



Work Safety Alert Fallen From a Topped Step Platform

1. **Date of Accident :** March 2021
2. **Place of Accident :** A restaurant under renovation
3. **Summary :**

A worker while standing on a step of a step platform to carry out leveling work for an air-conditioning duct in a restaurant under renovation was suspected to have fallen for a distance of about 1.2m to the floor as the step platform toppled. He was admitted to hospital immediately but passed away on the following day.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from height when doing work-above-ground, the contractors/ employers responsible for the work 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 the work and the working environment;
- formulate safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, and follow the requirements of safety legislation and guidelines;
- provide and properly maintain suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- avoid work-above-ground where possible by, for example, designing and using specific tools and equipment to allow the work to be done on the ground;
- if work-above-ground cannot be avoided, provide and ensure the use of suitable working platforms or other safe means of support by workers/



employees who are required to work above ground;

- for light-duty work to be carried out in work environment where a suitable working platform or other safe means of support cannot be erected (for example, restrictive work space), provide and ensure the use of suitable step platforms or hop-up platforms which conform to international or national standards with the compliance of relevant statutory safety requirements, and follow the manufacturers' manuals to fully extend and lock in position the stabilisers or outriggers of the platforms to ensure that they are stable and in good condition for use;
- 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 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
- [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
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height](#)¹
- [Overview of Work-at-Height Safety](#)¹

¹ Click to view document



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