



Work Safety Alert Fall through the Void of a Window Frame

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site in Cheung Sha Wan
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker, while standing on a ladder to undertake fitting-out work, fell through a window frame (without glass panes) on 26/F of a building under construction and plunged to his death.

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

To prevent any person from falling from height during internal fitting-out works, contractors/employers should:

- identify any hazardous conditions that may arise by virtue of the work nature and positions, and formulate relevant safety precautionary measures;
- use suitable scaffolds or working platforms with guard-rails of adequate height instead of ladders for working at elevated positions; and
- where the use of scaffolds or 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.
- post warning notices at prominent positions near any void spaces through which persons are liable to fall 2 metres or more;



5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Prevention Against Fall from Height¹](#)
- [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.

¹ Click to view the document