

The HKIE Venere Club Monthly Talk

Fire Safety at home

家居防火

by

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Wednesday 20 Jan 2021

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Background

Ivy Street, Tai Kok Tsui
1 death (10 December 2020)



Tin Heng Estate, Yuen Long
2 deaths (1 September 2018)



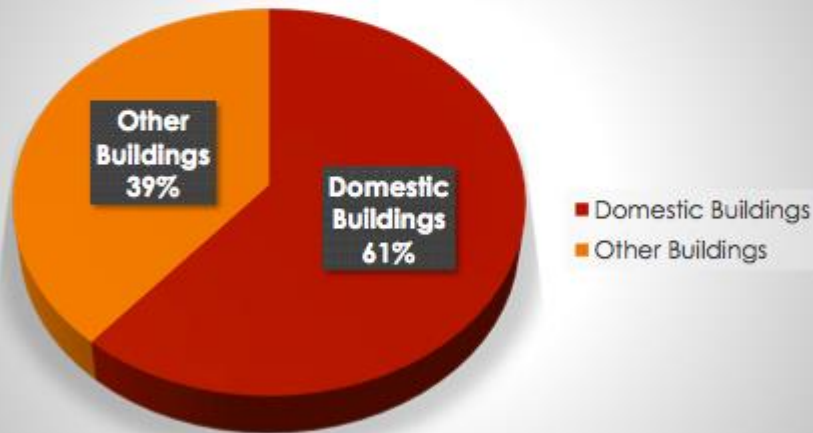
Canton Road, Yau Ma Tei
8 deaths (15 November
2020)



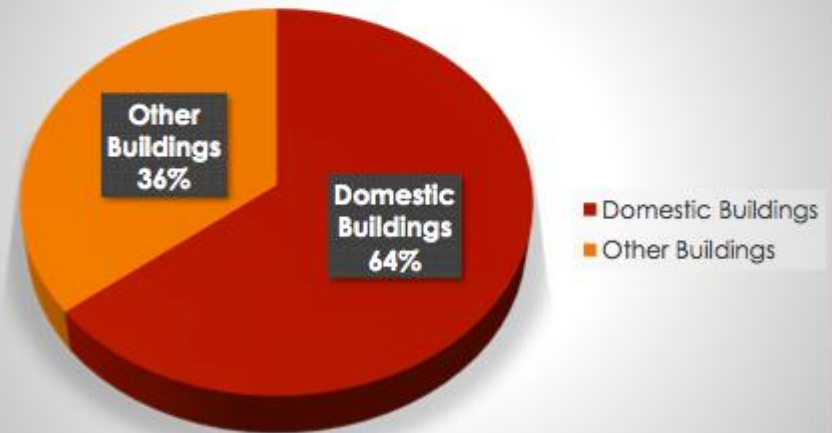
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Analysis of Building Fires

Building Fire 2019



Fire Fatalities 2019



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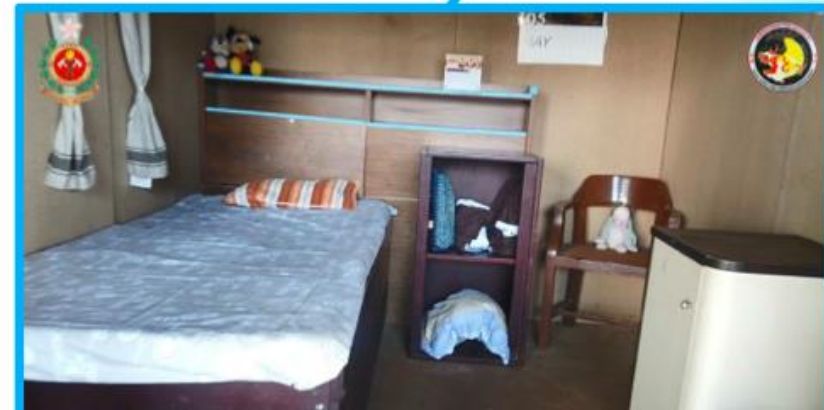
Mei Foo Fire incident (1)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GjvV_BqeeBQ&ab_channel=kwanchungWong

0 to 9:24

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Modern Compartment Furnishing



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Modern Compartment Furnishing



