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## **Circular to Professional Institutes**

### **GREEN MARK INCENTIVE SCHEME FOR DESIGN PROTOTYPE (GMIS-DP)**

#### **Background**

1. Since its launch in January 2005, the BCA Green Mark Scheme has been the main lever to drive the adoption of sustainable green building design and practices in the building sector. With much recognition and support from the industry, it has become the national yardstick to rate the environmental performance of a building. It is also now a qualifying standard for determining the eligibility and grant quantum under the various green building related incentive programmes.
2. In line with the government's commitment to reduce the energy intensity for the building sector, BCA has enhanced its framework for greater energy and resource efficiency in building developments with the revised BCA Green Mark Criteria for New Buildings (Version 4.0) which will come into effect on 1 Dec 2010. Greater emphasis is also placed on passive design strategies to encourage better resource-efficient design and practices.
3. Best practices that result in most high performance, energy efficient buildings adopt a collaborative design process right from day one, allowing the entire project team to come together, understand one another's requirements early and optimize the design with in-depth simulation studies. To encourage such practices and push for even higher energy efficiency improvement, BCA is introducing a **\$5 million Green Mark Incentive Scheme – Design Prototype (GMIS – DP)**.

## Objective of the Scheme

4. The GMIS-DP aims to encourage developers and building owners to strive for greater energy efficiency in buildings by placing more emphasis at the design stage. Funding support is available for the engagement of environmentally sustainable design (ESD)<sup>1</sup> consultants to conduct collaborative design workshops and assist in simulation studies early in the project to achieve a breakthrough and optimal design for green buildings.

## Effective Date

The scheme is effective from 1<sup>st</sup> December 2010 and will last for 4 years or till the fund is fully committed, whichever comes first.

## Who should know

Developers, Building Owners, Architects, M&E Engineers, ESD Consultants, Main Contractors and Facilities Managers.

## The GMIS-DP

5. The GMIS-DP targets building types that are energy intensive. Developers or building owners must demonstrate the commitment to go beyond Green Mark Platinum and achieve at least 40% energy savings better than the current base code or equivalent. Applications will be assessed based on the competency and track record of the design team, proposed design approach and degree of replicability and novelty.

6. New private or public developments as well as existing buildings intending to undergo major retrofitting<sup>2</sup> with gross floor area of 2,000 square metres and above are eligible.

7. The incentive scheme covers efforts at the design stage and operates on a co-funding basis, with up to 70% support of qualifying costs<sup>3</sup> or S\$600,000.00 whichever is lower. Disbursement will be made on a reimbursement basis.

8. I would appreciate it if you could convey the contents of this circular to your members. The full details of the scheme, such as application guidelines, application form and FAQs pertaining to the GMIS-DP can be found on our website at <http://www.bca.gov.sg/GreenMark/gmisdg.html>.

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<sup>1</sup> Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) consultants have a thorough understanding of the integrated design approach, implementing energy efficient measures in buildings and performing in-depth computer simulation for buildings.

<sup>2</sup> Major retrofitting is defined as work involving major overhauling of air-conditioning system and significant modification of the building façade along with other building services.

<sup>3</sup> Qualifying costs include fees for design workshops and/or design-phase simulation studies to go beyond Green Mark Platinum.

For clarifications, please contact Mr Jonathan Cheng at 6730 4453 (email: jonathan\_cheng@bca.gov.sg) or Ms Matilda Wahyuni Kenanga at 6730 4510 (or email: matilda\_kenanga@bca.gov.sg).

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