

9 February 2018

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,

Code of Practice for Structural Use of Glass 2018

I have pleasure to announce the publication of the Code of Practice for Structural Use of Glass 2018 (the 2018 Code), which may be used with immediate effect.

Special Features of the 2018 Code

The 2018 Code provides guidance on design, construction, testing and quality assurance of structural glass works. It adopts the limit state design approach, which should in general provide a more rigorous and economical design than the conventional method. In the preparation of the Code, local conditions, work practices and development of new technologies have been taken into account.

Special features of the 2018 Code include:

- (a) The use of limit state design approach;
- (b) Guidelines on load duration effect on resistance of glass;
- (c) Safety requirements against falling of broken glass;
- (d) Safety requirements against failure of glass elements;
- (e) Guidelines on using non-linear analysis of glass pane;

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- (f) Guidelines on load sharing between glass panes of insulating glass unit;
- (g) Guidelines on composite action of laminated glass;
- (h) Guidelines on lateral torsional buckling for design of glass fin;
- (i) Guidelines on construction details;
- (j) Updated requirements on testing; and
- (k) Updated requirements on quality assurance.

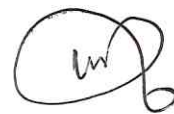
Application of the 2018 Code

The 2018 Code may be used with immediate effect. Submission of plans for the structural glass works designed to existing practice (i.e. pre-2018 Code) will be accepted during a 12-month grace period commencing on the date of this circular letter. After the expiry of the 12-month grace period, only submission of plans for structural glass works designed to the 2018 Code will be accepted, except for amendment submissions where approval for plans with the original design adopting the existing practice has been given.

Access of the 2018 Code

The 2018 Code is available for viewing in the BD website <http://www.bd.gov.hk> under the “Codes of Practice and Design Manuals” page of the “Publications and Press Releases” section. The document may be downloaded subject to the terms and conditions stipulated in the website.

Yours faithfully,



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