

13 December 2004

To : All Authorized Persons and
Registered Structural Engineers

Dear Sir/Madam,

Code of Practice for Structural Use of Concrete 2004

I have great pleasure to announce the publication of the Code of Practice for Structural Use of Concrete 2004 (the Code). The Code may be used with immediate effect.

Special Features of the Code

The Code provides guidance on the design, analysis and construction of concrete structures. It adopts the limit state design approach, which should in general provide a more rigorous and economical design than the conventional permissible stress design method. The preparation of the Code has taken into account the local conditions, work practices and development of new technologies in analysis, design and strength of materials. An extensive review of international standards and published literature has been conducted prior to drafting of the Code.

Special features of the Code include:

- (a) enhanced concrete shear value;
- (b) high strength concrete of up to 100 MPa;
- (c) increased protection to reinforcing bars under different exposure conditions;
- (d) detailing of reinforcement bars to enhance the ductility of the structure;
- (e) criteria for dynamic analysis for tall buildings under wind load; and
- (f) robustness requirements.

Application of the Code

Subject to the following conditions, the compliance with the requirements of the Code may be considered as deemed-to-satisfy the Building (Construction) Regulations as far as concrete design is concerned:

/(a)

- (a) The characteristic dead and imposed loads referred in clause 2.3 of this Code shall be taken as the dead and imposed loads stipulated in the Building (Construction) Regulations 16 and 17.
- (b) This Code should be used in its entirety. Selective deviation from this Code is not permitted.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that there are some provisions in the Code which specify alternative requirements to some particular regulations in the extant Building (Construction) Regulations. To promote the use of the Code, I am prepared to grant modifications to the relevant Building (Construction) Regulations upon receipt of an application in the prescribed form. Appendix A contains a list of such Building (Construction) Regulations that would require modifications.

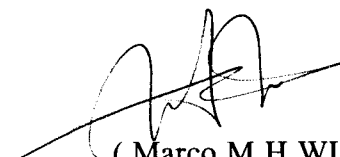
Transition Arrangement

To allow sufficient time for transition to the Code, a phasing-out period to be expired on 15 December 2006 is allowed for the use of the existing Code of Practice for Structural Use of Concrete 1987 (the 1987 Code). That is, starting from 16 December 2006, structural plans, including foundation plans, with design based on the 1987 Code will not be accepted. However, for any new building development or alteration and addition (A&A) proposal, if the application for approval of the structural plans or foundation plans with design based on the 1987 Code has been made on or before 15 December 2006, the design in the subsequent structural plans submissions for that building development or A&A proposal may continue to use the 1987 Code.

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 sincerely,



(Marco M H WU)
Building Authority

List of Building (Construction) Regulations that may require modifications

Item	<i>B(C)R</i>	Subject	Relevant Clause/Table in the Code	Remark
1	56(2)	Cement content is limited to 550 kg/m ³ .	Clause 4.2.6	Where the cement content exceeds 550 kg/m ³ , modification of the B(C)R will be required.
2	57 & Table 6	The minimum cement content is specified.	Table 4.2 and Clause 4.2.5.4	Where the cement content is less than the minimum specified, modification of the B(C)R will be required.
3	58	Concrete cubes to be 150 mm.	Clause 10.3.4.2	Where 100 mm concrete cubes are used, modification of the B(C)R will be required.
4	59 & Table 8	Acceptance criteria for concrete cubes.	Table 10.2	Where the C2 criteria in Table 10.2 of the Code are used, modification of the B(C)R will be required.