ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT PRACTICE NOTE FOR PROFESSIONAL PERSONS

Construction Site Drainage

Introduction

(This Practice Note supersedes the ProPECC PN 1/94.)

The purpose of this practice note is to provide some basic environmental guidelines for handling discharge from construction sites, so as to prevent and minimize some of the pollution problems generally associated with construction activities, for example:

- (i) siltation in storm water drains caused by excessive sand and silt in the surface run-off;
- (ii) visual nuisance and hazard to aquatic life caused by discharge of muddy water into streams or the sea;
- (iii) pollution caused by improper handling and disposal of other types of wastewater from construction site such as sewage from site toilets.

A total of ten types of discharges from construction sites have been identified. Good practice for dealing with these discharges is provided in the following sections.

Surface Run-off

- 2. Surface run-off from construction sites should be discharged into storm water drains via adequately designed sand/silt removal facilities such as sand traps (see Appendix Al for general reference), silt traps, sedimentation tanks and sediment basins. Channels or earth bunds or sand bag barriers should be provided on site to properly direct surface run-off to such silt removal facilities. Perimeter channels at site boundaries should be provided where necessary to intercept surface run-off from outside the site so that it will not wash across the site. Catchpits and perimeter channels should be constructed in advance of site formation works and earthworks.
- 3. Silt removal facilities, channels and manholes should be maintained and the deposited silt and grit should be removed regularly, at the onset of and after each rainstorm to ensure that these facilities are functioning properly at all times.

- 4. Construction works should be programmed to minimize soil excavation works in rainy seasons (generally from April to September). If soil excavation works could not be avoided in these months or at any time of year when rainstorms are likely, for the purpose of preventing soil erosion, temporarily exposed slope surfaces should be covered (e.g. by tarpaulin), and temporary access roads should be protected by crushed stone or gravel, as excavation proceeds. Intercepting channels should be provided (e.g. along the crest/edge of excavation) to prevent surface run-off from washing across exposed soil surfaces. Arrangements should always be in place to ensure that adequate surface protection measures can be safely carried out well before the arrival of a rainstorm.
- 5. Earthworks final surfaces should be well compacted and the subsequent permanent works or surface protection works should be carried out immediately after the final surfaces are formed to prevent erosion caused by rainstorms. Appropriate drainage like intercepting channels should be provided where necessary.
- 6. Measures should be taken to minimize the ingress of rainwater into trenches. If excavation of trenches in the rainy season is necessary, they should be dug and backfilled in short sections of length. Rainwater pumped out from trenches or foundation excavations should be discharged into storm water drains via silt removal facilities.
- 7. Open stockpiles of construction materials (e.g. aggregates, sand and fill material) on sites should be covered with tarpaulin or similar impermeable fabric during rainstorms. Measures should be taken to prevent washing away construction materials, soil, silt or debris into any drainage system.
- 8. Manholes (including newly constructed ones) should always be adequately covered and temporarily sealed so as to prevent silt, construction materials or debris from getting into the drainage system, and to prevent surface run-off from getting into foul sewers. Discharge of surface run-off into foul sewers must always be prevented in order not to unduly overload the foul sewerage system.
- 9. Precautions to be taken at any time of year when rainstorms are likely, actions to be taken when a rainstorm is imminent or forecast and actions to be taken during or after rainstorms, are summarized in Appendix A2 for easy reference.

Groundwater

10. Groundwater pumped out of wells, etc. for lowering ground water level in basement or foundation construction, and groundwater seepage pumped out of tunnels or caverns under construction should be diverted to silt removal facilities for treatment before discharging into storm water drains.

Boring and Drilling Water

11. Water used in ground boring and drilling for site investigation or rock/soil anchoring should as far as practicable be recirculated after sedimentation. When there is a need for final disposal, the wastewater should be discharged into storm water drains via silt removal facilities.

Wastewater from Concrete Batching and/or Precast Concrete Casting

- 12. Wastewater generated from the washing down of mixer trucks and drum mixers and similar equipment should wherever practicable be recycled. The discharge of wastewater should be kept to a minimum.
- 13. To prevent pollution from wastewater overflow, the pump sump of any water recycling system should be provided with a standby pump of adequate capacity and with automatic alternating devices.
- 14. Under normal circumstances, surplus wastewater may be discharged into foul sewers after proper treatment (e.g. silt removal, pH adjustment to within the pH range of 6 to 10, etc.). Disposal of wastewater into storm water drains will require more elaborate treatment. Surface run-off should be segregated from the concrete batching plant and casting yard area as much as possible, and diverted to the storm water drainage system. Surface run-off contaminated by materials in a concrete batching plant or casting yard should be adequately treated before disposal into storm water drains.

Wheel Washing Water

15. All vehicles and plants should be cleaned before they leave a construction site to ensure no earth, mud, debris and the like is deposited by them on roads. A wheel washing bay should be provided at every site exit if practicable and wash-water should have sand and silt settled out or removed before discharging into storm water drains. The section of

construction road between the wheel washing bay and the public road should be paved to reduce vehicle tracking of soil and to prevent site run-off from entering public road drains.

Bentonite Slurries

- 16. Bentonite slurries used in diaphragm wall and bored-pile construction should be reconditioned and reused wherever practicable. If the disposal of a certain residual quantity cannot be avoided, used bentonite slurry (if mixed with only inert fill materials) should be dewatered, and disposed of at a (i) public fill reception facility / area; or (ii) marine dumping ground (as the last resort) subject to obtaining a marine dumping licence from the Environmental Protection Department (EPD) on a case-by-case basis.
- The water generated from the dewatering process should be treated to the respective effluent standards applicable to foul sewers, storm water drains or the receiving waters as set out in the "Technical Memorandum on Effluent Standards" (TM) (Cap. 358 AK) issued under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO) (Cap. 358) which is made available at the EPD's website (http://www.epd.gov.hk).

Water for Testing and/or Sterilization of Water Retaining Structures and Water Pipes

- 18. Water used in water testing to check leakage of structures and pipes should be reused for other purposes as far as practicable. Surplus unpolluted water could be discharged into storm water drains.
- 19. Sterilization is commonly accomplished by chlorination. Specific advice from the EPD should be sought during the design stage of the works with regard to the disposal of the sterilizing water. The sterilizing water should be reused wherever practicable.

