

3 May 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

## ADVISORY FOR COMPANIES PROVIDING FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SERVICES

1. Under the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) Act 2020 (“**COVID-19 Act**”) and the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations 2020 (“**Control Order**”), all non-essential services at non-residential premises must be suspended during the original circuit breaker period from 7 April 2020 to 4 May 2020 (“**Original Circuit Breaker Period**”) to reduce the risk of further local transmission of COVID-19. Only companies which provide essential services and their related supply chains are exempted from this suspension.
2. All stakeholders of the facilities management sector, including integrated facilities management companies and specialist sub-contractors, must comply with the COVID-19 Act and Control Order, and note BCA’s guidance in this advisory.
3. With the extension of the Original Circuit Breaker Period until **1 June 2020, 2359 hours** (inclusive), businesses which had earlier received approvals from the MTI to operate during the Original Circuit Breaker Period can continue doing so until 1 June 2020, 2359 hours (inclusive) (collectively the “**Extended Circuit Breaker Period**”) unless MTI terminates such approvals. MTI will notify those businesses whose approvals have been terminated.

### Permitted Essential Services When Work Suspension is In Force

4. During the Extended Circuit Breaker Period, only companies providing essential facilities management services for buildings and infrastructure may continue operations, including the repair and maintenance of key equipment, such as:
  - (a) Air-conditioning and mechanical ventilation systems,
  - (b) Fire protection systems,
  - (c) Security and surveillance systems (such as CCTVs),
  - (d) Electrical and plumbing works, and
  - (e) Building Management systems
5. For permitted essential services, employers must implement safe distancing measures to reduce physical interactions by:
  - (a) Reducing the need for and duration of physical interactions;
  - (b) Staggering working hours; and
  - (c) Implementing shift work and/or split team arrangements.

All non-essential FM services, such as the routine servicing of air-conditioning units in residential units and new installation of equipment must be suspended. For work that can be done off site, such as backend operations (e.g finance and accounting, etc) employees should telecommute.

6. All businesses are reminded to apply to MTI at <https://covid.gobusiness.gov.sg> before your firm can be allowed to continue performing essential FM services during the Extended Circuit Breaker Period.
7. Please note that non-compliance with the suspension of non-essential services is an offence under the COVID-19 Act. Penalties for non-compliance include a fine of up to S\$10,000 or imprisonment of up to six months or both.

### **Clarification**

8. For further queries or clarifications, please contact BCA at <http://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform> or 1800-3425222.

Yours faithfully

ANG KIAN SENG  
GROUP DIRECTOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY GROUP