Take Adequate Measures for Work Safety and Your Happiness
Construction Industry Safety Award Scheme 2014/2015

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 enhance safety awareness and foster a safety culture in the construction sector. It has received the continual support and active participation of relevant parties.

With our concerted efforts, there has been notable improvement in the safety performance of the construction industry in recent years. 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 3,232 and 40.8 in 2013, representing a significant drop of 77.0% and 79.4% respectively. Construction is a high-risk industry. The accident figure of the construction industry remains the second highest following the food and beverage services, and the industry accounts for the bulk of industrial fatalities. In 2013, 27.3% of industrial accidents and 78.6% of fatal cases occurred on construction sites.

Notwithstanding the notable improvement, there is a need for stakeholders, contractors and workers to remain alert and keep up their efforts. 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 again this year’s 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 Construction Association, the Hong Kong Housing Society, the Hong Kong General Building Contractors Association, the Hong Kong Construction Sub-contractors 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. All categories of entries of last year’s scheme are retained in this year’s Award Scheme. Among all, “Certificates of Appreciation” will still be awarded to all contractors participating in the “Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works” category to encourage the participation of small and medium RMAA contractors.

OBJECTIVES
The objectives of the Award 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
4. Renovation and Maintenance Works
5. Minor Renovation and Maintenance Works
6. Building Sites — Sub-contractors
7. Civil Engineering Sites — Sub-contractors
8. Renovation and Maintenance Works — Sub-contractors

(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 7 months excluding the Defects Liability Period. The site shall have construction work undertaken during the period from 1 September 2014 to 31 March 2015.
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 5 months excluding the Defects Liability Period. The site shall have construction work undertaken during the period from 1 November 2014 to 31 March 2015.
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.
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 November 2014 to 31 January 2015. 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 November 2014 to 19 January 2015. 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 directly on their own subject to obtaining the consent from their contractors, irrespective of whether the consenting contractors have taken part in the competition. A safety team and every individual team member can only enrol once.

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 not be eligible for the competition or be automatically disqualified.

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 from mid November 2014 to early December 2014. 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 late December 2014 to mid January 2015 by an assessment team comprising representatives from the Labour Department and the Occupational Safety and Health Council as core members. Other Working Group members or their representatives may also join the assessment team. The assessment team will assess both the physical site conditions and safety management system. 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 be conferred to the Adjudication Panel for endorsement.

(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 during the period from mid November 2014 to mid January 2015. The assessment results will be submitted to the Working Group, comprising members of the organising parties. The Working Group will then forward its recommendations on the awards to be conferred to the Adjudication Panel for endorsement.

(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 November 2014 to early December 2014. 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 late December 2014 to mid January 2015. 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 be conferred to the Adjudication Panel for endorsement.

(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' safety performance and a test of their safety knowledge. 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 be conferred to the Adjudication Panel for endorsement.
ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Physical Site Conditions
Assessment criteria will cover the following areas:
1. Overall site layout
2. Control of falling objects
3. Work at height
4. Excavation
5. Confined space
6. Site traffic control
7. Site housekeeping
8. Sanitary and welfare facilities
9. Lifting appliances and lifting operations
10. Use of machinery
11. Electrical installation and application
12. Scaffolding safety
13. Use of loadshifting machinery
14. Use of dangerous substances and chemicals
15. Fire preventive measures
16. Manual handling operations
17. Personal protective equipment
18. First aid facilities

*Focus areas for this year’s assessment

Safety Management System
Assessment criteria will cover the following areas:
1. Safety policy
2. Safety organisation
3. Safety committee
4. Safety training
5. Safety promotion
6. In-house safety rules
7. Evaluation of job hazards
8. Personal protective equipment programme
9. Emergency preparedness
10. Occupational health assurance programme
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

TYPES OF SAFETY AWARDS

(I) Construction Sites Category
(a) Awards for each sub-categories of competition will comprise the Gold, Silver, Bronze and Meritorious prizes. The winners of each award 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

(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 each be awarded a “Certificate of Appreciation” and a cash coupon of HK$800.

(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 winner of the “Safe Workers” award will be presented with a certificate, a badge and a HK$1,000 cash coupon.

PERIOD FOR ENROLMENT: 28 October 2014 - 10 November 2014

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 March 2015. All prizes will be presented in the Award Presentation Ceremony cum Fun Day to be held in March 2015.

ENQUIRY: 2852 3565     FAX NUMBER: 2541 9952

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.
★ The organisers reserve the right to make the final decision on any other matters about the Award Scheme.