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Our Reference: PUB(CWD) 513/13/001

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Dear Sir/Madam,

**IMPLEMENTATION OF EARTH CONTROL MEASURES OFFICER (ECMO) AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITES**

This circular is to inform the construction industry of the requirement to have a full-time site personnel with Earth Control Measures Officer (ECMO) qualification for construction projects involving earthworks.

Background

2 The Earth Control Measures (ECM) programme, implemented in about 2006, has been evolving for the better. The erosion control sub-committee comprises representatives from The Institution of Engineers Singapore (IES), Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore (ACES), PUB, industry professionals and government agencies meets regularly to review the technical aspect of programme implementation. The committee noted that while the ECM design is amply supported by the Qualified Erosion Control Professional (QECP), the operation of ECM still lacks a ECM-trained staff on site to link up with the QECP, as well as to supervise the operation and maintenance of the ECM implemented on site.

3 In this aspect, the committee has recommended that a ECMO be made available on site to assist the building contractors to implement effective ECM on site.

ECMO Requirement and Roles

4 The ECMO need not be a site personnel dedicated solely to perform the ECMO role. The ECMO role could be covered by the site project manager, project supervisor, ECO, or safety officer. This arrangement of not needing an additional staff as ECMO is to integrate the requirement into the current construction site setup as seamlessly as possible.

5 To attain the ECMO qualification, the site personnel shall complete and pass a 1-day ECM course conducted by IES or its affiliates and be registered as a ECMO under the IES ECMO Registry. More details on the registry framework is attached at Annex 1 and can be obtained from IES's website at <http://www.ies.org.sg>.

6 The ECMO's role shall include: (1) implement ECM plan according to QECP design; (2) devise ECM operation; (3) maintenance and inspection programme on site; and (4) assist the QECP to monitor ECM effectiveness throughout various stages of construction.

#### Implementation

7 In consultation with The Singapore Contractors Association Ltd, we will require all construction sites of site area 0.5 ha and above to have at least a full-time site staff with ECMO qualification at the construction site.

8 In conjunction with the above, the consultant team involved in supervising construction projects is also advised to have a full-time site staff with the ECMO qualification, so as to enable the team to supervise the ECM implemented on site accordingly.

9 This requirement will take effect for all new construction sites with site area of 0.5ha and above, and starting construction works on and after 1 Apr 2015.

Thank you

Yours faithfully



RIDZUAN ISMAIL  
DIRECTOR  
CATCHMENT AND WATERWAYS DEPARTMENT

Distribution List:-

President  
Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore (ACES)  
70 Palmer Road #04-06  
Palmer House  
Singapore 079427

President  
Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)  
70 Bukit Tinggi Road  
Singapore 289758

President  
Real Estate Developers' Association of Singapore (REDAS)  
190 Clemenceau Avenue #07-01  
Singapore Shopping Centre  
Singapore 239924

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Construction House  
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President  
Singapore Institute of Surveyors & Valuers (SISV)  
20 Maxwell Road #10-09B  
Maxwell House  
Singapore 069113

President  
Society of Project Managers (SPM)  
MacPherson Road P.O. Box 1083  
Singapore 913412

Deputy Director  
Project Development and Management Branch  
Ministry of Education (MOE)  
1 North BuonaVista Drive  
Office Tower Level 9  
Singapore 138675

President  
Board of Architects (BOA)  
5 Maxwell Road 1<sup>st</sup> storey  
Tower Block MND Complex  
Singapore 069110

Deputy Chief Executive Officer (Building)  
Housing & Development Board (HDB)  
480 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh  
HDB Hub  
Singapore 310480

Deputy Chief Executive  
Infrastructure & Development  
Land Transport Authority (LTA)  
1 Hampshire Road Block 8 Level  
Singapore 219428

Director  
Technical Services Division  
JTC Corporation (JTC)  
8 Jurong Town Hall Road  
The JTC Summit  
Singapore 609434

Senior Director (Building & Estates Management)  
People's Association (PA)  
9 King George's Avenue  
Singapore 208581

President  
Professional Engineers Board, Singapore (PEB)  
5 Maxwell Road 1<sup>st</sup> storey  
Tower Block MND Complex  
Singapore 069110

Chief (Sports Facilities)  
Singapore Sports Council (SSC)  
230 Stadium Boulevard  
Singapore 397799

Chief Planner & Deputy Chief Executive  
Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA)  
45 Maxwell Road  
The URA Centre  
Singapore 069118

Cc:

Director  
Engineering Development & Procurement  
Public Utilities Board (PUB)  
40 Scotts Road #18-01  
Environment Building  
Singapore 228231