

25 April 2014

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,

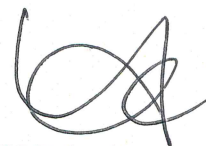
**Code of Practice for Fire Safety in Buildings 2011
Provision of Temporary Refuge Space for Persons with a Disability**

Based on the recommendations of a working group¹ on the provision of means of escape for persons with a disability and after consulting the relevant professional institutions, industry stakeholder organisations and relevant government departments, a new section on the provision of temporary refuge spaces (TRS) as means of escape for persons with a disability is now added to Section B of the Code of Practice for Fire Safety in Buildings 2011 (the FS Code).

The requirements on the provision of TRS shall come into effect on 25 October 2014 except for buildings or building works which are being carried out or consent to the commencement of which has been given on or before 24 October 2014. For the avoidance of doubt, in respect of new buildings, the relevant consent refers to the consent to the commencement of foundation works for such buildings. In addition, the application of TRS requirements should be in the same manner as in the implementation of the FS Code in April 2012 as elaborated in Practice Notes for Authorized Persons, Registered Structural Engineers and Registered Geotechnical Engineers APP-153.

This new Section and consequential amendments to Parts D and F of the FS Code have been uploaded to the Buildings Department's website at www.bd.gov.hk. We will regularly review the FS Code and welcome suggestions for improving the FS Code.

Yours faithfully,



(YU Tak-cheung)
Assistant Director / New Buildings 1
for Building Authority

¹ The working group comprised representatives from the Buildings Department, Equal Opportunities Commission, industry stakeholder organisations, relevant professional institutions, Hong Kong Council of Social Service and Rehabilitation Advisory Committee as well as other relevant government departments.