



## A WORKER LOST FOREARM DURING ESCALATOR MAINTENANCE WORKS AT TSEUNG KWAN O HOSPITAL

On 8 July 2023, a worker lost his right forearm during escalator maintenance works at Tsung Kwan O Hospital, he was in a critical condition after sending to the hospital. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much.

### Common Accidents

1. Failure to carry out escalator maintenance works in accordance with the manufacturer's manual.
2. Failure to properly implement the "lockout/tagout" work permit system.
3. Prior to the escalator maintenance works, the main switch of the escalator is not properly turned off, locked, and tagged with warning sign.
4. Run the testing and adjustment of an escalator but without ensuring worker stays away from the escalator.
5. Carry out the escalator maintenance works without the direct supervision of Qualified Persons.



Please refer to the Safety Video -  
「Life First Safety Video Episode 3」 in the website  
(Chinese Version Only)

### Critical Control Measures

1. Carry out the escalator maintenance works in accordance with the manufacturer's manual, and under the direct supervision of Qualified Persons.
2. Prior to carrying out any escalator works, fencing and warning notices should be provided at both landings indicating that there is no access to the escalator. If traffic signs are provided at the escalator, they should be switched to the "NO ENTRY" mode to alert the users of the escalator not to use it so that disturbances to the working personnel during their work would be avoided.
3. No working personnel should enter the escalator to carry out any works unless the main switch to the escalator has been turned off, locked out and tagged, and the escalator is stationary. Besides, warning notices should be displayed at the main switch indicating that work is in progress at the escalator at that time.
4. Develop and implement a "lockout/tagout" work permit system for escalator works.
5. When steps, step-treads, landing plates, combplates, combplate teeth or trap doors, etc. of an escalator are removed, the escalator should never be run for testing or adjustment, etc., unless the entrances at both ends are securely fenced off and all the workers have left the escalator.



## SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, the designers and engineers should consider the operations and establish the proper method and relevant safety measures.
- During the construction stage, work team should plan, manage and monitor their escalator works effectively to make sure that each worker is under their control with appropriate supervision, instructions and information so that the work can be carried out, so far as is reasonably practicable, without risks to health and safety.
- Work team must not begin escalator works unless reasonable steps have been taken to prevent running the escalator by unauthorised persons.
- Workers should follow to the developed safe working procedures, in case identifying any changes in the construction process, report it to their supervisors and take action against it immediately.

### Reference information for sharing



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry



Guidance Notes on How to Manage the Maintenance Works carried out by Registered Lift/ Escalator Contractor (Chinese Version Only)



### Disclaimer

This message is not intended to constitute any professional advice on these or any other subjects. The CIC (including its members and employees) will not accept responsibility for any consequences resulting from the use of or failure to use this message. For enquiries, please contact 2100 9000.