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## Legislative Council Panel on Manpower

### Hong Kong's Occupational Safety Performance in the First Half of 2012

#### Purpose

This paper briefs Members on Hong Kong's occupational safety performance in the first half of 2012. In the light of some Members' concerns about the occupational safety of electrical works and mega infrastructure projects, this paper focuses on the specific counter-measures adopted by the Administration to curb the recent spate of industrial accidents in the construction industry.

#### Statistics

2. In the past decade, the number of occupational injuries<sup>1</sup> decreased from 47 023 in 2002 to 40 578 in 2011, representing a drop of 13.7%. The number of industrial accidents<sup>2</sup> also decreased from 22 453 in 2002 to 13 658 in 2011, down by 39.2%.

3. The number of industrial accidents for all sectors in the first half of 2012 was 6 145, representing a drop of 4.5% over 6 436 in the same period of 2011. The accident rate per 1 000 workers also decreased by 6.4%, from 22.3 to 20.9 (**Table 1**). Most of the accidents, except those of the construction industry, were of a minor nature and mainly due to "slip, trip or fall on the same level" and "incorrect manual lifting or carrying".

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1 Occupational injuries refer to injury cases in workplaces reported under the Employees' Compensation Ordinance, resulting in death or incapacity for work of over three days.

2 Industrial accidents refer to injuries and deaths arising from industrial activities in industrial undertakings as defined under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance.

**Table 1 – Industrial Accidents in All Sectors**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011 1 <sup>st</sup> half	2012 1 <sup>st</sup> half
Fatal	24	21	18	29	13	7 (-46.2%)
Non-fatal	14 908	13 579	13 997	13 629	6 423	6 138 (-4.4%)
Total	14 932	13 600	14 015	13 658	6 436	6 145 (-4.5%)
Accident Rate/1 000 workers	27.2	24.6	24.9	23.6	22.3	20.9 (-6.4%)

Figures in brackets denote % change of the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2012 when compared with the same period of 2011.

4. All of the 7 industrial fatalities in the first half of 2012 occurred at construction sites. A breakdown of the industrial accidents in all workplaces in the first half of 2012 by industry section is at **Annex 1**.

#### Industrial Accidents in the Construction Industry

5. The construction industry recorded the highest number of fatalities and accident rate among all industries, and the number of industrial accidents in the sector increased to 1 470 in the first half of 2012, up by 4.7%, when compared with 1 404 in the same period of 2011. However, the accident rate per 1 000 workers decreased from 47.8 to 41.3, down by 13.6% (**Table 2**). A breakdown by the type of accidents in the construction industry is at **Annex 2**. However, by end-November 2012, the number of fatal accidents in the construction sector rose to 22 when compared with 20 in the same period of 2011.

**Table 2 – Industrial Accidents in the Construction Industry**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011 1 <sup>st</sup> half	2012 1 <sup>st</sup> half
Fatal	20	19	9	23	8	7 (-12.5%)
Non-fatal	3 013	2 736	2 875	3 089	1 396	1 463 (+4.8%)
Total	3 033	2 755	2 884	3 112	1 404	1 470 (+4.7%)
Accident Rate / 1 000 workers	61.4	54.6	52.1	49.7	47.8	41.3 (-13.6%)

Figures in brackets denote % change of the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2012 when compared with the same period of 2011.

Industrial Accidents in the Food and Beverage Service Sector<sup>3</sup>

6. Although the number of industrial accidents in the food and beverage services sector topped all industries, it continued to show a downward trend and most of accidents were of a minor nature. In the first half of 2012, the number of accidents decreased to 3 063, down by 10.3% when compared with 3 413 in the same period of 2011. The accident rate per 1 000 workers decreased from 29.5 to 26.2, down by 11.4% (**Table 3**). A breakdown of the accidents in the food and beverage services by type of accident is at **Annex 3**.

**Table 3 – Industrial Accidents in the Food and Beverage Services Sector**

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011 1 <sup>st</sup> half	2012 1 <sup>st</sup> half
Fatal	0	0	0	0	0	0 (--)
Non-fatal	8 049	7 470	7 541	7 158	3 413	3 063 (-10.3%)
Total	8 049	7 470	7 541	7 158	3 413	3 063 (-10.3%)
Accident Rate / 1 000 workers	38.7	35.7	34.7	30.9	29.5	26.2 (-11.4%)

Figures in brackets denote % change of the 1<sup>st</sup> half of 2012 when compared with the same period of 2011.

