



Work Safety Alert
Collapse of a Tower Working Platform leading to
Fall of Persons from Height

1. **Date of Accident :** March 2014
2. **Place of Accident :** A residential building under renovation
3. **Summary :**

Two workers undertaking external renovation works on a tower working platform at the upper floor level fell to death when it suddenly broke apart and collapsed onto the podium.

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

Contractors/employers undertaking work-at-height involving the use of tower working platforms should develop and maintain a safe system of work to ensure the safety of workers. The tower working platform should not be used unless:

- a comprehensive job specific risk assessment is conducted by a competent person and relevant safe working procedures and precautionary measures are formulated;
- every person using the tower working platform is wearing a safety harness properly attached to an independent lifeline;
- relevant safety training, information, instruction and supervision are provided to the workers involved;
- an effective preventive maintenance program is established and fully implemented to ensure the mechanical integrity of all parts of the working platform, in particular the critical components thereof ;



- safety requirements under the Builders' Lifts and Tower Working Platforms (Safety) Ordinance and the relevant code of practice administered by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department are complied with; and
- an effective monitoring and control system to ensure strict compliance with all the above safety measures and precautions is established and implemented.

5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance \(Section 6A\) - General Duties of Proprietor¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment¹](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work¹](#)
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training¹](#)

¹ Click to view document



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