

**Amendments and clarification to Code of Practice
for Fire Resisting Construction 1996**

The following corrigenda therein are required for the January 1996 edition of the Code of Practice for Fire Resisting Construction 1996 (FRC Code) which have been incorporated in the reprints of the FRC Code after 1996:-

- (i) On page 9, in the fourth line of paragraph 7.2, "but in no case less than 2 "hours" should be deleted.
- (ii) On page 18, at the end of paragraph 17.2, the following diagram should be added :



- (iii) In Table C on page 24, the concrete cover to all reinforcement required to provide 2 hrs. FRP to continuous floors and landings of solid reinforced concrete construction should read "25 mm" instead of "40 mm".

2. The following corrigenda are required for the FRC Code reprinted after 1996:

- (i) On page 10, paragraph 10.1 is revised as follows:
 - “10.1 Openings may be made in compartment walls for communication, but not combination, of adjoining compartments, provided that any such opening is protected by a door or a fire shutter with FRP as stipulated below:
 - (a) If the total width of the openings is not more than 25% of the length of the compartment walls concerned, the door or fire shutter should have the same FRP as such compartment walls with regard to the criterion of integrity only; and

/(b)

- (b) If the total width of the openings is more than 25% of the length of the compartment walls concerned, the door or fire shutter should have the same FRP as such compartment walls with regard to the criteria of integrity and insulation. Such FRP with regard to the criterion of insulation can be reduced to 30 minutes if additional sprinkler heads are provided on each side of the doors or fire shutters and complying with the following requirements:
- (1) The additional sprinkler heads should be a part of the sprinkler system of the building and should comply with the Code of Practice for Minimum Fire Service Installations and Equipment; and
 - (2) The layout/array of the additional sprinkler heads should be provided to substantiate the full coverage of each side of the door or fire shutter by sprinklers and the spacing of sprinkler heads should also comply with the LPC Rules incorporating BS EN 12845:2003.”

This paragraph is applicable to buildings or building works with consent to the commencement of which obtained on or after 18 August 2011 (the date on which the last revision of this practice note was issued). For the avoidance of doubt, in respect of new buildings, the relevant consent refers to the consent to the commencement of foundation works of such buildings; and in respect of alterations and additions works, the relevant consent refers to the consent to the commencement of such works.

- (ii) On page 14 in the fourth line, add “with an FRP as described in (iii) above” after the word “located”.
- (iii) On page 32 in the fifth line from the bottom, replace “fixed light;” with “fixed light with FRP \geq $\frac{1}{2}$ FRPe;”.

3 For the avoidance of doubt, a raised floor at a height of not more than 600 mm from the structural floor is not an element of construction and does not require an FRP. Authorized persons are reminded that the compartment walls and other fire separation walls should start from the structural floor and not just rest on the raised floor.

4. The updated version of the FRC Code has been uploaded to the Buildings Department’s website at www.bd.gov.hk.

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Ref. : BD GP/BREG/C/19/L (VII)
BD GP/BREG/C/19(IV)

This PNAP is previously known as PNAP 199

First issue August 1996

Last revision August 2011

This revision November 2012 (AD/NB1) (para. 2(i) amended)