

**Business Facilitation Advisory Committee
Food Business and Related Services Task Force**

***Requirements for Operation of Boilers & Pressure Vessels
in Catering Establishments***

Background

At the Food Business and Related Services Task Force meeting held on 24 October 2013, members raised concerns on the requirements for the operation of boilers & pressure vessels in catering industry, and suggested inviting the Labour Department (LD) to brief them on the requirements for use of boilers & pressure vessels as well as the qualification required for the operators.

Role of the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Division

2. The role of the Boilers and Pressure Vessels Division (BPVD) of LD is to administer and enforce the Boilers & Pressure Vessels Ordinance, Cap 56 and its regulations. The intent of the Boilers & Pressure Vessels Ordinance is to control the use and operation of boilers & pressure vessels and provide for holding of inquiry into accidents. Boilers and steam receivers (one kind of pressure vessel) are also being used in catering business.

Requirements for use of boilers & pressure vessels

3. Boilers and steam receivers have to be registered at BPVD before use. After registration, subject boilers & steam receivers have to be examined, tested and certified by an Appointed Examiner initially and periodically. The Appointed Examiner will issue the Certificate of

Fitness to the owner upon satisfactory completion of examination and testing.

4. Whenever the boiler or steam receiver is in operation, a suitable Competent Person must be on site for direct supervision of the operation. Proper operation with appropriate maintenance is vital for safe operation, and could minimize break down and risk to operating staff and associated fire hazard etc.

Issuance of Certificate of Competency for the Boilers & Pressure Vessels Operators

5. In general, boilers or steam receivers can be divided into fire-tube and water-tube, with tremendous dissimilarity both in design and configuration. The candidate has to pass the examination for that particular type of boiler or steam receiver held by BPVD, or successful completion of training courses approved by BPVD. In addition, the candidate has to gain adequate relevant working experiences for that particular type of boiler or steam receiver, and pass an interview carried out by BPVD before the Certificate of Competency is issued.

Way Forward

6. Members are invited to note the requirements for use of boilers & pressure vessels for catering business, and the qualifications required for the operators.

Labour Department
October 2014