

# Construction Industry Safety Award Scheme 2016/2017

# BACKGROUND

The large-scale, territory-wide Construction Industry Safety Award Scheme (Award Scheme) is an annual event jointly organised by the Labour Department and key stakeholders of the industry since 1999 to strengthen the occupational safety and health awareness in the construction sector and elevate the level of its safety culture. The Scheme has received the continual support and active participation of relevant parties.

With our efforts in recent years, the safety performance of the construction industry continued to improve. The number of industrial accidents and the accident rate per thousand workers in the construction industry fell from 14.078 and 198.4 in 1999 to 3,723 and 39.1 in 2015, representing a drop of 73.6% and 80.3% respectively.

Although the number of accidents and accident rate have reduced in recent years, but the construction industry is a high-risk industry, we should not be taken lightly. In 2015, 32.4% of industrial accidents occurred on construction sites which remains to be the second highest following the food and beverage services whilst 79.2% of industrial fatalities occurred on construction sites which accounts for the bulk of industrial fatalities.

The Award Scheme provides a good avenue to engage different layers of the construction sector, including contractors, work site management and frontline workers, in promoting work safety and health. Hence, the Labour Department organises the 18th Construction Industry Safety Award Scheme in collaboration with the Occupational Safety and Health Council, the Development Bureau, the Hong Kong Housing Authority, the Occupational Deafness Compensation Board, the Construction Industry Council, the Pneumoconiosis Compensation Fund Board, the Hong Kong Housing Society, the Hong Kong Construction Association, the Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association, the Hong Kong Construction Subcontractors Association, The Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors Limited, the Minor Works Contractor Association. The Hong Kong Association of Property Management Companies, the Hong Kong Construction Industry Employees General Union and The Federation of Hong Kong Electrical & Mechanical Industries Trade Unions. In this year's Award Scheme, we plan also to introduce "Outstanding Performance in Work-at-height Safety prize" to encourage contractors to take more effective safety measures for Work-at-height activities, and also praise and recognise those contractors who have outstanding performance in Work-at-height safety.

# **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the Scheme are to raise the safety and health awareness of contractors, site personnel and workers of the construction industry; to foster a positive safety culture and encourage the adoption of safe work practices in the industry; and, through an open competition, to award contractors, site personnel and workers in recognition of their good occupational safety and health performances.

# **CATEGORIES OF ENTRIES**

### (I) Construction Sites

Competition will be divided into the following eight sub-categories according to the nature of construction work undertaken on the site:

- 1. Building Sites (Public Sector)
- 2. Building Sites (Private Sector)
- 3. Civil Engineering Sites

- 5. Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works
- 6. Building Sites Sub-contractors
- 7. Civil Engineering Sites Sub-contractors

4. Renovation and Maintenance Works Every eligible entry to the above eight sub-categories would automatically compete for respective new "Outstanding Performance in Work-at-height Safety prize".

#### (II) Safety Teams

### (III) Safe Workers

# **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

All construction contractors, sub-contractors and site personnel in Hong Kong are welcome to participate in the competition provided that they meet the following eligibility criteria:

- 1. The construction site is located in Hong Kong and the competition is on site/contract basis.
- 2. The construction work conducted on the site must be carried out by a registered contractor or contractor approved by the HKSAR Government. This condition does not apply to entries under the sub-categories of "Renovation and Maintenance Works", "Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works", "Building Sites — Sub-contractors", "Civil Engineering Sites — Sub-contractors" and "Renovation and Maintenance Works — Sub-contractors".
- 3. The construction work for entries under the sub-category of "Building Sites (Public Sector)" refer to those work awarded by government departments.
- 4. For entries under the sub-categories of "Building Sites (Public Sector)", "Building Sites (Private Sector)" and "Civil Engineering Sites", the construction work undertaken shall last for at least 8 months excluding the Defects Liability Period. The site shall have construction work undertaken during the period from 1 August 2016 to 31 March 2017.
- 5. For entries under the sub-categories of "Building Sites Sub-contractors" and "Civil Engineering Sites Sub-contractors", the construction work undertaken shall last for at least 6 months excluding the Defects Liability Period. The site shall have construction work undertaken during the period from 1 October 2016 to 31 March 2017.
- 6. All entries under the sub-categories of "Building Sites (Public Sector)", "Building Sites (Private Sector)", "Civil Engineering Sites", "Building Sites — Sub-contractors" and "Civil Engineering Sites — Sub-contractors" shall be on site basis. Each site can only be enrolled once.

