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18 Jul 02

To whom it may concern

**SEMINAR ON CODE ON BARRIER-FREE ACCESSIBILITY IN BUILDINGS 2002
M HOTEL, 31 JUL 02 (8.15AM TO 5PM)**

We would like to inform you of the above seminar organised by BCA to be held at the M Hotel on 31 Jul 02. The closing date to register for this seminar is 20 Jul 02, subject to further extension.

2 The seminar will touch on the requirements to make buildings easily accessible and more user friendly to people with physical or sensory disabilities. It should appeal to Qualified Persons, developers, building owners, project managers, property managers and builders.

3 As this is the last week before the closing date, we hope that if you have not signed up, please do so quickly as seats are limited. The details of the seminar and the registration form are attached for your early registration. You can fax the completed registration form to 63254437 to confirm your booking.

4 If you have any enquiries, please contact Mrs Inun Read at 63258677 or Mr Rajesh Nainani at 63258664.

5 Thank you and we look forward to your participation.

[Signed]
Koh Chye Hin
for the Organising Committee
Building and Construction Authority

OBJECTIVES:

The seminar is organised to launch the revised Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings 2002. Changes in the revised Code, the various provisions of good practice design guidelines for people with different disabilities, and its application in public housing and MRT/LRT stations will be highlighted by the respective speakers. The seminar aims to raise awareness among the professionals, developers and building owners of the need in making buildings and the environment user-friendly for persons with disabilities, older persons and families with young children.

ENQUIRIES:

Please contact Mrs Inun Read / Mr Rajesh Nainani for more information

Telephone No : 63258677/63258664

Fax : 63254437

Email : Inun_READ@bca.gov.sg / rajesh_nainani@bca.gov.sg

Or Mail to:

Building and Construction Authority

5 Maxwell Road #05-00

MND Tower Block

Singapore 069110

Attn: Ms Mary Siow

Location:



Seminar on Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings 2002



Date : 31 July 2002
Time : 8.15am to 5:00pm
Venue : M Hotel
81 Anson Road
Singapore 079908

TOPICS AND SPEAKERS

Changes in the New Code

Mr Tan Cheong Ee, Unit Head, Building Plan Department, BCA

The Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings, first introduced in 1990, was revised in 1995 and is now into its 3rd edition. The paper highlights some of the significant changes to the original mandatory provisions and the four sets of design guidelines, which are non-mandatory, introduced as Appendixes in the Code. These are design guidelines for older persons, persons with visual impairment, children with disabilities and families with infants or young children.

A New Approach to Friendly Design Buildings in Singapore

Mr Patrick Ang, Hon. Asst. Secretary, Handicaps Welfare Association (HWA)

The 1995-revised Accessibility Code marks an important milestone in laying the foundation for a barrier-free environment as it simplified many of the provisions in the old edition. In 2002, some of the requirements and provisions of the Code were further fine-tuned to include accessibility features for other disability groups. Nevertheless, due to the multiple needs of various groups of users, the Code cannot be all encompassing but should help the building professionals to be more aware of the basic needs of each individual group. At the end of the day, we would certainly like to see Singapore working towards the concept of Inclusive and Universal Design. This is to ensure that everyone must support an access friendly environment not only to integrate the disabled people into mainstream society but also to cater to the growing needs of the rapidly aging population of Singapore.

Designing for Barrier-Free Access - An Overview

Mr Wong Meng Lin, past Council Member, Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA); Associate Director, Alfred Wong Partnership Pte Ltd.

In today's economic times, it is expected that for many people, the focus would be on seemingly more important issues of concern, rather than the needs of a small group of people, namely, those with disabilities. Taking into consideration that the elderly often have many of the handicaps of people with disabilities, e.g. reduced mobility, poor eyesight, hard of hearing, etc., this seemingly small group would, on the contrary, be quite sizeable. It is also estimated that the elderly population will be growing steadily, both globally and in Singapore. It is an appropriate time that we should now look at how the design of our buildings can be encouraged to be more user-friendly and barrier-free to all users of varying abilities.

