



FIVE WORKERS INJURED AFTER A JIB FELL FROM A MOBILE CRANE

On 10 September 2024, a jib fell from a mobile crane during a lifting operation at a construction site in Lok Ma Chau, resulting in five workers being injured. All the injured workers were sent to 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

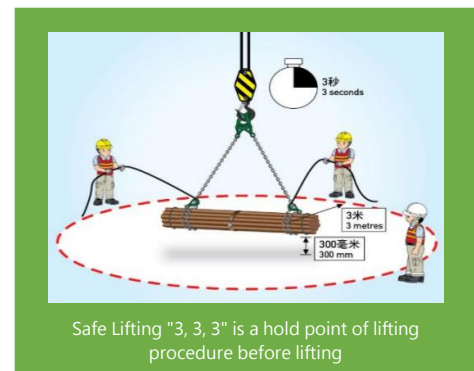
1. The workers do not stay away from fatal zone during the lifting operation.
2. The weight of the loads exceeds the maximum safe working load (SWL) of the crane.
3. Failure to inspect, repair and maintain the lifting appliances and lifting gears properly.
4. Failure to conduct dynamic risk assessments 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 the risks on lifting operation and develop safe working procedures with due consideration to identify lifting zone, fatal zone and proper working positions of workers, so as to eliminate or properly control the risks.
2. Strictly prohibit any workers from entering the fatal zone where risks of falling objects are foreseeable by, for example, cordoning or fencing off the areas.
3. Display warning notices at prominent locations to alert workers.
4. Ensure the lifting operation is carried out in accordance with the maximum safe working load (SWL).
5. Ensure the lifting appliance is regularly tested, thoroughly examined and inspected by a competent examiner and a competent person respectively; and it is properly maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
6. Implement Safe Lifting "3, 3, 3" as a hold point of lifting procedures before lifting: Keep 3m away from materials being lifted; lift up the materials 300mm from ground; and wait for 3 seconds for stabilising the lifting object before lifting operation.
7. Use appropriate Smart Site Safety System (4S), for example, install Dangerous Situation Alert System. If a worker is encroaching the fatal zone, siren and signal light from the system will be activated, thus securing workers' safety.
8. Establish and implement an effective monitoring and management system to ensure the safety measures are strictly followed.



Life First - Walk the Talk "Construction Lifting Safety" was held on 20 December 2023. Please click the above image to watch the replay at CIC website (Chinese Version only)



Safe Lifting "3, 3, 3" is a hold point of lifting procedure before lifting

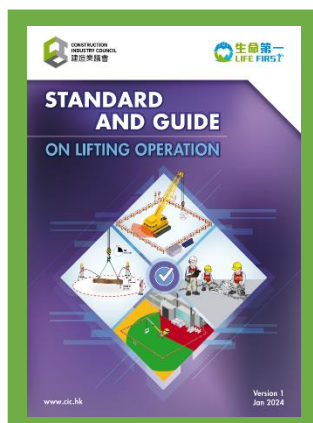


SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

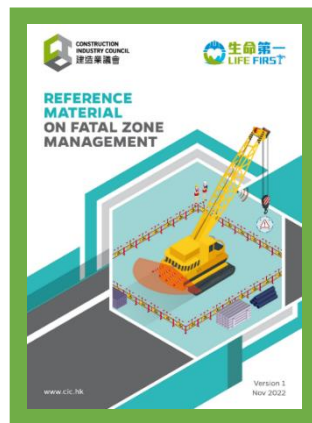
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should consider the working environment of the operation zone and the risks nearby, and select appropriate construction methods, lifting appliances and lifting gears prior to the commencement of lifting works, in order to reduce risks from the sources.
- During the construction stage, construction team should establish and implement an effective management system, and appoint competent and experienced lifting supervisors to oversee the lifting operation in accordance with the lifting plan.
- The work team shall ensure the fatal zone is properly fenced off with barriers and prominent notices are provided during high-risk activities, assuring no unauthorised entry into the zone.
- Workers can identify any changes in the construction process, report it to their supervisors and take action against it immediately.

Reference information for sharing



Standard and Guide on Lifting Operation



Reference Material on Fatal Zone Management



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



Lifting Safety Handbook



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.