<sup>3</sup> Owing to the change of HSIC from Version 1.1 to Version 2.0, there were changes to the title and coverage of individual industries. The catering industry in HSIC Version 1.1 becomes the food and beverage services in HSIC Version 2.0.

## Counter Measures

7. The Labour Department (LD) continues to protect the safety and health of people at work through a multi-pronged approach of inspection and enforcement, publicity and promotion, as well as education and training, so as to promote and foster a culture of safety and health at work in industries and all levels of society.

8. In the first three quarters of 2012, we conducted 98 867 inspections and, as a result, issued 24 127 warnings and 1 794 suspension notices (SNs)/improvement notices (INs). We initiated 1 835 prosecutions against breaches of safety legislation. In addition to planned inspections, LD stepped up special enforcement efforts during that period by launching seven territory-wide operations targeting new works sites, repair, maintenance, alteration and addition (RMAA) works sites, work-at-height, electrical works, waste treatment work, the catering industry and the logistic, cargo and container handling industry. Under these special operations, we inspected 15 905 workplaces and issued 4 614 warnings. We also issued 223 SNs (increased by 210% compared with the same period of 2011) and 488 INs (increased by 55% compared with the same period of 2011) and initiated a total of 614 prosecutions (increased by 82% compared with the same period of 2011).

9. In light of the higher accident toll in the construction and catering industries, LD continued to implement large-scale publicity and promotional activities in collaboration with relevant industry stakeholders in 2012, including the Construction Industry Safety Award Scheme and the Catering Industry Safety Award Scheme, with a view to enhancing the safety awareness of persons in the relevant industries.

10. LD and the Occupational Safety and Health Council (OSHC) jointly launched a number of sponsorship schemes to provide financial support to the small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) of the construction and catering industries to purchase safety equipment and provide related training, with a view to changing the work habits and attitudes of those engaged in the industries gradually, so as to enhance their OSH awareness. The sponsorship schemes cover the following areas:

- (a) purchase the Transportable Temporary Anchor Device and provide related training to employees;
- (b) purchase Log-out Tag-out Kit for isolation of electrical source;
- (c) install the reversing video device on heavy vehicles going through construction sites;
- (d) employ recognised safety consultants to conduct risk assessment and purchase gas-testing equipment in confined space operation;

- and
- (e) purchase cut-resistant gloves and slip-resistant shoes, as well as provide related OSH training.

## **Measures to Enhance Occupational Safety in the Construction Industry**

11. The construction industry is facing various challenges. The commencement of a number of mega infrastructure projects and a large number of maintenance works projects for old buildings have exerted great pressure on the resources and manpower in the industry. The number of site workers increased significantly by 40% from 51 000 in 2009 to 72 000 in the second quarter of this year. An ageing workforce in the industry and occupational hazards brought about by special work processes have posed further challenges.

12. The 22 fatal accidents in the construction sector in 2012 were mainly related to work-at-height (10 cases) and electrical works (7 cases). Six of the fatal cases occurred in public works projects. LD has accordingly focused its enforcement on high-risk work situations such as work-at-height safety and electrical works safety, and stepped up inspection of mega infrastructure projects.

### Work-at-height Safety

13. Regarding work-at-height, with the ageing of buildings, high risk work processes including RMAA works, scaffolding and external wall maintenance works will continue to grow. In addition to stepping up area patrols and enforcement inspections outside office hours, LD launched two special enforcement operations targeting RMAA works this year. As a result, LD issued 215 SNs (triple those of the previous year) and over 260 INs (double those of the previous year), and initiated over 360 prosecutions (2.5 times over those of the previous year).

14. LD and OSHC jointly launched in June this year the “OSH Star Enterprise Scheme on RMAA Safety Accreditation”. Through offering financial incentives, enterprises are encouraged to improve their occupational safety performance. Currently, more than 50 SMEs of RMAA works have joined the Scheme. In November this year, four of them successfully passed the safety audit and were accredited as Star Enterprise. Those accredited contractors who have procured employees’ insurance under the Employees’ Compensation Insurance Residual Scheme can enjoy 40% discount in premium.

15. LD has stepped up publicity on work-at-height and scaffolding safety, and reminded workers their duties of properly using appropriate personal

protective equipment. These include broadcasting Announcement of Public Interest on television and radio, displaying promotional banners and posters in various districts throughout the territory and displaying large banners at the facade of the participating buildings under “Operation Building Bright”, etc. In collaboration with OSHC, we have also organised various promotional activities and launched a sponsorship scheme for SMEs of RMAA works to assist them to purchase necessary safety equipment for RMAA works.

