



A WORKER FELL TO HIS DEATH AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN FANLING

On 6 May 2025, a worker fell from height while hanging nylon nets on a bamboo scaffold on the external wall of a building at a construction site in Fanling. 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. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to an anchorage.
2. Failure to provide relevant workers with an effective anchorage system (e.g. a fixed anchor or an independent lifeline) during bamboo scaffolding works.
3. Failure to provide necessary safety information, instructions, training and supervision to the workers concerned.
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. The bamboo scaffold shall be designed as a closely spaced bamboo scaffold, and a suitable working platform shall be erected at all working locations on every lift.
3. Ensure that every working platform is closely boarded or planked; and every board or plank rests securely on its supports.
4. Safe access to and egress from place of work should be provided for the workers.
5. Whenever working environment is impracticable to provide suitable working platforms, it is a must to provide every worker with a suitable full-body safety harness and an anchorage system (e.g. a fixed anchor, an independent lifeline or a fall arresting system) for continuous attachment of the safety harness.
6. All anchorages should be designed to withstand a minimum pull-out force of 6 kN.
7. Implement an effective monitoring and management system to ensure the continuous attachment of the safety harness to an anchorage during the work.
8. Provide workers with the necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures.



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

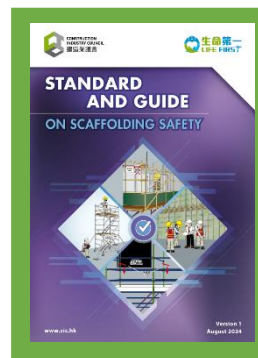
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accidents be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should take into accounts the work environment prior to the commencement of works; and select suitable working platforms and anchorage system.
- During the construction stage, the work team should establish and implement an effective management system to ensure that the working platforms, personal protective equipment and anchorages (e.g. independent lifeline) are inspected before work, ensuring that 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, if any risk of falling from height is identified, report it to their supervisors immediately.

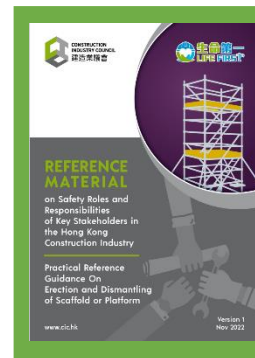
Reference Information for Sharing



Guidelines on Planning Arrangement for Providing Working Platforms on Bamboo Scaffolds



Standard and Guide on Scaffolding Safety



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)



Work-At-Height Safety Handbook



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