Wastewater from Building Construction

- 20. Before commencing any demolition works, all sewer and drainage connections should be sealed to prevent building debris, soil, sand etc. from entering public sewers/drains.
- 21. Wastewater generated from building construction activities including concreting, plastering, internal decoration, cleaning of works and similar activities should not be discharged into the storm water drainage system. If the wastewater is to be discharged into foul sewers, it should undergo the removal of settleable solids in a silt removal facility, and pH

Acid Cleaning, Etching and Picking Wastewater

Acidic wastewater generated from acid cleaning, etching, pickling and similar activities should be neutralized to within the pH range of 6 to 10 before discharging into foul sewers. If there is no public foul sewer in the vicinity, the neutralized wastewater should be tankered off site for disposal into foul sewers or treated to a standard acceptable for discharge into to storm water drains and the receiving waters.

Wastewater from Site Facilities

- 23. Sewage from toilets, kitchens and similar facilities should be discharged into a foul sewer. If there is no foul sewer in the vicinity, chemical toilets, a septic tank and soakaway system (see Appendix B for general reference) or for larger flows, a sewage treatment plant will have to be provided as appropriate.
- Wastewater collected from canteen kitchens, including that from basins, sinks and floor drains, should be discharged into foul sewers via grease traps capable of providing at least 20 minutes retention during peak flow. Details of a typical grease trap should be referred to Appendix C for general reference. The EPD has also published "Grease Traps for Restaurants and Food Processors" which provides guidance on the design, operation and maintenance of grease traps and it is made available at the EPD's website (http://www.epd.gov.hk).
- Drainage serving an open oil filling point should be connected to storm water drains via a petrol interceptor with peak storm bypass. Typical details of such a petrol interceptor prepared by the Highways Department are attached at Appendix D and available at its website (http://www.hyd.gov.hk) for general reference.
- Vehicle and plant servicing areas, vehicle wash bays and lubrication bays should as far as possible be located within roofed areas. The drainage in these covered areas should be connected to the foul sewer via petrol interceptor(s). (see Appendix E for general reference). Oil leakage or spillage should be contained and cleaned up immediately. Waste oil should be collected and stored for recycling or disposal in accordance with the Waste Disposal Ordinance (Cap. 354).

Licensing of Construction Site Discharges

All discharges into any drainage or sewerage systems, or inland or coastal waters, or into the ground (e.g. from septic tanks) are controlled under the Water Pollution Control Ordinance (WPCO) (Cap. 358), except the discharge of domestic sewage into foul sewers or the discharge of unpolluted water into storm water drains or into the waters of Hong Kong. Construction site discharges are controlled under the WPCO.

28. Discharges controlled under the WPCO must comply with the terms and conditions of a valid WPCO licence. It should be noted that compliance with the recommendations in this practice note does not necessarily imply compliance with the terms and conditions of a licence issued under the WPCO. Depending on actual site conditions, facilities in addition to those recommended in this practice note might be necessary.

Offices of the EPD or can be downloaded from the EPD's website (http://www.epd.gov.hk). Also, on-line application for WPCO licence can be made at the EPD's website. The applicant should include in the application, inter alia, information on the various points of discharge of surface run-off and wastewater, and the corresponding maximum (or range of) volume of discharge expected on a dry day. The applicant, who shall either be (i) the person who makes or authorizes the discharge or (ii) the owner or occupier of the premises from which the discharge is made, should submit the licence application to the EPD as early as possible before the commencement of any discharge. In general, assuming adequate information has been provided together with the licence application, the EPD would generally need 14 days after the receipt of payment for the processing of a licence for a discharge. In the case of a discharge directly into any waters of Hong Kong, the licence processing would take a longer time to allow time for public notification as required by the WPCO. Enquiries can be directed to the Regional Offices of the EPD (Customer Service Hotline: 2838 3111).

(Samuel H.K. Chui) Director of Environmental Protection

Environmental Protection Department

Issued: November 2023

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix A1 Sand Trap (CEDD Standard Drawing No. R1034A)

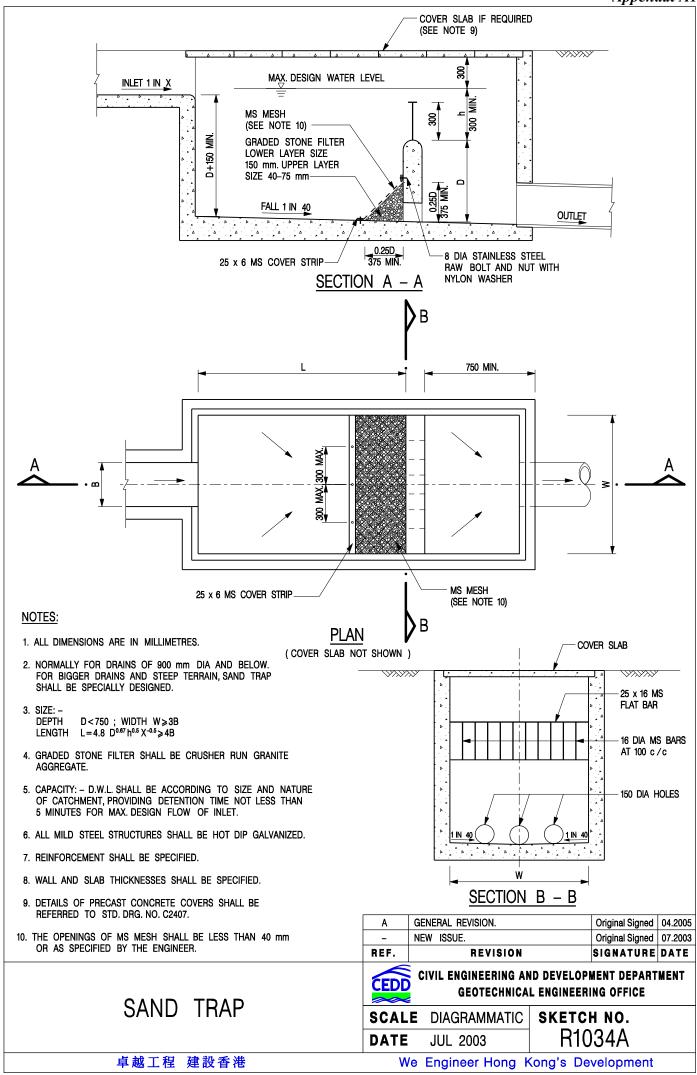
Appendix A2 Precautions / Actions relating to Rainstorms

Appendix B Septic Tank and Soakaway

Appendix C Grease Trap

Appendix D Petrol Interceptor with Storm Bypass

Appendix E Petrol Interceptor



Precautions/Actions relating to Rainstorms

The following are extracted from the main text to highlight the specific precautions or actions concerned with rainstorms. For general precautions to be taken at all times in relation to surface run-off, please refer to Section 2 of the main text.

