

Our Ref:
Date: 23 Oct 08

Dear Sir/Madam

MANDATORY WATER EFFICIENCY LABELLING SCHEME (MWELS) MANDATORY INSTALLATION OF DUAL FLUSH LOW CAPACITY FLUSHING CISTERNS

Objective

1 This circular is to inform the relevant professional institutes, associations, societies, statutory boards, government organisations, developers, qualified persons, professional engineers, licensed water service plumbers, suppliers, testing laboratories, etc of the new Mandatory Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme (MWELS) and mandatory installation of dual flush low capacity flushing cisterns (dual flush LCFCs).

Background

2 Launched in 2006, the 10-Litre Challenge is an umbrella programme aimed at getting each Singaporean to reduce our daily water consumption by 10 litres. As part of the 10-Litre Challenge, PUB introduced the voluntary Water Efficiency Labelling Scheme to provide consumers with information on the water consumption and water efficiency of water fittings and products to help consumers make informed choices when they make their purchases. To date, almost 800 product models have been labelled, from taps to shower heads to washing machines.

3 The use of dual flush LCFCs was another of the initiatives promoted under the 10-Litre Challenge to help Singaporeans conserve water. Compared to single flush LCFCs, dual flush LCFCs use less water as they allow users the choice of a reduced flush (not exceeding 3 litres) versus a full flush (not exceeding 4.5 litres) for liquid wastes. The use and popularity of dual flush LCFCs and its availability in the market have since been increasing.

4 In view of the favourable response and to further promote water conservation and accelerate the take-up rate of water efficient fittings and products and incentivise suppliers to bring in more water efficient models:

- a PUB will mandate the water efficiency labelling of fittings and products, starting with taps, dual flush LCFCs, urinals and urinal flush valves from **1 July 2009**. The provision of information is powerful in changing habits, as consumers will be empowered to make resource smart purchasing decisions.

- b In addition, all new premises and existing premises undergoing renovation shall only be installed with water fittings and products, i.e. taps, dual flush LCFCs, urinals and urinal flush valves that are labeled with at least one or more ticks under MWELS from **1 July 2009**. This shall apply to **all types of premises** including **domestic** and **non-domestic** premises.
- c Furthermore, with the increasing use, popularity and availability of dual flush LCFCs, all new **domestic** premises and existing **domestic** premises undergoing renovation shall also be required to be installed with dual flush LCFCs from **1 July 2009**. Also from **1 July 2009**, only dual flush LCFCs will be allowed to be advertised, displayed, offered for sale, sold, supplied or installed for use in Singapore.

5 The above mandatory requirements will be incorporated into the Public Utilities (Water Supply) Regulations and the Singapore Standard CP 48 – Code of Practice for Water Services and shall come into effect from **1 July 2009**.

Details of requirements, implementation and effective dates

6 Since 2006, PUB has consulted and briefed the various stakeholders such as the relevant professional institutes, associations, societies, statutory boards, government organisations, developers, qualified persons, professional engineers, licensed water service plumbers, suppliers, testing laboratories, etc on MWELS and the mandatory installation of dual flush LCFCs to come up with details of the requirements, implementation and effective dates. The details are as follows:

- a With effect from **1 July 2009**, only water fittings and products such as taps, dual flush LCFCs, urinals and urinal flush valves that are labeled under MWELS can be advertised, displayed, offered for sale, sold or supplied. Suppliers who wish to have their water fittings and products labeled under MWELS can submit their applications on-line to PUB to register their fittings and products after fulfilling the necessary requirements. More information on MWELS and its water efficiency ratings and details for on-line applications can be found at <https://app.pub.gov.sg/wels/>.
- b Also with effect from **1 July 2009**, all building plan submissions for all new premises and for all existing premises undergoing renovations involving the replacement of taps, flushing cisterns, urinals or urinal flush valves must incorporate such fittings and products that are labeled with at least one or more ticks under MWELS. For plans submitted before **1 July 2009**, the premises shall also be required to be installed with such fittings and products that are labeled with at least one or more ticks under MWELS if their completion date is after **1 July 2010**. From **1 July 2010**, only water fittings and products that are labelled with at least one or more ticks under MWELS can be installed in all new and on-going building projects. The above requirements and implementation shall apply to **all types of premises** including **domestic** and **non-domestic** premises.

- c In addition, from **1 July 2009**, all building plan submissions for new **domestic** premises and for existing **domestic** premises undergoing renovations which involve the replacement of water closets shall only incorporate dual flush LCFCs. For plans submitted before **1 July 2009**, the **domestic** premises shall also be required to be installed with dual flush LCFCs if their completion date is after **1 July 2010**. From **1 July 2010**, only dual flush LCFCs can be installed in all new and on-going **domestic** premises projects. Also from **1 July 2009**, only dual flush LCFCs will be allowed to be advertised, displayed, offered for sale, sold, supplied or installed for use in Singapore.

Clarifications

7 If you or your members/staff have any queries concerning this circular or need any clarifications, please do not hesitate to contact the following officers:

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Informing members/staff

8 I will appreciate it very much if you can help convey the contents of this circular to members/staff of your organisation.

9 Thank you and best regards.

Yours faithfully

RAMAHAD SINGH
DEPUTY DIRECTOR
WATER DEMAND MANAGEMENT & INSPECTORATE
for DIRECTOR
WATER SUPPLY (NETWORK) DEPARTMENT