



Work Safety Alert

Fall from Height while Erecting Bamboo Scaffold

- 1. Date of Accident :** May 2025
- 2. Place of Accident :** A data centre under construction
- 3. Summary :**

While erecting a bamboo scaffold on the external wall of a data centre under construction, a scaffolder fell about 30m to the bottom of the lightwell of an adjacent building. He was certified dead in hospital later on the same day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/ Employers :

To prevent workmen from falling from height while erecting (as well as dismantling or alteration) bamboo scaffolds, contractors/ employers should provide and maintain the following precautionary measures:

- providing every workman concerned with a suitable full-body safety harness and anchorage system meeting the specifications of international or national standards;
- ensuring that every independent lifeline is suitably positioned and extended to the place of work;
- ensuring that the continuous plus proper attachment of the harness to the anchorage system and lifeline during the work;
- ensuring that scaffolds are erected (as well as dismantled or altered) only by trained workmen possessing adequate experience of such work under the immediate supervision of a competent person;
- ensuring the competent person focuses on monitoring the safety of trained workmen under his supervision, and should refrain from



simultaneously engaging in the erection (as well as alteration or dismantling) work of bamboo scaffold;

- setting up and implementing a safe system of work with an effective monitoring and control system for the bamboo scaffold erection work with due regard to work at height safety; and
- providing workmen involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and relevant safety measures.

5. Reference¹ :

- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage System](#)
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)
- [Overview of Work-at-Height Safety](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height](#)

¹ Click to view documents



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Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.