(I) <u>Precautions to be taken at any time of year when rainstorms are likely</u>

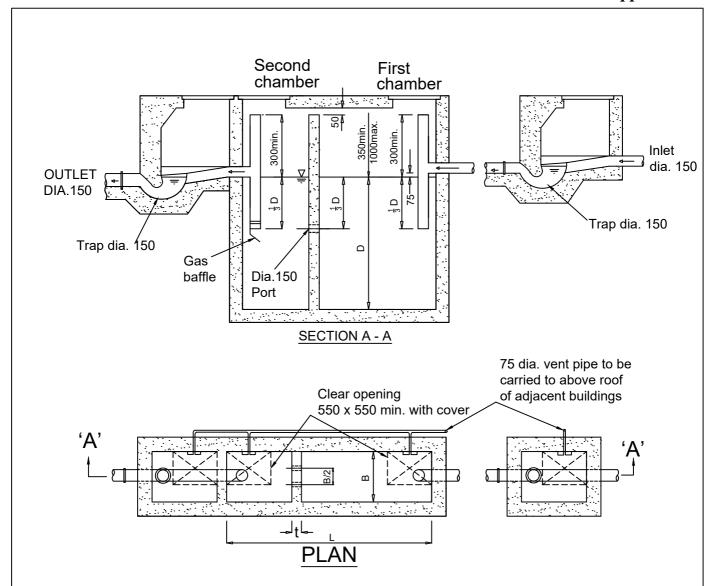
- (a) Silt removal facilities, channels and manholes should be maintained and the deposited silt and grit should be removed regularly.
- (b) Temporarily exposed slope surfaces <u>should</u> be covered e.g. by tarpaulin.
- (c) Temporary access roads should be protected by crushed stone or gravel.
- (d) Intercepting channels should be provided (e.g. along the crest/edge of excavation) to prevent storm runoff from washing across exposed soil surfaces.
- (e) Trenches should be dug and backfilled in short sections. Measures should be taken to minimize the ingress of rainwater into trenches.

(II) Actions to be taken when a rainstorm is imminent or forecast

- (a) Silt removal facilities, channels and manholes should be checked to ensure that they can function properly.
- (b) Openstockpilesofconstruction materials (e.g. aggregates, sandandfill materials) on site should be covered with tarpaulin or similar fabric.
- (c) All temporary covers to slopes and stockpiles should be secured.

(III) Actions to be taken during or after rainstorms

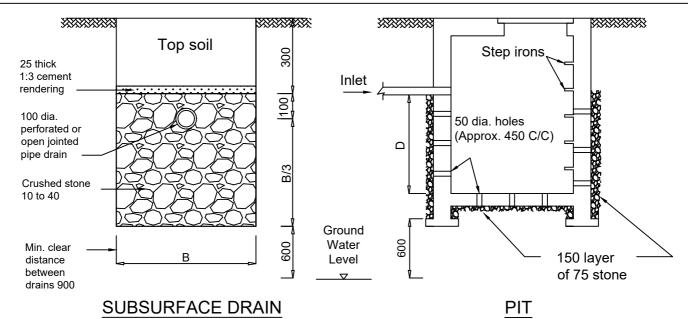
(a) Silt removal facilities, channels and manholes should be checked and maintained to ensure satisfactory working conditions. <u>Attention</u> should be given to safety when carrying out this work.



Notes:-

- 1. All dimensions in millimetres (mm) unless otherwise stated.
- 2. Size
 - (a) 4B ≥ L > 3B
 - (b) 1800 mm ≥ D > 1200 mm
 - (c) Ratio of volumes of first and second chambers = 2 : 1
- 3. Capacity (Subject to note 2)
 - (a) Capacity, C = (L-t)xBxD
 - (b) Not less than 2.3 m³ but not more than 41 m³
 - (c) Not less than QN where N is the number of persons served and Q is the estimated ultimate per capita daily water consumption.
 - (d) Surface water must not be connected to the tank
 - (e) Tank to be desludged every 6 months
- 4. No overflow or bypass pipe is allowed.
- 5. Please refer to the booklet "Guidance Notes on Discharges from Village Houses" published by EPD for further guidelines on operation and maintenance of septic tank system.

SEPTIC TANK	DRAWING NO.: EP 50/D1/5/01			
	DATE 1/23	SCALE NTS	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT HONG KONG	



Notes:-

FÈ All dimensions in millimetres (mm) unless otherwise stated

È Percolation test for determining absorption capacity of soil

- Excavate a hole 300 mm² to the same depth of the pit or trench.
- QD Fill the hole with approximately 150 mm of water and allow to seep away completely.
- QD Refill the hole with water to a depth of 150 mm and observe the time, in minutes, for water to seep completely away.
- QD Divide the time by 6 to give time taken to fall 25 mm for use in table below.

HÈ Allowable loading of soakaway systems

Time in minutes for water to fall 25 mm in test pit	Allowable loading in litres per m ² per day			
Time in minutes for water to fair 25 min in test pit	Drain Trench Bottom Area	Pit Percolation Area		
1 or less	163	216		
2	130	175		
5	98	130		
10	69	94		
30	33	45		

The total allowable loading per day should equate with the daily incoming flow

4. Á Minimum clearance requirements for soakaway systems

Water Bodies	Distance from Soakaway Systems (m)	
Wells	50	
Stream (where the bed is lower than invert of soakaway system)	15 (30)*	* These distances should be increased to distances shown in brackets if the water from the stream or pool is used or likely to be used for drinking or domestic purposes
Pools	7.5 (30)*	
Beaches	100	(From boundaries of gazetted beaches or bathing beach subzones of Water Control Zones)
	30	(From H.W.M. and from nearest watercourses for other cases)
Ground water table	0.6	(Below invert)
Structures		
Building	3	
Retaining walls	6	
Cuts or embankments	30	
Paths	1.5	

5. Engineering measures, such as: (i) soil replacement to help improve the soil absorption capacity through changing the characteristics and associated composition of soil; (ii) mound system or diversion of soakaway path, etc., may be used to address site constraints (e.g. inadequate absorption capacity of soil, high ground water table, etc.).

