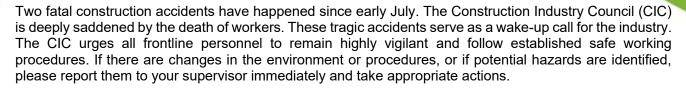


### CIC Safety Message No. 13/25

## A WORKER WAS TRAPPED TO DEATH BY A DESCENDING LIFT CAR AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN SOUTHERN DISTRICT



Regarding the fatal accident that occurred on 27 July 2025 at a construction site in Southern District which resulted in the death of a worker, the 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. Run the lift without ensuring worker stays away from the lift shaft.
- 2. Failure to activate the stopping devices when worker working inside a lift shaft.
- 3. Failure to properly implement the "Lockout/tagout" work permit system.
- 4. Failure to follow the established safe working procedures to carry out lift works.
- 5. Failure to maintain effective communication and supervision.
- 6. Failure to conduct dynamic risk assessments and take appropriate safety measures in response to changes in the environment and procedures.



#### **Critical Control Measures**

- 1. Construction team should develop a safe working system prior to the commencement of works, to ensure that the lift works are carried out in a safe and controlled manner.
- 2. Ensure that lift works are conducted safely under the immediate supervision of competent person by virtue of his substantial training and practical experience in relation to the relevant work.
- 3. Ensure that only competent workers possessing adequate knowledge, skills and experience are employed to carry out the lift works.
- 4. Properly plan and coordinate the lift works, to prevent incompatible work activities being carried out at the same time inside the lift shaft.
- 5. Post warning notices at the lift entrance, lift car and machine room, etc., to prevent any person from entering the lift shaft or accidentally run the lift.
- 6. Activate the stopping devices located near the landing door and at the lift pit to ensure that the lift car is not in motion when workers enter the lift shaft.
- 7. Establish and implement a "Lockout/tagout" work permit system for lift works.
- 8. Confirm and demarcate a designated location (safety refuge) at the lift pit that allows workers to take cover if the lift car move towards the lowest landing, and ensure that the workers entering the lift shaft are aware of this designated location.
- 9. Avoid working alone by arranging at least 2 persons in a working group. Provide communication equipment to relevant parties and maintain effective communication.
- 10. 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 accidents be avoided?

- In the design stage, the work team should take into accounts the related safety measures prior to the commencement of lift works, establish and implement a permit-to-work system to monitor high risk works.
- During the construction stage, the work team must ensure that there are sufficient and appropriately
  competent personnel to supervise the lift works when carrying out the work on Sundays or public
  holidays, to ensure that workers comply with established safe working procedures during
  construction.
- The work team must not begin lift works unless reasonable steps have been taken to prevent running the lift by unauthorised persons.
- Workers should follow to 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**



Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works: Volume 2 -During Lift Installation Stage until Issue of Occupation Permit and Handing Over to Developer



Guidelines on Safety of Lift Shaft Works: Volume 3 -Throughout the Occupation Stage of Building



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