16. At the district level, in conjunction with the Home Affairs Department and the District Boards, LD has organised seminars, disseminated related safety knowledge through building management courses, arranged safety talks for property management personnel and organised roving exhibitions, etc. We have recently collaborated with a property management company to produce guidance notes on RMAA works safety for distribution to households and contractors carrying out RMAA works in the buildings under its management.

#### Electrical Works Safety

17. In the past five months, there were seven fatal accidents involving electrocution in the construction industry. LD issued Work Safety Alerts and safety hints for electrical works to industry stakeholders and uploaded such information onto its website immediately after the accidents. In addition, an advisory letter was issued in October this year to construction contractors, associations of electrical and mechanical/electrical appliance services, relevant professional organisations and workers’ unions to remind contractors and workers of the importance of taking adequate precautionary measures when carrying out electrical works. These included avoiding electrical works on live circuits, providing effective supervision and adequate training for workers. In particular, industry stakeholders were advised to safely isolate electricity source and exercise extra care when carrying out modification/repair works on electrical installations already put in service, working in restrictive workplaces (e.g. the voids above false ceilings) or conductive work environment, and working at height (e.g. on stepladders).

18. In addition to stepping up routine inspections, LD conducted a joint blitz operation with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department in October this year, during which immediate enforcement actions were taken against those in breach of electrical safety regulations. In the operation, around 50 workplaces were inspected within two weeks. As a result, LD issued 7 SNs and 42 INs with 48 prosecutions to be initiated. We will continue our rigorous enforcement actions in the near future to deter unsafe work practice.

19. For promotional and educational approach, LD launched a series of

measures in October 2012 as follows:

- (a) guidelines on safe use of electricity were issued to 80 000 registered electrical workers and 10 000 contractors;
- (b) publications on electrical works safety were distributed through workers' unions and trade associations and work safety messages with pictorial illustrations were published in newspapers;
- (c) safety messages on the use of electricity were broadcast on buses; and
- (d) a new Announcement of Public Interest on electrical works safety was broadcast on the radio.

20. In November this year, a launching ceremony of electrical works safety promotional activities was jointly organised by LD, OSHC and trade associations of the construction as well as electrical and mechanical service industries. Training kits on electrical safety were produced by OSHC for contractors to conduct on-site "Tool Box Talk" to brief workers on electrical works safety. LD has also compiled a new casebook on electrocution accidents that happened in recent years with relevant safety precautionary measures. The casebook will be distributed to electrical contractors and workers at the Electrical Works Safety Seminar to be held in December this year.

21. LD, in collaboration with OSHC, launched two sponsorship schemes to better equip SMEs with relevant safety equipment. Under the schemes, SMEs are sponsored to acquire Log-out Tag-out Kits and portable residual current devices respectively for the prevention of industrial accidents caused by current leakage.

### Safety Monitoring of Mega Infrastructure Projects

22. In the light of the commencement of mega infrastructure projects, LD has established a dedicated team, through stepping up inspection and enforcement action, as well as publicity and promotion, to urge contractors to implement safety management systems on construction sites and participate in their project preparatory meetings and site safety management meetings for the prevention of accidents.

23. The Development Bureau (DevB) and works departments strive to promote the work safety standard of public works projects, through enhancing the safety management systems in public works contracts, effective monitoring of contractors' safety performance, implementing a merit and demerit system, as well as organizing safety promotional activities in collaboration with construction industry stakeholders, etc. In the light of the commencement of

mega infrastructure projects, DevB conducted a review on the relevant safety management system in 2010/2011 and formulated a series of enhancement measures, including strengthening the monitoring of the contractors, enhancing the existing merit and demerit system for the contractors, reinforcing the safety training for site supervisors and strengthening the publicity and promotion work. Details of the relevant measures are at Annex 4.

24. Moreover, DevB is exploring ways to further strengthen site safety audits. In parallel, LD will step up scrutiny of safety audit reports and hold regular meetings with DevB and the works departments to exchange views on the safety performance and safe method statements of the contractors. LD will closely coordinate with DevB and works departments to enhance the safety management system of the contractor for the prevention of accidents.

