

## FACTSHEET ON DESIGN FOR SAFETY RESOURCES

### Introduction

The Workplace Safety and Health (Design for Safety) Regulations will come into effect on 1 August 2016. To help industry better understand their duties under the WSH (Design for Safety) Regulations, the Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) Council and Ministry of Manpower (MOM) have rolled out three new initiatives.

### Design for Safety Video

2 A new video has been produced to educate the construction industry on the new WSH (Design for Safety) Regulations. The video will provide insights on the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders involved in a construction project and how they can work together to improve construction WSH outcomes through DfS. The video will be screened at industry forums and is available on the WSH Council's website. Training providers and companies are also encouraged to make use of the video for training purposes.

*Screenshots of Design for Safety video*



### Design for Safety Guidelines

3 This set of guidelines replaces the existing *Guidelines on Design for Safety in Buildings and Structures* (first issued in 2008, first revision in 2011). The new DfS guidelines aim to assist key stakeholders such as developers, designers and contractors on addressing risks at source and plan for safe work in regard to the building or structure as a workplace. The guidelines will specify duties of various stakeholders, and Design Reviews to help them identify and understand the risks early in the project so that risk controls can be established to eliminate or reduce risks. The DfS Guidelines will be launched by end 2016.

**Infographic on Design for Safety**

4 The WSH Council and MOM have also produced a new infographic to provide useful, bite-sized information on the stakeholders' duties under the WSH (Design for Safety) Regulations and the benefits of implementing DfS.

5 For more information and to download resources on DfS, go to [www.wshc.sg/designforsafety](http://www.wshc.sg/designforsafety)



**WHAT IS DESIGN FOR SAFETY**

Design for Safety or DfS in short, is about identifying and managing risks right from the design and planning of a building project, to the construction and maintenance phases. Any foreseeable risks should be communicated to all stakeholders throughout the project lifecycle.

**WHO ARE THE STAKEHOLDERS AND WHAT ARE THEIR DUTIES?**

**Risk Mitigation Principles:**

- 1 Eliminate all foreseeable risks at the design stage
- 2 Where it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate, to reduce design risks to ALARP, taking into account:
  - i) Reduce design risks at source
  - ii) Collective protective measures instead of individual protective measures
- 3 The person who creates the risks must be responsible to manage the risks

**DEVELOPERS**

- Together with the Designer, ensure foreseeable design risks are eliminated or reduced
- Communicate foreseeable design risks, allocate sufficient time and appropriate resources for Designers and Contractors to perform their duties

**DESIGNERS**

- Ensure foreseeable design risks are eliminated or reduced through the design plan
- Collective protective measures are taken to manage any residual design risks
- Ensure all relevant information on the design, construction and maintenance are available to stakeholders

**CONTRACTORS**

- Inform Developer or Main contractor of any foreseeable risks
- Provide all relevant information and ensure persons hired are competent to carry out their duties

**DfS PROFESSIONALS**

- Convene DIS Review Meetings on behalf of Developer
- Keep an updated copy of DIS Register
- Provide all relevant information on each foreseeable risk identified and its mitigation to the Developer

**OWNERS**

- Keep a copy of the DfS Register, communicate all foreseeable risks to persons carrying out maintenance and future works
- Hand over DIS Register to future owners

**TOGETHER, WE CAN ACHIEVE**

- REDUCED DESIGN RISKS**
- BETTER COORDINATION**
- IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY**
- SAFER & HEALTHIER WORKERS**

**Additional Information:**

- Risks should be eliminated and reduced to As Low As Reasonably Practicable (ALARP) from project design to construction and maintenance phases.
- The WSH (DIS) Regulations will be effective from 1 August 2016 and is applicable for all construction projects with contract value of \$10 million and above.
- Any residual risks are to be made known to all stakeholders, including Developer, Designer, Contractor, Building owner, Occupier, Workers etc.