



Prevention of Electrocution

Casualties arising from the use of electricity or electrical appliances on construction sites, including renovation work sites, are not uncommon. Workers involved in accidents may include those engaged in electrical works and other works. To prevent the occurrence of electrical accidents, employers, contractors, electrical workers and other construction workers should be aware of the following safety precautions:

As Employers and Contractors

Must comply with the mandatory requirements and take adequate measures so as to ensure the safety of the electrical workers and other workers:

- Provide safe plant and safe systems of work;
- Conduct risk assessment by a competent person before the commencement of work;
- Formulate and implement appropriate safety precautions, including permit-to-work system, so as to eliminate or properly control the electrical hazards;
- Employ and arrange registered electrical workers to carry out electrical works;
- Provide adequate safety training and revision course to workers, equipping them with the basic knowledge on safe use of electricity;
- Provide proper and adequate inspection apparatus for electrical systems, switch locks, warning notices, insulation tools, personal protective equipment, etc.; and
- Supervise workers to follow the safety precautions.



Disclaimer

Whilst reasonable efforts have been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this publication, the CIC nevertheless would encourage readers to seek appropriate independent advice from their professional advisers where possible and readers should not treat or rely on this publication as a substitute for such professional advice for taking any relevant actions.



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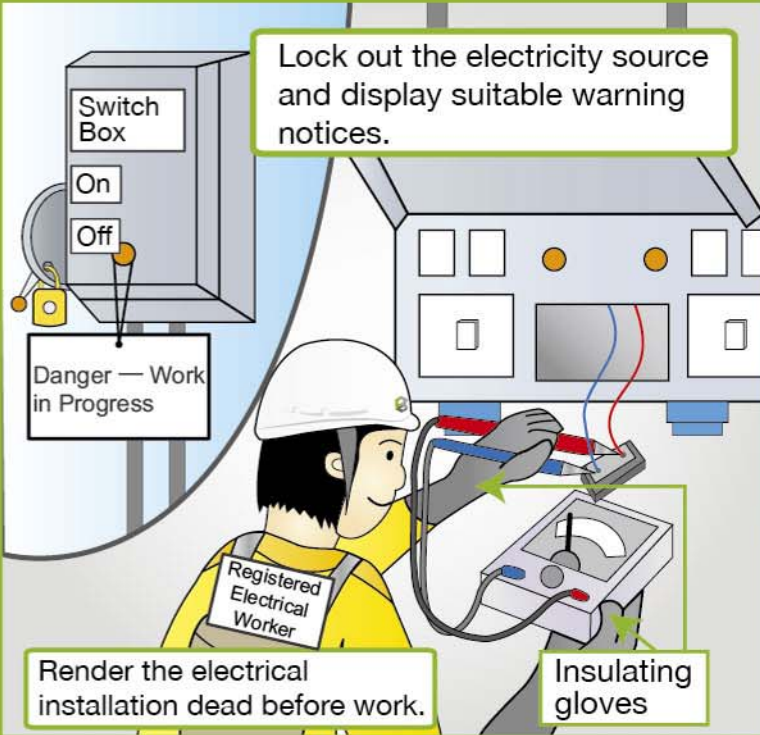
Electrical Practitioners and other Construction Workers

- **“Isolate electricity source before conducting electrical works”** – All the electricity sources involved should be safely isolated to avoid work on live circuit before conducting any electrical works, including connecting electrical wires or checking and repairing electrical systems;
- **Conduct electrical works by registered electrical workers** – Non-registered electrical workers are not allowed to conduct electrical works without the instruction and supervision of a registered electrical worker;
- **Lock out the electricity source and display suitable warning notices** – The switchboards and/or switches must, so far as practicable, be locked with warning notices displayed, to ensure safe isolation of the electricity sources. If the switches cannot be locked out, control measures, for instance locking the switch room with barriers provided to fence off the switches and the display of suitable warning notices should be implemented to prevent inadvertent re-connection of the electricity sources;
- **Render the electrical installation dead** – Before the actual commencement of work on the electrical installations, an independent inspection or a permit-to-work system should, so far as reasonably practicable, be adopted with the use of calibrated voltage indicators, meters, electricity testers or other suitable equipment to ensure that the electrical installation has been rendered dead;
- **Examine the portable electrical tools before use** – Portable electrical tools, wires, etc. must be examined before use. If there is any damage or defeat found, do not use the tools and report it to the person in-charge immediately;
- **Do not remove the protective devices** – Power supply systems and electrical tools shall be equipped with suitable fuses and circuit breakers. Do not remove or bypass the protective devices;
- **Use of personal protective equipment** – Use suitable personal protective equipment, such as anti-electric shock safety shoes, insulating gloves and insulating rubber mats, etc.; and
- **Hazardous work conditions**
 - (i) **Working at height** – If electrical works cannot be conducted at ground level, suitable working platforms should be used; and
 - (ii) **Working in humid weather, ceiling voids or situations with earthed structures/fittings in the close vicinity, etc.**
 - A comprehensive risk assessment shall be conducted by a competent person before the commencement of work. A permit-to-work system shall be adopted with appropriate safety precautions devised and implemented to eliminate or properly control the electrical hazards involved.



