



WORKER DIED AFTER BEING STRANGLLED BY HIS CLOTHES GETTING CAUGHT IN DRILL AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN SAI KUNG

An accident happened at a construction site in Sai Kung on 22 November 2025, in which a worker was being strangled by his clothes while getting caught in a concrete core drilling machine while operating it. He 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. Worker's clothing or accessories was entangled by the dangerous parts of the drilling machine, causing part(s) of his/her body being strangled.
2. Failure to provide effective guarding to the dangerous parts of the drilling machine.
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 shall conduct risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the concrete coring, **and consider the potential hazard of all dangerous parts of the drilling machine** and the nature of work, etc.
2. **Formulate safe working procedures** for the concrete coring with due regard to the results of risk assessments to minimise the risks exposed to the workers concerned.
3. **Provide effective guarding** to all dangerous parts of the drilling machine and avoid workers from making access to the dangerous parts during the work.
4. Workers **should avoid wearing loose accessories and clothing, or have long hair untied while operating drilling machines**, as these could lead to entanglement in the machine.
5. **Display warning notices** at prominent positions to alert workers to the hazards of all dangerous parts of the drilling machine.
6. Ensure that the operation of the drilling machine is carried out by a person who is competent by **virtue of training and practical experience**.
7. Ensure that the **drilling machines are regularly inspected and maintained** in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure that they are in safe working condition before use.
8. Providing all workers concerned with the necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensuring they are familiar with safe working procedures.



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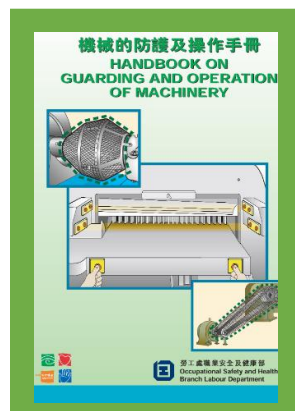


SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

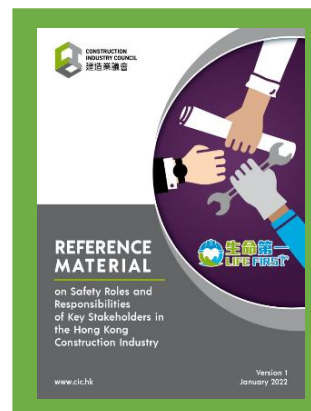
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accidents be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should review the designs to reduce the need of concrete coring in construction sites where practicable.
- During the construction stage, work team should plan, manage and monitor the concrete coring operations effectively to ensure that the works can be carried out, so far as reasonably practicable, without risks to health and safety.
- Work team must provide effective guarding to all dangerous parts and/or fence off danger zones where dangerous parts are exposed with suitable barriers.
- Workers should follow the developed safe working procedures, in case any abnormal operation or malfunction of the protective guarding, turn off the machine and report it to the supervisors immediately.

Reference Information



Handbook on Guarding and
Operation of Machinery
(Source: Labour Department)



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



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