

STRUCTURE OF PAPER

This paper is a 30-minute interview conducted primarily in English and each candidate is interviewed by a panel consists of three interviewers. This is the second year that the new policy on using Cantonese for technical terms and for supplementary purpose with the permission of the Chairperson of the Panel of Interviewers is implemented.

This is also the second year to test candidates on their Case Study reports in the Professional Interview. Interviewers reminded the candidates that their case study report is also used as a referencing material in the interview. Candidates may choose projects not handled by themselves and Interviewers are reminded to cross reference with the candidates' logbooks.

Interviewers are advised to make sure the candidates have digested the followings in doing their Case Study reports:

- a) Statutory Control
- b) Cost Control
- c) Time Control
- d) Safety
- e) Quality Control
- f) Design Quality Control
- a) Building Contracts

Candidates' professional maturity and adequacy of the practical experience as recorded in the Logbook are assessed by the interviewers. Questions may cover topics related to Buildings Ordinance, Building Regulations, other related ordinances and Codes of Practice, construction knowledge, Building Contract and Contract Administration and Professional Ethics. Candidates' confidence in answering questions is also looked for by interviewers.

ASSESSMENT OBSERVATIONS

33 out of a total of 46 candidates (71.74%) passed the paper in the September 2014 attempt, which is slightly lower than the one in March 2014.

From the report of Interviewers on failed candidates, most candidates were lack in knowledge on Building Contract and Building Ordinance. The candidates were also lack of confidence and general knowledge; and were not well prepared for the Interview. The weaknesses may be attributed to their lack of practical experience on local projects.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO CANDIDATES

1. To reinforce his/her understanding of a project selected for case study, a candidate is recommended to instead of just reporting to his/her advisor what have been done during the period of review, discuss regularly with the advisor of what he/she has observed in the case study and to consult the advisor the rationale behind certain solutions to various problems.

2. As reflected in the summary, main reasons of failure of some candidates in the examination attribute to the lack of practical construction and contract administration experience, which may be a result of the reducing number of local projects. Candidates are advised to look at their job exposure in particular the chance of getting in touch of local projects before they commit or engage to the practice during their internship period.

Paper 9 Subject Panel Chair