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Render the electrical installation dead before work.

Insulating gloves



Adopt a Safety Management System

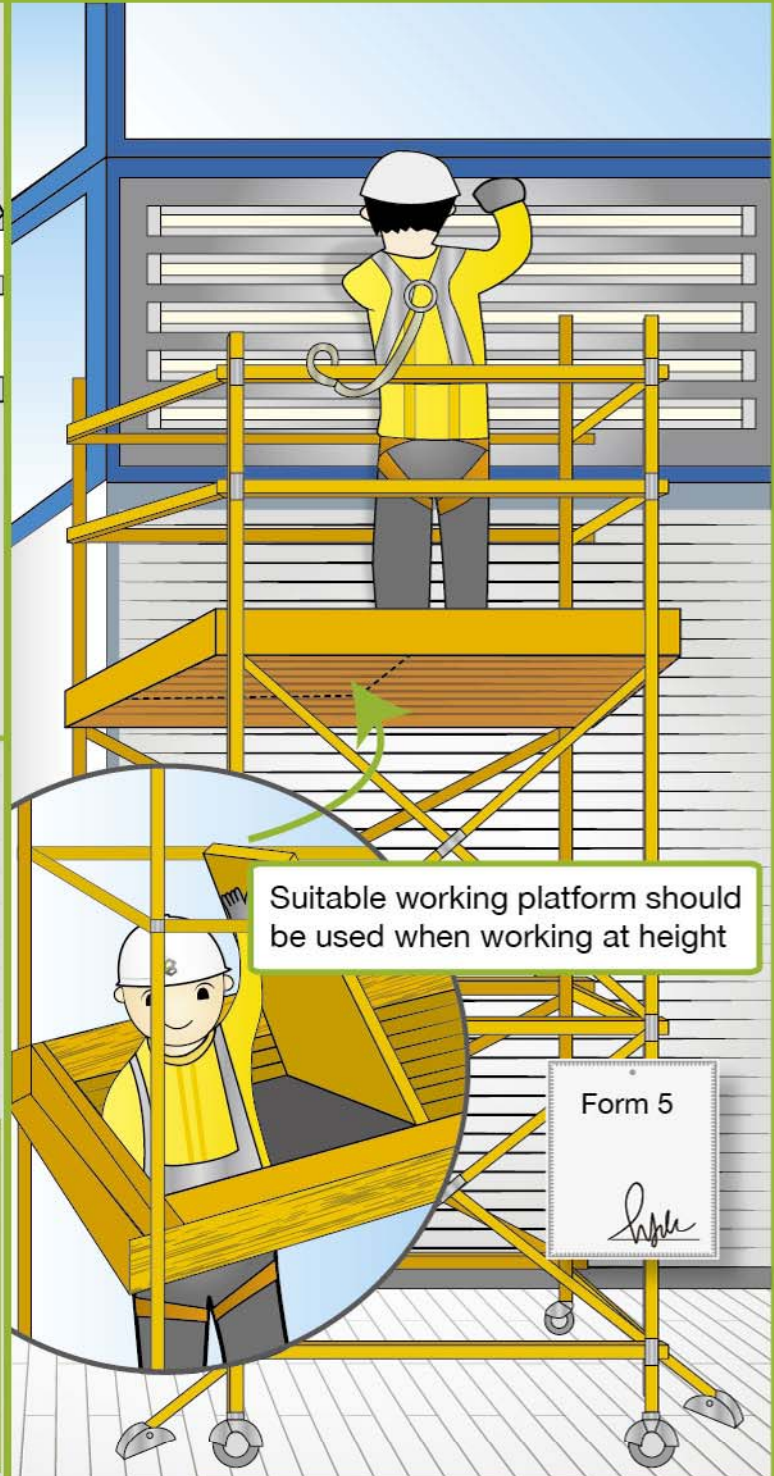
Relevant references

Labour Department

- Basic Electrical Safety Measures in the Workplaces
- 《電力工作意外致命個案集》(Chinese version only)
- 《地盤意外個案簡介系列 - 水電維修》(Chinese version only)
- Guide for Safety at Work - Safe Use of Electric Plugs
- Code of Practice - Safety and Health at Work for Manual
- Electric Arc Welding

Labour Department and Occupational Safety & Health Council

- Guidance Notes for The Safe Isolation of Electricity Source at Work



Suitable working platform should be used when working at height

Form 5



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