

4 July 2016

To : All Registered General Building Contractors
Registered Specialist Contractors
Registered Minor Works Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Construction Workers Registration Ordinance
Implementation of “Designated Workers for Designated Skills” Requirement
Registration of Skilled/Semi-skilled Workers**

I am writing to inform you that the Secretary for the Development Bureau (DEVB) has appointed 1 April 2017¹ as the day for implementing the remaining phase of Prohibition (i.e. “designated workers for designated skills” requirement) under the Construction Workers Registration Ordinance (CWRO). With effect from the date appointed, only registered skilled/ semi-skilled workers of designated trade divisions are allowed to carry out relevant skill work independently² at construction sites.

To prepare for the implementation of “designed workers for designated skills” requirement, you are reminded to make sure that your workers who carry out skill work independently at construction sites have registered as skilled/semi-skilled workers before 31 March 2017. For skilled workers with at least ten years’ relevant working experience, there is a one-off senior workers registration arrangement with application deadline on **30 September 2016**. For other workers, they may pass trade test/intermediate trade test to obtain the qualification for registration as skilled/semi-skilled workers.

Please also request your sub-contractors to arrange their relevant workers to register as skilled/semi-skilled workers before 31 March 2017 and remind them to observe the application deadline of 30 September 2016 for senior workers registration.

/ For

¹ Maintenance work under term contract for maintenance of specified structure of a public body or a specified body, Class I and II Minor Works under Building (Minor Works) Regulation and works under a construction contract with a total value of all construction operations not exceeding \$10 million, will be regulated at a later stage.

² Workers are forbidden from undertaking construction works of designated trade divisions unless they are registered skilled/semi-skilled workers of relevant trade divisions, or under “instruction and supervision” of the relevant registered skilled/semi-skilled workers.

For your information, the Construction Industry Council (CIC) has been conducting extensive promotion for the implementation of "designated workers for designated skills" requirement, including advertisements in TV, radio and newspaper, banners at construction sites, promotion on social media, and briefing forums, etc. CIC also deployed outreach teams since August 2015 to help eligible workers applying for registration at their workplaces. Many eligible workers with relevant skills and work experience have already registered under CWRO as registered skilled/semi-skilled workers. As at May 2016, the number of registered skilled/semi-skilled workers has increased to about 158,000, from about 121,000 in end 2014.

If you need further information about registration of skilled/semi-skilled workers, please visit the CIC website (www.cic.hk) or contact CIC on 2873 1911 (for senior workers registration) or 2100 9000 (for trade test).

This letter has been copied to all Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers, who are requested to take steps to ensure compliance with the CWRO.

Yours faithfully,



(LEUNG Siu-man)

Assistant Director / Corporate Services
for Building Authority

cc. : All Authorized Persons
Registered Structural Engineers
Registered Geotechnical Engineers