



Work Safety Alert Fall from a Planter

1. **Date of Accident :** August 2017
2. **Place of Accident :** Podium of a residential estate
3. **Summary :**

A worker while carrying out vegetation trimming work on a planter fell 3.7 metres to the lower floor. He sustained severe injuries and passed away two days later.

4. **Work Safety Alert for Proprietors/ Employers :**

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height while at work, the proprietors/ employers should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the workplace, particularly those dangerous places where workers will work and are liable to fall from height;
- formulate safe work methods with proper procedures according to the results of the risk assessments, which should comply with the requirements of safety legislation and relevant codes of practice;
- avoid workers/ employees performing work at any dangerous places where they are liable to fall by using specially designed hand tools or otherwise to ensure the work can safely be done from a safe place;
- provide and ensure the use of suitable working platforms with adequate fall protection where necessary;
- take steps to ensure that all dangerous places where workers will work and from which they are liable to fall are securely fenced in accordance with the safety legislation;



- provide and maintain suitable and adequately safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- where the use of suitable working platforms and erection of fencing to places with falling hazard are not reasonably practicable and working at such dangerous places cannot be avoided, provide every worker with a suitable safety harness with its lanyard continuously attached to a suitable and secure anchorage throughout the work and take all reasonable steps to ensure the proper use of them by the worker/employee;
- provide all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training¹](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height¹](#)

¹ Click to view document



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Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.