



Work Safety Alert

Fall from a Metal Platform under Construction

1. **Date of Accident :** March 2017
2. **Place of Accident :** In a workshop
3. **Summary :**

A worker fell a distance of more than 7 metres to the ground through a void of a metal platform under construction. He sustained serious injury and died.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height from any structure under construction, the contractors/ employers should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the construction works, taking into account the nature of work and the work environment, particularly where work-above-ground is involved;
- formulate appropriate safe work methods and safe work procedures with due regard to the results of the risk assessments;
- provide and maintain suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- provide suitable scaffolds and working platforms such as mobile elevating work platforms where appropriate, for any work that is required to be carried out above ground; and ensure all workers concerned use them properly while at work;
- ensure that all dangerous edges, openings or void spaces through which any person is liable to fall a distance of 2 metres or more are properly fenced off or covered;



- where the provision of suitable scaffolds and working platforms or the protection of dangerous edges, openings or void spaces is not reasonably practicable, set up a fall arresting system by providing every worker/ employee concerned with a suitable safety harness and ensuring that the harness the worker wears is continuously attached to a suitable anchorage system from a safe place and throughout the work. Steps shall be taken to ensure that every worker concerned is properly using the fall arresting system;
- provide each worker/ employee involved with a suitable safety helmet with a chin strap and ensure the proper wearing of the same by the worker/ employee throughout the work;
- 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](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems](#)¹
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height](#)¹

¹ Click to view document



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