<sup>2</sup>

**3.11 Notice as to Load**

**3.11.1** In every storey of every industrial building or warehouse, a notice in English and Chinese incised or embossed of durable materials, in legible letters and figures not less than 15 mm high, stating the designed distributed imposed load (設計分布外加荷載) for which the floor has been designed shall be displayed permanently and conspicuously at:

- (a) each staircase; or
- (b) another appropriate place

in the following form:

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<sup>2</sup> The prescriptive requirements on the “Notice as to Load” are incorporated.

		<p style="text-align: center;"><b>BUILDINGS ORDINANCE</b> <b>(Chapter 123)</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>NOTICE</b></p> <p>The designed distributed imposed load on this floor is not to exceed ..... kilograms per square metre.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">建築物條例 (第 123 章)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">告示</p> <p>此樓面之設計分布外加荷載重量每平方米不得超過 ..... 千克</p> <p>3.11.2 If different parts of a floor of the industrial building or warehouse have different designed distributed imposed loads, a notice in the form provided in clause 3.11.1 above stating the designed distributed imposed load of each part of the floor shall be displayed permanently and conspicuously on that part indicating the variations.</p>
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		<p>11.3 Designed distributed imposed load in relation to a floor of an industrial building or warehouse means the distributed imposed load in terms of weight per square metre with the conversion of 1 kPa to 102 kilograms per square metre, excluding the dynamic effects, for which the floor of the industrial building or warehouse is designed.</p>
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