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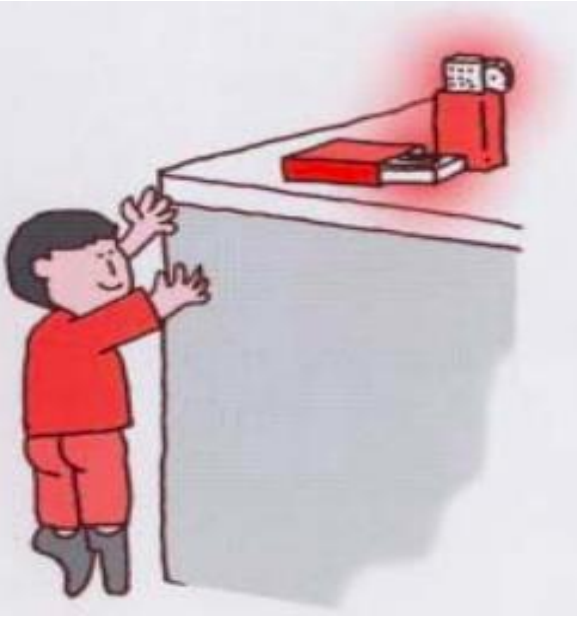


PU foam filled furniture is to comply with BS 7177:1996 or BS 7176:1995 for PU foam filled mattress and upholstered furniture.
<https://www.hkfsd.gov.hk/eng/source/licensing/polyurethane.pdf>

1. Use ashtray while smoking on a sofa or a chair.

Do not leave cigarette ends on a sofa or a chair. Foam rubber or fabric-mounted sofas and chairs are easily ignited by a lighted cigarette end, thus causing a fire and giving out toxic gases and smoke.

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2. Keep matches and cigarette lighters out of the reach of children.
3. Allow sufficient space behind your TV and radio set and do not block ventilation openings.

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4. Avoid overloading electrical circuits and plugging more than one adaptor into the same socket.

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5. Do not leave your cooking on stove unattended.

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6. Store cooking fuel such as liquefied petroleum gas and kerosene (not more than one container at any time) well away from the stove and sources of heat. Never fill a kerosene stove or heater when it is alight. Kerosene must be stored in metal containers, tightly closed.

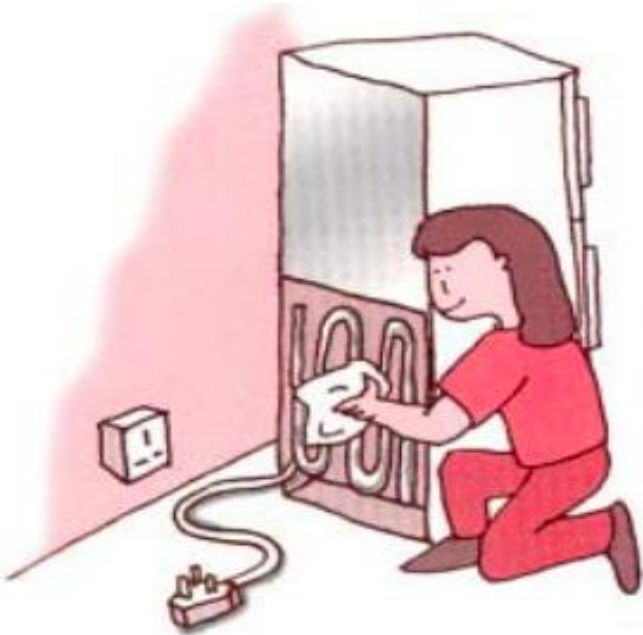
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7. If the gas leak is serious, or if you are unsure for any reason, leave the premises at once and notify your neighbors to evacuate, but do not press any doorbells. Leave the buildings by the stairs, dial “999” and notify Fire Services Department, and call your gas supply company’s emergency number.

Your gas installation, including gas cylinder and appliances, shall not be used again until it has been checked for safety by your gas supply company.

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8. Regularly unplug the refrigerator and get rid of the dust from the motor compressor area.

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9. Ironing. The overheating of left-on-and-forgotten irons would often set scorched clothes on fire and thus becomes dangerous, especially if the ironing board is made of wood and covered with a cloth.

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10. Aerosol sprays. Do not spray near naked flame or other ignited sources. Do not place aerosol sprays in direct sunlight or near any heat source.

(2)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T05HQPnbH3o&ab_channel=CBSEveningNews

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11. Never place the heater too close to curtains, beds, settees or chairs.

