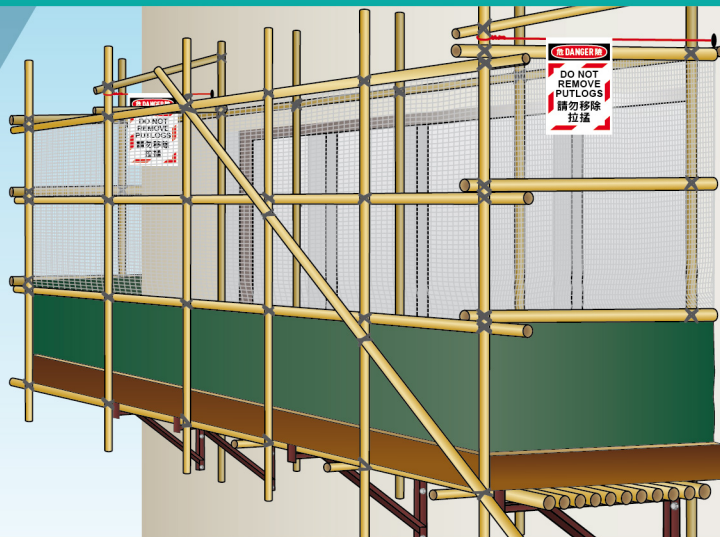




**CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY COUNCIL**
建造業議會



Alert on Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolding Safety

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) is deeply concerned about the recent industrial accidents involving truss-out bamboo scaffolding work. It is crucial that property owners, contractors, workers and property management practitioners prioritise work safety, in particular works conducted at height.

The Labour Department (LD) has revised the Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety (CoP) which took effect on 19 October 2024. The CIC encourages all stakeholders to understand the essential safety measures and implement good practices to create a safer working environment for everyone involved in the bamboo scaffolding works.

The CIC recommends the property owners, the construction industry and the property management industry to adopt the following good practices:

1 Employ Qualified Contractor

Landlord / tenant / occupier should engage both a competent person and trained workman for bamboo scaffolding work. The trained workman is responsible for on-site erection, substantial addition, alteration and dismantling of bamboo scaffold under the immediate supervision of a competent person.

Landlord / tenant / occupier can check the qualification of a competent person by a written authorisation issued by the contractor. A trained workman for bamboo scaffolding works should hold a valid Construction Industry Safety Training Certificate (commonly known as “Green Card”) for construction work, and also trade test certificate or intermediate trade test certificate for bamboo scaffolder or Construction Workers Registration Card specified with bamboo scaffolder division. For the trained workman carrying out truss-out bamboo scaffolding works, apart from the certificates listed for scaffolding works, he / she should hold a valid “Advanced Level Truss-out Scaffolder Safety Training Certificate” or “Intermediate Level Truss-out Scaffolder Safety Training Certificate” issued by the CIC.



