



Work Safety Alert Fallen from Metal Structure

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2023
2. **Place of Accident :** A building under construction
3. **Summary :**

A worker fell for about 6 metres to the ground while he was assisting in erecting a temporary metal structure over a flooring opening. He was sent to hospital and passed away the next day.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height, contractors/ employers engaged in erecting temporary metal structure at height should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work and the work environment, particularly where there are dangerous places from which workers/ employees are liable to fall;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments with the consideration of the requirements of safety legislation and relevant safety guidelines;
- strictly prohibiting working on structure which was not designed as a platform for the work;
- ensuring the work can safely be done from a safe place and avoiding workers/ employees to perform work at or near any dangerous places



where they are liable to fall;

- where work at or near any dangerous places cannot be avoided, providing every worker/ employee with a suitable safety harness with its lanyard continuously attached to a suitable and secure anchorage throughout the work ;
- taking adequate steps to ensure the proper use of safety harnesses, anchor points, independent lifelines and fall arresting systems by the workers/ employees throughout the work;
- providing and properly maintaining suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work for the workers/ employees;
- providing all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the working environment, safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference:

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)¹
- [Overview of Work-at-Height Safety](#)¹

¹ Click to view document



- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents Related to work-at-Height¹](#)

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.