

**SINGAPORE CIVIL DEFENCE FORCE
FIRE AND AMBULANCE STATISTICS**

TOPIC 3

FIRE SAFETY ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS
(JAN – DEC 2006)

1. SCDF conducts enforcement checks on a regular basis to ensure that fire hazards and violations are detected and rectified. A total of 11,123 enforcement checks were conducted in 2006, 1,020 (or 10%) 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 751 Fire Hazard Abatement Notices (FHAN), an increase of 342 (84%) from the 409 FHAN issued in 2005. See **Table 1**.

Nature of Hazard	2005	2006	Absolute Change
Firefighting equipment (hosereel/fire extinguisher) not properly maintained	104	174	+70
Obstruction to exits	66	110	+44
Storage within staircase / hosereel / risers	26	93	+67
Exit signs out of order	31	89	+58
Storage of combustible (eg. furniture) / flammable (eg. LPG cylinder) materials	62	64	+2
Fire alarm system not properly maintained	20	40	+20
Indiscriminate storage & display of goods/items	20	25	+5
Locked exits	11	13	+2
Storage along perimeter fencing	11	13	+2
Others (eg. fire door wedged open; fire door missing)	58	130	+72
Total	409	751	+342

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 poor maintenance of hosereels and fire extinguishers (174 FHANs), obstructed exit (110 FHANs) and storage within staircase/hosereel/riser (93 FHANs).
5. The bulk of FHAN served last year were issued to industrial premises which accounted for 73% (547 FHANs) of the total FHANs issued. About 13% (95 FHANs) were

issued to commercial premises and 4% (28 FHANs) to public entertainment outlets. See **Table 2**.

Types of premises	2005	2006	Absolute Change
Industrial	275	547	+272
Commercial	51	95	+44
Public entertainment	34	28	-6
Others*	49	81	+32
Total	409	751	+342

*Others include residential premises, shophouse, community centres

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

6. On the whole, the number of Fire Safety Offence (FSO) issued last year increased by 44% (ie. 99 FSO more) compared to 2005. See **Table 3**. FSO for carrying out fire safety works without approval rose by 67, while that for change of use of premises without approval inched up by 16. The enforcement checks conducted at 6 warehouses at Ubi Ave 4 and Woodlands Industrial Park detected over 60 unauthorised fire safety works contributing towards a rise in the issuance of FSO in 2006.

Type of Offence	2005	2006	Absolute Change
Carrying out fire safety works without approval	59	126	+67
Change of use	79	95	+16
Storage &/or transportation of Petroleum &/or Flammable Materials without licence	39	48	+9
Others*	50	57	+7
Total	227	326	+99

*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	2005	2006	Absolute Change
Industrial	126	235	+109
Commercial	40	36	-4
Public entertainment	1	2	+1
Others*	60	53	-36
Total	227	326	+99

*Others include residential premises, shophouses & community centres

TABLE 4: NUMBER OF FIRE SAFETY OFFENCE (FSO)

7. There was an increase of 109 FSOs served to industrial premises last year.

See **Table 4**. FSO for commercial premises however saw a decline of 4 cases. Violators were fined up to \$500 for each of the FSO.

Types of premises	2005	2006	Absolute Change
Industrial	15	55	+40
Commercial	4	5	+1
Public entertainment	3	1	-2
Others*	-	1	+1
Total	22	62	+40

*Others include residential premises, shophouses & community centres

**TABLE 5: NOTICE OF COMPOSITION
(BREAKDOWN BY PREMISES)**

8. **Table 5** shows the increase in number of Notice of Composition (NOC) served to violators. Industrial properties were the main premises served with NOCs. In total, industrial premises received 55 NOCs.

9. **Table 6** shows the number of court cases in the last 2 years. There were 7 court cases in both years. See **Table 7** on the breakdown of these cases by type of offence.

Types of Premises/Location	2005	2006	Absolute Change
Industrial	1	1	0
Commercial	3	-	-3
Public entertainment	-	-	-
Others*	3	6	+3
Total	7	7	0

*Others include roads and car parks

TABLE 6: COURT CASES (BREAKDOWN BY TYPE OF PREMISES)

Description	2005	2006
Failure to comply with storage, dispensing &/or transportation of LPG cylinders. Eg. Excessive/unsafe storage of LPG; illegal dispensing of LPG	4	2
Failure to keep in the cabin the original copy of the valid licence to transport petroleum or flammable materials	1	0
Obstruction to exit & firefighting facilities including fire engine accessway	1	1
Unauthorized fire safety works	0	4
Failure to comply with Temporary Permit (TP) conditions	1	0

Total	7	7
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TABLE 7: COURT CASES (BREAKDOWN BY TYPE OF OFFENCE)