



SEMINAR

TM70: Tall building drainage design: research evidence and technical rationale

Date: 8 June, 2026 (Monday)
Time: 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Venue: G/F, Tam Wing Fan Innovation Wing Two
Run Run Shaw Building
HKU

Speaker: Professor Michael Gormley
Professor of Public Health and Environmental
Engineering
Heriot-Watt University
Edinburgh, Scotland
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Abstract:

Properly designed building drainage systems are critical to the safe removal of human and domestic waste, the protection of public health, and the limitation of pathogen transmission. While most existing design standards are adequate for low- and medium-rise buildings, tall buildings introduce hydraulic, operational and infection-related challenges that are not adequately addressed by conventional guidance.

CIBSE's TM70: Tall Building Drainage Design responds to these challenges by setting out a framework grounded in experimental research, field evidence and technical analysis. This presentation examines the research evidence and considerations that informed the development of TM70 and shaped its design recommendations.

Biography:

Michael Gormley is Professor of Public Health and Environmental Engineering at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh in Scotland. He is a chartered engineer with 40 years' experience in both practise and academia. Since joining Heriot-Watt University in 2000 he has worked on areas of engineering design and modelling of water and sanitation systems globally. Gormley is a committee member for the British Standards Institute (BSI) and the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) working to update BSEN12056-2, the main European standard for the design of sanitary pipework. In addition to research in Fluid Mechanics and sanitation provision he is also an expert on the transmission and fate of aerosolised pathogens found in airflows, particularly in Building Sanitary Plumbing Systems. He is a named inventor on four international patents in the field of public health engineering.

ALL INTERESTED ARE WELCOME

For further information, please contact Prof. Yuguo Li at 3917 2625.