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12.Keep the staircase free of obstruction. Remember that the staircase is the important means of escape in case of fire.

12.Do not use the lift if it is suspected that there is a fire in the building.

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14. Open kitchen requirements

Have Fire Service Installations Inspected Annually to Keep Your Open Kitchen Safe

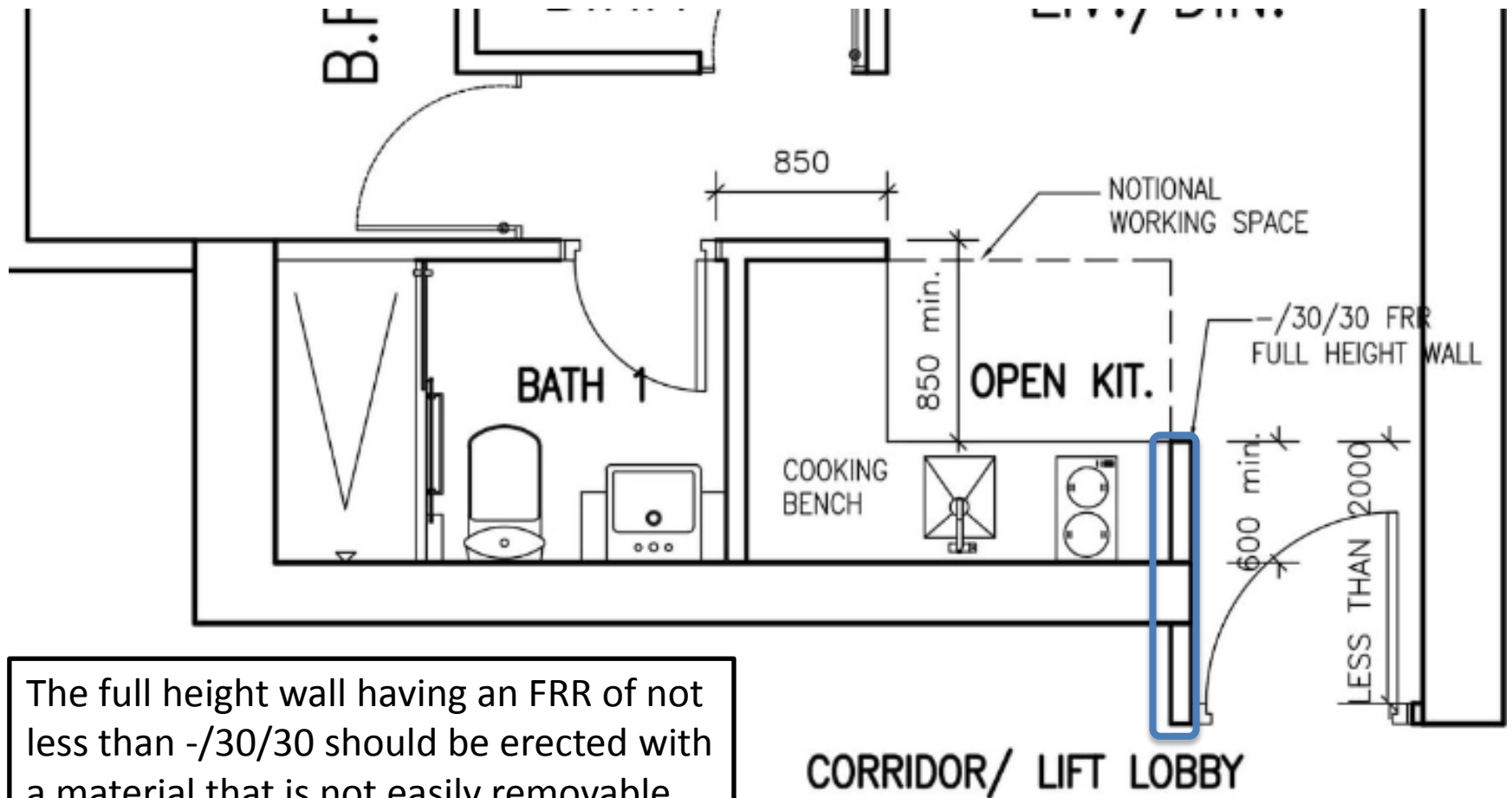


Fire Safety Requirements for Units with Open Kitchens

Units with open kitchens constructed according to approved building plans should have been fitted with the fire service installations and equipment specified in relevant codes of practice, including:-

- (a) smoke detector(s) with a sounder base; and
- (b) sprinkler head(s)





The full height wall having an FRR of not less than -/30/30 should be erected with a material that is not easily removable (e.g. reinforced concrete construction).

