

Safety Alert No. 001/12 Water Pipe Laying Works – Pressure Test (Road Works)

Water Pipe Laying Works – Pressure Test (Road Works)

Laying underground water pipes or related construction works that require excavation and pipe pressure tests should comply with relevant code of practice and safety measures to prevent any accident from happening. In respect of water pipe pressure testing, contractors and practitioners are advised to note the following safety measures:

- Risk assessment must be conducted before commencement of works to draw up a safe construction method statement, which should include making reference to the relevant drawings / plans to confirm the pipe locations and installing the pressure releasing devices at appropriate locations, etc.
- Concrete abutment or any other suitable measures must be used to stabilise / support the pipe or equipment for testing.
- Water should be used for the pressure test. Water filling, pressurisation and air discharge from the pipe must be carried out according to the approved safety procedures.
- During the test or when the system pressure is increased, pressure must be added to the test pipe or equipment in separate phases and sufficient time should be allowed for the pressure to become stabilised. In case of any abnormal circumstances, the test must be suspended immediately and pressure inside the pipe or equipment must be released.
- Before dismantling any tested pipe or equipment, an inspection must be conducted to ensure that pressure inside the pipe or equipment has been released.
- All pressure gauges must be calibrated with a valid certificate of calibration issued by an accredited laboratory. Before the test, the person in-charge should assure that all pressure gauges are functioning properly. During the test, the person in-charge should check the readings of the gauges regularly.
- The entire pipe and areas affected by the pressure test must be fenced off. Only authorised persons should be permitted access. Suitable warning sign(s) must be displayed on the testing location(s) to ensure safety.
- Effective supervision should be provided to ensure the aforesaid safety measures are fully and properly implemented. Where necessary, a permit-to-work system should be adopted.

Relevant references:

- Labour Department – ‘Code of Practice on Safe Use of Excavators’
– ‘Five Steps to Risk Assessment’
– ‘Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training’

Disclaimer

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 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 Construction Industry Council (CIC) 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.





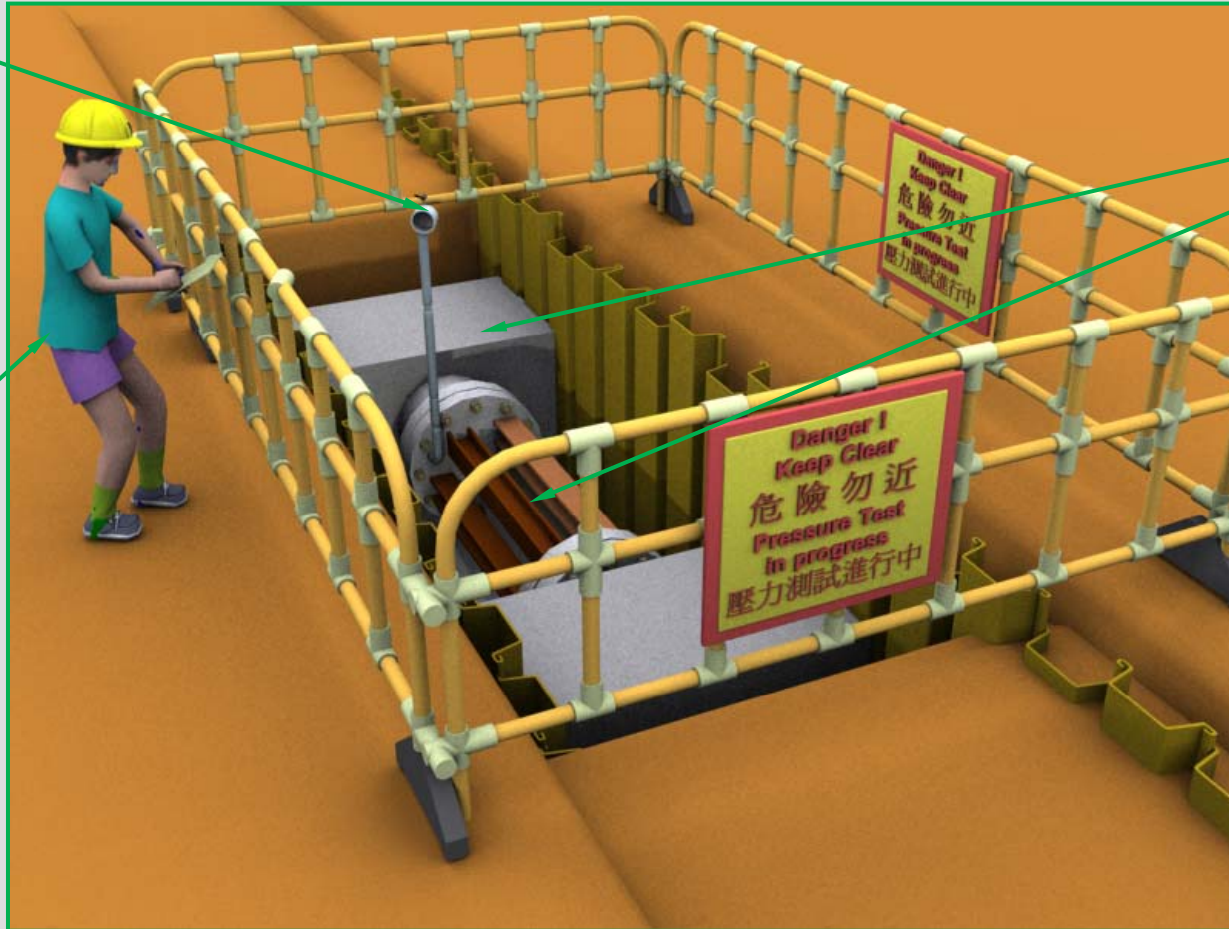
CONSTRUCTION
INDUSTRY COUNCIL
建造業議會

安全提示 第001/12號
水管鋪設工程-進行壓力測試(馬路工程) (續)

Safety Alert No. 001/12 Water Pipe Laying Works – Pressure Test (Road Works) (Cont'd)

Gauge for
pressure
monitoring

Person in-
charge (assure
all pressure
gauges are
functioning
properly and
check the
readings of the
gauges
regularly)



Stabilising /
supporting
measures
(e.g. concrete
abutment,
metal struts, etc.)