

**CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY TO
INITIAL WRITTEN QUESTION**

Head : 82 Buildings Department Subhead (No. & title) :

Programme : Buildings and Building Works

Controlling Officer : Director of Buildings

Director of Bureau : Secretary for Housing, Planning and Lands

Question :

In the coming financial year, the Buildings Department will introduce a proposed integrated site supervision system for building works and street works to replace the existing site supervision system. Can the Administration tell us:

- (1) the differences between these two systems?
- (2) whether there is a schedule for the implementation of the new system? How much additional provision is required?
- (3) comments and responses of the industry to the proposed new system?

Asked by : Hon. CHAN Kam-lam

Reply :

There are three existing types of supervision requirements under the Buildings Ordinance, viz:

- a) Site Safety Supervision – supervision to ensure that site works are carried out in a safe manner through specified site safety management arrangements. This is required for all kinds of building works;
- b) Quality Supervision – supervision to ensure that the quality of foundation works, soil nailing works for slope strengthening and ground investigation field works are up to standard; and
- c) Qualified Supervision for Geotechnical Works – supervision to ensure that geotechnical design requirements are closely followed when geotechnical works are being carried out.

Each of the above types of supervision requirements entails a different system of supervision in terms of the frequency of inspections and the competence and number of supervisors required under the system. At present, depending on the particular type of building works to be carried out, one, two or all three types of supervision requirements may be applicable for the same site, and separate sets of supervision proposals have to be prepared and submitted to the Building Authority before consent to commence the building works is given. The proposed integrated site supervision system consolidates the above three types of supervision requirements under one system and rationalizes the duties, grades and inspection frequencies of the site supervisors. The objective is mainly to simplify the procedures, and avoid duplication of the administrative efforts involved.

We intend to submit the revised Technical Memorandum for Supervision Plans which sets out the principles, requirements and operations of the proposed integrated site supervision system to the LegCo Panel on Planning, Lands and Works for consultation in mid-2005, and plan to implement the new system in December 2005. No additional provision is required for the implementation.

Wide consultation with building professionals and site supervisors has been conducted and the comments received have been taken into account in devising the new system where appropriate. The industry is generally supportive of the new system.

Signature	_____
Name in block letters	Marco WU
Post Title	Director of Buildings
Date	6 April 2005

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