- 8. Renovation and Maintenance Works Sub-contractors

- 7. For entries under the sub-categories of "Renovation and Maintenance Works" and "Renovation and Maintenance Works Sub-contractors", the construction work undertaken can be on *site/contract basis*. The work duration of the participating site/contract shall last for at least 3 months excluding the Defects Liability Period. The site shall have construction work undertaken between the period from 1 October to 31 December 2016. Each site/contract can only be enrolled once.
- 8. Entries to the sub-category of "Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works" shall be on *contract basis*. For a contract with more than one site, only one site shall enter the competition. The competing site shall have no more than 10 workers. There is no restriction on the duration of the construction work but there shall be construction work undertaken during the period from 18 October to 20 December 2016. Each contract can only be enrolled once.
- 9. No serious or fatal accident has happened on the construction site and no Suspension Notice has been served by the Labour Department on any contractor or sub-contractor of the construction site in the 12 months preceding the enrolment deadline.
- 10. An entry will automatically be disqualified if a serious or fatal accident has happened on the construction site, or a Suspension Notice has been served by the Labour Department on any contractor or sub-contractor of the construction site at any time before the announcement of the assessment results.
- 11. Entries to the sub-categories of "Building Sites Sub-contractors", "Civil Engineering Sites Sub-contractors", "Renovation and Maintenance Works Sub-contractors" and "Safety Teams" can either be nominated by their contractors who also take part in the competition or they may enrol on their own subject to obtaining the consent from their contractors. A safety team and every individual team member can only enrol or be nominated once in the "Safety Teams" Award.
- 12. If in the 12 months preceding the enrolment deadline or at any time before the announcement of assessment results, a serious or fatal accident has happened on the construction site or a Suspension Notice has been served by the Labour Department on any contractor or sub-contractor of the construction site, the entry for the categories of the "Sub-contractors" and "Safety Teams" of the site will be automatically disqualified from the competition.
- 13. Workers identified for "Safe Workers" awards are not affected by the eligibility of the construction site.

## **ASSESSMENT SCHEME**

#### (I) Construction Sites Awards

(a) Except the sub-category of "Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works", the assessment of all sub-categories of the "Construction Sites" awards competition will be conducted in the following two phases:

#### **Preliminary Assessment**

In the preliminary assessment, Occupational Safety Officers of the Labour Department will carry out physical site assessment to evaluate the safety and health conditions of the construction sites including the Work-at-height safety performance from mid October to early November 2016. The assessment results will be submitted to the Working Group, comprising members of the organising parties, for shortlisting the better performers to enter the final assessment.

#### Final Assessment

The final assessment will be conducted from early to mid of December 2016 by an assessment team comprising representatives from the Labour Department and the Occupational Safety and Health Council as core members. Working Group members of all co-organisers or their representatives may also join the assessment team. The assessment team will assess the physical site conditions including the Work-at-height safety performance and safety management system of the construction sites. The final assessment results will be submitted to the Working Group for consideration. The Working Group will then forward its recommendations on the awards to the Adjudication Panel.

#### (b) The assessment of the sub-category of "Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works" will be conducted as follows:

Occupational Safety Officers of the Labour Department will carry out physical site assessment to evaluate the safety and health conditions of the construction sites including the Work-at-height safety performance during the period from mid October to mid December 2016. The assessment results will be submitted to the Working Group, comprising members of the organising parties for consideration. The Working Group will then forward its recommendations on the awards to the Adjudication Panel.

#### (II) Safety Teams Awards

The "Safety Teams" awards competition will be conducted in the following two phases:

#### **Preliminary Assessment**

In the preliminary assessment, Occupational Safety Officers of the Labour Department will carry out physical site assessment to evaluate the actual performance of the safety teams in the implementation of safety measures and safety management system practised on the construction site from mid October to early November 2016. The assessment results will be submitted to the Working Group, comprising members of the organising parties, for shortlisting the better performers to enter the final assessment.

#### **Final Assessment**

In the final assessment, Occupational Safety Officers of the Labour Department will conduct interviews with members of the safety teams to assess their knowledge on safety and health at work from early to mid of December 2016. The overall assessment results will be submitted to the Working Group for consideration. The Working Group will then forward its recommendations on the awards to the Adjudication Panel.

