職業安全及健康部
Occupational Safety and Health Branch
勞工處
Labour Department

Work Safety Alert
Fall from a Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold

1. Date of Accident : September 2026

2. Place of Accident : External wall of a residential building

3. Summary :

While erecting a truss-out bamboo scaffold on the external wall of the 7/F of a residential building, a scaffolder fell to the 1/F flat roof. He was admitted to hospital and passed away the same day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/ Employers :

To prevent any workman from falling from height while erecting, altering or dismantling bamboo scaffolds, contractors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work, including but not limited to 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/or lifeline during the work;
- ensuring that bamboo scaffolds are erected, altered or dismantled only by trained workmen possessing adequate experience of such work under the immediate supervision of a competent person;
- ensuring that the competent person focuses on monitoring the safety of the trained workmen under his supervision, and refrains from simultaneously engaging in the erection, alteration or dismantling of the

scaffold;

- providing workers involved with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensuring that they properly wear it on construction sites;

- setting up and implementing an effective monitoring and control system for bamboo scaffold erection (as well as alteration and dismantling) work with due regard to work at height safety; and

- providing every workman involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the relevant safe work procedures and safety measures.

5. Reference[1] :

- 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
- A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height

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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.

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

[1] Click to view documents