Minutes of the 36th Meeting of the Electrical Safety Advisory Committee (ESAC)

Date : 27 March 2018

Time : 2:00 p.m.

Venue: Room 7102, 7/F, EMSD Headquarters, 3 Kai Shing Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong

Present

Mr CHUNG Fuk-wai, Simon (Chairman)

Mr SIT Wing-hang, Alfred Dr LIU Hong-fai, Dandy Mr CHEUNG Ching-yeung

Mr YIP Ping-nam Mr CHOI Wai-man

Mr TO Wang-kam, Albert

Mr SIN Long-ying

Professor HUNG Yeung-sam

Ms LAI Chui-yi, Annie

Mr LOK Kwei-sang, Tandy

Mr CHAN Chor-man, Chapman

Mr YU Chen-on, Emil

Mr WAI Yip-kin

Dr CHAN Ka-wing

Mr CHEUNG Hung-kwan

Ms LAM Lee, Alice

Ms NG So-kuen

Ms CHOI Wing-yee, Cornelia

Mr YIU Tak-tai, Boris (Secretary)

In attendance

Mr LAI Hon-chung, Harry Deputy Director/Regulatory Services, EMSD

Mr POON Kwok-ying, Raymond Assistant Director/Electricity and Energy

Efficiency, EMSD

Mr CHAN Ka-chung Chief Electrical and Mechanical

Engineer/Electricity Legislation, EMSD

Mr YAN Man-kit, Andrew Senior Electrical and Mechanical

Engineer/Consumer Installations, EMSD

Mr LAM Ping-wai Senior Electrical and Mechanical

Engineer/Electrical Products, EMSD

Mr NG Hin-yeung, Kenneth Acting Senior Electrical and Mechanical

Engineer/Nuclear and Utility Safety, EMSD

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Agenda Item 1: Opening Remarks

- 1. <u>The Chairman</u> welcomed members to the 36th meeting of the Electrical Safety Advisory Committee (ESAC). He introduced to members those who were in attendance at the meeting.
- 2. The Chairman reminded members that they must observe the guidelines on declaration of interests for members of public councils, boards and committees. If a member became aware that a conflict of interests might arise from his/her participation in the discussion of an agenda item, he/she must disclose full details of the interests involved accordingly. The interests declared would be recorded in the minutes of meeting.

Agenda Item 2: Confirmation of Minutes of the 35th Meeting Held on 4 October 2017

3. Members did not raise any amendment to the minutes of the 35th meeting or matters for follow-up. <u>The Chairman</u> declared the minutes of the 35th meeting confirmed. The Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) would arrange to upload the minutes of meeting on its website for public reference.

Agenda Item 3: Overview of Electrical Safety in 2017 (ESAC Paper 01/2018)

- 4. EMSD briefed members on the above paper, which presented an overview of the enforcement and promotional work on electrical safety in 2017.
- 5. A member stated that according to the paper, both the total number of incidents investigated in 2017 and the number of incidents confirmed to be related to the Electricity Ordinance dropped when compared with the numbers in 2016. However, there was an increase in the percentage of the number of incidents involving household electrical products in the total number of incidents confirmed to be related to the

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Electricity Ordinance. In view of this, the member suggested that EMSD could have a more in-depth understanding of and follow up on this aspect.

- 6. EMSD responded that it had also noticed the said figures. As a result, EMSD had planned to launch an outreach promotional programme for shops in 2018, and would organise regular collaboration meetings with the electrical products trade, with a view to promoting to suppliers the relevant legislation and safety requirements on electrical products. In addition, EMSD had been working closely with the Consumer Council to conduct testing for different types of electrical products, and the results of which were made available on the Consumer Council's platform so that suppliers could obtain the information of safety requirements on related electrical products more easily.
- 7. A member said that the publicity activities on electrical safety organised by EMSD were mostly targeted at members of the public. He asked whether this indicated that improper use of electrical products was the main cause of electrical incidents.
- 8. EMSD agreed that the information on incident analysis facilitated the development of relevant promotional and educational work. According to the analysis of EMSD, most of the incidents on household electrical products were generally related to improper use by users and lack of maintenance. This was why the promotional and educational work currently developed by EMSD was more focused on users. It was hoped that publicity and education could enhance the safety awareness of the public on household electrical products and reduce the occurrence of related incidents.

Agenda Item 4: Updates on the Implementation of the New Code of Practice for the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations (2015 Edition) (ESAC Paper 02/2018)

- 9. EMSD briefed members on the above paper, which presented updates on the implementation of the new Code of Practice for the Electricity (Wiring) Regulations (2015 Edition).
- 10. A member stated that the overall operation of the trade had been satisfactory since the full implementation of the Code of Practice for the

Electricity (Wiring) Regulations (2015 Edition).

Agenda Item 5: Any Other Business

- 11. A member said that there had been an increase in members of the public choosing to use extension units with USB ports, and some countries had already enacted legislation to regulate such electrical products. As there was an increasing public demand for such electrical products, the member hoped that EMSD could be concerned about the safety of such products in the future. Another member said that the case was similar for 13A sockets with USB ports, and hoped that EMSD would be concerned about this.
- 12. EMSD thanked the members for their views, and stated that extension units and sockets with USB ports were regulated by the Electrical Products (Safety) Regulation and new safety standards for such electrical products were already in place. EMSD had communicated with the trade in order that the trade could comply with the new standards in supplying the products. EMSD would keep abreast of the updating and formulation of standards for electrical products and remind the trade of the new standards in a timely manner.
- 13. No other business was raised by members.
- 14. Since this was the last meeting before the expiry of the current term of ESAC, Mr SIT Wing-hang, Alfred, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services, thanked all members on behalf of EMSD for their contribution to the enhancement of electrical safety, especially the outgoing chairman and members as follows: Mr CHUNG Fuk-wai, Simon, Mr YU Chen-on, Emil, Mr LOK Kwei-sang, Tandy, Mr SIN Long-ying, Mr CHOI Wai-man, Ir TO Wang-kam, Albert, Professor HUNG Yeung-sam, Mr CHAN Chor-man, Chapman, Ms LAM Lee, Alice, Mr LIU Hong-fai, Dandy, Mr CHEUNG Ching-yeung, Mr YIP Ping-nam and Ms NG So-kuen.
- 15. <u>The Chairman</u> thanked members for their attendance and adjourned the meeting. Members of the new term of ESAC would be informed of the date, time and venue of the next meeting in due course.