Open Kitchen

Not to obstruct the FSI so installed.

Regular Maintenance

Under cap 95B that the owner has the responsibility to maintain the FSI in efficient working order and employ RfSIC to check annually.

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Building residents should note the following:

1. Be familiar with the means of escape and escape routes of the building;
2. Develop a fire escape plan and designate a meeting place;
3. Participate in fire prevention talks and fire drills organized by the building;
4. Ensure fire escape routes (including corridor and staircases) are free from obstruction;
5. Keep the smoke stop doors closed to prevent smoke and fire from spreading and to reduce loss in case of fire;
6. Report any fire hazards to the Fire Services Department by calling 27238787.

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If a fire breaks out in your unit

1. Keep calm;
2. Tell everyone in your unit to leave;
3. Escape by the nearest staircase;
4. Break the breakglass unit in the corridor to activate the fire alarm;
5. Call “999” to report the fire when you are safe.

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When you hear the fire alarm

1. Respond and act quickly;
2. Stay in the unit if the situation allows.

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If there is a fire, call “999” to inform the Fire Services Department and take the following measures:

Before leaving the unit – Evaluate the risk of escaping from the unit; Promptly decide whether to stay in the unit or to leave.

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If you decide to stay in the unit

1. Close the door and seal any gaps around it with duct tapes and wet towels;
2. If smoke continues to enter the unit, call “999” and inform the Fire Services Department of where you are trapped.
3. Move to a room free of smoke;
4. Show the fire personnel your location by hanging a bed sheet or waving a towel at the balcony or by the window.

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If you decide to leave the unit

1. Bring along the 3 useful items for fire escape (**mobile phone, keys and wet towel**).
2. If the corridor is free of smoke, leave the unit rapidly;
3. Close the unit door;
4. Escape through the nearest staircase and do not use the lift;
5. If there is smoke in the staircase, escape by another staircase immediately;
6. If there is no staircase with a safe passage, return to your unit or try knocking at the doors of other units until you find a safe place to take shelter;
7. If smoke is blocking your way, crawl along the floor as the air fresher near the ground.



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Safety issues for Sub-divided Units.
Sub-division of flat units, commonly
know as “sub-divided units”

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An owner may be required to comply with all or any of the following fire safety construction:

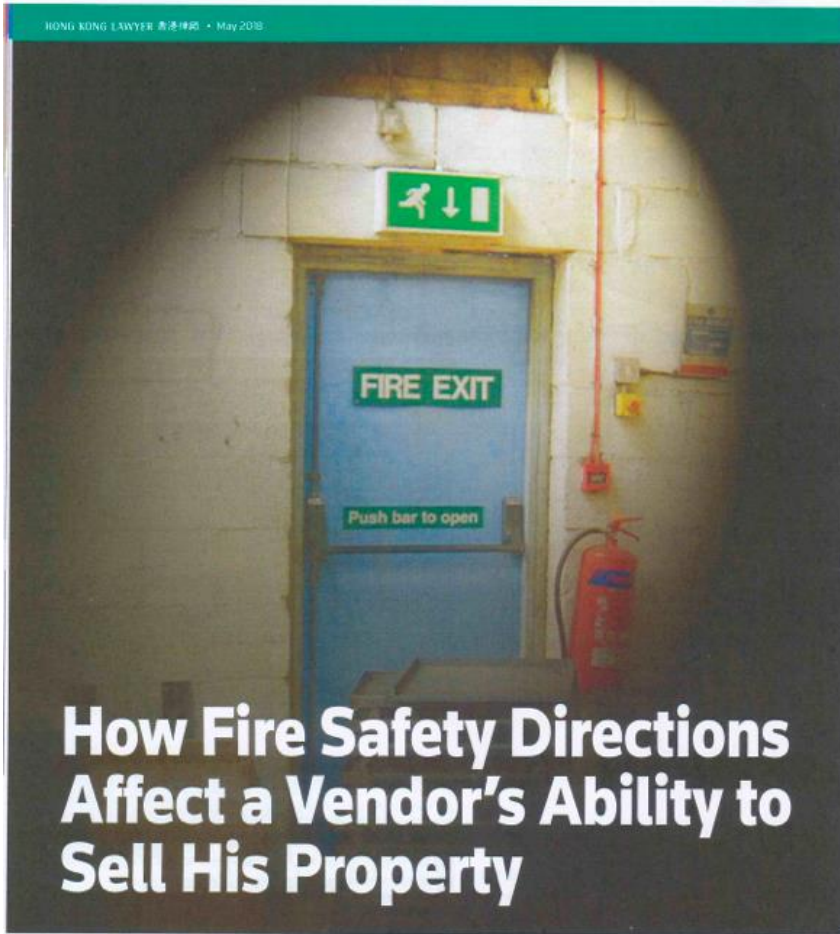
1. Means of escape
2. Fire resisting construction, and
3. Means of access for firefighting and rescue.

