

Director's Message



It is my pleasure to present to you our sixth Environmental Report which summarises the efforts we have taken to achieve our environmental goal in 2008 and our environmental targets and initiatives for 2009.

In this report, we share with you our experience on environmental management in capital works projects. We have systematically managed every aspect of our work which may have impact on the environment during the planning, design, tender procurement and construction stages. The environmental planning for "West Island Line" railway project and the air quality assessment for Hong Kong-Shenzhen-Zhuhai Corridor are two examples which will capture your attention. We continue our efforts in greening highway structures. This report has included a new item on "vertical greening" which will be of interest to you.

In 2008, much efforts have been devoted to the streetscape enhancement works for the Olympic and Paralympic Equestrian Events. The enhancement works which, including the laying of colourful paving blocks and improvement of roadside structures in the vicinity of event venues, have added vitality to the community in an environmentally friendly manner.

Besides, we have been actively pursuing research studies on use of recycled materials and reduction of traffic noise.

We are also committed to energy saving and will continue to make our best endeavours to support the clean air initiatives. Five energy management opportunities had been identified in our first energy audit and we had promptly taken effective measures. We have achieved good results in energy saving in public lighting. Following the implementation of three energy saving measures in public lighting, we recorded a significant saving in energy consumption of 627,000 kWh. As from 2008, we adopt the use of paint with low/ no volatile organic compounds (VOC) in all new works contracts. In 2009, we will be more proactive in implementing energy saving initiatives. For instance, we will carry out trials with a view to adopting renewable energy technologies in our new capital works projects.

Notwithstanding our efforts made in 2008, we will continue maintaining our contributions in protecting our environment and searching for every opportunity for a blue sky and better environment. I hope you will find this report interesting.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Wai Chi-sing'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a small dot at the end.

WAI Chi-sing
Director of Highways
June 2009