#### (III) Safe Workers Awards

Winners of "Safe Workers" awards will be selected at the time when assessment team members performing the physical site assessments. Selection criteria will be based on the workers' good safety performance. The list of "Safe Workers" recommended for awards will be submitted to the Working Group for consideration. The Working Group will then forward its recommendations on the awards to the Adjudication Panel.

# **ASSESSMENT CRITERIA**

# **Physical Site Conditions**

Assessment criteria will cover the following areas:

- 1. Overall site lavout
- 2. Control of falling objects
- 3. Work at height\*
- 4. Excavation
- 5. Confined space 6. Site traffic control
- 7. Site housekeeping
- **Safety Management System**

#### Assessment criteria will cover the following areas:

- 1. Safety policy
- 6. In-house safety rules
- 2. Safety organisation 3. Safety committee
- 7. Evaluation of job hazards 8. Personal protective equipment programme
- 4. Safety training
- 9. Emergency preparedness

- 5. Safety promotion
- 10. Occupational health assurance programme

- 15. Fire preventive measures
- 16. Manual handling operations
- 17. Construction work over/near Water
- 18. Personal protective equipment
- 19. First aid facilities

#### \*Focus areas for this year's assessment

- 11. Evaluation, selection and monitoring of sub-contractors
- 12. Accident control and hazards elimination programme
- 13. Inspection programme for hazardous conditions
- 14. Investigation of accidents and incidents
- 15. Review of the safety management system

# **TYPES OF SAFETY AWARDS**

#### (I) Construction Sites Category

(a) Awards for each sub-categories of competition will comprise the Gold, Silver, Bronze, Meritorious and Outstanding Performance in Work-at-height safety prizes. Winners of each type of these awards will be presented with a trophy and a cash coupon of the following values:

- Gold prize	: HK\$5, 000
- Silver prize	: HK\$3, 000
- Bronze prize	: HK\$2, 000
- Meritorious prize	: HK\$1, 000
- Outstanding Performance in Work-at-height safety prize (ne	w): HK\$2,000

- (b) Those entries of the "Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works" sub-category which have undergone the assessment and do not win any prizes in the competition will be awarded a cash coupon of HK\$800 and the "Certificate of Appreciation".
- (c) Those entries of other sub-categories of the Construction Sites category which have undergone the final assessment and do not win any prizes in the competition will be awarded the "Certificate of Appreciation" on condition that their performances have reached the standard set by the judging panel.

### (II) Safety Teams Category

The awards will comprise the Gold, Silver, Bronze and Meritorious prizes. Winners of the "Safety Teams" awards will each be presented with a trophy and a cash coupon of the following values per team:

- Gold prize : HK\$5,000
- Silver prize : HK\$3,000
- Bronze prize : HK\$2,000
- Meritorious prize: HK\$1,000

#### (III) Safe Workers

Each worker selected for the "Safe Workers" award will be presented with a HK\$1,000 cash coupon, a certificate and a badge.

# PERIOD FOR ENROLMENT: 21 September 2016 - 11 October 2016

### ENROLMENT PROCEDURES

- The participating contractors or sub-contractors should enter the competition on either individual site or contract basis in accordance with the respective specification of the eligibility criteria.
- The brief introduction and the enrolment forms of the Award Scheme can be obtained from all offices of the Occupational Safety and Health Branch, Labour Department; they can also be downloaded from the website of the Labour Department at www.labour.gov.hk
- The completed enrolment form should reach the Safety Promotion Unit, Occupational Safety and Health Branch, Labour Department at 13/F., Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong before the deadline.

### ANNOUNCEMENT OF RESULTS

Winners of the competition will be notified individually in February 2017. All prizes will be presented in the 18th Award Presentation Ceremony cum Fun Day to be held in March 2017.

#### FAX NUMBER: 2541 9952 ENQUIRY : 2852 3565

#### Note

- The organisers reserve the right to classify the categories of entry.
- The organisers reserve the right to make any changes to the rules, prizes and all other arrangements without prior notice to the contestants.
- The organisers reserve the right to make the final decision on any other matters about the Award Scheme.

- 8. Sanitary and welfare facilities 9. Lifting appliances and lifting operations\*
- 10. Use of machinery
- 11. Electrical installation and application\*
- 12. Scaffolding \*
- 13. Use of loadshifting machinery
- 14. Use of dangerous substances and chemicals