



Work Safety Alert
Fall from Height while Erecting/Dismantling
a Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold

1. **Date of Accident :** August 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A residential unit in Tsim Sha Tsui
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a scaffolder fell to his death from 60/F to the podium at 6/F of a residential building while he was erecting a truss-out bamboo scaffold at the external wall.

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

Contractors/employers responsible for the use, erection/dismantling of a truss-out bamboo scaffold should:

- conduct risk assessments and formulate relevant safe work method statements;
- provide and maintain suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work;
- ensure that every worker working on or erecting/dismantling the scaffold is wearing a suitable safety harness with its lanyard attached to a suitable and secure anchorage such as a fixed anchor, an independent lifeline or a fall arresting system;
- ensure that the scaffold is erected, altered or dismantled by trained workmen with adequate experience under the immediate supervision of a competent person; and



- implement effective monitoring system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)¹
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety](#)¹
- [A Casebook of Occupational Fatalities related to Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolding Works](#)¹
- [Safety Measures for Use of Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold](#)¹
- [「狗臂架」式棚架安全須知](#)¹ (Chinese version only)

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.

¹ Click to view the document