BCA BC BMSC/CIR/2013/04

Building Management Department
Building Plan & Management Division
(#07-00)

23 January 2014

Distribution List - Chairperson/Secretary of all MCSTs

Dear Sir/Madam

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF HEAVY-DUTY SLIDING GATES AT ENTRANCES TO BUILDINGS

We would like to draw your attention to a safety issue concerning the operation and maintenance of heavy-duty gates at entrances to buildings.

2   From 2010 to 2012, the Workplace Safety and Health Council (WSHC) had seen 6 accidents involving the toppling of sliding gates at entrances to buildings. One security officer was killed while 5 others were injured in the accidents. In 2013, 2 security officers and a cleaner were injured due to toppled gates.

3   We would like to remind management corporations, occupiers, managing agents and contractors of the importance of safety considerations while using these gates. Commonly found in residential or commercial buildings, gates can be a potential safety hazard if not operated or maintained correctly. Gate toppling accidents could have been easily prevented if safety considerations had been made and implemented at the gate design, installation, operation and maintenance stages. Useful information can be found at https://www.wshc.sg/wps/themes/html/upload/cms/file/20120301-44 Safety Considerations in Gate Design and Operation(1).pdf a joint MOM-BCA Circular issued on 1 March 2012.

4   On WSHC's advice, we would also like management corporations to remind employers of security personnel of their duties to develop and implement Risk Assessment and Safe Work Procedures, so as to ensure the safety and health of the employees at work. Please visit www.wshc.sg for more information on developing a Risk Assessment or how WSHC's bizSAFE programme can help the company achieve this.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

CHIN CHI LEONG
COMMISSIONER OF BUILDINGS
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY