

22 Oct 2012

## **LAUNCH OF THE BCA UNIVERSAL DESIGN (UD) MARK SCHEME**

This circular is to inform the industry on the launch of the BCA UD Mark scheme, which shall supersede the existing BCA UD Awards scheme. We cordially invite all developers, building owners, qualified persons and designers to participate in the scheme.

### **Background**

2 The UD Mark is a voluntary certification scheme introduced as an initiative to raise the bar on UD adoption in developments. This initiative accords recognition to developments and stakeholders that adopt a user-centric philosophy in their design, operations and maintenance. It also aims to raise greater public awareness towards user-friendly buildings.

3 The scheme allows assessment of projects at design stage with the provision of criteria checklists, hence, facilitating the incorporation of UD principles from the onset of project development. Based on the overall assessment, a development will be awarded one of the four UD Mark ratings: UD Mark Certified, Gold, Gold<sup>PLUS</sup> or Platinum.

4 The UD Mark will be awarded in the form of a display plaque to certified developments to recognize and reflect their level of user-friendliness.

### **Assessment and application**

5 Interested parties would have to submit an application form to BCA to register their interest in participating in the UD Mark scheme. The assessment process would include:-

- a) preliminary meeting with the BCA assessment team for clarifications on the request for relevant documentation;

- b) actual assessment involving design and documentary reviews;
- c) site verification by BCA assessment team; and
- d) site assessment by a panel for projects with at least Gold<sup>PLUS</sup> rating after site verification.

6 The scheme is currently opened to the following categories:-

- a) New non-residential developments - this would include commercial (offices, hotels, retail malls), industrial, institutional, infrastructural and mixed use developments.
- b) Refurbished non-residential developments
- c) New residential developments - this would include public and private residential developments.

The scheme will be extended to existing buildings at a later date.

7 Details on the assessment and application process can be found in our website <http://www.bca.gov.sg/friendlybuilding>. For clarifications, please contact Ms Adeline Loo at DID: 6325 5086 or email: [adeline\\_loo@bca.gov.sg](mailto:adeline_loo@bca.gov.sg).

Yours faithfully



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