



Work Safety Alert Fall from Bamboo Scaffold

1. **Date of Accident :** May 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A construction site in Sha Tin
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker, aged over seventy, while engaging in the alteration of a bamboo scaffold, was suspected to have fallen from the scaffold to the ground and subsequently passed away.

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

To prevent falls of persons from height, contractors/employers undertaking alteration of a bamboo scaffold should:

- conduct risk assessments and formulate safe working methods for the alteration work. This may require assessments be made to ensure that employees have the necessary physical fitness for their jobs;
- ensure the provision and proper maintenance of suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from the scaffold;
- ensure the use of suitable working platforms for the work where practicable; and
- where the use of working platforms is impracticable, provide suitable fall protection devices and exercise effective supervision to ensure the workers make full and proper use of the fall protection devices so provided.



5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety¹](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems¹](#)

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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