



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

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** An industrial building in Aberdeen
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a scaffolder fell to his death from 15/F to 1/F of an industrial building while he was erecting a truss-out bamboo scaffold at its external wall.

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

To prevent falls of persons from height, contractors/employers undertaking erection/dismantling of a truss-out bamboo scaffold should:

- conduct risk assessments and formulate safe working procedures for the erection/dismantling work;
- ensure the provision and proper maintenance of suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from the scaffold;
- ensure every person who is erecting/dismantling a truss-out bamboo scaffold is wearing a suitable safety harness that is connected to a fall arresting system with an independent lifeline; and
- exercise effective supervision 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 \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Occupational Fatalities related to Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolding Works¹](#)
- [Safety Measures for Use of Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold¹](#)
- [「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