

Message by Mr Conrad WONG, JP

Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Council



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It is a great honour to the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) to jointly organise the "Site Safety Forum for Works Contracts and Property Services Contracts" with the Hong Kong Housing Authority (HA) for seven consecutive years. As announced by the Chief Executive, a large number of Public Rental Housing and Home Ownership Scheme flats are to be built to meet the future housing needs of Hong Kong people. In the past three months, the HA granted about 22 contracts involving new projects. These new projects not only bring enormous business opportunities for the construction industry, but also pose challenges to site safety. In face of the great challenges, we have been working with the HA on the introduction of the "Safety Climate Index" and "Work Safe Behavior" in the safety audit for new projects, with the aim to enhance safety management on its sites. Last year, the Safety Auditing System was extended to cover the maintenance and improvement contracts, thus further fostering a safety culture, which, however, must be inculcated with a caring heart and put into action.

The HA has given this Safety Forum the theme "I Act with a Caring Heart". I think that the theme is very much to the point and it is indeed the core value of safety culture. When carrying out works, if we excuse ourselves from site safety management, saying that "it is not required by the law" or "it is not provided in the works contract", and are not mindful of the potential risks which face the workers as well as the site conditions, we do not really have a "caring heart". On the other hand, if we say that "the contractors will handle site safety on their own" or "let us finish our job before we work on site safety", we do not really "act" in a proactive manner. Accidents may occur any time. To achieve "Zero Accident", we must "act with a caring heart".

Even though the accident rate of the HA is lower than average in the industry, it still commits much time and effort to further enhancing the safety level. Its devotion and sincerity is truly impressive. This year marks the 25th anniversary of the OSHC, and hence our motto "25 years of safety begins with caring". Building Hong Kong with care begins with caring our own staff, which starts from the proper implementation of occupational safety and health measures. We shall continue to join hands with the HA, our long-time partner, in the quest for enhancing the work safety standard of Hong Kong, and achieving "Zero Incident" for every project.



Key to Safety
安全的鑰匙

I Act with a Caring Heart
從心出發 · 坐言起行
ZERO 零事故
Incident

地盤零意外 關懷建未來
Zero Accident, we Build, we Care!