



Work Safety Alert

Fall from Stair Landing during Flame Cutting Work

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2025
2. **Place of Accident :** A metal polishing yard
3. **Summary :**

While a worker was carrying out flame cutting to a metal stair on the stair landing of a two-storey metal container in a metal polishing yard, the stair and its landing suddenly collapsed, leading to the worker to fall about 2.8m to the ground. He was certified dead in hospital later on the same day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/ Employers :

To prevent any workers from falling from height while engaging in the metal structure dismantling work, contractors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work, including the following precautionary measures:

- ensuring that the metal structure is provided with substantive support before carrying out the dismantling work so as to prevent any part of the structure from accidental detaching, collapsing or failure;
- ensuring proper use of suitable working platform(s) for the dismantling work that cannot be safely done on or from the ground or from a permanent structure with suitable fall protection;
- ensuring that every working platform is protected with (i) suitable guard-rails, including intermediate guard-rails between 450mm to 600mm in height, and top guard-rails between 900mm to 1150mm in height; and (ii) suitable toe-boards or other similar barriers with a height of not less than 200mm;



- ensuring that every working platform is closely boarded or planked; and every board or plank rests securely and evenly on its supports;
- where the provision of suitable working platforms is not reasonably practicable, setting up a fall arresting system (or an alike system) by providing every worker concerned with a suitable full-body safety harness and ensuring the continuous plus proper attachment of the harness to a suitable anchorage system while at work;
- providing and maintaining suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- providing each worker involved with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensuring that they are wearing the helmets properly;
- setting up and implementing an effective monitoring and control system for the metal structural dismantling work with due regard to work at height safety; and
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and the relevant safety measures.

5. Reference¹ :

- [Overview of Work-at-Height Safety](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)

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.