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CIC Releases

“Guidelines on Planking Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds”

Hong Kong • 30 May 2014 – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) today released a new publication entitled *Guidelines on Planking Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds* (Guidelines). The Guidelines provide practical guidance on the roles and responsibilities of Main Contractors and Subcontractors in the provision of suitable working platforms on bamboo scaffolds, in order to prevent violating legislation and endangering workers due to insufficient coordination between these contractors, resulting in a lack of such working platforms.

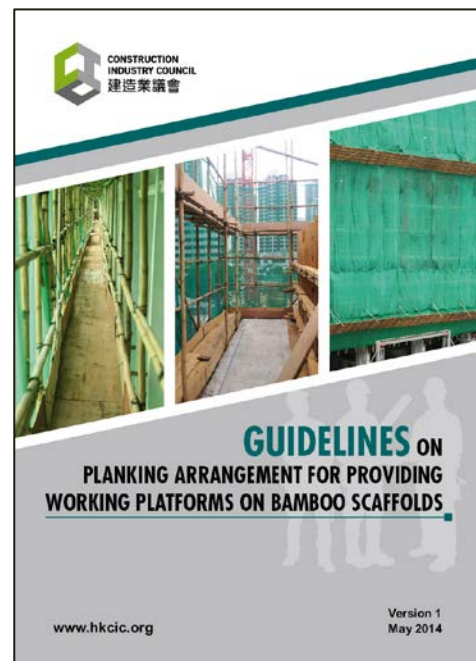
Introduction

Under the CIC’s Committee on Construction Safety (Com-CSY), the Task Force on Work Safety of Repair, Maintenance, Alterations and Additions (RMAA) Sites set up two task groups, namely the “Task Group on Preventing Fall Accidents through Building Design” and the “Task Group on Preventing Fall Accidents in Existing Buildings” of Com-CSY, to tackle work-at-height safety in new buildings under design stage and existing buildings respectively.

The guidelines in this publication apply to buildings under construction and to existing buildings undergoing large-scale renovation works.

The Guidelines cover several key issues as follows: contractors should conduct specific risk assessment before commencement of work; the criteria in

selection of subcontractors; delineation of the roles and responsibilities of Main Contractors and Subcontractors through agreement or contract; the planking



Guidelines on Planking Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds
(Version 1 – May 2014)

arrangement for providing working platforms on bamboo scaffolds; and monitoring the safety performance of Subcontractors.

Publication of Guidelines

“Inadequate working platforms due to lack of coordination between Main Contractors and Subcontractors endanger workers working at height of the bamboo scaffolds. The Guidelines recommend necessary precautionary measures, including a clear delineation of the roles and responsibilities of Main Contractors and Subcontractors in the provision, laying and use of planks as working platforms on bamboo scaffolds to enhance work safety on bamboo scaffolds.” said Mr. CHEUNG Hau-wai, Chairman of the Com-CSY.

Mr. LI Chi-leung, the Chairman of the two task groups, said, “A high number of serious work accidents related to building repair and maintenance works conducted at height in recent years has caused grave public concern related to bamboo scaffolding safety. The two task groups have developed the Guidelines with the aim of improving the work safety on bamboo scaffolds.”

Guidelines on Planking Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds is available at the CIC website www.hkcic.org

About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed on 1 February 2007 under the *Construction Industry Council Ordinance* (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry’s needs and aspirations to government, provide training and registration for the construction workforce and serve as a communication channel for government to solicit advice on all construction-related matters.



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