



Industrial accident

An accident happened on the afternoon of **14 October 2020** on a construction site at Ho Man Tin, in which accidentally dropped an excavator into a shaft in the course of a lifting operation at a works. No one was injured in the incident.

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be much appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much!

Relevant hyperlink: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202010/15/P2020101500762.htm?fontSize=1>

Source: Information Services Department

Recommendations

► As a Contractor / Subcontractor / Employer:

1. Plan the lifting operation and ensure that a safe system of work for lifting operation is in place and with due regard to the selection, siting, operation of the lifting appliances and lifting gears, the rigging method and the working environment with the provision of necessary safety information, instruction, training and supervision;
2. Select and provide suitable equipment to ensure safe lifting operation taking into consideration the characteristics of loads (for example: shape, size, weight, center of gravity, material, etc.), the lifting method and physical conditions on the work site;
3. When planning the lifting operation, refer to the manufacturer's manual and use the recommended lifting anchorage points for lifting operation;
4. Appoint a competent and experienced person to oversee the relevant operation to ensure that all risks are effectively reduced/managed; and
5. Fence off the lifting zones as far as reasonably practicable for the lifting operation and exercising strict access control measures with suitable warning notices in place to avoid unauthorised man-entry into the area.

► As Frontline Supervisor / Worker:

1. Inspect the conditions of the lifting gear before use;
2. So far as reasonably practicable, erect fences or barriers to ensure effective segregation of persons from lifting area;
3. Closely monitor the lifting operation to ensure that no person stays underneath the suspended loads and within the sphere of operation of any lifting appliances; and
4. Ensure that all loads are securely attached by a properly trained and competent slinger to avoid slipping or displacement of the loads.

► As a Safety Practitioner:

1. Conduct task-specific risk assessment of the lifting operation, and advise control measures according to the results of the risk assessment to eliminate all associated hazards;
2. Provide safety training to relevant persons/workers; and
3. Develop and implement an effective and proactive inspection programme on compliance checking and reporting of non-compliance of safety requirements.

The above only listed out key points of safety, for more information please make reference to 《Factories and Industrial Undertakings (Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear) Regulation》, 《Construction sites (Safety) Regulations》, 《Code of Practice on Safe Use of Excavators》, the 《Safe System of Work》 and 《5 Steps to Risk Assessment》 issued by the Labour Department and 《Safety Alert No. 001/18 – Lifting Operation Safety》 issued by Construction Industry Council.



Detailed lifting plan and method statement should be prepared and clearly delivered to frontline staff prior to lifting operation

Disclaimer

This message is not intended to constitute any professional advice on these or any other subjects.

The CIC (including its members and employees) will not accept responsibility for any consequences resulting from the use of or failure to use this message. For enquiries, please contact 2100 9000.