### **Partnering Collaboration**

25. LD held a Construction Safety Forum in March 2012 to explore, in conjunction with industry stakeholders, means to enhance construction safety through strengthening site management, enhancing safety awareness of workers, improving the safety management system, etc. We have implemented the various improvement measures in stages with relevant bodies and organisations, including a programme for caring of new workers, which was launched in July this year with the support of over 60 contractors. Relevant works departments have already incorporated a similar arrangement into the safety regulatory system of public works contractors to promote the programme. The “OSH Star Enterprise Scheme” for contractors of RMAA works mentioned in paragraph 14 is also one of the measures put forward at the Construction Safety Forum. Moreover, we have revised the content of the Mandatory Basic Safety Training Revalidation Course (Construction Work), which was implemented in October this year.

26. To further enhance the safety awareness of workers, LD in collaboration with the industry associations and trade unions, organised “Roving Safety Talk to Construction Workers” to brief workers on the causes of accidents and relevant preventive measures. Furthermore, we have strengthened the publicity work of site safety by producing pictorial safety leaflets and notepads in Chinese and languages of ethnic minorities, targeting high risk work processes on construction sites in order to enhance workers’ understanding and awareness of site safety. Other improvement measures, including devising a safety training programme for site supervisors, formulating a code of conduct and enhancing the continuing professional development programme for safety practitioners, as well as drafting guidelines on clients’ participation in site safety, will be launched early next year.

## **Way Forward**

27. LD will continue to work in close partnership with related organisations, such as OSHC, the Construction Industry Council, trade associations, workers' unions, professional bodies, district councils and other government bureaux/departments. We will actively promote OSH through enforcement, promotion and publicity.

## **Advice Sought**

28. Members are invited to note the content of this paper and give views on the aforesaid measures.

Labour and Welfare Bureau  
Labour Department  
December 2012

**Industrial Accidents in All Workplaces  
in 1st Half of 2012  
- analysed by Industry Section**

二零一二年上半年所有工作地點之工業意外個案 - 按行業主類分析

Industry Section 行業主類	1st Half of 2011 二零一一年上半年	1st Half of 2012 二零一二年上半年	Change 增減	Percentage Change 增減率
Agriculture, forestry and fishing 農業、林業及漁業	0	0	---	n.a.
Mining and quarrying 採礦及採石業	0	0	---	n.a.
Manufacturing 製造業	920 (3)	972	52	5.7%
Electricity, gas and waste management 電力、燃氣及廢棄物管理	51 (1)	42	-9	-17.6%
Construction 建造業	1 404 (8)	1 470 (7)	66	4.7%
Import/export, wholesale and retail trades 進出口貿易、批發及零售業	0	0	---	n.a.
Transportation, storage, postal and courier services 運輸、倉庫、郵政及速遞服務	525 (1)	488	-37	-7.0%
Accommodation and food services 住宿及膳食服務	3 413	3 063	-350	-10.3%
Information and communications 資訊及通訊	11	16	5	45.5%
Financing and insurance 金融及保險	0	0	---	n.a.
Real estate 地產	0	0	---	n.a.
Professional and business services 專業及商用服務	0	0	---	n.a.
Public administration, and social and personal services 公共行政以及社會及個人服務	112	94	-18	-16.1%
Other industries 其他行業	0	0	---	n.a.
<b>TOTAL 總數</b>	<b>6 436 (13)</b>	<b>6 145 (7)</b>	<b>-291</b>	<b>-4.5%</b>

## Notes:

- Industrial accidents refer to injuries and deaths arising from industrial activities in industrial undertakings as defined under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance.
- Figures in brackets denote the number of fatalities.
- The above accident figures are recorded as at 28 September 2012.
- The above statistics are compiled based on the Hong Kong Standard Industrial Classification Version 2.0.
- "n.a." means not applicable.

## 註釋:

- 工業意外是指在《工廠及工業經營條例》所界定的工業經營內發生的受傷或死亡意外，而這些意外是因工業活動而引致的。
- 括號內的數字顯示死亡人數。
- 上列意外數字為截至2012年9月28日所記錄的數字。
- 以上的統計數字是按《香港標準行業分類2.0版》編製。
- "n.a." 是指不適用。

