21 December 2004

To all Authorized Persons and Registered Structural Engineers,

Dear Sir/Madam,

New Part of the Code of Practice for Means of Access for Firefighting and Rescue
- Part VI  Provision of Emergency Vehicular Access

The Buildings (Amendment) Ordinance 2004 will come into operation on 31 December 2004. One of the amendments introduced is the new Regulation 41D of the Building (Planning) Regulations (B(P)R) which requires the provision of emergency vehicular access to all buildings.

Under the new B(P)R 41D(2), the design and construction of an emergency vehicular access shall be in accordance with such requirements as may be specified by the Building Authority from time to time. For this purpose a new part, Part VI, is added to the Code of Practice for Means of Access for Firefighting and Rescue (the ‘MOA Code’), which specifies the design and construction standards of emergency vehicular access. A copy of the new Part VI is attached herewith. Any proposed emergency vehicular access that meets the standards stipulated in this part of the MOA Code is deemed to have complied with the requirements of Building (Planning) Regulation 41D. The revised edition of the MOA Code is available on the website of the Buildings Department (http://www.info.gov.hk/bd). It will also be available for sale at the Government Publications Sales Centre in due course.

By virtue of section 39(2) of the Buildings Ordinance, the new Regulation 41D will not apply to building works which are being carried out or have been consented to commence on or before 31 December 2004.

Yours faithfully,

[Signature]

(Marco WU Moon-hoi)

Building Authority