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Building Plan & Management Group

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **RELEASE OF DAYLIGHT REFLECTANCE DESIGN GUIDE**

### **Objective**

This circular informs the industry on the release of the Daylight Reflectance Design Guide (“Guide”).

### **Background**

2 To achieve attractive architectural effects, the design of buildings has become more diverse with prevalent use of reflective materials such as glass and metal cladding. Glare from reflected sunlight from a building façade can be a significant issue in Singapore with its strong solar radiation characteristic and highly built-up urban environment. Appropriate planning and design can help to improve the visual performance of a building façade and minimise incidences of reflected glare.

### **Purpose of the Guide**

3 Under the Building Control Regulations 2003, the external surface (including a roof) of a building must be designed and constructed in a manner such that any reflection of sunlight off the external surface of the building does not result in loss of amenity to occupants of other buildings in the vicinity of that building. While the industry is familiar with this regulatory requirement, designers should also take into consideration other parameters that contribute to solar reflectance at the onset of design. The Guide

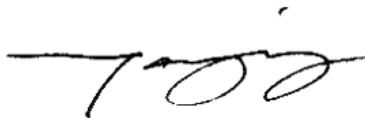
highlights the key design factors related to solar reflectance from the urban planning and building design's perspective based on local research findings. It recommends a set of considerations for assessing the site and building parameters as well as mitigating measures to minimise the occurrences of reflected glare. In addition, an example of using computer simulation method for solar glare evaluation is also included in the Guide to assess a building's potential to cause significant glare to neighbouring buildings.

4 We would like to encourage designers and developers to adopt the recommendations of the Guide in the planning and design of building projects. The Guide is available on BCA's website (<https://go.gov.sg/bca-daylight-reflectance-guide>)

### **Clarifications**

5 We would appreciate if you could share this circular with your members. If you need any clarifications, please contact us through BCA's Online Feedback Form at <https://www.bca.gov.sg/feedbackform/>

Yours faithfully



TAN JWU YIH  
DIRECTOR  
BUILDING PLAN AND UNIVERSAL DESIGN DEPARTMENT  
BUILDING PLAN AND MANAGEMENT GROUP  
BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY  
for COMMISSIONER OF BUILDING CONTROL

## **DISTRIBUTION (via e-mail):**

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Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA)  
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#09-00, Chiat Hong Building  
Singapore 188968

President  
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Singapore 912352

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Singapore 913412

Registrar  
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5 Maxwell Road 1<sup>st</sup> Storey  
Tower Block, MND Complex  
Singapore 069110

Registrar  
Professional Engineers Board, Singapore (PEB)  
52 Jurong Gateway Road #07-03  
Singapore 608550

Director  
Building and Infrastructure  
Defence Science & Technology Agency (DSTA)  
1 Depot Road  
Defence Technology Tower A  
Singapore 109679

Deputy Chief Executive Officer  
Building  
Housing & Development Board (HDB)  
480 Lorong 6 Toa Payoh  
HDB Hub  
Singapore 310480

Deputy Chief Executive  
Infrastructure & Development  
Land Transport Authority (LTA)  
1 Hampshire Road  
Block 8 Level 1  
Singapore 219428

Group Director  
Land Planning Division  
JTC Corporation (JTC)  
8 Jurong Town Hall Road  
The JTC Summit  
Singapore 609434

Director of Infrastructure  
School Campus Department  
Ministry of Education (MOE)  
1 North Buona Vista Drive  
Office Tower Level 9  
Singapore 138675

Chief  
Healthcare Infrastructure Project  
MOH Holdings Pte Ltd (MOHH)  
1 Maritime Square  
#11-25, Harbourfront Centre  
Singapore 099253

Chief Engineer  
Development Control Department  
National Environment Agency (NEA)  
40 Scotts Road  
Environment Building  
Singapore 228231

Group Director  
Policy & Planning Division  
National Parks Board (NPARKS)  
Singapore Botanic Gardens  
1 Cluny Road  
Singapore 259569

Director (Building & Estates Management)  
People's Association (PA)  
9 King George's Avenue  
Singapore 208581

Deputy Director  
Centralised Service Department, Building Plan  
Public Utilities Board (PUB)  
40 Scotts Road  
Environment Building  
Singapore 228231

Senior Director  
Fire Safety Department  
Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF)  
HQ Singapore Civil Defence Force  
91 Ubi Avenue 4  
Singapore 408827

Assistant Chief Executive  
Sentosa Development Corporation (SDC)  
33 Allanbrooke Road, Sentosa  
Singapore 099981

Chief  
Sport Infrastructure Group  
Sport Singapore (SportSG)  
3 Stadium Drive  
Singapore 397630

Assistant Chief Executive  
Policy & Planning Group  
Singapore Tourism Board (STB)  
1 Orchard Spring Lane  
Tourism Court  
Singapore 247729

Chief Executive Officer  
Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA)  
45 Maxwell Road  
The URA Centre  
Singapore 069118

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