SOIL SOAKAWAY SYSTEM

DRAWIN	IG NO.
EP	50/D1/5/02

DATE SCALE NTS

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT HONG KONG



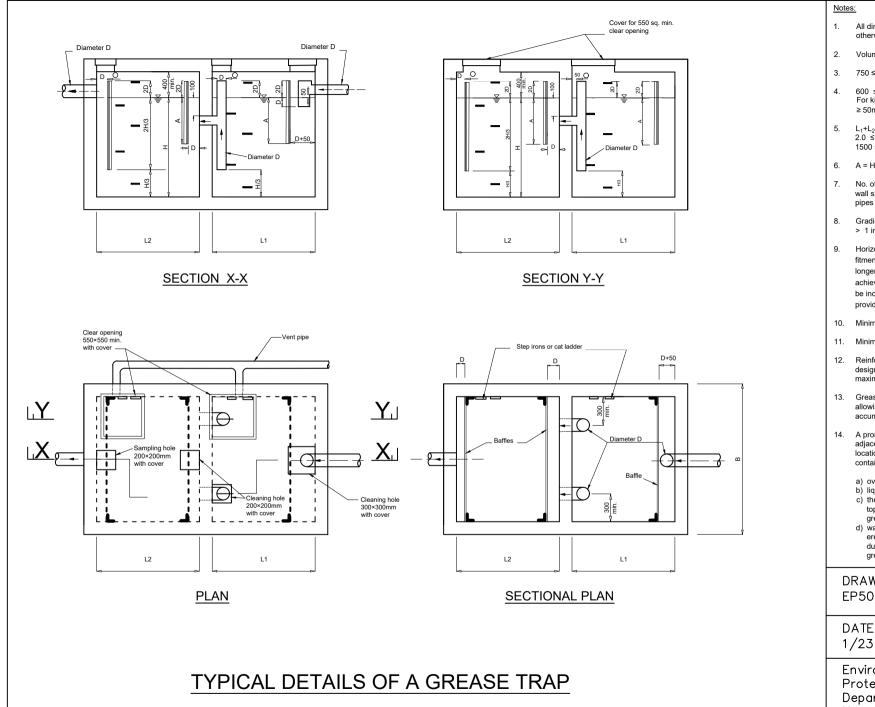
Grease Traps
(See Drawing no. EP/50/L1/1/01A for typical details of a grease trap)

		Minimum Required
Kitchen Floor Area	Peaking Factor	Grease Trap Retention Volume
(m^2)		(m^3)
12	5.5	0.7
24	4.3	1.1
50	3.0	1.6
100	2.4	2.5
150		3.3
200	1.85	4.0
250		4.7
300		5.4
350		6.1
400	1.62	6.7
450		7.3
500		7.8
550		8.3
600	1.38	8.7
650		9.1
700		9.4
750		9.7
800	1.15	10.0
850		10.2
900	1.03	10.3
1000	1.0	10.4

Notes

- 1. The minimum required grease trap retention volume tabulated above is based on an average water consumption of 0.5 m³ per day per m² of kitchen floor area, and an average working day of 16 working hours. A larger grease trap should be provided if a higher water discharge intensity is anticipated.
- 2. For kitchen floor areas in between the listed values, the minimum required grease trap retention volume can be calculated pro-rata.
- 3. For kitchen floor areas smaller than 12 m², a grease trap with retention volume 0.7 m² should be provided unless the adequacy of a smaller grease trap can be demonstrated.
- 4. Depending on the actual operation of the proposed food premises, additional installations might be required to meet the standards given in the Technical Memorandum on Effluent Standards issued under section 21 of the Water Pollution Control Ordinance Cap.358.

Appendix C



- All dimensions are in millimeters unless otherwise stated
- Volume = B ($L_1 + L_2$)H
- $750 \le B \le L_1 \le L_2 \le 1800$
- 600 ≤ H ≤ 1200 For kitchen floor areas ≥ 50m². H should be 900 minimum
- $L_1+L_2=L_T$ 2.0 ≤ L_T /H ≤ 3.0 $1500 \le B \times L_{T}/H \le 4000$
- A = H/2 but not greater than 450
- No, of pipes through the middle partition wall should be such that the velocity inside the pipes is not greater than 0.2 m/s
- Gradient of inlet pipe > 1 in 10
- Horizontal pipe between the last drainage fitment and the grease trap should not be longer than 10m. Where this cannot be achieved, the gradient of the pipe should be increased and rodding eyes should also be provided
- 10. Minimum diameter of inlet pipes 100mm
- 11. Minimum diameter of vent pipes 75mm
- 12. Reinforced concrete grease traps should be designed as liquid retaining structure with maximum surface crack widths 0.2 mm
- 13. Grease traps should be easily accessible, allowing covers to be lifted and accumulated materials removed
- 14. A prominent sign should be erected adjacent to the grease trap to signify the location of the grease trap and should also contain the following information:
 - a) overall depth of the grease trap
 - b) liquid depth of the grease trap
 - c) the grease trap needs cleaning when the top 200mm of liquid depth is occupied by grease
 - d) warning signs and safety barriers should be erected around the manhole openings during cleaning and maintenance of the grease trap

DRAWING NO. EP50/L1/1/01A

1/23

SCALE NTS

Environmental Protection Department Hong Kong



GENERAL NOTES:

- The petrol interceptor is designed to provide at least 20 minutes retention to 5-10% of the maximum runoff collected by the transport interchange in a 1 in 2 year rainstorm.
- 2. All dimensions are in millimetres.
- 3. Concrete to be grade 30/20.
- 4. Reinforcement shall comply to BS4449 and shall be bent in accordance with BS8666.
- 5. Cover to reinforcement to be 50mm unless otherwise specified.
- 6. Reinforcement notation:

