

**SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE
FIRE SAFETY & SHELTER BUREAU**

**HQ Singapore Civil Defence Force
91 Ubi Ave 4 Singapore 408827 Fax : 6848 1488
Website : <http://www.scdf.gov.sg>**



Please quote our ref. no. in all future correspondences

Our Ref: CD/FSSB/12/01/03/04

DID: 68481409

FAX: 68481493

19 May 2003

Registrar, Board of Architects (BOA)
Registrar, Professional Engineers Board (PEB)
President, Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)
President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore (IES)
President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore (ACES)

Dear Sirs

**DRAFT PERFORMANCE - BASED FIRE SAFETY ENGINEERING PROVISIONS
FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

The current "Code of Practice for Fire Precautions in Buildings 2002" or Fire Code 2002 that is used as the basis for approving fire safety designs is largely prescriptive in nature. In recent years, the use of performance-based fire safety engineering approach in designing for fire safety has been gaining acceptance as an alternative to the prescriptive approach, as the former offers building designers greater design flexibility.

2. In view of the above, a Performance-Based Code Committee has been set up to look into the development of a performance-based code for use by the building industry. The performance-based code will serve to complement the current prescriptive Fire Code 2002. The committee is led by SCDF with representation from the Singapore Institute of Architects, Institute of Engineers, Singapore, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore, Institution of Fire Engineers, PSB Corporation, Building and Construction Authority, National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University and Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

3. We are pleased to announce that the draft performance-based code (as attached) has been completed and is now ready for public comment. In line with the current Fire Code 2002, the draft performance-based code is organised into 7 chapters. Chapters 1 and 9 in the Fire Code 2002 are on "General" and "Fire Safety Report" respectively and therefore do not contain any root or sub-objectives. The draft code contains the primary intentions (root objectives) of each chapter of the Fire Code 2002 and the considerations (sub-objectives) leading to meeting the root objectives. The root and sub-objectives will form the basis for the design of fire safety works. Building

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designers can either use fire safety engineering approach or the prescriptive Fire Code 2002 to fulfil these objectives. Qualified Persons, who based their fire safety design on the prescriptive Fire Code 2002, are deemed to have satisfied the root and sub-objectives of the performance-based code.

4. Please visit our web-site address: <http://www.scdf.gov.sg/html/psc/psc.html> and give your comments through the feedback provided therein. The closing date for public comment is on 31 Jul 2003.

5. Please convey the contents of this circular to members of your Institution/Association/Board. The circular is also available in CORENET-einfo: <http://www.corenet.gov.sg/einfo>.

6. For any inquiry or clarification, please contact anyone of the following officers: Mr Heng Chai Liang (tel. 68481452), Mr Edmund Choo (tel. 68481462) or Cpt Ng Kok Leong (tel: 68481459).

Yours faithfully

(Transmitted via e-mail)

Teo Lim Teck
Secretary, FSSB Standing Committee
for Commissioner
Singapore Civil Defence Force

cc
CEO, BCA
All members of FSSB Standing Committee
All members of Performance-Based Fire Code Working Committee
All members of Performance-Based Structural Working Committee
President, REDAS
President, IFE
President, SISV
CEO, HDB
Group President, PSA Corp
CEO, JTC
CE, LTA (Attn: Mr. Mohinder Singh)
CE, PSB Corp (Attn : Mr. Lau Keong Ong / Ms Tan Chiew Wan)