



Work Safety Alert
Trapped by the Spiked Cylinders of a Fiber Conveying Machine

1. **Date of Accident :** September 2013
2. **Place of Accident :** A waste recycling factory in Yuen Long
3. **Summary :**

A worker was entangled and trapped to his death by the spiked cylinders of a fiber conveying machine while attending the machine in a waste recycling factory.

4. Work Safety Alert for Proprietors/Employers :

Proprietors/employers undertaking work processes involving machine operation should:

- conduct risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working procedures for the use and operation of the machine;
- take adequate steps to avoid any persons from being endangered by any part of the machine in the course of machine operation, including the provision of effective guarding to all dangerous parts;
- where access to the machine and temporary removal of the guarding to the dangerous parts cannot be avoided for carrying out of remedial work, etc, adopt a permit-to-work system such that, among others, the power supply to the machine is switched off and locked so long as the work is in progress;
- display prominent warning notices to alert workers of the hazard of being endangered by the machine while in operation;



- provide workers with necessary information, instructions and training on the safe use and operation of the machine; and
- implement effective monitoring and supervision to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Handbook on Guarding and Operation of Machinery](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance \(Sections 6A & 6B\) - Know your General Duties](#)¹

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