3 x 3 R 12 - 5 - 200 B

No. of sets ____ suffix
No. of bar ____ bar class diameter

bar class: R = GRADE 250 PLAIN ROUND STEEL BAR

suffix : T = TOP

B = BOTTOM NF = NEAR FACE FF = FAR FACE EF = EACH FACE

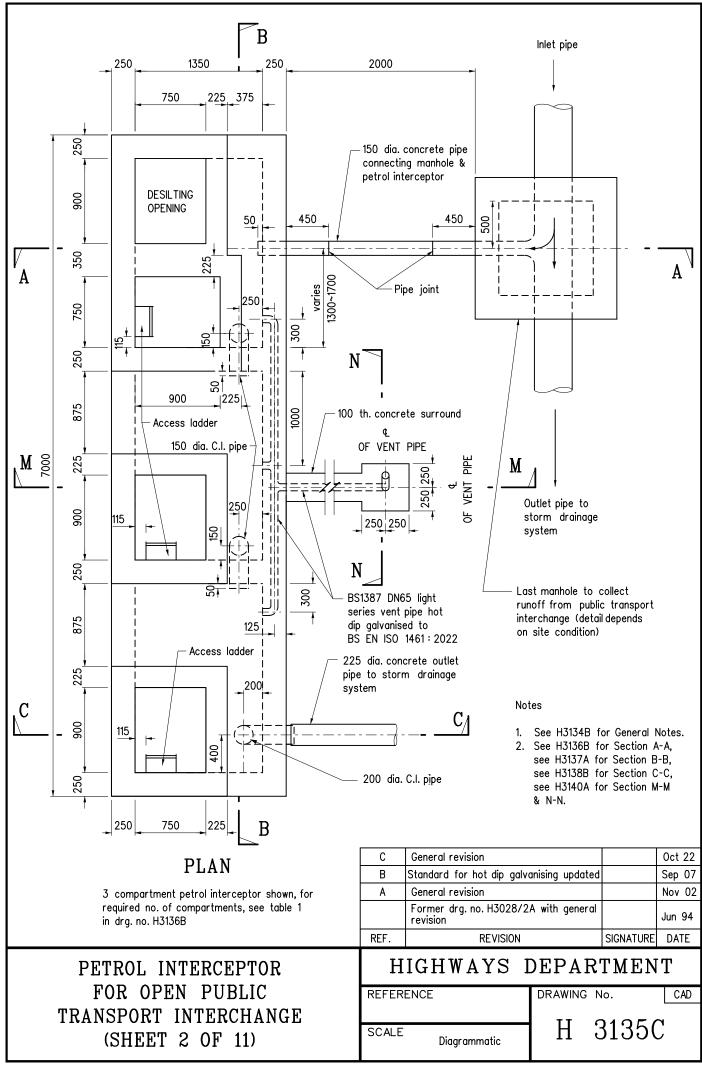
- 7. Minimum lap length: 40 diameter of bar for mild steel plain bar.
- 8. Structural steelwork shall be grade S275 to BS EN 10025 unless otherwise specified.
- 9. All fillet welds to be 6mm unless otherwise specified.
- 10. Stainless steel access ladder to be of minimum grade 1.4401 to BS EN 10088.
- 11. For RSJ connections, see DSD Standard Drawing DS1031.
- 12. For details of treatment to the top of petrol interceptor, see DSD Standard Drawing DS1032 for flexible roadsurface and Highway Standard Drawing H1111 & H1112 for concrete road slab.
- 13. For details of cover to access opening and desilting opening, see DSD standard drawing DS1034.

В	General revision		Oct 22
Α	General revision		Nov 02
	Former drg. no. H3028/1A with general revision		Jun 94
REF.	REVISION	SIGNATURE	DATE

PETROL INTERCEPTOR
FOR OPEN PUBLIC
TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE
(SHEET 1 OF 11)

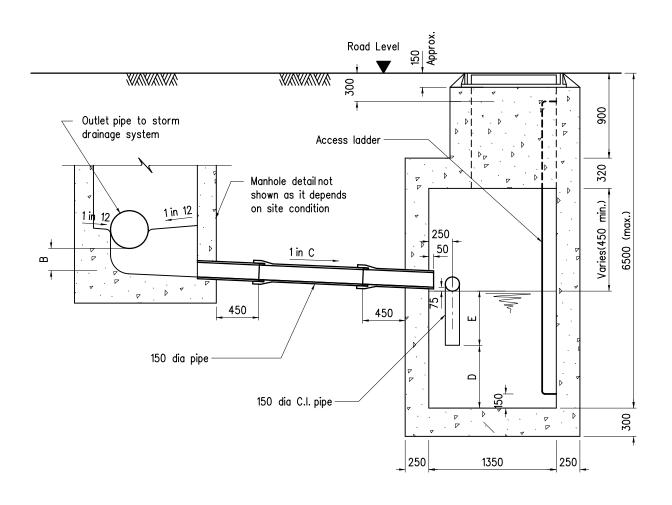
HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT

REFERENCE	DRAWING	No.	CAD
	тт	010 / I	<u> </u>
SCALE	П	3134 F	3



CATCHMENT AREA OF THE PUBLIC TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE A (m²)	LEVEL DIFFERENCE OF THE 2 OUTLET PIPES IN THE LAST MANHOLE B (mm)	FALL OF INLET AND OUTLET PIPE OF PETROL INTERCEPTOR C	D (mm)	E (mm)	NO. OF COMPARTMENT
A ≤ 1000	60	200	500	400	2
1000 < A ≤ 2000	90	200	600	400	3
2000 < A ≤ 3000	150	200	550	600	4
3000 < A ≤ 4000	150	100	725	600	4

