Guidance Note on Household Electrical Products with Modular Integrated Construction Method

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this guidance note is:
 - (a) to draw the attention of the Authorized Persons (APs)/ Consultant and developers to the requirements on the supply of household electrical products in buildings/ developments with Modular Integrated Construction (MiC) method;
 - (b) to draw the attention of suppliers to the requirements on the supply of household electrical products in buildings/ developments and their obligations; and
 - (c) to give guidance on the requirements which must be met in the supply of household electrical products.

2. Guidance Notes for the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation

- The Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation (Cap. 406G), hereinafter referred as the "EPSR", is one of the subsidiary regulations of the Electricity Ordinance (Cap. 406), hereinafter referred as the "Ordinance". The EPSR stipulates the requirements for the supply of household electrical products in Hong Kong. The Guidance Notes for the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation (Notes) is a guide for suppliers of household electrical products to understand the requirements of the EPSR.
- The Notes also set out lists of standards that are deemed to satisfy the applicable safety requirements of the EPSR.

3. Interpretation

For the purposes of this Guidance Note, some of the definitions used in the Ordinance and the EPSR have been extracted herein for ease of reference:

- (a) "household electrical product" means an electrical product designed for household use.
- (b) "electrical product" means any current-using equipment, lighting fitting or accessory that uses low voltage or high voltage electricity.
- (c) "extra low voltage" means voltage normally not exceeding:
 - (i) 50V root mean square alternating current; or
 - (ii) 120V direct current.

- (d) "low voltage" means a voltage normally exceeding extra low voltage but normally not exceeding:
 - (i) between conductors, 1000V root mean square alternating current or 1500V direct current; or
 - (ii) between a conductor and earth, 600V root mean square alternating current or 900V direct current.
- (e) "high voltage" means voltage normally exceeding low voltage;
- (f) "supplier" means a person who supplies and electrical product;
- (g) "supply", in relation to the supply of an electrical product, means:
 - (i) to sell or hire out the electrical product;
 - (ii) to offer, keep or exhibit the electrical product for sale or for hiring out;
 - (iii) to exchange or dispose of the electrical product for any consideration;
 - (iv) to transmit, convey or deliver the electrical product in pursuance of a sale, a hiring out, or an exchange or disposal for any consideration; or
 - (v) for commercial purposes, to give the electrical product as a prize or to make a gift of such a product.
- (h) "certificate" means a document certifying the test results of an electrical product; and
- (i) "certificate of safety compliance" means a certificate issued under Part III of the EPSR.

4. Design Consideration for MiC

- 4.1 Household electrical products supplied in MiC projects, e.g. television sets, refrigerators, electric water heaters, etc., are regulated by the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation under the Electricity Ordinance (Cap. 406) if they are supplied in Hong Kong. Under the Regulation, the categories of persons that are regarded as suppliers are wide ranging, and include manufacturers, importers, wholesalers, retailers, etc., if such persons supply household electrical products in Hong Kong. Property developers may also be regarded as suppliers, as the Regulation also applies to the supply of household electrical products as part of or in connection with a disposition of any premises, if such a disposition, which includes a sale, lease, licence and permission to occupy, is the first disposition made prior to the first occupation of the premises.
- 4.2 Suppliers should ensure that any household electrical products they supply are in compliance with the applicable safety requirements of the Regulation, and the products should have been issued with valid certificates of safety compliance, as detailed in the Guidance Notes for the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation

5. Obligation of Suppliers

- 5.1 Suppliers should obtain documentary proof from their supplying sources to confirm the availability of the certificates of safety compliance.
- 5.2 Suppliers should check the product model and manufacturer's name are included in the certificate of safety compliance. Moreover, suppliers should confirm with the supplying sources that safety standards listed in the certificates of safety compliance fulfill the applicable safety requirements.
- For manufacturer, they should ensure that the safety standards of their products conform to the applicable safety requirements.
- 5.4 It is important that the suppliers should keep the relevant documentary proof and correspondences with their supplying sources for record and for the inspection by EMSD.

- End -

Electricity Legislation Division June 2019