



A WORKER WAS STRUCK TO DEATH BY A METAL BOARD IN A WAREHOUSE AT YUEN LONG

On 6 May 2024, a worker was struck by a metal board while working in a warehouse at Yuen Long, and he was certified dead after sending to the 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. The workers do not stay away from fatal zone during the lifting operation.
2. Improper rigging methods, failure to secure the loads or unbalance of the loads.
3. The weight of the loads exceeds the maximum safe working load (SWL) of the crane.
4. Failure to inspect, repair and maintain the lifting appliances and lifting gears properly.
5. Failure to provide necessary safety information, instructions, training and supervision to the workers concerned.

Critical Control Measures

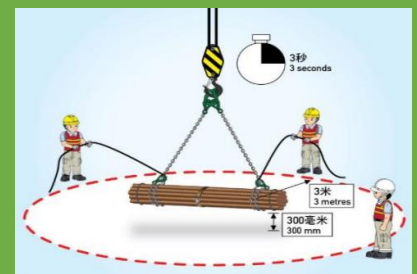
1. Prior to the commencement of works, construction team should conduct risk assessments to identify the risks of falling objects in the site and the fatal zone; and formulate appropriate protective measures to eliminate or properly control the risks.
2. Strictly prohibit any workers from entering the 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 the risks of falling objects.
4. Adopt proper rigging methods and make sure the load is securely fastened.
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. Ensure each lifting gear to be inspected before use on each occasion by a competent person. All lifting gears should be inspected to ensure that it is free from any abnormal wear and tear, visual cracks, elongation or slackening, etc.
7. 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.
8. Provide all workers concerned with the necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures of the lifting operation.
9. Establish and implement an effective monitoring and management system to ensure the safety lifting plan is strictly followed.



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



Life First - Walk the Talk "Fatal Zone Management" was held on 18 January 2023. Please watch replay of the Webinar at CIC website. (Chinese Version only)



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

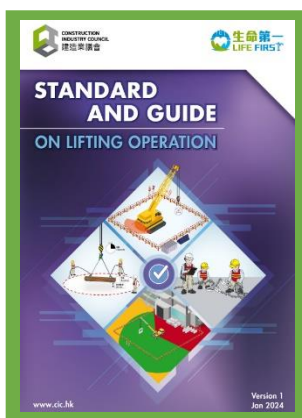


SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

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 lifting appliances and lifting gears prior to the commencement of lifting works.
- During the construction stage, construction team should plan, manage and monitor the high-risk operation effectively to ensure that each worker is under their control with appropriate supervision, instructions and information; and should clearly assign individual safety responsibilities.
- The work team shall ensure the lifting zone is properly fenced off with barriers and prominent notices are provided to ensure 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.

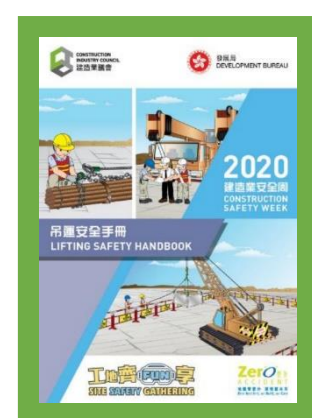
Reference information for sharing



Standard and Guide on Lifting Operation



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry (Practical Reference Guidance On Lifting Operation)



Lifting Safety Handbook



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.