

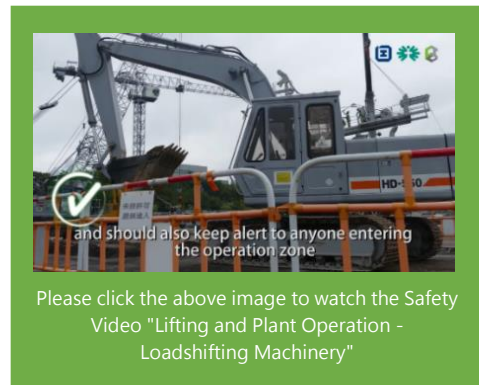


AN EXCAVATOR CRUSHED A WORKER'S RIGHT FOOT AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN CHEK LAP KOK

On 20 June 2024, the right foot of a worker was crushed by an excavator while he was working in an excavation at a construction site in Chek Lap Kok. He was injured and sent to the hospital for treatment. 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 operate and use the excavators in accordance with the manufacturer's manual.
2. Operate the excavators on the soft and unstable edge of excavation, causing the sides to collapse.
3. Operate the excavator across the slope.
4. Failure to provide necessary safety information, instructions, training and supervision to the workers concerned.
5. 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 the associated risks of ground conditions and the working environment; and formulate the safe working procedures.
2. The operator should follow the operating procedures of the excavator as recommended in its manufacturer's manual.
3. The excavator should not be driven too close to the edge of the excavation, causing the sides to collapse.
4. Provision of guard rails, stop blocks and warning signs at the edge of excavation to alert the operators.
5. Do not operate the excavator across on the slopes; do not slew the boom of the excavator on the slope.
6. Safe access and egress should be provided for workers to reach the excavation, and evacuate from the excavation in case of emergency.
7. Use appropriate Smart Site Safety System (4S), for example, install Dangerous Situation Alert System. If a worker is encroaching the dangerous area, siren and signal light from the system will be activated, and thus to secure workers' safety.
8. Provide all workers concerned with the necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures.



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

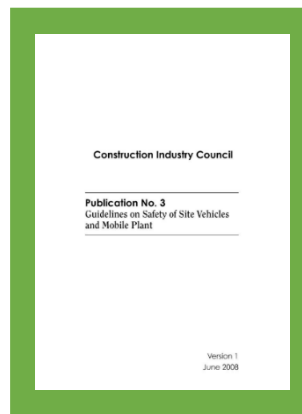
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should consider the ground profile and conditions of the operation zone as well as the limitations of excavators; and select appropriate machinery and construction methods.
- During the construction stage, construction team should ensure that every part of the excavation is examined and certified safe by a competent person. In addition, appropriate control measures should be put in place to ensure that no unauthorised work is allowed during non-working hours.
- Work team shall conduct dynamic risk assessments for the rapidly changing activities, continuously identify the hazards, assess the risks, and take actions to eliminate or reduce risks during construction.
- Workers should follow 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.

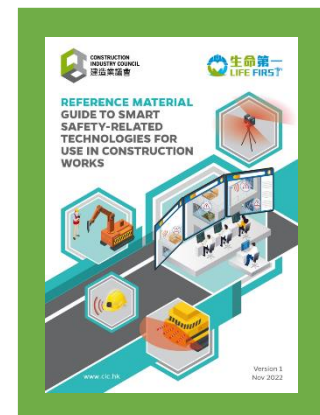
Reference information for sharing



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



Guidelines on Safety of Site Vehicles and Mobile Plant



Reference Material - Guide to Smart Safety-Related Technologies for Use in Construction Works

 **Please Click the Image**



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.