



## **Work Safety Alert** **Fall from a Glass Canopy**

1. **Date of Accident:** January 2014
2. **Place of Accident:** A commercial building
3. **Summary:**

A cleaning worker fell about 5.5 metres to his death from a glass canopy while he was conducting cleaning work.

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

To prevent falls of persons undertaking work-at-height for building cleaning work, contractors/employers should:

- conduct task specific risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working procedures for the work;
- provide and properly maintain suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work;
- avoid working on unsafe places of work such as an unprotected canopy as far as practicable and adopt safe working methods such as working on a suitable mobile elevating work platform and using appropriate tools for the work;
- where working on such place of work as an unprotected canopy is unavoidable, safeguard all unprotected edges over which workers are liable to fall from height as far as practicable;
- where use of working platforms and safeguarding unprotected edges are impracticable, provide and ensure the use of suitable fall protection devices by workers;



- provide workers with proper information, training and instruction to ensure their safe conduct of work; and
- develop and implement an effective monitoring and supervision system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference:

- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guide for Safety at Work in Cleansing of Buildings](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems](#)<sup>1</sup>

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### DISCLAIMER

This Work Safety Alert (“the Alert”) is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as Managers and Supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Labour Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.

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<sup>1</sup> Click to view the document