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Issue No. 13

To enhance communication with property management agents and other persons in the property industry, the Buildings Department (BD) publishes and sends this quarterly newsletter to all stakeholders and hopefully through them, this newsletter will reach the hands of building owners.

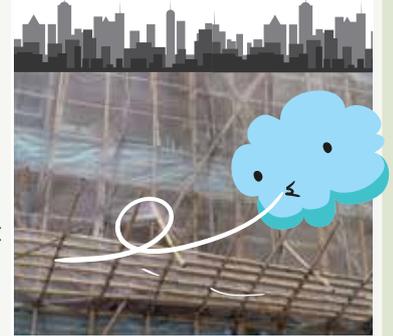
## Little Forum

### Safety of Scaffolding in Building Maintenance during Typhoon Season

The 2018 Pacific typhoon season can pose a threat to Hong Kong anytime. BD would like to solicit property management companies' co-operation in paying special attention to the safety of scaffolding works. According to past experience, most of the incidents involving the collapse of scaffolds can be avoided if the following measures regarding scaffolding works are taken:

- (a) sufficient number of ties of adequate strength are provided to secure the cantilever portion at top;
- (b) the height of the scaffold at top are not over-extended (not greater than the topmost part of the building by one storey);
- (c) adequate putlogs, ties, struts, bracing and steel brackets are provided to secure the scaffold;
- (d) plastic sheeting are removed under safe circumstances when a tropical cyclone warning signal or a strong monsoon signal is announced; and
- (e) no loose materials are placed on/near any scaffolding, or near the periphery of the site.

Please impress upon building contractors who are conducting building maintenance works on the external walls the importance of the safety of scaffolding works and ensure that the above measures are taken in all scaffolding works. When building maintenance works are completed, the related scaffolds should be dismantled as soon as possible. Any scaffolds which remain idle should also be promptly removed.



## Building Information Centre Open Week



The Building Information Centre Open Week is a special event to celebrate BD's 25th anniversary. A series of talks and forums was held successfully from 1 to 8 August. Your support and participation are very much appreciated. If you would like to revisit the speakers' sharing, please visit BD's website:



<https://goo.gl/pg1Rh3>

## Building Safety Board Game Play Day

In celebration of its 25th anniversary, BD is going to organise another special event, the "Building Safety Board Game Play Day", on 23 September at D · PARK, Tsuen Wan. In addition to a mega size board game battle area, there will be various kinds of activities for you to discover the fun of building safety knowledge, including a board game experience zone, a parent-child workshop and a kiosk. Many lovely souvenirs await for you too. For details and registration, please visit BD's website:



BD website  
<https://goo.gl/82XK4d>



Online Application Form  
<https://goo.gl/EwTJoe>

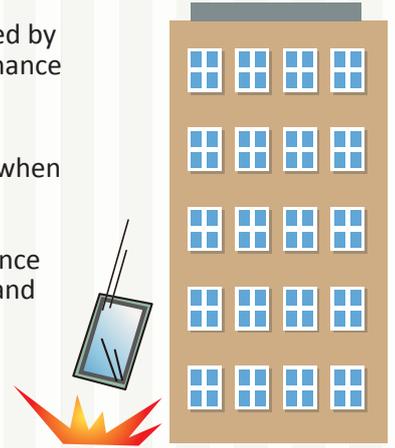


## Practitioners' Corner

### Falling Windows

Owners and occupants may be held liable for personal injuries or property losses caused by fallen windows. As a professional property management company, you can help to enhance window safety by:

1. reminding owners and tenants to pay special attention to the condition of window components (e.g. bar hinges, screws and rivets) and arrange repair or replacement when necessary. Proper use, regular inspection and timely maintenance are the keys to window safety;
2. encouraging owners to arrange voluntary window inspections and repair in accordance with the standards and procedures of the Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme; and
3. reporting incidents of fallen windows to BD for follow-up:
  - through BD Hotline: 2626 1616 (handled by '1823') or 1823 Call Centre;
  - by post to 12/F, Pioneer Centre, No. 750 Nathan Road, Mongkok, Kowloon;
  - by email to enquiry@bd.gov.hk; or
  - via electronic reporting form (<https://goo.gl/5XkfEH>).



 Important notes about window safety  
[goo.gl/4qd4Ga](https://goo.gl/4qd4Ga)

 Window Inspection and repair, choose with extra care  
<https://goo.gl/x6Z6GS>

 Layman's Guide on Mandatory Window Inspection Scheme  
<https://goo.gl/vdSfoK>

If you wish to learn more about window safety and window inspection, please visit BD's E-learning Centre and watch the presentation from lecturer Mr Lee Kai-man for the topic on window safety.



[goo.gl/PRUXFp](https://goo.gl/PRUXFp)

## BD's E-Learning Centre

## Building Safety Advanced Certificate Course (BSACC)

The first online Live-Chat Session with BD's officers will be held on 6 October. Please sign up for the Live-Chat Session after the completion of the online Building Safety Certificate Course (BSCC). For more details, please visit BD's E-Learning Centre website: [elearning.bd.gov.hk](http://elearning.bd.gov.hk)



BD is organising the Building Safety Advanced Certificate Course (BSACC) in November at the Quarry Bay Community Hall for those who have completed the BSCC. The course aims at raising public awareness of building safety through an in depth exploration of the subject. The free course will be conducted in Cantonese. For details, please stay tuned to the BD website.



## Building Safety Postcard Design Competition

BD has been holding the Comic Drawing Competition to encourage school students to care for our built environment and to get the building safety messages through self-learning. To make the competition more interesting, the competition will be held in the form of a Postcard Design Competition this year. The winning entry will be printed for free distribution to the public. Details will be announced on the BD website soon.

You may visit BD's YouTube channel to see animations produced based on winning entries in the past years.



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