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Building Plan & Management Group

18 March 2015

## See Distribution List

Dear Sir/Madam

### **ADVISORY ON GOOD PRACTICES FOR DESIGN AND INSTALLATION OF SUSPENDED CEILING WORKS**

#### **Aim**

This letter is to advise the industry to adopt the following good practice in the design and installation of suspended ceilings, especially those with long spans and in large public assembly areas, so as to prevent progressive collapse.

#### **Good practice in the design and installation of suspended ceilings**

2 BCA recommends that as a good practice, the industry should adopt the following when designing and installing suspended ceilings (See diagram in Annex A):

- a) For requirements on designing, manufacturing, specifying and installation of suspended ceilings used in general interior applications, reference should be made to the following standards:
  - i) British/European Standard (BS EN 13964:2014 - Suspended ceilings - Requirements and test methods); or
  - ii) Australian/New Zealand Standard (AS/NZS 2785:2000 Suspended ceilings – Design and installation)
- b) Adequate 'openings' or 'breaks' should be provided in the suspended ceiling to allow discharge of water, in case of pipe leaks leading to water accumulation in the ceiling.
- c) The supporting frame for the suspended ceiling should not be continuous over a long span; the span should not be more than 12 metres span. There should be a separation between each of

these supporting frames so as to mitigate the risk of large scale progressive collapse of the suspended ceiling.

### **Contact Person for Clarifications**

3 Should you need further clarifications, please contact Mr. Tan Yu Jun at Tel 6804-4374) or by email to: [tan\\_yu\\_jun@bca.gov.sg](mailto:tan_yu_jun@bca.gov.sg).

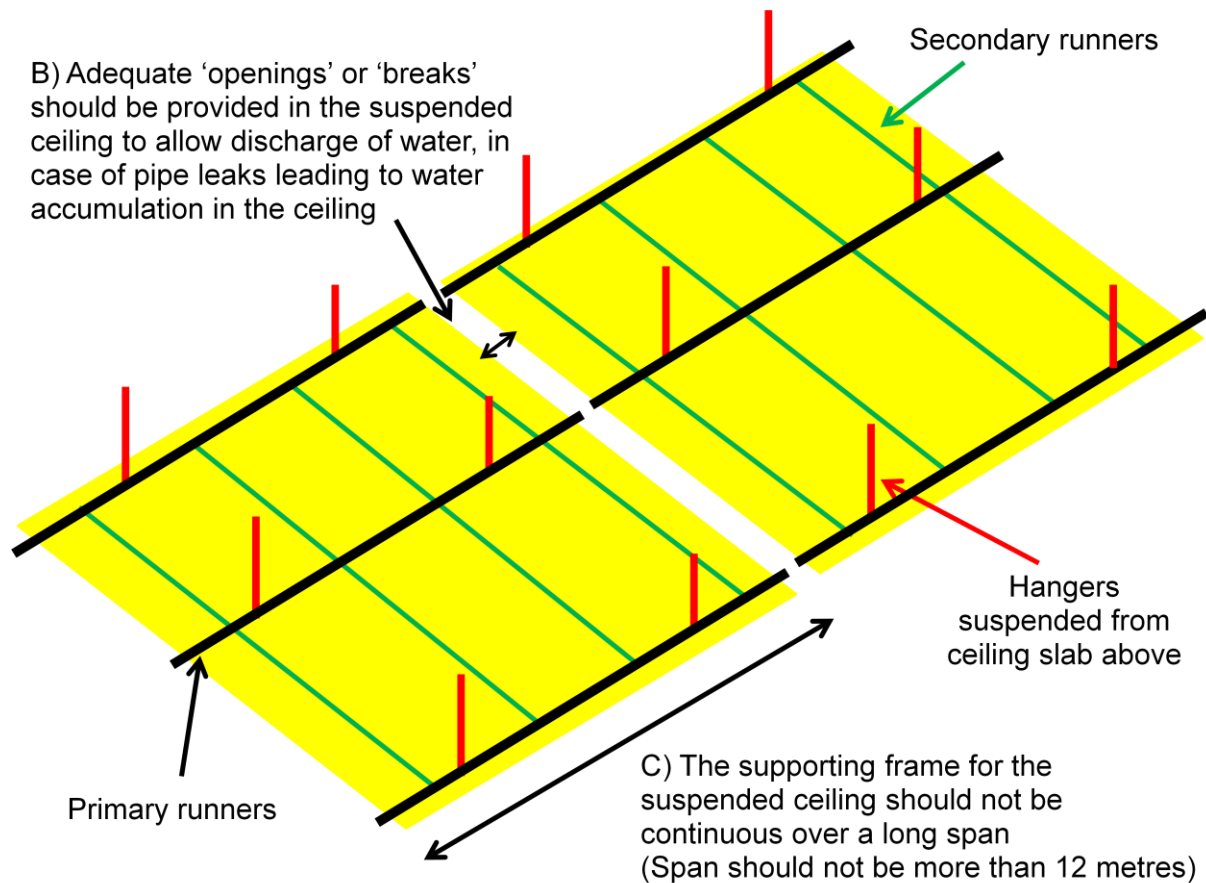
4 We would appreciate it if you could convey the contents of this letter to the members of your organisation.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Teo Orh Hai', enclosed within a circular scribble.

TEO ORH HAI  
DIRECTOR  
BUILDING PLAN AND MANAGEMENT GROUP  
for COMMISSIONER OF BUILDING CONTROL

## Good practices in the design and installation of suspended ceilings



### Simple representation of suspended ceiling

(This diagram is for illustrative purposes only)

A) To adopt BS or AS/NZS for design and installation	B) Opening to allow discharge of water	C) Separations between each supporting frames for suspended ceiling
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BS EN 13964:2014 Suspended ceilings - Requirements and test methods; or</li> <li>• AS/NZS 2785:2000 Suspended ceilings – Design and installation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adequate 'openings' or 'breaks' should be provided in the suspended ceiling</li> <li>• To allow discharge of water, in case of pipe leaks leading to water accumulation in the ceiling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting frames for the suspended ceiling should not be continuous, over a long span</li> <li>• Span should not be more than 12 metres span</li> <li>• To mitigate large-scale progressive collapse of ceilings</li> </ul>

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