



Work Safety Alert Collapse of Lifting Frame

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2014
2. **Place of Accident :** At a site for viaduct construction
3. **Summary :**

While a team of five workers were working on a lifting frame system, which was installed on the deck of a viaduct under construction and being under a load test, the lifting frame system suddenly broke apart and partly crashed onto the ground. As a result, one worker died and the other four sustained injuries.
4. **Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :**

To ensure the safety of workers engaged in the testing and examination of a lifting appliance, the contractor/employer should:

 - appoint a competent person to conduct a task-specific risk assessment;
 - formulate detailed method statements, and safety precautionary measures based on the results of the task-specific risk assessment, and in conformity with the requirements set out in the relevant safety guidance notes, international standards and manufacturer's instructions;
 - avoid any worker working or staying on the lifting appliance which is yet to be certified safe; if it is impracticable to do so, take adequate fail-safe measures to protect any worker who is required to work or stay on the lifting appliance;
 - establish and implement an mechanical integrity program to ensure the proper design, installation and operation of the lifting appliance;



- properly maintain the lifting appliance and ensure it is in safe working order;
- provide relevant safety training, information, instruction and supervision to the workers involved; and
- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure strict and full compliance with all the above safety measures and precautions.

5. **Reference :**

- [Guidance Notes on Inspection, Thorough Examination and Testing of Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems](#)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.

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