

Message by Dr Alan CHAN Hoi-shou, JP Chairman of the Occupational Safety and Health Council



Dr Alan CHAN Hoi-shou,
JP

Good afternoon! This year marks the twelfth anniversary of the “Site Safety Forum for Works Contracts and Property Services Contracts”. I am glad to join the occasion and share with our friends in the industry the experience in enhancing safety at workplace and in property management work.

First of all, I would like to thank the Housing Authority (HA) for having formed such a strong partnership with the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) during all these years in a bid to enhance work safety in the construction and maintenance of public housing in Hong Kong. For example, HA has joined us in launching the Independent Safety Audit Scheme, as well as supported the appointment of OSH Star Enterprise in the repair, maintenance, alteration and addition (RMAA) industry and incorporated this specification as a contract requirement. Needless to say, OSHC has spared no effort in strengthening work safety. Apart from training, publicity, consultation and accreditation services, we have recently launched a number of industry-related subsidy programmes to help small and medium enterprises acquire suitable safety equipment, such as portable circuit breakers, upgraded portable work platforms, safety helmets with Y-strap, for the safety of workers.

Notwithstanding a robust safety management system and the provision of safety protection equipment and safety measures, “people” remains the key element of ensuring safety. In response to the theme of “Caring from the Heart, Safety Habits at Ease” this year, a property manager shared with us that mutual support and cooperation amongst all the parties concerned are essential for ensuring safety when carrying out works inside a property. When works are required in properties under his charge, he would call for a meeting with the contractors concerned to discuss a safe working method. For example, when he found out that the contractors needed to carry out work at height but did not have a suitable working platform, he would lend them equipment such as step platform or hop-up platform to ensure the work-above-ground safety for workers and also the safety of the property.

A safe working environment is built upon everyone’s dedication to his/her own duty with the practice of safe behaviour. An old saying goes that “knowing without doing is the equivalence of not knowing.” To achieve work safety, every one of us should pay full attention to the detailed work procedures, otherwise all the safety measures are just empty talk. Last but not least, we hope that besides providing a platform for experience sharing, today’s forum and also the display of safety products here can inspire us on ways to introduce more safety techniques to enhance work safety for achieving the goal of “safe work, zero incident”.

Thank you.



關愛由心做 安全無煩惱
Caring from the Heart Safety Habits at Ease