

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Construction Innovation and Technology Fund Opens for Application **“Construction Industry Charter” are Signed to Uplift Construction** **Quality**

Hong Kong • 2 October 2018 — The Construction Industry Council (CIC) and the Development Bureau (DEVB) of the Government of the HKSAR jointly organised the Construction Quality Forum and Construction Innovation and Technology Fund Launching Ceremony today. Officiating at the Opening Ceremony were Mr. Michael WONG, Secretary for Development of the HKSAR Government, Ir HON Chi-keung, Permanent Secretary for Development (Works), Mr. CHAN Ka-kui, Chairman of CIC, and Ir Albert CHENG, Executive Director of CIC. The Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF) is open for application today. In addition, the forum gathered a group of industry practitioners sharing their aspirations on how to enhance construction quality and the representatives signed a “Construction Industry Charter”, signifying the pledge to uplift the construction quality.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Secretary for Development, Mr Michael Wong, said, “To fulfil its mission to build a better Hong Kong, the construction industry should work together, and strive for ensuring build quality. Against the background of ageing workforce and the expected high construction demand in future, the Government is taking the lead to implement “Construction 2.0” – an initiative to upgrade the industry through innovation, professionalisation and revitalisation.” By leveraging innovation and technology, Mr Wong said it would bring about improvement in productivity, construction quality, site safety and environmental performance for the industry. The newly established \$1 billion CITF will encourage wider adoption of technologies, such as Building Information Modelling, Modular Integrated Construction, the use of prefabricated steel reinforcing bar products, as well as other advanced automation or digital technologies. For continuous improvement of the industry, the CITF will also support practitioners and tertiary students to participate in technology programmes. He would like to see the industry move towards “Construction 2.0”, with the CITF acting as an instrumental part.

Mr. CHAN Ka-kui, the Chairman of CIC, encourages wider adoption of innovative construction methods and technology, cultivate innovative mindsets and boost the capacities of industry practitioners and tertiary students in construction-related disciplines to embrace new technology and bring improvement in productivity and quality of the construction industry.

The CITF covers two funding aspects, namely **Technologies Adoption** and **Manpower Development**. The fund will be used to support a wide range of technologies adoption such as Building Information Modelling (BIM), Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) as well as Automation, Robotics and Innovative Equipment. As for the Manpower Development, the fund will support the industry to take part in courses, workshops, trainings and visits, etc. Eligible fund applicants include fund levy-paying contractors, registered sub-contractors and consultants, higher education institution, professional association, trade association and trade union.

At the forum, representatives from DEVB, CIC and other industry stakeholders signed a “Construction Industry Charter”, signifying the pledge and concerted efforts by the industry to uplift construction quality. The Charter is supported by the participants of the forum.

More details of the CITF can be found at the website www.citf.cic.hk.

Photos

Photo 1: Witnessed by Mr. Michael WONG (2nd left), Secretary for Development of the HKSAR and Mr. CHAN Ka-kui (2nd right), Chairman of the CIC, Ir HON Chi-keung (1st left), Permanent Secretary for Development (Works) and Ir Albert CHENG (1st right), Executive Director of CIC sign the Memorandum of Co-operation of Construction Innovation and Technology Fund



Photo 2: The Development Bureau, Housing Department and the Construction Industry Council are signing the “Construction Quality Charter” with other industry stakeholders including Hong Kong Construction Association, Hong Kong Construction Sub-Contractors Association, Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors, Association of Consulting Engineers of Hong Kong, Association of Architectural Practices, Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, Hong Kong Institution of Architects and Hong Kong Institution of Surveyors. They pledge to uplift construction quality, promote productivity, improve site safety, enhance environmental performance and proactively adopt innovative construction methods and advanced technologies.





Photo 3: A group of industry stakeholders join the Construction Quality Forum and share their insights to uphold the professionalism and enhance the competitiveness of the industry

About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit www.cic.hk for further details.

Media Enquiries

Gladys CHUK / Lucy POON
Corporate Communications Department
Tel: (852) 2100 9080 / 2100 9041
Fax: (852) 2100 9090
Email: corpcomm@cic.hk

~ End ~