



A WORKER FELL FROM HEIGHT AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN KAI TAK AND WAS INJURED

On 23 July 2025, a worker fell from height from a working platform while he was working at a construction site in Kai Tak. He was injured and 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. Failure to use proper working platform.
2. Failure to provide relevant workers with an effective anchorage system (e.g. an independent lifeline) during bamboo or metal scaffolding works.
3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to an anchorage.
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 risks of falling from height and develop safe working procedures.
2. The erection, extension, alteration and dismantling of bamboo or metal scaffolds shall be done by trained workmen under the immediate supervision of competent person.
3. When erecting, altering and dismantling bamboo or metal scaffolds, a worker must wear a full body safety harness with its lanyard attached to a secure anchorage (e.g. an eye bolt) or an independent lifeline with a fall arrester.
4. Strictly follow the requirements as stipulated in the "Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety" or "Code of Practice for Metal Scaffolding Safety", to install sufficient critical members, including putlogs/ties, and they should be complied with relevant standard.
5. The work platforms on the bamboo or metal scaffolds should be provided with suitable and safe access and egress, closely boarded platforms, and suitable guard-rails and toe-boards.
6. Bamboo or metal scaffolds should be inspected by competent person before being taken into use for the first time, at regular intervals not exceeding 14 days immediately preceding each use of the scaffold, and after any exposure to weather conditions likely to have affected its strength or stability or to have displaced any part; The competent person should also sign and issue "Form 5" to ensure that the scaffold is in safe working order.
7. If mobile working platforms are used, the outriggers of mobile working platforms should be fully extended in accordance with the manufacturer's requirements.
8. When a mobile working platform is used outside a building, its height to the least base dimension ratio should not be greater than 3; when it is used within a building, its ratio should be limited to 3.5.
9. 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

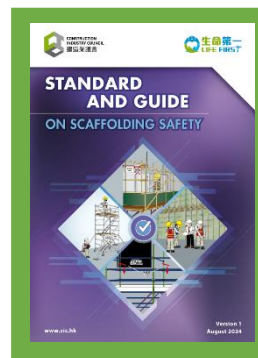
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accidents be avoided?

- 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.

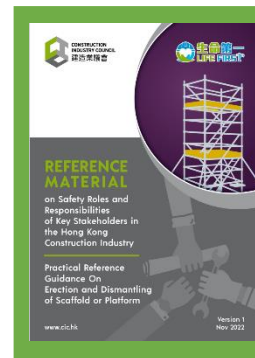
Reference Information



Guidelines on Planking 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



 Please Click the Images



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