



## Work Safety Alert Fall through an Opening on a Working Platform

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site in Wan Chai
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell over the guard-rails erected around an opening on a ceiling bamboo platform and plunged about 5.5 metres to his death while he was working on top of an aluminum step-ladder placed next to the said opening.

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

Contractors/employers should identify any fall hazard in the working environment and formulate relevant safety precautionary measures, including-

- Avoidance of using ladders for work-at-height as far as practicable;
- Openings are securely covered or erected with suitable guard-rails capable of preventing fall of persons;
- Suitable warning notices are displayed at prominent positions to alert workers of the falling hazard; and
- Effective monitoring and supervision are in place to ensure strict compliance with the above safety precautionary measures.



**5. Reference :**

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work<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.

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