

CIC Safety Message No. 18/24



A WORKER FELL FROM A WORKING PLATFORM IN CHEK LAP KOK AND WAS INJURED

On 23 June 2024, a worker fell from a working platform when carrying out a renovation work at a workplace 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 use proper working platform.
- 2. Fall from unprotected edge of a working platform.
- 3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to the anchorage point.
- 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 the risks of falling from height and develop safe working procedures.
- 2. Metal scaffolds shall be erected, added to, altered or dismantled by trained workmen under the immediate supervision of a competent person.
- When erecting, adding, altering or dismantling scaffolds, a worker must wear a full body safety harness with its lanyard attached to a secure anchorage or an independent lifeline with a fall arrester.
- 4. The working platform on the scaffold should be provided with suitable and safe access and egress, closely boarded and provided with appropriate guard-rails and toe-boards.
- 5. The metal scaffold shall be inspected by a competent person before being taken into use for the first time and at regular intervals not exceeding 14 days; and the competent person must have signed and issued Form 5 prescribed under the Construction Sites (Safety) Regulations, to certify that the scaffold is in safe working order.
- 6. Establish and implement an effective monitoring and management system to ensure 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 adopting design for safety methods to eliminate or reduce the working at height from the sources.
- During the construction stage, the work team should establish and implement an effective management system to ensure that the scaffolds, personal protective equipment and fall arresting devices (e.g. independent lifeline) are inspected before work to ensure they are in good working order.
- 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 should follow the developed safe working procedures, in case identifying any risks of falling from height, report it to their supervisors immediately.

Reference information for sharing



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry (Practical Reference Guidance On Erection and Dismantling of Scaffold or Platform)



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry (Practical Reference Guidance On Work-above-ground Operation)



Work-At-Height Safety Handbook



Poster - Working at Height Safety



