



A WORKER FELL IN A STORE AT TSIM SHA TSUI AND CERTIFIED DEAD AFTER TWO DAYS

An accident happened in a store at Tsim Sha Tsui on 21 November 2023, in which a worker was suspected of slipping and fell during work, he was sent to the hospital and certified dead after two days. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much.

Common Accidents

1. Use ladders for work-above-ground, which caused loss of balance and resulted in fall from height.
2. Failure to use proper working platform.
3. PPE is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to an anchorage point.
4. Failure to strictly control the use of ladders such as no implementation of a permit-to-work system to ensure that adequate and suitable control and safety measures are adopted.
5. Failure to conduct dynamic risk assessments and take appropriate safety measures in response to changes in the environment and procedures.



Critical Control Measures

1. Prior to the commencement of works, construction team should conduct risk assessments to identify the risks of fall from height in the workplace and develop safe working procedures.
2. In the first place, work-above-ground should be avoided as far as possible, for instance, through design and by using specific hand tools which allow the work to be done on the ground (e.g. using a long reach pole).
3. Whenever work-above-ground could not be avoided, suitable working platforms (e.g. light-duty working platforms or mobile working platforms) should be provided and used.
4. Working platforms should be suitably designed and constructed, and checked by competent person before use and regularly.
5. Do not overstretch the body outside the working platform and do not lean on the guard-rail of the working platform.
6. Provide workers with the necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures.



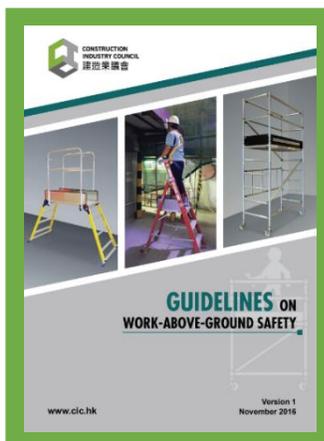


SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

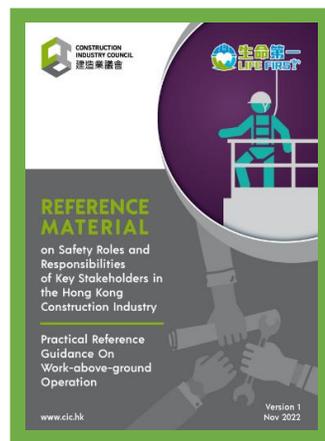
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should consider adopting design for safety methods to eliminate or reduce the work-above-ground from the sources.
- During the construction stage, the construction team should effectively implement work-above-ground management, and provide sufficient working platforms which are up to standard for workers to safely carry out work-above-ground; besides, stringently control to prevent using ladders for work-above-ground.
- Work team shall conduct dynamic risk assessments for the rapidly changing activities, continuously identify the hazards, assess the risks, and take actions to eliminate or reduce risks during construction.
- Workers can identify the potential falling risks and report it to their supervisors and take action against it.

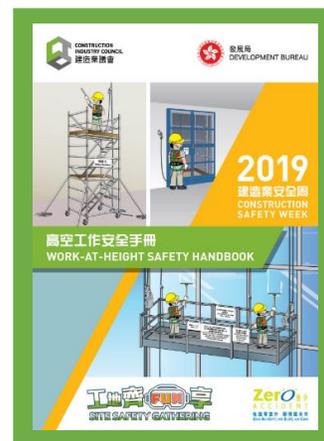
Reference information for sharing



Guidelines on Work-above-ground Safety



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



Work-at-Height Safety Handbook



Building Services Safety Handbook



Disclaimer

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