**Industrial Accidents in Construction Industry  
in 1st Half of 2012  
- analysed by Type of Accident**

**二零一二年上半年建造業之工業意外個案 - 按意外類別分析**

Type of Accident 意外類別	1st Half of 2011 二零一一年上半年	1st Half of 2012 二零一二年上半年	Change 增減
Trapped in or between objects 受困於物件之內或物件之間	46	58	12
Injured whilst lifting or carrying 提舉或搬運物件時受傷	286	235	-51
Slip, trip or fall on same level 滑倒、絆倒或在同一高度跌倒	293	375	82
Fall of person from height 人體從高處墮下	188 (3)	186 (3)	-2
Striking against fixed or stationary object 與固定或不動的物件碰撞	120	123	3
Striking against or struck by moving object 被移動物件或與移動物件碰撞	218 (2)	247 (1)	29
Stepping on object 踏在物件上	16	10	-6
Exposure to or contact with harmful substance 暴露於有害物質中或接觸有害物質	9	6	-3
Contact with electricity or electric discharge 觸電或接觸放出的電流	2	4 (2)	2
Trapped by collapsing or overturning object 受困於倒塌或翻側的物件	2	2	---
Struck by falling object 遭墮下的物件撞擊	28 (2)	33	5
Struck by moving vehicle 遭移動中的車輛撞倒	8	3	-5
Contact with moving machinery or object being machined 觸及開動中的機器或觸及以機器製造中的物件	93	96	3
Drowning 遇溺	1 (1)	0	-1
Exposure to fire 火警燒傷	10	3	-7
Exposure to explosion 爆炸受傷	2	1	-1
Injured by hand tool 被手工具所傷	47	47	---
Injured by fall of ground 泥土傾瀉受傷	0	1 (1)	1
Asphyxiation 窒息	0	0	---
Contact with hot surface or substance 觸及灼熱表面或物質	10	16	6
Injured by animal 被動物所傷	1	0	-1
Injured in workplace violence 於工作場所暴力事件中受傷	0	0	---
Others 其他類別	24	24	---
<b>TOTAL</b> 總數	<b>1 404 (8)</b>	<b>1 470 (7)</b>	<b>66</b>

## Notes:

- Industrial accidents refer to injuries and deaths arising from industrial activities in industrial undertakings as defined under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance.
- Figures in brackets denote the number of fatalities.
- The above accident figures are recorded as at 28 September 2012.

## 註釋:

- 工業意外是指在《工廠及工業經營條例》所界定的工業經營內發生的受傷或死亡意外，而這些意外是因工業活動而引致的。
- 括號內的數字顯示死亡人數。
- 上列意外數字為截至2012年9月28日所記錄的數字。

**Industrial Accidents in Food and Beverage Services  
in 1st Half of 2012  
- analysed by Type of Accident**

**二零一二年上半年餐飲服務業之工業意外個案 - 按意外類別分析**

Type of Accident 意外類別	1st Half of 2011 二零一一年上半年	1st Half of 2012 二零一二年上半年	Change 增減
Trapped in or between objects 受困於物件之內或物件之間	46	37	-9
Injured whilst lifting or carrying 提舉或搬運物件時受傷	570	462	-108
Slip, trip or fall on same level 滑倒、絆倒或在同一高度跌倒	540	587	47
Fall of person from height 人體從高處墮下	22	24	2
Striking against fixed or stationary object 與固定或不動的物件碰撞	337	360	23
Striking against or struck by moving object 被移動物件或與移動物件碰撞	157	147	-10
Stepping on object 踏在物件上	5	0	-5
Exposure to or contact with harmful substance 暴露於有害物質中或接觸有害物質	36	27	-9
Contact with electricity or electric discharge 觸電或接觸放出的電流	1	1	---
Trapped by collapsing or overturning object 受困於倒塌或翻側的物件	0	0	---
Struck by falling object 遭墮下的物件撞擊	9	10	1
Struck by moving vehicle 遭移動中的車輛撞倒	19	8	-11
Contact with moving machinery or object being machined 觸及開動中的機器或觸及以機器製造中的物件	39	25	-14
Drowning 遇溺	0	0	---
Exposure to fire 火警燒傷	16	2	-14
Exposure to explosion 爆炸受傷	0	0	---
Injured by hand tool 被手工具所傷	823	676	-147
Injured by fall of ground 泥土傾瀉受傷	0	0	---
Asphyxiation 窒息	0	0	---
Contact with hot surface or substance 觸及灼熱表面或物質	746	658	-88
Injured by animal 被動物所傷	7	7	---
Injured in workplace violence 於工作場所暴力事件中受傷	1	2	1
Others 其他類別	39	30	-9
<b>TOTAL</b> 總數	<b>3 413</b>	<b>3 063</b>	<b>-350</b>

## Notes:

1. Industrial accidents refer to injuries and deaths arising from industrial activities in industrial undertakings as defined under the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance.
2. Figures in brackets denote the number of fatalities.
3. The above accident figures are recorded as at 28 September 2012.

