



## Work Safety Alert Fall from Suspended Working Platform (SWP)

1. **Date of Accident :** June 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A hotel in Tsim Sha Tsui
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a cleaner fell to the ground to his death while the SWP at the roof level he was working on suddenly tilted downward.

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

The owner of a SWP and the contractor undertaking works involving the use of the SWP should ensure that it is not used for carrying of persons unless:

- a safe system of work is in place for every type of work;
- the SWP is of good mechanical construction, fitted with all necessary safety devices for the safe operation, and free from patent defect;
- adequate arrangements are in place to prevent undue tipping, tilting or swinging of the working platform and to secure it to prevent undue horizontal movement while it is being used;
- the automatic safety devices are capable of stopping or holding the load at the slope of the working platform specified by the manufacturer;
- all parts of the SWP, including the whole of the mechanical and electrical apparatus, are properly maintained by a competent person in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;
- the SWP is load tested and thoroughly examined by a competent



examiner before it is put into use after installation, repositioning and periodically;

- suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from the SWP are provided and properly maintained;
- every person who is on or is getting on or off the SWP is wearing a full body harness that is connected to a fall arresting system with an independent lifeline;
- every person working on the SWP has received proper training and has possessed a valid certificate of training; and
- an effective monitoring and supervision system is in place to ensure compliance with the above safety measures.

## 5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings \(Suspended Working Platforms\) Regulation](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Code of Practice for Safe Use and Operation of Suspended Working Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes on the Inspection, Thorough Examination and Testing of Suspended Working Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>

---

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



職業安全及健康部  
Occupational Safety and Health Branch  
勞工處  
Labour Department



\*\*\*\*\*

**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.