



Work Safety Alert

Struck by Lift Car

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2014
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site

3. **Summary :**

A worker, while conducting testing of emergency stopping device inside a lift shaft at G/F level, was struck to his death by a descending lift car.

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

To safeguard workers engaged in lift works, the contractors/employers should ensure that:

- a competent person is appointed to conduct task-specific risk assessments;
- task-specific method statements are formulated detailing the proper sequence of work and appropriate safety control measures;
- a permit-to-work system with appropriate safety precautions is devised and implemented to eliminate or properly control all work hazards including the hazard of being struck by the moving lift car. Such precautions should include, but not limited to, strict prohibition of persons entering into the lift shaft while lift car is in motion;
- all workers and supervisors involved are clearly communicated about the safe working procedures and safety precautions, and that they all understand their roles and responsibilities;



- the lift works are well-planned and coordinated to prevent incompatible activities being performed at the same time;
- effective communication among the workers working at different locations, such as by the provision of walkie-talkies, is provided and maintained;
- all site personnel and workers involved in the lift works are competent by virtue of their knowledge, skills and experience; and
- an effective monitoring and supervision system is implemented to ensure that above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Code of Practice for Safety at Work \(Lift and Escalator\)](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)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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