## 註釋:

1. 工業意外是指在《工廠及工業經營條例》所界定的工業經營內發生的受傷或死亡意外，而這些意外是因工業活動而引致的。
2. 括號內的數字顯示死亡人數。
3. 上列意外數字為截至2012年9月28日所記錄的數字。

## **Enhanced Safety Measures in Public Works Projects**

### **Strengthening the monitoring of Contractors**

1. All along, works departments and their site supervisory staff have been monitoring the safety performance of contractors through various means, such as safety inspection, site safety management committee, and quarterly performance assessment. To further enhance the control of public works contractors on site safety by works departments, the Development Bureau (DEVB) has introduced a pre-warning system whereby directorate officers of works departments shall interview the senior management of contractors and request the contractors to submit improvement plans whenever there is an upward trend in the number of accidents in individual works contracts.

2. Besides, every works department has set up a dedicated committee to be chaired by a senior directorate officer to examine and review the safety performance of individual public works contracts regularly. The directorate officers of works departments will also hold regular meetings with their contractors to discuss site safety and share relevant experience.

### **Enhancing the Existing Merit and Demerit System for Contractors**

3. DEVB has introduced the "Pay for Safety Scheme" since 1990's to separate the safety provisions from the competitive bidding through the inclusion of a set of independent and pre-priced safety items in the tender documents, and to pay the contractors if they have implemented the relevant safety items. To further reward contractors with good safety performance, DEVB will introduce a performance-tied (e.g. accident rate and number of prosecutions by the Labour Department) payment scheme.

4. Moreover, contractors' past safety performance / accident rates would be taken into account under the current tender assessment system. To give tenderers with good past safety performance record a higher chance of winning a tender, DEVB will accord a heavier weighting on accident rates when evaluating the tenderers' past performance in tender assessment such that contractors having low accident rates will have a higher chance in winning a tender.

5. Under the current contractor's quarterly performance appraisal system, the assessment of contractors' performance is mainly based on their compliance with relevant contractual provisions. To encourage contractors to be more pro-active in implementing caring measures to site personnel, DEVB has enhanced the quarterly safety performance appraisal system by incorporating four scoring items, namely (a) implementation of a "New Comers Caring Programme", whereby a special sticker will be posted on the safety helmets of new comers to enable them to be easily identified by the supervisory staff and other co-workers for enhanced caring and safety training; (b) using pictorial procedures to enable better understanding by workers; (c) encouraging the reporting of "near miss" incidents; and (d) giving safety reminders to workers on recent serious accidents happened on other sites. Contractors will receive extra marks in the quarterly performance appraisal reports if they have implemented these measures proactively.

### **Reinforcing the Safety Training for Site Supervisors**

6. Workers working in public works contracts have been required to receive a variety of safety training, including induction training, tool box talks of different topics, and "Safety Training Course for Construction Workers of Specified Trade" (i.e. silver card course) organised by the Construction Industry Council (CIC) for workers undertaking high-risk works. Our accident analyses in recent years have reflected that frontline supervisors play a pivotal role in construction safety. Accordingly, DEVB has introduced a new contractual provision in public works contracts requiring all frontline supervisors to attend the "Construction Safety Supervisor Course" to ensure that they have acquired and equipped with sufficient safety knowledge.

### **Strengthening the Publicity and Promotional Work**

7. Since 1995, DEVB has been organising the annual "Considerate Contractors Site Award Scheme" (CCSAS) to recognize contractors demonstrating good site safety and health performance, and to promote considerate attitude in carrying out the works and good practices in safety, health and environmental protection. In order to reward and give recognition to workers and frontline supervisors who have exhibited good safety performance and outstanding performance in promoting safety culture on construction sites, we have introduced the "Model Workers Award" and "Model Frontline Supervisors Award" in the CCSAS. DEVB hopes that the winners can help promote the safety culture to other co-workers.

8. Further, DEVB, CIC and the Hong Kong Construction Association jointly organised the Construction Safety Week (CSW) in May 2012, featuring the theme of "Zero Accident". The Construction Safety Week has enhanced the safety awareness of practitioners at every level and reinforced their commitment to site safety through various kinds of activities including the CSW Summit, conference, site visits, roving exhibition, and signing of the Joint Declaration. DEVB and CIC are preparing to launch more safety promotional activities in order to strengthen the message of "Zero Accident".