Encouraging a Family Friendly Environment in Singapore

Mrs Lim-Ho Geok Choo, Leader of Subgroup on Family Friendly Business Environment & Practices, Public Education Committee on Family (PEC), Ministry of Community Development and Sports (MCDS)

This paper touches on the holistic approach taken by the Public Education Committee on Family (PEC) to address our families' needs for a supportive physical environment as well as some of the PEC's initiatives. These initiatives, which aim at raising public awareness and encouraging businesses to be more family friendly, include design guidelines for family friendly facilities, which have been included in the appendices of the Code on Barrier-Free Accessibility in Buildings 2002; yearly family friendly shopping centres contest; and rating of family friendly eating places.

Building Sight - Design for All

Ms L V Jayashree, Welfare Officer, Singapore Association for the Visually Handicapped (SAVH)

Over the last thirty years there has emerged a growing awareness that good design - whether of buildings, interiors or streets should be in nature inclusive. Creating accessibility for all people - "the elderly and persons with disability" ensures their ongoing vitality and to meet the expectations and needs of the community to which they belong and serve. The presentation will focus on key considerations to be borne in mind in the design and development of buildings, building services, lighting, layout and signage and information for persons with disability with special focus to persons with vision impairment.

Significance of Design Guidelines for Children with Physical Disabilities

Mr Ram Krishna Saha, Director, Teach Me Services, Asian Women's Welfare Association (AWWA)

The physical environment must be made friendly for the children with physical disabilities to provide unhindered access to homes, public buildings, kindergartens, pre-schools and primary schools where the children are the principal or predominant users. Many are not aware of such requirements necessary to make building friendly for the children with physical disabilities. This paper provides the basic guidelines to the developers, architects, engineers and homeowners to make the physical environment friendly for the children between the ages of 3 to 12 years who are wheelchair bound or ambulant but uses mobility aids like crutches or rollator etc.

Towards a Barrier-Free Environment in Public Housing

Ms Goh Siam Imm, Senior Architect, Housing & Development Board (HDB)

Housing 86% of the population through its public housing programme, HDB has not, in the hustle and bustle of housing development, forgotten about the needs of the disabled and the elderly. Since the 1980s, HDB has been attempting to create a barrier-free built environment through its policies and several improvement programmes. The paper focuses on how HDB caters to the needs of the elderly and disabled in its flat design and built environment. It examines the various provisions currently in place and explores the future plans towards a barrier-free environment.

Facilities Provided for People with Disabilities in MRT/LRT Stations

Ms Rahmah M Talib, Senior Architect, Land Transport Authority (LTA)

When the nearly completed North East Line MRT and Sengkang LRT are opened to the public, they will be accessible to all including the elderly, mobility impaired, wheelchair users, families with young children. The new stations will have lifts, ramps, wide automatic fare gate and tactile guidance system to guide the visual impairment to use the station with confidence. A plan is in place to extend these user-friendly facilities in all the existing MRT/LRT system. This paper illustrates the design of the friendly facilities in the stations to assist people with disabilities using the railway system as their means of transport.

REGISTRATION FORM

SEMINAR ON CODE ON BARRIER-FREE ACCESSIBILITY IN BUILDINGS 2002

31 JULY 2002 (8:15 am To 5:00 pm)

Course Fee per participant : \$140.00 (inclusive of refreshment, lunch and seminar materials)

Name of Participant(s):

1) Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms : _____
Designation : _____

2) Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms : _____
Designation : _____

3) Dr/Mr/Mrs/Ms : _____
Designation : _____

Name of Organisation : _____
Address : _____

Contact Person : _____ Email : _____
Telephone No : _____ Fax No : _____
Bank / Cheque No : _____ Amount : _____

Registration and Payment

Registration will be on a first-come-first-served basis. All cheques should be crossed and made payable to "**Building and Construction Authority**" and mailed to 5 Maxwell Road #05-00 Tower Block MND Complex Singapore 069110 Attn: Ms Mary Siow. The title of the seminar and names of the participants should be indicated clearly on the back of the cheque(s). Photocopies of registration forms are acceptable.

Closing Date

Your registration form together with your payment, should reach BCA by 20 July 2002.

Cancellation

BCA reserves the right to cancel the seminar without prior notice due to unforeseen circumstances.

Authorised Signature

Company Stamp