

For Immediate Release

BEAM Plus Certification Ceremony 2021

Showcasing Decarbonisation of Hong Kong's Building Sector

Hong Kong, 22 December 2021 – Co-organised by the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC) and BEAM Society Limited (BSL), the BEAM Plus Certification Ceremony 2021 was successfully held on 16 December 2021. Officiating guests including Mr LIU Chun-san, JP, Under Secretary for Development of Government of the HKSAR and Mr TSE Chin-wan, BBS, JP, Under Secretary for the Environment of Government of the HKSAR, together with Mr CHAN Ka-kui, SBS, JP, Chairman of Construction Industry Council presented certificates for over 150 projects, which have reached a record high. Meanwhile, the first certification of project under the upgraded Version 2.0 of BEAM Plus New Buildings symbolises that the assessment tool has evolved with time.

Since 2010, BEAM Plus has been Hong Kong's leading initiative to offer independent assessment of building sustainability performance. The number of certified projects increases year by year. Besides, with support from property owners and management companies, the number of certified properties under BEAM Plus Existing Buildings has grown substantially. These certified properties have demonstrated that their sustainability performance has met or even exceeded the assessment requirements. Some of the projects have adopted innovative designs, significantly reduced the carbon emissions and enhanced the environment for the well-being of the occupants.

In the opening speech, Mr CHEUNG Hau-wai, SBS, Chairman of HKGBC, congratulated all team members who had their projects certified this year. He also mentioned HKGBC would continue to explore feasible measures to assist new buildings and existing buildings to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Ms Ivy LEE Siu Wing, Chairperson of BSL mentioned, "BSL will continue to strive for enhancement of BEAM Plus Assessment Tools and nurture green building practitioners through organising BEAM Pro and BEAM Affiliate Trainings in order to drive the green building movement together."

In the light of increasing public awareness about green building, HKGBC and BSL are committed to listening to stakeholders' views and implementing enhancements to the rating schemes. In particular, the two organisations have put in great efforts to facilitate over 42,000 existing buildings in Hong Kong to participate in BEAM Plus, helping them go green and save energy. Since the implementation of the BEAM Plus Existing Buildings Volume Certification scheme, 224 real estate properties and 11 property management companies have participated. The streamlined assessment process facilitates applicants to assess the sustainability performance of multiple existing buildings in a faster and more economical manner, synergising corporate sustainability policies across buildings. Apart from the flexibility in obtaining certification, the certified properties also implemented a series of new measures to improve building energy efficiency and environmental performance.

Since the BEAM Plus New Buildings rating tool was updated in 2019, we have a new project certified under this rating tool this year. The newly revamped assessment tool encourages buildings to be designed and built using an integrative approach, along with updated evaluation criteria concerning health and wellbeing. At the same time, criteria of the assessment were updated to address the continuous development of the construction industry. The assessment tool has introduced a series of best practices committed to reducing the environmental impacts of construction projects. It is also expected to bring about a higher quality of the built environment and greater user satisfaction.

In line with the Advancing Net Zero campaign, a global initiative by the World Green Building Council, special awards were presented in this year's ceremony to recognise projects that have outstanding performance in reducing carbon emissions and using renewable energy. These awards covered both new buildings and existing buildings, which were intended to encourage the industry to build and operate buildings that are less carbon-intensive. It is believed that the emergence of more green buildings would help Hong Kong achieve its carbon neutrality goal by 2050.

BEAM Plus is Hong Kong's leading initiative to offer independent assessments of building sustainability performance in various stages including master planning, design and construction, fitting out, as well as management, operation and maintenance. It consists of assessment tools namely New Buildings, Existing Buildings, Interiors and Neighbourhood, New Data Centres and Existing Data Centres, covering the whole building life cycle. Under the rating scheme, the buildings are assessed by BSL and certified by HKGBC. Up till now, there are more than 1,900 registered BEAM Plus projects,

covering a total gross floor area of over 64,000,000 sq. m, equivalent to 6,600 times the pitch area of the Hong Kong Stadium.

For the list and details of BEAM Plus certified projects, please visit <https://beamplusceremony2021.hkgbc.org.hk/>



Photo 1: Mr LIU Chun-san, JP, Under Secretary for Development, Government of the HKSAR, attended the Certification Ceremony.



Photo 2: Mr TSE Chin-wan, BBS, JP, Under Secretary for the Environment, Government of the HKSAR, delivered speech in the ceremony.



Photo 3: Mr CHEUNG Hau-wai, SBS, Chairman of HKGBC, was pleased to see a record high number of over 150 certified projects this year.



Photo 4: Ms Ivy LEE Siu Wing, Chairperson of BSL mentioned the enhanced version of BEAM Plus Interiors would be launched next year to optimise the current version 1.0 and meet with the actual needs of the industry.



Photos 5 and 6: Officiating guests took group photos with Directors of HKGBC and BSL.



Photo 7: Mr CHEUNG Hau-wai, SBS, Chairman of HKGBC, Mr LIU Chun-san, JP, Under Secretary for Development of Government of the HKSAR, Mr CHAN Ka-kui, SBS, JP, Chairman of Construction Industry Council and Ms Ivy LEE Siu Wing, Chairperson of BSL, had a group photo with representatives of projects that achieved Platinum rating under BEAM Plus New Buildings in 2021.



Photo 8: Mr CHEUNG Hau-wai, SBS, Chairman of HKGBC, Mr TSE Chin-wan, BBS, JP, Secretary for the Environment of the Government of the HKSAR, Ms Ivy LEE Siu Wing, Chairperson of BSL, had a group photo with representatives of projects that obtained Platinum rating under BEAM Plus Existing Buildings in 2021.

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About the Hong Kong Green Building Council (HKGBC)

The Hong Kong Green Building Council Limited (HKGBC) is a non-profit, member led organisation established in 2009 with the vision to help save the planet and improve the wellbeing of the people of Hong Kong by transforming the city into a greener built environment. The Founding Members of the HKGBC include the Construction Industry Council (CIC), the Business Environment Council (BEC), the BEAM Society Limited (BSL) and the Professional Green Building Council (PGBC). Its mission is to lead market transformation by advocating green policies to the Government; introducing green building practices to all stakeholders; setting design, construction and management standards for the building profession; and promoting green living to the people of Hong Kong. To learn more about the HKGBC, please visit www.hkgbc.org.hk.

About BEAM Society Limited (BSL)

BEAM Society Limited (BSL) is a non-profit organisation. Since the development of Building Environmental Assessment Method (BEAM) in 1996, and BEAM Plus in 2010, BSL has committed to administering and developing the BEAM Assessment Tools, offering impartial assessment on building sustainability and training BEAM practitioners - BEAM Professionals (BEAM Pro) and BEAM Affiliates. BSL has become a public body under the Prevention of Bribery Ordinance since 2016.

BSL has committed to improving the overall quality of the built environment in Hong Kong. BEAM assessment tools available include: BEAM Plus New Buildings, BEAM Plus Existing Buildings, BEAM Plus Interiors, BEAM Plus Neighbourhood and BEAM Plus Data Centres. They assess the impact of overall planning, design, construction and maintenance on the environment. To get more information about BSL, please visit www.beamsociety.org.hk.

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