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Hong Kong Lawyer May 2018
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Potential difficulties in their ability to sell their properties.

Fire safety directions may affect a vendor's ability to give good titles to his property if either his property and/or the common areas of the building.

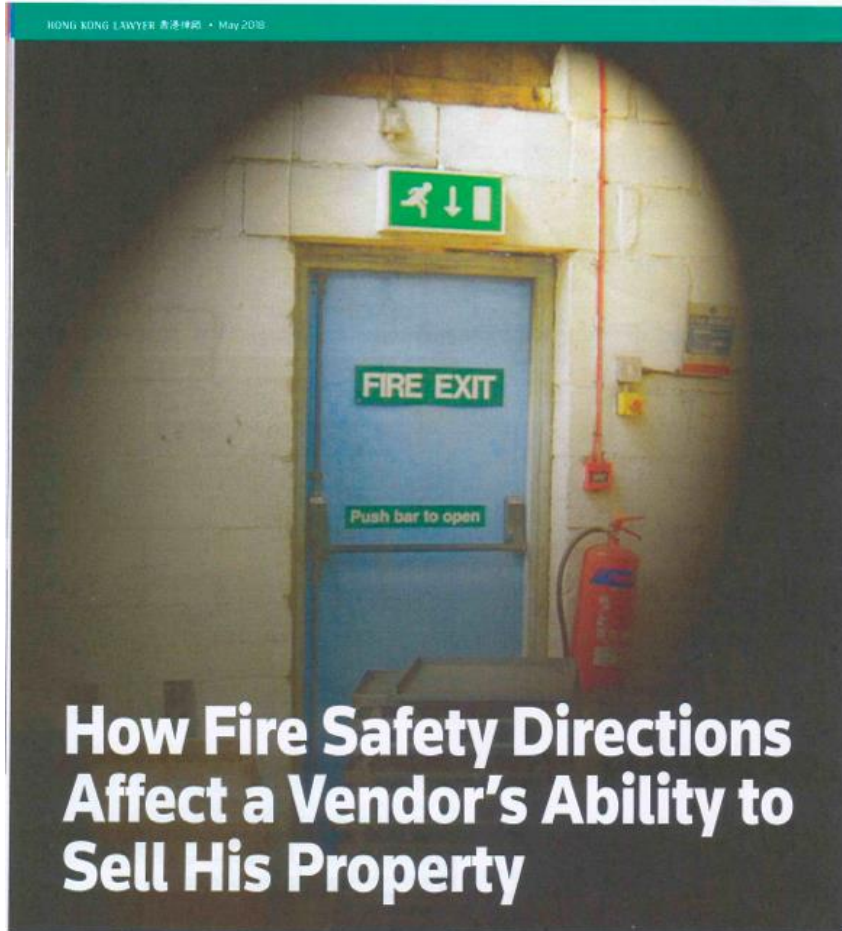


**How Fire Safety Directions
Affect a Vendor's Ability to
Sell His Property**

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Cap 572 Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance

Section (7) On the hearing of an application under this section, the District Court may make an order prohibiting the occupation of the relevant building or part of a building (a) the owner or occupier has failed to comply with a requirement specified in a fire safety direction or a fire safety compliance order;



**How Fire Safety Directions
Affect a Vendor's Ability to
Sell His Property**

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0jvv3MmK_o4&ab_channel=HKNewsArchive2.0 (3)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Pffp2gcxs8&ab_channel=youet238 (4)

