



## A WORKER WAS TRAPPED TO DEATH BY A POWER-OPERATED ELEVATING WORK PLATFORM AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN KAI TAK

An accident happened on 8 May 2024 in which a worker while inspecting the progress of construction works on a power-operated elevating work platform (PEWP), was trapped between the platform and a metal structure. The worker was certified dead later in 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. Operator being trapped between the PEWP and other fixed objects while the PEWP is moving.
2. Failure to properly manage the operation zone of the PEWP and prevent nearby workers or machinery from approaching.
3. Failure to operate PEWP in accordance with the manufacturer's manual.
4. Failure to conduct dynamic risk assessments and take appropriate safety measures in response to changes in the environment and procedures.



### Critical Control Measures

1. Prior to the commencement of works, construction team should conduct risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work by taking into account the nature of works, the working environment, the ground condition and the limitations of the type of PEWP.
2. Formulate the detailed safe working procedures with due regard to the result of the risk assessment, and in conformity with the instructions given in the machine manufacturer's manual.
3. A PEWP should only be operated by persons who have received suitable training and are competent to operate the machine.
4. Before moving the PEWP, make sure there are no surrounding obstacles and no one is nearby.
5. Arrange at least 2 people in a working group and ensure that the works are proceeded under proper supervision.
6. Adopt safety technologies to enhance safety management and reduce risks; for example, install the Smart Sensor on the PEWP. When the PEWP is ascending and the worker's head is approaching an overhead obstacle, the siren from the system will be activated instantly, and the elevating operation will be suspended to safeguard the worker.
7. Provide workers with all necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures, safety measures and the proper use of the PEWP.
8. Establish and implement an effective monitoring and management system to ensure that all safety measures are strictly followed.



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

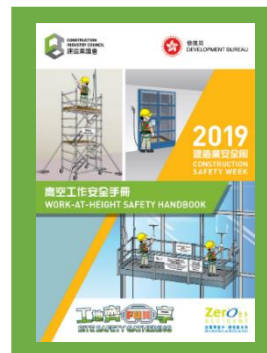
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should consider the working environment of the operation zone and the risks nearby prior to the commencement of works, and select the suitable working platform and construction methods. Besides, whenever possible, avoid overlapping the high-risk activities in the same working area.
- During the construction stage, the work team must ensure that the PEWP is only operated by an authorised person who has adequately trained and is competent by reasons of substantial training and practical experience; in addition, make sure that the PEWP is regularly inspected, tested, and properly maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions with the aim to ensure that it is in safe working condition at all times.
- The work team could constantly identify the changes in the process or the environment through dynamic risk assessment and apply control measures to eliminate the hazard.
- Workers could identify 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



Work-at-Height Safety Handbook



Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF)  
Webpage – About CITF



Construction Innovation and Technology Fund (CITF)  
Webpage – Smart Site Safety System (SSSS)



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