



## **Work Safety Alert** **Fall from Height while Carrying out Air-conditioning Work**

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2017
2. **Place of Accident :** A construction site
3. **Summary :**

A worker while carrying out air-conditioning work on an air duct above the false ceiling, fell about 7.5 metres through the false ceiling to the ground. He sustained serious bodily injuries and passed away two days later.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height, the contractors/ employers engaged in works undertaken in ceiling voids 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 working environment in ceiling voids;
- formulate safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of the risk assessments, which should comply with the requirement 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 or elevating work platforms, where appropriate;
- ensure that every working platform is inspected and certified safe by a competent person before taken into use for the first time, and at regular interval not exceeding 14 days;



- if the use of suitable working platforms is impracticable, set up a personal fall arresting system by providing every worker/ employer concerned with a suitable safety harness with its lanyard continuously attached to a suitable and secure anchorage throughout the work and take all reasonable steps to ensure the proper use of the personal fall arresting system by the worker/ employer;
- provide each worker/ employer involved in the work with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a Y-type chin strap and ensure the proper wearing of the same by the worker/ employee throughout the work;
- provide all workers/ employees concerned with 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>
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height](#)<sup>1</sup>

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



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**DISCLAIMER**

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