

20 December 2004

To : All Authorized Persons and
Registered Structural Engineers

Dear Sir/Madam,

Code of Practice for Foundations

I have great pleasure to announce the publication of the Code of Practice for Foundations (the Code). The Code may be used with immediate effect.

Special Features of the Code

The Code provides guidance on design, analysis and construction of foundations. The preparation of the Code has taken into account the local conditions, work practices and development of new technologies in analysis, design and construction of foundations.

Special features of the Code include:

- (a) option for use of rational approach to assess the ultimate capacity of piles;
- (b) enhanced presumed bearing values;
- (c) option for use of limit state approach for structural concrete design;
- (d) provision of an alternative approach for negative skin friction design;
- (e) greater flexibility in the use of pile group reduction factor;
- (f) guidance on the combined use of side friction and end bearing in assessment of rock socket capacity for bored piles;
- (g) guidance on bond stress between steel piles and grout;
- (h) guidance on steel piles driven to shallow bedrock;
- (i) re-use of existing foundations; and
- (j) additional acceptance criteria for static load test of piles.

/Application

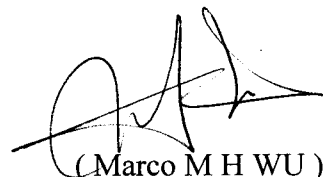
Application of the Code

The compliance with the requirements of the Code may be considered as deemed-to-satisfy the Building (Construction) Regulations as far as the design and construction of foundations are concerned. In line with the publication of the Code, PNAP 66 has been amended, and PNAP 141 is hereby withdrawn.

Access for the Code

The Code is available for viewing in the Buildings Department website <<http://www.info.gov.hk/bd>> under the "Codes of Practice and Design Manuals" page of the "Publications" section. The document may be downloaded subject to terms and conditions stipulated in the website.

Yours faithfully



(Marco M H WU)
Building Authority