



Industrial accident (February 2021)

Two fatal work accidents happened in February 2021, in which two workers fell from height and passed away while performing drainage work and installing window glass panes on the upper floor of buildings at different construction sites.

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 links: <https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202102/19/P2021021900845.htm?fontSize=1>

<https://www.info.gov.hk/gia/general/202102/23/P2021022300783.htm?fontSize=1>

Source: Information Services Department

Recommendations

► As a Contractor / Subcontractor / Employer:

1. Appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with working at height, and taking into account the nature of work and the working environment;
2. Provide suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work, and ensure they are regularly checked and repaired;
3. Provide and ensure the proper use of suitable working platform for the worker as far as reasonably practicable;
4. For light-duty work to be carried out in work environment where a suitable working platform or other safe means of support cannot be erected (for example, restrictive work space), provide and ensure the proper use of suitable step platform as appropriate;
5. If these are not reasonably practicable, set up a fall arresting system and provide necessary equipment to every worker concerned; and
6. Provide workers with adequate information, instruction and training to ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures.



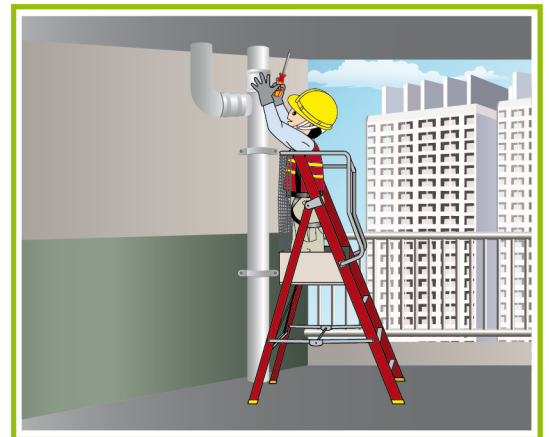
Transportable temporary anchor device

► As a Frontline Supervisor / Worker:

1. Ensure the works are carried out in strict accordance with the method statement, safety procedures and safety measures;
2. Implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed by workers;
3. Worker should stop working and report to supervisor immediately when he / she encounters unsafe environment or there is inadequate personal protection equipment provided to him / her; and
4. Do not make unauthorised alteration to the protective measures.

► As a Safety Practitioner:

1. Assist employer to ensure that safety measures are strictly followed, and to report any non-compliances.



Use of working platform

The above only listed out key points of safety, for more information please make reference to the 《Construction Site (Safety Regulations)》, the 《Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems》 issued by the Labour Department and 《Work-at-Height Safety Handbook》 and 《Guidelines on Work-Above-Ground Safety》 issued by the CIC.

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.