



A WORKER WAS SUSPECTED TO HAVE BEEN ACCIDENTALLY ENTANGLED BY A ROPE WHILE HOISTING STEEL MATERIALS WITH A CRANE AT A TSEUNG KWAN O CONSTRUCTION SITE

On 21 April 2023, a short video clip circulated online showed a construction worker at a residential site in Tseung Kwan O being entangled and left hanging upside down in mid-air by a rope. The Construction Industry Council would like to remind all lifting teams to maintain good communication when carrying out lifting operations. The rigger should use the correct rigging method and pay attention to the arrangement of the tag rope. The signalman is responsible for communicating with the crane operator. The crane operator must obey the signalman's instructions to safely move the crane and the load. In addition, the lifting team should be aware of the lifting area and ensure that no unauthorised persons enter the area without permission.

Common Accidents

1. Failure to conduct thorough examination in planning and risk assessments for the lifting operation.
2. Failure to apply the 3-3-3 lifting rules.
3. Failure to ensure everyone is cleared from the danger zone before the lifting operation.
4. Failure to raise the safety awareness of operators who work near the danger zone.
5. Failure to ensure the duties of rigger and signalman are performed properly.

Critical Control Measures

1. Appropriate lifting plan, sufficient consideration and risk assessment should be carried out before lifting operation.
2. Machinery and equipment used should be checked before the lifting operation.
3. Before the lifting operation, check whether anyone is around and the tag lines are properly managed.
4. Make use of dynamic risk assessment to manage risks and hazards induced by changes in process or site environment before commencement of work.
5. Crane operator should maintain good communication with the signalman to ensure that it is safe prior to hoisting the load.
6. Ensure the lifting team and operators working near the danger zone have a strong safety awareness of any possible risks identified in the dynamic risk assessment.



Make sure the tag lines/ropes are properly managed to avoid operators being dangling from the crane.



SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

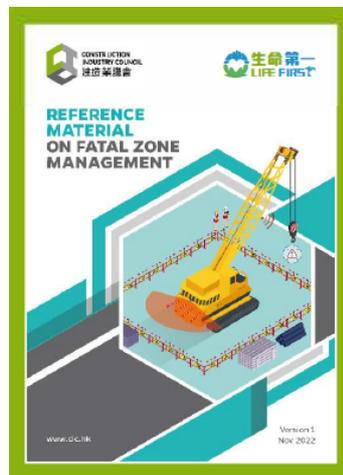
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, the engineer should consider and establish the appropriate method and relevant safety measures before the lifting operations.
- During the construction stage, the construction team must ensure the designated persons have inspected before the lifting operations, and also implemented the demarcation of fatal zone.
- The construction team could constantly identify the changes in the process or the environment through dynamic risk assessment and apply control measures to eliminate the hazard.
- Workers can identify any changes in the construction process, report it to their supervisors and take action against it immediately.

Reference information for sharing



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry (Practical Reference Guidance On Lifting Operation)



Reference Material on Fatal Zone Management



Automated Wireless Load Controlling System



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