



Work Safety Alert Tree Work

1. **Date of Accident :** January 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A slope in Sha Tin
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell a distance of about 9 metres to his death while pruning a tree with a portable chainsaw.

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

Contractors/employers undertaking tree work should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working methods for the tree work;
- avoid work at height wherever possible;
- where work at height is necessary, use elevating work platforms or suitable scaffolds as safe means of access and support for the work so far as reasonably practicable; and
- provide workers with proper training and instructions on the safe use of chainsaws.

5. **Reference :**

- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the](#)



[Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)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](#)