



## **Work Safety Alert** **Fallen from a Metal Access Tower**

**1. Date of Accident :** May 2023

**2. Place of Accident :** A shipyard

**3. Summary :**

A worker fell to death from a partially fenced deck of a metal access tower for about 5.8 meters while hooking it with a chain sling for subsequent relocation at a shipyard.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height while work above ground, the proprietors/ employers should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all associated potential hazards, taking into account the nature of work and the work environment, particularly those related to work-above-ground;
- formulate safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of the risk assessments, which should comply with the requirements of safety legislation and relevant codes of practice;
- provide and maintain suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- provide and ensure the proper use of suitable working platforms if the work is required to be carried out above ground;
- ensure that every side of working platforms/ landings from which workers/ employees are liable to fall are properly fenced;



- ensure that every working platform is closely boarded or planked; and every board or plank rests securely and evenly on its supports;
- where free-standing working platform is put to use, ensure that the working platform is vertical and built on firm footing;
- certify the working platform in good condition according to the safety checklist provided by the supplier or other equivalent safety checklist before putting the working platform into use;
- provide all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Code of Practice for Metal Scaffolding Safety<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.

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

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



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