

**SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE
FIRE SAFETY & SHELTER BUREAU
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DID: 68481406
FAX: 68481493

5 Aug 2002

President, Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)

President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)

President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore (ACES)

Dear Sirs,

**INTERNAL COMMON WALL OF TWO ABUTTING
HOUSEHOLD SHELTERS FOR ADJACENT LANDED
DWELLING UNITS**

At the Fire Safety and Shelter Bureau (FSSB) Standing Committee Meeting 3/2002 held in May 2002, there was feedback that, similar to the requirements for non-landed dwelling units, an internal common wall of 2 abutting household shelters (HS) for adjacent landed dwelling units (e.g. semi-detached or intermediate terrace houses) should be allowed.

2 Clause 2.3.1 of the "Technical Requirements of Household Shelters 2001" only allows 2 abutting HS of adjacent **non-landed** dwelling units to have an internal common wall. The reason is that in the case of **landed** dwelling units, there is a possibility that in the reconstruction of one of the adjacent dwelling units, its HS could be demolished and relocated. If the two abutting HS share a common wall, the demolition of one HS could damage the integrity of the other HS. Hence, abutting shelter walls of HS of **landed** dwelling units are required to have a separation between them.

3 Following the feedback, we have reviewed the above. With the requirement that the QP has to submit alteration or strengthening details to BCA for approval if structural modifications are involved in any A&A or reconstruction proposal, we will allow abutting HS of adjacent landed dwelling units to share an internal common wall. The thickness and details of the internal common wall shall follow those of the abutting HS in adjacent non-landed dwelling units. This relaxation shall take effect from 1st Aug 2002 and applicable to cases submitted on or after **1st Aug 2002.**

4 Please contact Maj Chan Keen Mun at 68481406, or me should you require any clarification.

5 We would appreciate it if you could disseminate the contents of this circular to members of your Institution or Association.

Yours faithfully,

Maj Chong Kim Yuan
OIC Shelter Development
for Commissioner, Singapore Civil Defence Force

cc

CEO, BCA

Attn: Deputy CEO (Building Control)

Director (Special Functions)

Senior Manager (CDSD)

Manager (CDAS)

President, REDAS

bc

Comr SCDF

AC (GS)

Director FSSB

DD FSSB