Hi everybody, Welcome back again. This topic discusses the Fire Safety Managers Scheme of Work implemented under the Fire Safety Act and the Fire Safety Managers Regulations.

This is one topic closest to the heart of all fire safety managers as it details the roles, responsibilities, and scope of works of all appointed fire safety manager under the laws.
At the end of this study topic, you will be able to discuss the legal requirements of the Fire Safety Manager Scheme, and list the statutory duties of appointed fire safety manager.
To achieve these learning outcomes, we will begin by looking at:

- The **Register of Certified Fire Safety Managers**, understand the 2 category of certified competent person under the scheme, the required qualification to be certified by the SCDF, and the continuous professional development program that you will be part of when you graduate with this module certificate;
- The **Specified Premises Under the Laws** that require the owner or occupier to appoint FSM;
- And importantly, the **Statutory Duties of Appointed Fire Safety Managers** that you will be obliged to carry out;
- And the **Statutory Duties of Premise Owner & Occupier** under the law of the person who appoints you.

All these to ensure that you know your rights and obligations to carry out your duty as the Appointed FSM.
The Fire safety Managers Scheme requires that each designated premise under the laws then to appoint a qualified FSM to assist the owner or occupier for all fire safety matters. The scheme was first implemented in 1994 for designated public buildings in the commercial setting; and subsequently extended to the industrial premises in 1997. It was fully integrated in phases and took effect on all public and industrial buildings (PIB) since 1999.
The scheme was specifically instituted on the basis of the Fire Safety Act, Part III: Fire Prevention in Buildings, Section 22 that it is the duties of premise owner or occupier to ensure fire safety measures and fire safety practices of such premises to comply with the requirements of the law; and clearly stipulated that the appointed fire safety manager of the premises to assist the owner or occupier in the performance of his duties under the law.

Henceforth, under the current Fire Safety Managers Scheme, owner are required to appoint a certified senior fire safety manager in Specified COMPLEX Premises and at least a certified fire safety manager for Specified Non-Complex Premises. We will elaborate these along the way.
To practice as a fire safety manager, you need to get your name listed in the Register of Certified Fire Safety Managers. This is administered by the SCDF.
A prospective fire safety manager like yourself, or any person who wish to practise as fire safety manager need to register with, and be certified by the SCDF. Therefore, the SCDF maintains a Register of Certified Fire Safety Manager under the FSM Scheme. This is done electronically and assessed by the SCDF called the eFSM Portal.

Depending on your recognized qualification, you can be certified as a Fire Safety Manager if you possess the minimum FSM qualification or equivalent. One can also be upgraded and certified as a Senior Fire Safety Manager by SCDF if he has a FSM Certificate with minimum of 3 years work experience as appointed FSM.

As a certified FSM by the SCDF, you can then be engaged by premise owner as the Appointed FSM for the Non-Complex Premise. As the certified SrFSM, you can be the Appointed FSM for Complex Premise, such as the mega mall of Marina Bay Sand on the right.
So, what are the qualifications that can be recognized for FSM certification? The Fire Safety Manager Certificate course conducted by the Civil Defence Academy will be able to provide you with the essential qualification to apply for certification as a FSM. This course is conducted by the SCDF Civil Defence Academy on a regular basis. Some equivalent qualification recognized by the SCDF included the Certificate in Fire Engineering jointly issue by the SCDF and Ngee Ann Polytechnic on an ad hoc basis.

The SCDF also worked with the various institution of higher learning such as the BCA Academy, Institute of Technical Education, Polytechnics, and SIM University to issue joint-industry module certificate in fire safety management, the very course that you are taking now will be accepted as recognized qualification for certification.
As a certified FSM, you are required by law, to participate in the continuous professional development program, called the FSM-CPD Program; requiring each certified FSM to remain current and relevant by attending related training. These related training and courses conducted by various agencies with SCDF awarding CPD-Points when relevant.

Note that each certified FSM is to attain 30 CPD-Points within the 3-year CPD-Cycle in order to be re-certified and remain in the Register for the next 3-year cycle. From the schematic, you can see that the next FSM-CPD Cycle will be the 4th cycle in the running, and it will begin in January 2017 till end of December 2019.
Next, we look at what are Specified Premises under the Laws?
In the early days, premises required to appoint FSM are called Designated Premises and is still commonly used in today’s context. However, moving along with the updated Regulations, these premises are called Specified Premises.

Specified Premises are categorized into 2 main categories, namely Specified Non-Complex Premises, and Specified Complex Premises. The pictures below give you a sense of what a complex and non-complex premises are like.
Specified NON-COMPLEX Premises are:

Any Public Building that is of 9-storey or more in height (including any basement); used, constructed or adapted to be used as a hospital; has a floor area of 5000m² or more; or has an occupant load of 1000 persons or more.

It can also be any Industrial Premise that has a floor area or site area of 5000m² or more; or has an occupant load of 1000 persons or more.

In this case, the Premise Owner or Occupier has the legal obligation to appoint a Certified FSM and need to establish a Company Emergency Response Team (CERT).
Specified COMPLEX Premise are:

Any Public Building or Industrial Premise that has an occupant load of 5000 persons or more, AND (it a big AND) if it is of 31-storey or more in height (including any basement); has a gross floor area of 50,000m² or more; or has a basement with gross floor area of 10,000m² or more; or has fire safety works using alternative solution (Performance-based Fire Safety Designs).

In this case, the Premise Owner or Occupier has the legal obligation to appoint a Certified SrFSM, and similarly need to establish a Company Emergency Response Team (CERT).

At this point in time, a brief touch-point to clear your question to what is alternative solution? - is for example the specially-design engineered smoke control system for large atrium like the high volume shopping mall in Marina Bay Sands. We will elaborate on this when you turn up for your first session.