

Speech by FS at Knowledge of Design Week 2018 opening ceremony (English only) (with photos/video)

Following is the speech by the Financial Secretary, Mr Paul Chan, at the Knowledge of Design Week 2018 opening ceremony this morning (June 13):

Eric (Chairman of the Hong Kong Design Centre, Professor Eric Yim), Victor (the Chairman of the Knowledge of Design Week Steering Committee, Mr Victor Lo), distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning.

It's a great pleasure to be here for this year's Knowledge of Design Week (KODW).

Every year since 2006, the global design community has gathered in Hong Kong to take part in Knowledge of Design Week. For the knowledge KODW imparts, certainly. For the wide-ranging connections it delivers. For the direction, the design vision, it offers – to corporations, start-ups and individuals alike.

Inspiration will surely drive this year's KODW, thanks to a world-class lineup of speakers, a wealth of workshops and forums and all under a "Design for Liveability" theme. One that resonates with the public as well as design professionals.

Indeed, making Hong Kong an even more liveable city is always high on our agenda.

Of course, enhancing a city's liveability is a continuing, ever-evolving challenge for government, as well as the design industry. Especially in a city like Hong Kong, where land resources are so limited.

The Hong Kong SAR Government produced, after considerable consultation, its Smart City Blueprint in December last year. It maps out development plans for the next five years to enhance the effectiveness of city management and improve people's quality of living and Hong Kong's attractiveness and sustainability by making use of innovation and technology.

This week's KODW will, no doubt, shed bright light on design's critical role in creating a liveable city. And I look forward to hearing more from the forums and workshops in the coming three days.

I know, for example, that KODW will feature three speakers from Melbourne, Australia. I'm sure they will share their thoughts on why Melbourne has been named the World's Most Liveable City – and for the past seven years in a row – in the Economist Intelligence Unit's "Global

Liveability Report."

Something to do, perhaps, with the coffee.

In any case, we are committed to ensuring that Hong Kong is as desirable a city to live in as it is to work in.

My thanks to the Hong Kong Design Centre for organising Knowledge of Design Week. And I invite you all to take part in December's Business of Design Week, another signature event from Hong Kong Design Week. This year's Partner City, I'm delighted to note, will be Melbourne.

Thank you.



Red flags hoisted at some beaches

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (June 13) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Shek O Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Hung Shing Yeh Beach, Lo So Shing Beach and Lower Cheung Sha Beach in Islands District; and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

Flag-raising ceremony cancelled

Owing to the thunderstorm warning, the flag-raising ceremony to be conducted at Golden Bauhinia Square, Wan Chai at 8am today (June 13) will be cancelled.

Employers, contractors and employees should be aware of electrical safety at work during rainstorm

As the rainstorm warning has been issued by the Hong Kong Observatory, the Labour Department (LD) reminds employers and contractors that they should adopt necessary work arrangements and take suitable safety measures to protect the safety of their employees when they are carrying out electrical work or handling electrical plant.

A spokesman for the LD said today (June 13) that employers and contractors should avoid assigning employees to carry out electrical work (like electric arc welding work) or handle electrical plant at places affected by rainstorms, and should refer to the "Code of Practice in times of Typhoons and Rainstorms" and the "Guide on Safety at Work in times of Inclement Weather" issued by the LD.

Even if electrical work is carried out or electrical plant is handled at places not affected by the rainstorm, suitable safety measures must still be adopted to prevent electric shock as the air would be more humid. Such measures include:

- (i) Ensure that all live parts of an electrical installation are isolated from the power supply source and rendered dead, and the isolation from the power supply source must be maintained as long as electrical work is being carried out;
- (ii) Before carrying out any electrical work or handling any electrical plant, cut off and lock out the power supply source, then test the circuit concerned to confirm it is dead and display suitable warning notices, and issue a work permit thereafter;
- (iii) Ensure that protective devices (such as suitable and adequate fuses and circuit breakers) for the electrical installations or electrical plant have been installed and maintained in good working order, and portable electric

tools must be double-insulated or properly earthed;

(iv) Provide suitable personal protective equipment such as insulating gloves and insulating mats for employees; and

(v) If live electrical work is unavoidable, a comprehensive risk assessment should be conducted by a competent person and the appropriate safety precautions should be taken to remove or properly control the electrical hazards involved before such work can proceed.

In addition, employees should co-operate with the employer or contractor to follow the safety instructions and use the safety equipment provided.

The LD has published guidebooks and leaflets on electrical work safety. These safety publications are available free from divisional offices of the department or can be downloaded from its website (www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/content2_8.htm).

Should there be any questions about occupational safety and health matters, please contact the Occupational Safety Officer of the LD at 2559 2297.

Public urged to report flooding

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible and repeat it at suitable intervals:

Members of the public are advised to report any street flooding that comes to their notice to the Drainage Services Department by calling the 24-hour drainage hotline on 2300 1110.