0:50 to 1:00

How to use the fire extinguishers (1:06-3:00)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8HgazFVX68Q&ab_channel=kuma1234baby (5)

How to use the hose reel (3:44 – 5:00)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8HgazFVX68Q&ab_channel=kuma1234baby (6)

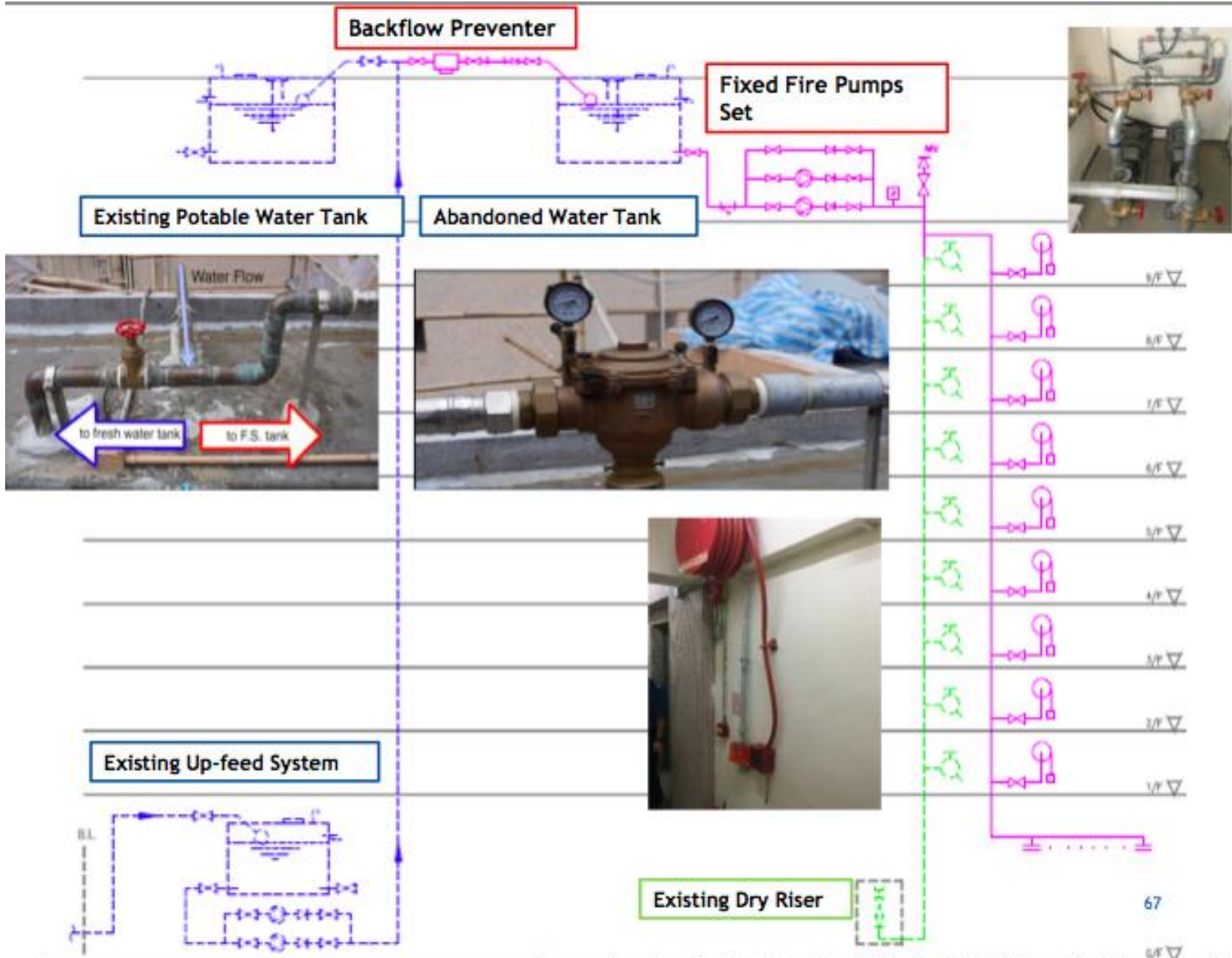
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Conclusion and Summary

(7)

<https://youtu.be/gUxb36slh4c>

Back Up slides



Remarks: Applicable to Fire Safety (Buildings) Ordinance, Cap. 572