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> Quest for owners (actually volunteers) to establish Product Conformity Certification Scheme (PCCS) for concerned materials.

> Preparedness of testing laboratories to be HOKLAS accredited, or recognized under Mutual Recognition Agreement with Hong Kong Accreditation Service (HKAS).

> Any potential entities of interest to pursue accreditation as Certifying Bodies (CB) by HKAS.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION

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Other building materials being pursued for product certification in HKHA's development projects in 2012 / 2013

- uPVC drainage pipes & fittings(*)
- Close-coupled water closet suites(*)
- Mesh reinforcement

Note (*): Hong Kong Institution of Plumbing and Drainage Limited (HKIPD) has kindly agreed to prepare the two PCCSs.



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(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Cost and time of getting Product Certification

- Cost for each material to have certification is in the order of \$100,000, although some materials may require higher cost because of more expensive testing cost (e.g. fire resistance test for timber door or panel walls).
- The time frame of getting the certificate is around 6-9 months for well prepared application.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Product Certification Requirement vs Client's Requirements (CSR)

- > Product Certification (P.C.) Requirements are to be promoted to majority of factories supplying to Hong Kong industry.
- Standards should not be targeted too high, but to a level commensurate with majority needs in the industry; otherwise, P.C. may not be readily received.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Product Certification Requirement vs Client's Requirements (CSR) (cont'd)

- Client Specific Requirements (CSR) may be tailor-made to suit specific needs of client and can be specified under client's own contract specification associated with P.C.
- When the majority of industry has progressed to a higher standard, these CSR conditions could be incorporated into the PCCS.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Availability and Choice of Laboratories (In-territory vs Out-territory)

- Chief Executive Policy Address encourages Hong Kong Testing Services Industry to play an important role - one of the six pillars.
- Laboratory services in Hong Kong have a good reputation to be impartial and independent.
- Where appropriate, testing associated with P.C. audit may deploy Hong Kong laboratories under CSR, unless the testing laboratory for a particular material is not available in-territory.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Availability and Choice of Laboratories (In-territory vs Out-territory) (cont'd)

- Certification audit for critical tests should better be witnessed by representatives of certifying bodies.
- Testing should follow international standards; whereas frequency of testing should be nominal. Higher frequency of testing should better be under CSR, if required, for otherwise it may incur excessive cost and time to the manufacturers.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Overseas Suppliers vs Mainland Suppliers

- > Overseas or Mainland products which own good international brand name and which are produced under rigorous supervision may be exempted from P.C. requirements. The consideration for exemption could be handled on case-by-case basis.
- From practical point of view, it may also be difficult to conduct surveillance audits in very distant factories.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Overseas Suppliers vs Mainland Suppliers (cont'd)

- For products with well established factory control, accredited test certificates may suffice. Normally, with relatively large quantity of production for worldwide market, test certificates are issued more frequently and more up-to-date.
- For Mainland suppliers, particularly those in the Pearl River Region, control through P.C. in the upstream could assure better quality and safeguard the interest of our construction industry.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Traceability of Products

- Products certified in the factory are continuously delivered and disseminated to the clients. They may be transported directly to designated clients or to the open market.
- Designated clients may require certain traceability of products under CSR. For the open market, it is up to the manufacturer who may initiate their own system of traceability, such as product quality labels, to give purchasers better confidence.

(B) FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED IN IMPLEMENTATION



Traceability of Products (cont'd)

In HKHA, we will use Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) for four types of building products, namely precast facade, aluminum window, timber door and metal gateset.

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