

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A New Publication of the Construction Industry Council **“Safety Alert No. 001/11 on Fabrication of Reinforcement Cages of Bored Piles”**

Hong Kong • 4 November 2011 – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) released a new publication entitled “*Safety Alert No. 001/11 on Fabrication of Reinforcement Cages of Bored Piles*” (Alert). The Alert aims at preventing the occurrence of accidents of fabrication of reinforcement cage during operation.

Introduction

To show the commitment of CIC in proactively addressing the concerns with fatal accidents caused by sudden collapse of the reinforcement cage, an Informal Working Group on Site Safety Incidents (Working Group) was set up by the Committee on Construction Site Safety of the CIC (C-CSS) to commence analytical research and discussions in formulating recommendations on safety precautionary measures, and issued the Alert to serve as a general guidance to the industry practitioners.

Publication of the Alert

The C-CSS published the “*Safety Alert No. 001/11 on Fabrication of Reinforcement Cages of Bored Piles*”. Mr. CHEUNG Hau-wai, Chairman of the COM-CSS said, “The Alert constitutes advices with a view to promote good practices and reduce accidents in relation to the cage works.”

“We hope the Alert will draw the attention of stakeholders to take necessary safety precautionary measures to protect industry practitioners engaging in similar work activities, and bolster the awareness of site safety among those who are involved in the practice”, added Mr. Victor KWONG, Chairman of the Informal Working Group on Site Safety Incidents of the C-CSS.

The Alert is available for download at the CIC website <www.hkcic.org>



CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY COUNCIL
建造業議會

安全提示 第001/11號

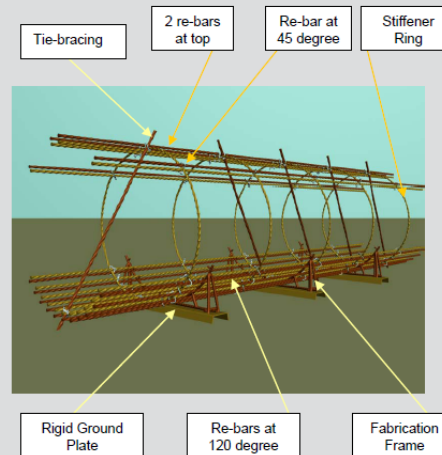
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Safety Alert No. 001/11

Fabrication of Reinforcement Cages of Bored Piles

Fabrication of reinforcement cage is a common work process when carrying out bored pile foundation work. During the operation, relevant safety measures should be taken so as to prevent the occurrence of accidents. Practitioners are alerted to the following safety measures:

1. Prior to the commencement of fabrication, site foremen, engineers and relevant parties should jointly carry out a risk assessment of the reinforcement cage fabrication process and implement the safety measures determined as a result of the assessment.
2. A method statement for the fabrication of reinforcement cages should then be drawn up, including the relevant risk assessment, working drawings, safety working procedures, etc.
3. For the fabrication work, suitable equipment including arc-shaped fabrication frames, ground plates, working platform, etc. should be used.
4. The arc-shape fabrication frames and ground plates should be placed on rigid and flat ground. Barriers and warning signs should be provided to guard against possible damage by other equipment and vehicles.
5. The arc-shaped fabrication frames for supporting the reinforcement cage must be fabricated (as shown on the sketch) ahead of other bar fixing process. It is important that:
 - (i) Upon re-bars are fixed with tie-wires on the lower portions of the stiffener rings (a span of 120°), all these re-bars (both inside and outside the cage) are immediately fastened by U-bolts; and
 - (ii) At least 2 tie-bracings are fixed by U-bolts at the top positions of the stiffener rings at both ends of the cage. Sufficient tie-bracings would also be fixed by U-bolts on the other stiffener rings.
6. The bar fixing foremen should closely supervise this work process to ensure full compliance with the approved method statement.
7. The bar fixing foremen should have the relevant experience in the fabrication of similar reinforcement cages.



Disclaimer
The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) does not accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.

18 October 2011

Safety Alert No. 001/11 on Fabrication of Reinforcement Cages of Bored Piles

About the Construction Industry Council

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed on 1 February 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance Cap. 587. 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 CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to Government, provide training for construction workforce and serve as a communication channel for Government to solicit advice on all construction-related matters.

To learn more about the CIC, please visit website <www.hkcic.org> for further details.

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