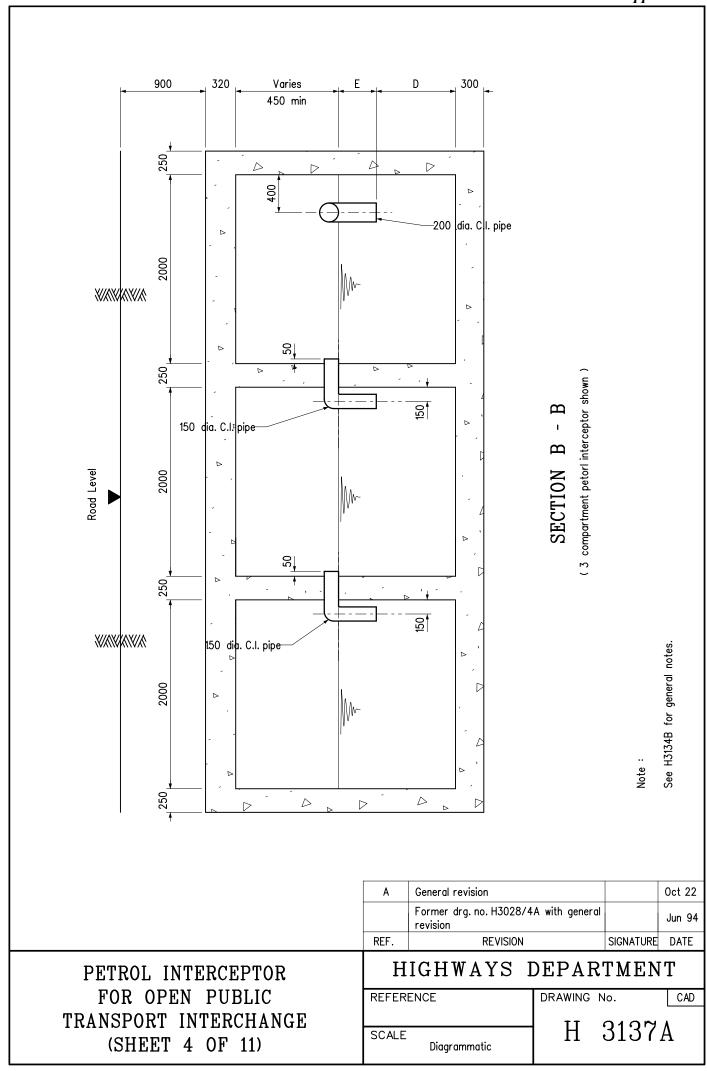
TABLE 1

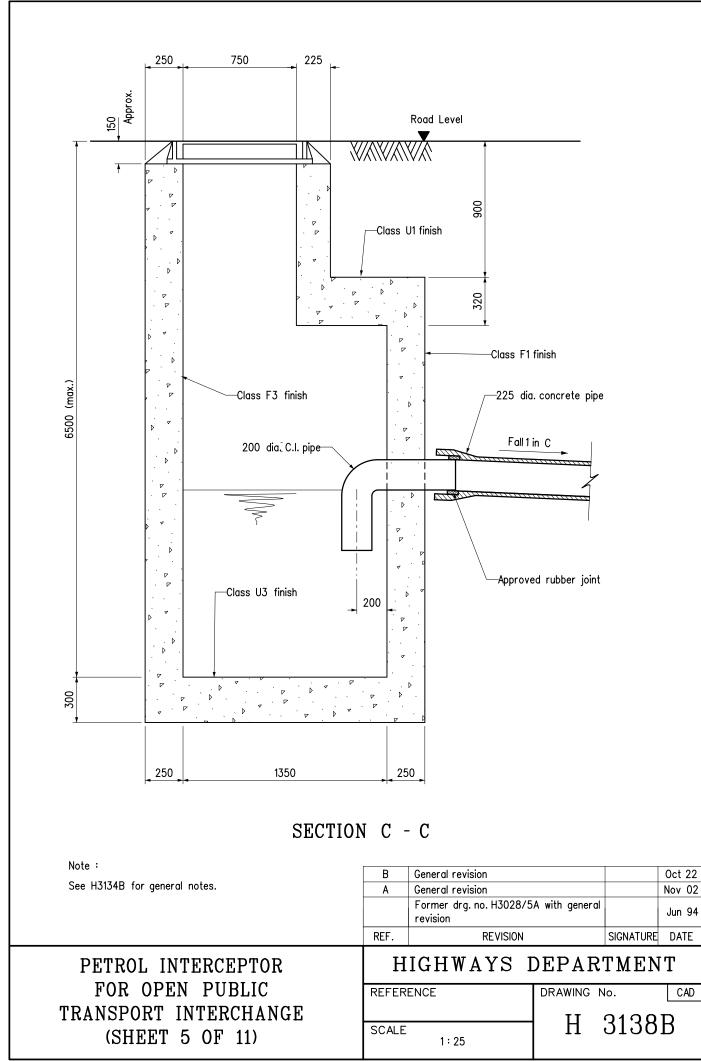


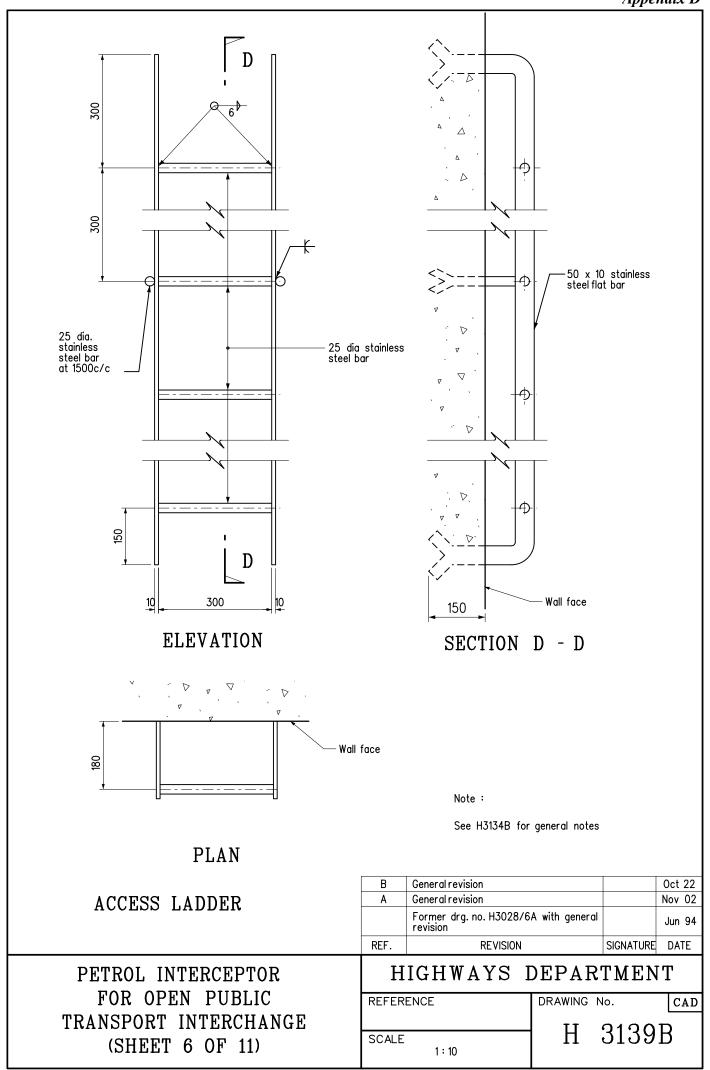
SECTION A - A

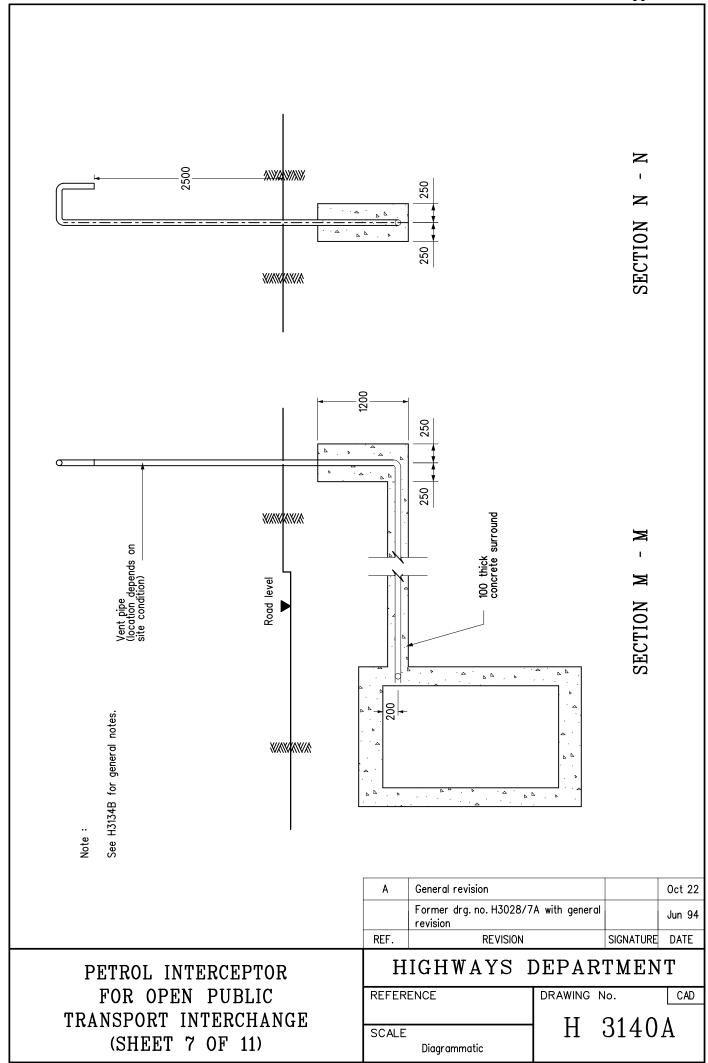
