

**Construction Industry Council**

**Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (RSTCS)**

Meeting No. 003/23 of the Committee on Registered Specialist Trade Contractors Scheme (Com-RSC) for 2023 was held on 31 May 2023 (Wednesday) at 2:00pm at Boardroom, 29/F, Tower 2, Enterprise Square Five, 38 Wang Chiu Road, Kowloon Bay and via video conferencing.

Summary Notes of the Com-RSC Meeting No. 003/23:

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights</b>
3.1	CIC/RSC/P/030/23 (for approval)	<b>Good Practice Manual – Reinforcement Bar Fixing</b>  The Com-RSC approved the Good Practice Manual – Reinforcement Bar Fixing as a reference material and thanked the Registered Specialised Trade Contractors Federation, Hong Kong Bar-Bending Contractors Association and the Hong Kong Institute of Construction for their technical advice and assistance in the compilation work. The Secretariat will follow up on the publishing works.
3.2	CIC/RSC/M/002/23 (for approval)	<b>Confirmation of the Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>  Members confirmed the minutes of the previous meeting held on 29 March 2023.
3.3	CIC/RSC/P/031/23 (for approval)	<b>Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting</b>  Regarding the optimisation of the name of groupings for the new designated trades “Building Maintenance” and “Interior Fitting-out”, members took note that the proposal of introducing “Group 1 (Advanced)” had been endorsed by the CIC’s Committee on Repair, Maintenance, Alteration and Addition. After much deliberation, the Com-RSC approved the proposal which was expected to be implemented in the third quarter of this year.

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Major Resolutions/Progress Highlights</b>
3.4	CIC/RSC/P/032/23 (for endorsement)	<p><b>2024 Detailed Business Plan and Budget</b></p> <p>Members deliberated and endorsed the 2024 detailed business plan, key performance indicator and budget with key items below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(a) Handle 2,700 different types of online applications and 8,000 enquiries;</li><li>(b) Collect information on violations and fatal serious incidents of registered companies, seek legal advice if necessary and take regulatory actions for established cases as soon as possible;</li><li>(c) Maintain communications with the stakeholders to formulate proposal of new designated trades and review registration requirements in order to continuously uplift the Scheme’s professionalism;</li><li>(d) Complete the transitional arrangement for the four newly added designated trades;</li><li>(e) Continue to compile the Good Practice Manuals series for designated trades and produce four videos to promote quality and efficient work processes;</li><li>(f) Conduct a series of promotional activities for nurturing young leaders and front-line specialist trade supervisors, and enhancing professional recognition and networking of the registered companies; and</li><li>(g) Seek cooperation from the supporting organisations to strengthen the implementation of the Scheme.</li></ul> <p>Members also took note that the CIC’s Finance Department would consolidate the business plans and budgets of all committees and departments for Council’s approval after making adjustments according to the overall budgetary targets.</p>

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3.5	CIC/RSC/P/033/23 (for approval)	<b>Review RSTCS Application</b>  Members expressed different opinions on whether a subcontract involving multiple trades can meet the registration requirements. Members asked the Secretariat to further clarify the details with the applicant and reconsider it after collecting more information.
3.6	CIC/RSC/P/034/23 (for information)	<b>Report of Regulatory Action on Fatal Serious Incident at a Site on Ashley Road in Tsim Sha Tsui</b>  Members took note of the content of the report and the follow-up action.
3.7	CIC/RSC/P/035/23 (for information)	<b>RSTCS Operation Report</b>  (a) As of the end of April 2023, the total number of registered companies was 7,564 (February 2023: 7,585) in which 1,422 (February 2023: 1,343) were Registered Specialist Trade Contractors (RSTCs) and 6,142 (February 2023: 6,242) were Registered Subcontractors (RSs).  (b) The Secretariat had sent final reminder on 31 March 2023 to the Group 1 RSTCs for Suspended Ceiling and Tower Crane (Erecting, Dismantling and Altering Height) designated trades through electronic direct mail and letter, urging them to submit the required information or otherwise their registrations will be cancelled on 1 October 2023.  (c) In May 2023, the Secretariat had respectively met the representatives from the Hong Kong Painting Contractors Association, Hong Kong Greening Contractors Association and Hong Kong Concrete Repair and Waterproofing Association for exchanging views on uplifting registration arrangement of the respective trades.

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		<p>(d) The series of dedicated Building Information Modelling (BIM) viewer training course was well received by members of the RSTCS Young Leader Network with a total of 128 attendees so far for coping with the new registration requirement of having BIM viewer for Group 2 RSTCs.</p> <p>(e) The Secretariat had organised the “Practical Tips and Recent Case Sharing on Subcontract Management” webinar on 18 April 2023. The registered companies were explained on the content of the “Alerts on Variation Management” published by the CIC, the adjudication mechanism for construction contracts and sharing of cases. Around 760 people attended the webinar.</p> <p>(f) The Secretariat had co-organised the “Building a Clean and Fair Construction Industry Through Collaboration - Anti-Corruption Summit and Commitment to Action Agenda” with the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and Development Bureau on 4 May 2023 to demonstrate the industry’s commitment to create a corruption-free business environment and promote the continuous enhancement of anti-corruption and integrity management amongst stakeholders. Around 2,000 persons joined the event in person or online. An educational video clip would be produced based on the event highlights for reminding front-line operatives on relevant anti-corruption information. Moreover, the Secretariat would organise another webinar on 2 June 2023 to introduce the integrity risk management promulgated by the ICAC and share cases, with a view to strengthening the awareness of corruption prevention amongst management staff of registered companies.</p> <p>(g) To enhance the dissemination of “Life First Say No to Danger” across the frontline, the Secretariat had organised the “Construction Safety Webinar - Safety of Working at Height (Replay)” webinar on 25 May 2023. This series of dedicated safety webinars was well received by registered companies with a total of 1,588 attendees.</p>

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3.8	-	<b>Any Other Business</b>  Nil.
3.9	CIC/RSC/P/036/23 - CIC/RSC/P/037/23 (for information)	<b>Regulatory Hearing</b>  The Com-RSC sanctioned a total of 3 companies with suspension of registration due to violations of safety regulations in fatal site incidents.

*Remarks: The mentioned papers and/or progress reports discussed at the Com-RSC can be made available to Council Members from the CIC Secretariat upon request.*