
SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE (SCDF)

Key Regulatory Improvements

Over the years, SCDF has implemented many regulatory improvements, bringing benefits to businesses.

- Introduction of TruCerts, a blockchain-based platform for fire safety products, has streamlined certification processes for Qualified Persons, minimising downstream rectification works, and improving data accuracy and efficiency. When fully implemented in 2027, it will support over 10,000 projects annually.
- Formulated a first-of-its-kind underground Energy Storage System (ESS) fire safety requirements that balance optimal land use with responder safety through collaboration with industry professionals and international partners.
- The revised Fire Certificate audit inspection regime leverages existing inspections conducted by Professional Engineers (PEs) to perform SCDF audits. This eliminates the need for separate SCDF inspections, generating annual cost savings for the industry and minimising disruption to building operations.
- The enhanced eFSM portal allows Fire Safety Managers (FSMs) to update premises' fire safety information directly, improving data accuracy to aid SCDF's operations and reducing FSMs' workload by eliminating the need to manually prepare and submit the Annual Fire Safety Report.
- Streamlined requirements removed the need for plan submission for EV charging stations outside of petrol stations, delivering substantial industry savings based on LTA's 2030 targets for 60,000 EV charging points.
- Roof-mounted PV installations, SCDF's risk-based framework replaced the 1-hour fire-rated separation requirement with alternative fire safety measures, benefiting 1,500 buildings with potential savings of up to 30% for such installations.

PRO-ENTERPRISE SURVEY AWARD

Stakeholder Collaboration & Co-creation

SCDF exemplifies effective regulatory co-creation through review committees (such as Fire Safety Standing Committee, Fire Code Review Committee, etc.) which meet quarterly with key stakeholders to discuss and review fire safety issues.

SCDF also flexibly creates workgroup to address ad-hoc issues such as the challenge of underground ESS deployment. In January 2024, SCDF established a workgroup comprising government agencies, energy specialists, professional institutions, and academia. The workgroup formulated ESS fire safety requirements for underground spaces that balance optimal land use with responder safety. The requirements were published in September 2024 and are projected to generate savings across 60,000 buildings.

Looking Ahead

SCDF is working on several initiatives to reduce compliance costs. The three-year Fire Certificate regime and the Class Licence regime for low-risk P&FM storage premises are planned for launch within the next one to two years. They will reduce costs and administrative burden for businesses in Singapore. There are also plans to further evolve the current AI-powered Targeted On-site Inspection Tool (TOIT), to enhance violation detection and automated tracking systems to improve regulatory efficiency, whilst maintaining safety standards.