



Work Safety Alert

Fall from Height while Dismantling a Truss-out Bamboo scaffold

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2018
2. **Place of Accident :** A residential building
3. **Summary :**

A scaffolder while dismantling a truss-out bamboo scaffold at the 6/F level of the external wall of a residential building fell together with some components of the scaffold to the 1/F flat roof of an adjacent building. He sustained serious injuries and passed away on the same day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/ Employers :

To prevent any person from falling from height, contractors/ employers engaged in erection/ dismantling/ alteration of truss-out scaffolds should:

- appoint 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;
- formulate safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regards to the results of risk assessments, which should comply with the requirements of safety legislation, relevant codes of practice and guidelines;
- provide and properly maintain suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- ensure that scaffolds are erected/ dismantled/ altered by trained workmen with adequate experience under the immediate supervision of a competent person;



- provide every worker/ employee engaged in erection/ dismantling/ alteration of scaffolds with a suitable safety harness that is attached continuously to a suitable and secure anchor point, an independent lifeline or a fall arresting system, and ensure the proper use of them by the workers/ employees concerned;
- ensure that the dismantling of scaffolds is started from upper level to lower level, from exterior to interior and from non-load-bearing parts to load-bearing parts;
- provide each worker/ employee involved in the work with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensure the proper wearing of the same by the worker/ employee throughout the work;
- provide all workers/ employees involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and relevant safety measures; and
- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety¹](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage System¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Occupational Fatalities related to Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolding Works¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height¹](#)

¹ Click to view document



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