FOR OPEN PUBLIC
TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE
(SHEET 3 OF 11)

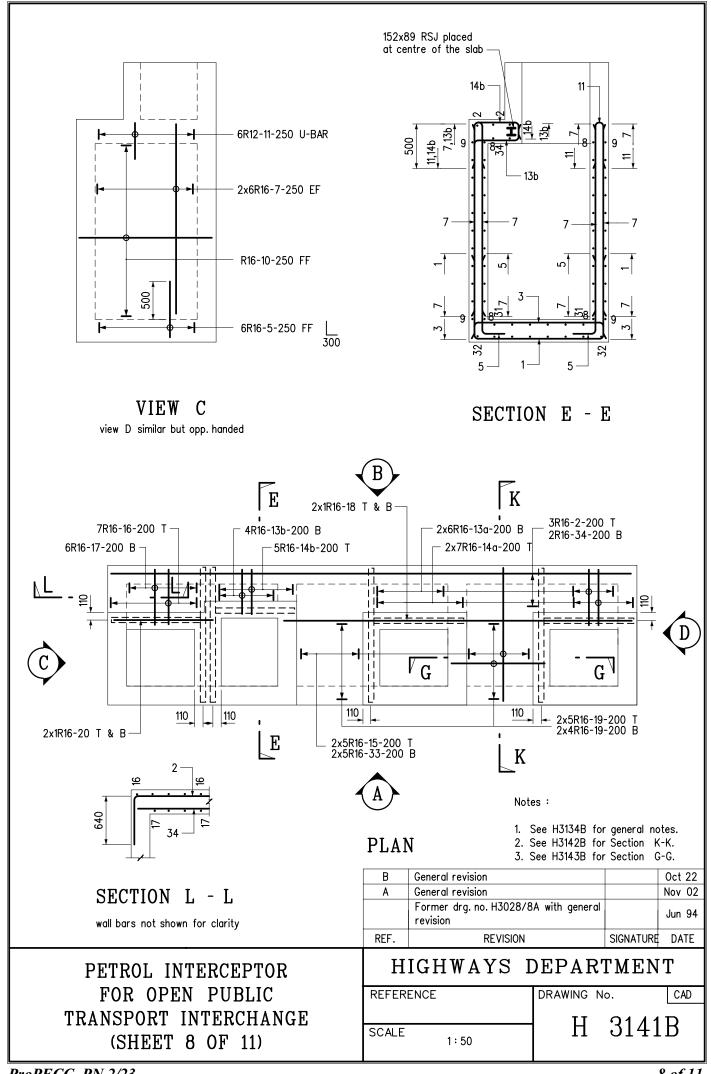
REFERENCE DRAWING No. CAD SCALE Diagrammatic H 3136B

