



SCDF
The Life Saving Force
... for a safer Singapore

SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE

Date: 01 March 2023

Our Ref: CD/VCPD/12/02/03/01

Registrar, Board of Architects
Registrar, Professional Engineers Board
President, Singapore Institute of Architects
President, Institution of Engineers, Singapore
President, Association of Consulting Engineers, Singapore

Dear Sir/Mdm

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR HOUSEHOLD SHELTERS 2023

As part of our continuous review process, SCDF and BCA have jointly completed a review of the Technical Requirements for Household Shelters (TRHS). The review covered the prevailing TRHS 2017 with the aim of regularising the changes made through the issuance of past circulars, ensuring that the stipulated requirements remain relevant and providing greater design flexibility to the building industry.

2. The main changes made in this revision are as follows:
 - (a) Void and inter-floor openings inside service risers within the HS setback;
 - (b) Allowing non-RC/clay tile roof for landed developments with the provision of RC elements one level about the HS;
 - (c) Removal of non-shelter related requirements for clarity; and
 - (d) Introduction of a new Chapter 8 on Certification of Regulated Shelter Products.



SCDF – A member of the Home Team

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3. The TRHS 2023 edition will be published on SCDF's website on 1 April 2023 (refer to the web-link below) and shall take effect from 1 October 2023, to provide industry with a grace period of 6 months.

<https://www.scdf.gov.sg/home/civil-defence-shelter/acts-and-requirements>

4. The TRHS 2023 shall apply to residential projects for which the first set of plans is submitted to the Commissioner of Building Control, BCA for approval on or after 1 October 2023. However, developers or QPs may choose to adopt any of the specific requirements with immediate effect. For the latter, if the shelter plans had been approved for a particular project, developers/ QPs must submit an "amendment to approved shelter plans" to incorporate these changes to BCA for re-approval.

5. Please convey the contents of this circular to members of your Institution/ Association/ Board. The circular is also available in CORENET-e-Info: <http://www.corenet.gov.sg/einfo>. For any inquiry or clarification, please contact the undersigned at 6848 1478.

Your faithfully,

(transmitted via e-mail)

MAJ Andy Tan
Community Protection Branch
for Commissioner
Singapore Civil Defence Force

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