



**SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE
MEDIA BRIEFING – FIRE AND AMBULANCE STATISTICS**

TOPIC 3

**FIRE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS
(JAN – DEC 2007)**

INSPECTIONS & FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICE (FHAN)

1. SCDF conducts enforcement checks on a regular basis to ensure that fire hazards and violations are detected and rectified. A total of 11,401 enforcement checks were conducted in 2007, 278 or 2.5% more than the year before.

2. Under the Fire Safety Act, a Fire Hazard Abatement Notice (FHAN) serves as a warning. When the hazard is not abated, a Notice of Composition (NOC) between \$300 and \$500 would be issued – with court action being taken for serious cases. A Fire Safety Offence (FSO) is normally issued when the contravention is of a serious nature and warrants a heavier penalty than when a FHAN is served.

3. Last year, SCDF served 1133 Fire Hazard Abatement Notices (FHAN), an increase of 382 (51%) in numbers from the 751 FHAN issued in 2006. See **Table 1**.

Nature of Hazard	2006	2007	Absolute Change
Obstruction to exits	110	237	+127
Firefighting equipment (hosereel/fire extinguisher) not properly maintained	174	224	+50
Exit signs out of order	89	167	+78
Fire alarm system not properly maintained	40	95	+55
Storage within staircase / hosereel / risers	93	75	-18
Storage of combustible (eg. furniture) / flammable (eg. LPG cylinder) materials	64	35	-29
Indiscriminate storage & display of goods/items	25	27	+2
Locked exits	13	20	+7
Storage along perimeter fencing	13	4	-9
Others* (general fire hazard eg fire door wedged open; fire door missing etc)	130	249	+119
Total	751	1133	+382

**TABLE 1: FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICE
(BREAKDOWN BY TYPE OF HAZARD)**

4. The top 3 most common fire hazards spotted for which FHANs were served were obstructed exit (237 FHANs), poor maintenance of hoses and fire extinguishers (224 FHANs), and exit sign out of order (167 FHANs).

5. The bulk of FHANs served last year were issued to industrial premises which accounted for 59% (664 FHANs) of the total FHANs issued. About 25% (282 FHANs) were issued to commercial premises and 4% (49 FHANs) to public entertainment outlets. See **Table 2**.

Types of premises	2006	2007	Absolute Change
Industrial	547	664	+117
Commercial	95	282	+187
Public entertainment	28	49	+21
Others*	81	138	+57
Total	751	1133	+382

*Others include residential premises, shophouses etc

**TABLE 2: FIRE HAZARD ABATEMENT NOTICE
(BREAKDOWN BY PREMISES)**

NOTICE OF FIRE SAFETY OFFENCE (NFSO)

6. On the whole, the number of Notices of Fire Safety Offence (NFSO) issued last year increased by 22% (i.e. 73 NFSO more) compared to 2006. See **Table 3**. NFSO for change of use without approval rose by 93, while that for carrying out fire safety works dropped by 22. The enforcement checks conducted at an industrial premises located at Bukit Batok Crescent detected over 50 unauthorised change of use contributing towards a rise in the issuance of NFSO in 2007.

Type of Offence	2006	2007	Absolute Change
Change of use	95	188	+93
Carrying out fire safety works without approval	126	104	-22
Storage &/or transportation of Petroleum &/or Flammable Materials without licence	48	45	-3
Others*	57	62	+5
Total	326	399	+73

*Others include failure to obtain Fire Safety Certificate; failure to comply with fire safety guidelines for temporary buildings; & breach of Temporary Permit (TP)

**TABLE 3: NUMBER OF FIRE SAFETY OFFENCE
(BREAKDOWN BY TYPE OF OFFENCE)**

Types of premises	2006	2007	Absolute Change
Industrial	235	264	+29
Commercial	36	26	-10
Public entertainment	2	2	0
Others*	53	107	+54
Total	326	399	+73

* Others include residential premises, shophouses etc

TABLE 4: FIRE SAFETY OFFENCE (FSO)
(BREAKDOWN BY PREMISES)

7. There was an increase of 29 FSOs' served to industrial premises last year. See **Table 4**. FSO for commercial premises however saw a decline of 10 cases.

NOTICE OF COMPOSITION (NOC)

8. **Table 5** shows a slight increase in number of Notice of Composition (NOC) served to violators. While there is a drop in the number of NOCs served to industrial premises, there is an increase of 20 NOCs served to commercial premises. In total, commercial premises were issued with 25 NOCs last year.

Types of premises	2006	2007	Absolute Change
Industrial	55	37	-18
Commercial	5	25	+20
Public entertainment	1	1	0
Others*	1	5	+4
Total	62	68	+6

*Others include residential premises, shophouses etc

TABLE 5: NOTICE OF COMPOSITION
(BREAKDOWN BY PREMISES)

COURT PROSECUTION

9. **Table 6** shows the number of court cases in the last 2 years. There were 7 court cases in 2006 and 2 court cases in 2007.

Description	2006	2007
Unauthorized change of use	0	1
Failure to comply with Temporary Permit (TP) conditions	0	1
Failure to comply with storage, dispensing &/or transportation of LPG cylinders. EG. Excessive/unsafe storage of LPG; illegal dispensing of LPG	2	0
Obstruction to exit & firefighting facilities including fire engine accessway	1	0
Unauthorized fire safety works	4	0
Total	7	2

TABLE 6: COURT PROSECUTION CASES