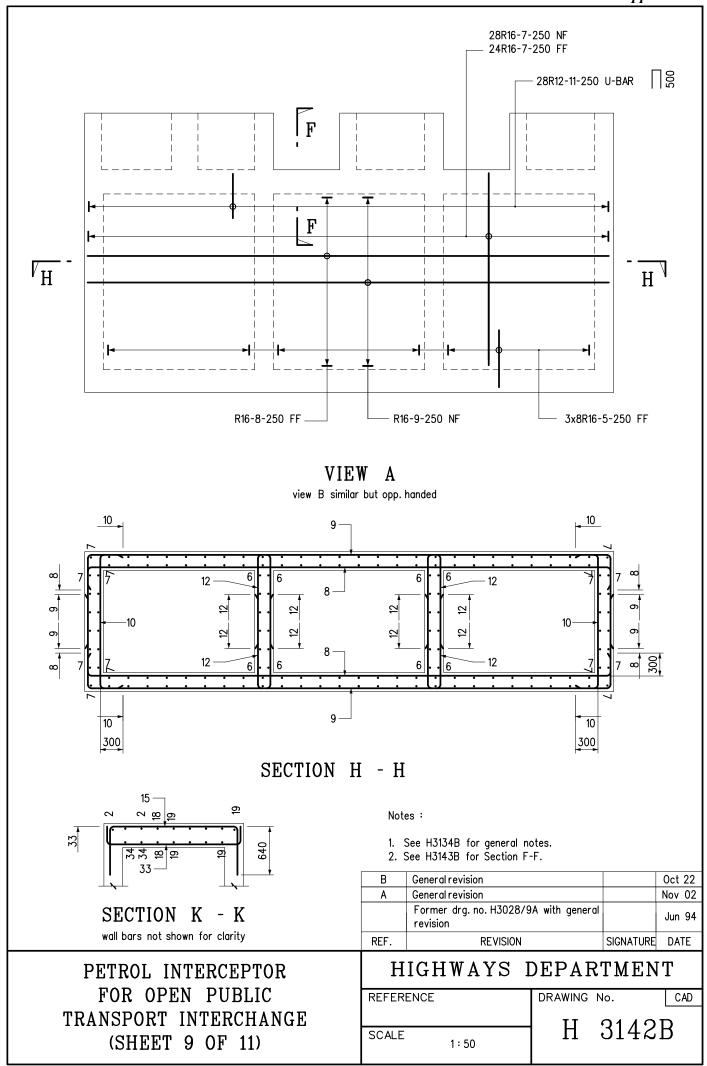


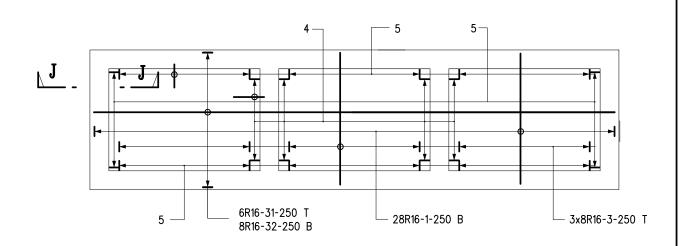




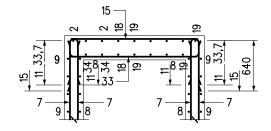




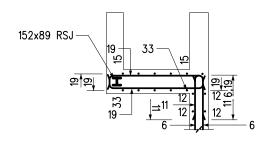




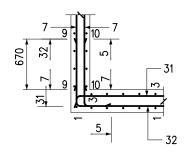
BASE SLAB



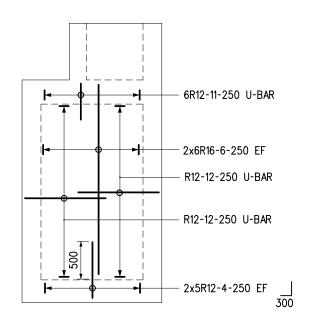
SECTION F - F



SECTION G - G



SECTION J - J



INTERNAL WALL

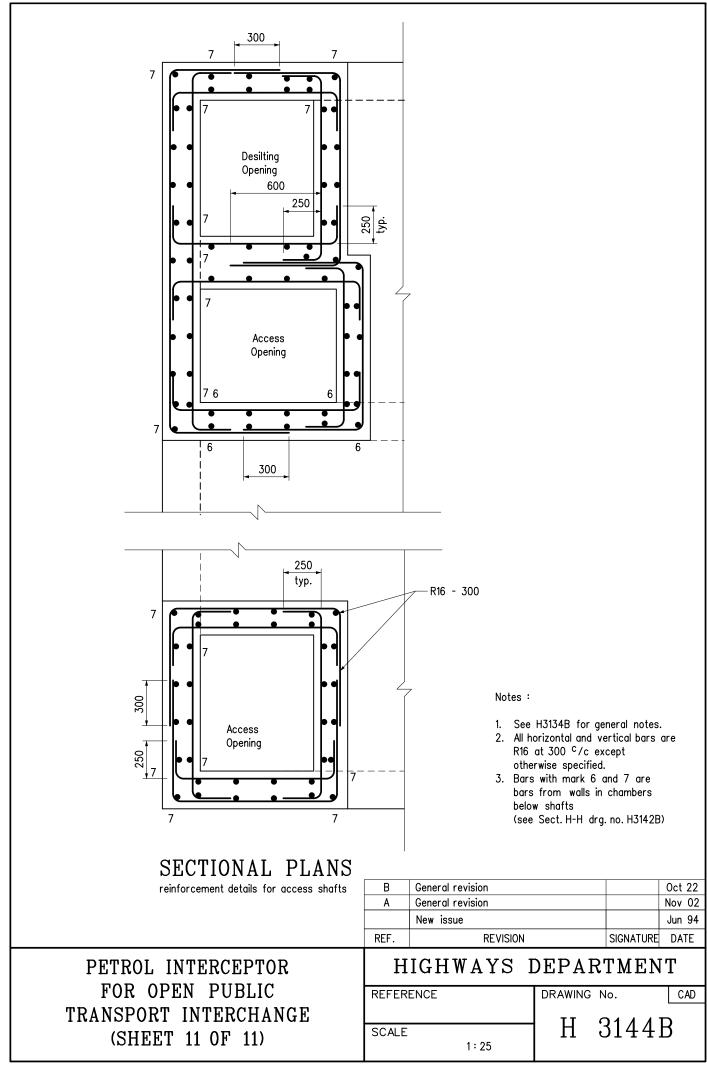
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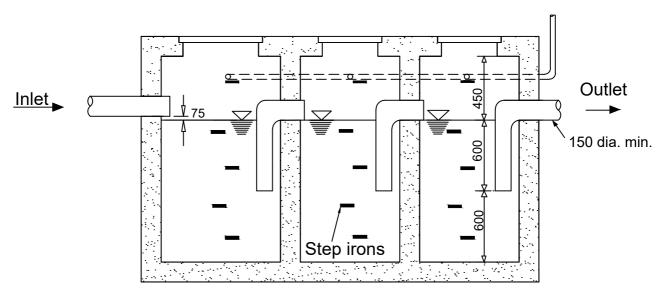
See H3134B for general notes.

В	General revision		Oct 22
Α	General revision		Nov 02
	Former drg. no. H3028/10A with general revision		Jun 94
REF.	REVISION	SIGNATURE	DATE

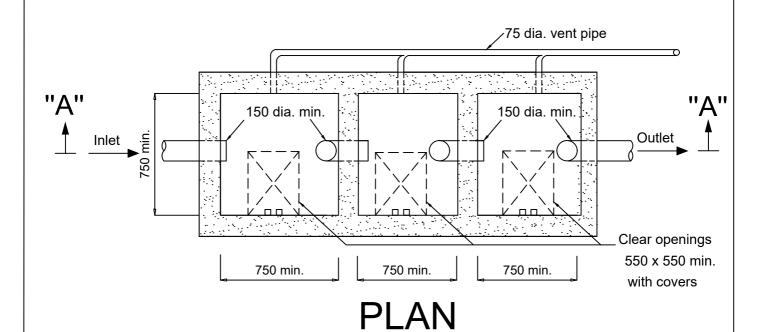
PETROL INTERCEPTOR
FOR OPEN PUBLIC
TRANSPORT INTERCHANGE
(SHEET 10 OF 11)

HIGHWAYS DEPARTMENT REFERENCE DRAWING No. CAD SCALE 1:50 H 3143B





SECTION A-A



Note:

1. All dimensions are in millimetres (mm)

TYPICAL DETAILS OF	DRAWING NO. EP 50/D	1/1/01		
A PETROL INTERCEPTOR	DATE 1/23	SCALE NTS	ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT HONG KONG	P