**Advanced
Level Truss-out
Scaffolder Safety
Training
Certificate**



**Intermediate
Level Truss-out
Scaffolder Safety
Training
Certificate**

2 Advance Notification for Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds

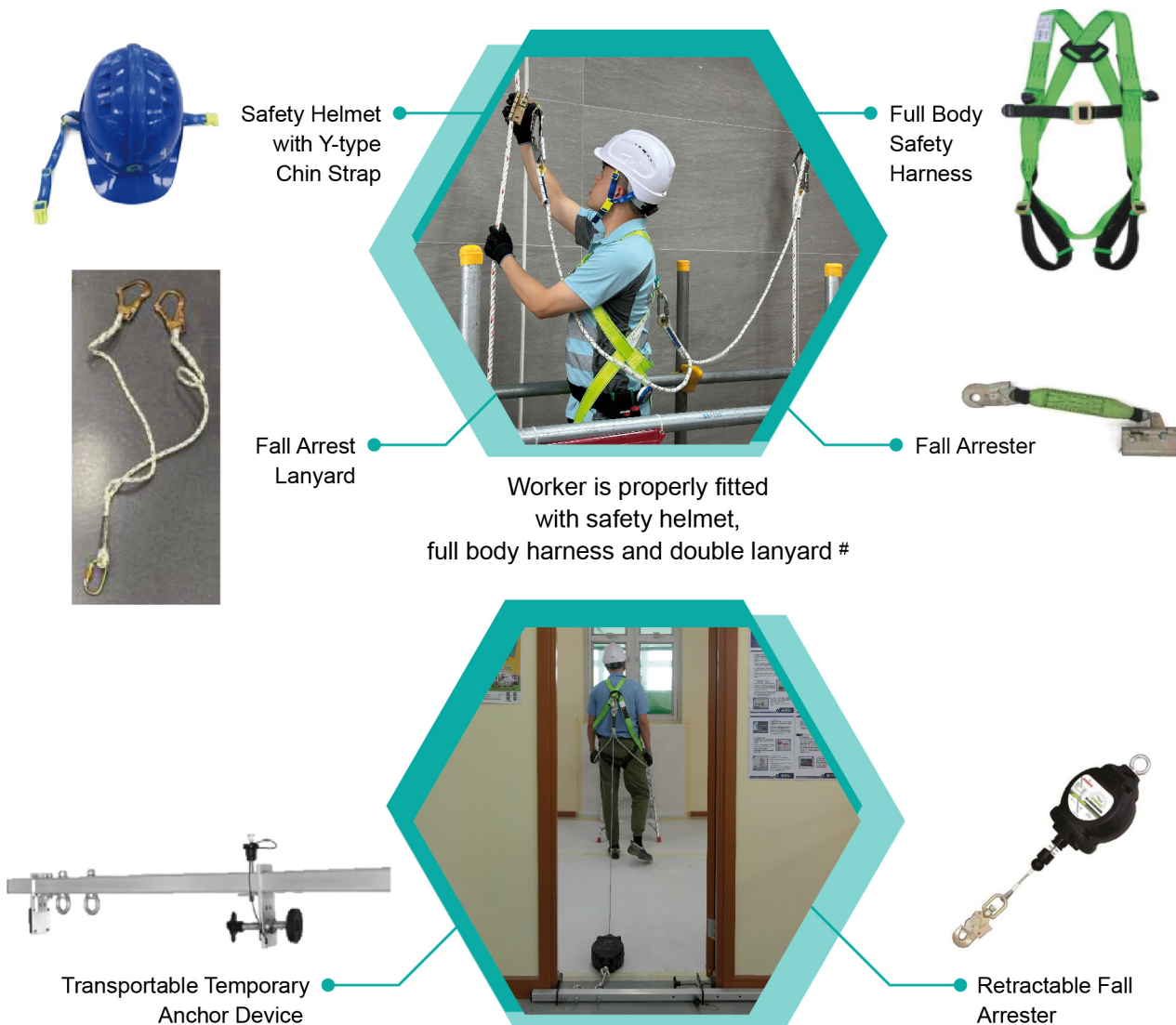
To further enhance the work safety of truss-out bamboo scaffold erection, the person who is commissioning the project, or the contractor, should submit the designated notification form at least 5 working days before the erection of the truss-out bamboo scaffold to property management company for further submission to the LD, allowing the LD to arrange inspection and thus to reduce accidents. The designated notification form can be found in “Guidelines on Safety Enhancement of and Notification Arrangement for Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds (Annex B)” issued by the CIC.



Guidelines on
Safety Enhancement of
and Notification Arrangement for
Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolds

3 Personal Protective Equipment / Fall Arresting Systems

During erection, substantial addition, alteration and dismantling of truss-out bamboo scaffold, workers must wear safety helmet with Y-type chin strap and full body safety harness with its lanyard attached to a secure anchorage, e.g. an eye bolt, or independent lifeline with a fall arrester. When it is impracticable to provide fixed anchors or other means for attachment of fall arresting equipment due to restrictions of the site environment, the worker can use transportable temporary anchor devices. All anchorages (e.g. an eye bolt) or fall arresters should be designed to withstand a minimum pull-out force of 6kN. Whenever practicable, safety net for fall protection of scaffolders should be used. The worker should make a visual inspection for the personal protective equipment prior to use to ensure the serviceable condition of the equipment.



Proper use of
Transportable Temporary Anchor Device

4 Prohibit Unauthorised Dismantling of The Putlog

Putlog is comprised of a metal tie and a bamboo strut, which secures the scaffold to the face of building / structure. The horizontal and vertical spacing of putlogs should not exceed 3m. Unauthorised dismantling or alteration of the bamboo scaffold including the putlog is prohibited. Worker can paint bright colours and affix warning signs to the putlog to enhance the attention of workers.



5 Precautions for Adverse Weather

Contractors should ensure the structural strength and stability of the scaffolds preceding adverse weather conditions. The competent person should take the following precautions on a bamboo scaffold as far as is reasonably practicable:

- Carry out thorough inspection
- Make improvement or enhancement over the bamboo scaffolds as required
- Ensure the protective screens of bamboo scaffolds were lowered and tied up or removed, and
- Remove the materials kept on the bamboo scaffolds



If a decision is made to stop work, all personnel should evacuate safely and efficiently from the scaffold. Prior to the resumption of the work, the competent person should check the condition of plant, equipment and works erected on the scaffold to ensure they are in order and make a report of Form 5 to certify that the scaffold is in safe working order.

Each person plays a vital role in enhancing work safety by not only protecting frontline workers but also nurturing a sense of shared responsibility to uphold work safety. **The CIC has published an informative leaflet to aid owners and property management practitioners in understanding the key aspects of the revised Code of Practice and good practices.**

To know more, please scan the QR codes below:



Revised Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety



RMAA Safety
(Truss-out Scaffolding Safety)
(Chinese version only)