



## **Work Safety Alert** **Fall from a Straight Ladder**

- 1. Date of Accident :** May 2015
- 2. Place of Accident :** A village house under renovation
- 3. Summary :**

A worker fell to his death from a straight ladder while installing an air-conditioner at the external wall of a 2-storey village house.

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

To prevent any person from falling from height, contractors/employers undertaking work at height should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments taking into account the nature of the work and the work environment;
- formulate appropriate safe working procedures for the work at height with due regard to the results of the risk assessment;
- provide and properly maintain suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- provide and ensure the use of suitable working platform for the work and refrain from using ladders as far as is reasonably practicable;
- provide and ensure the proper use of suitable fall arresting system if and only if the use of working platform is impracticable;
- ensure that relevant safety information, instruction, training and supervision to the workers involved are provided; and



- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure strict and full compliance with all the above safety precautions.

## 5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Safety at Work - A Guide to Ladders and Elevated Working Platforms<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms<sup>1</sup>](#)

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### **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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<sup>1</sup> Click to view document