CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY COUNCIL
建造業議會

CIC Safety Message

No. 18 / 26



TWO WORKERS INJURED IN FALL FROM WORKING PLATFORM AT ABERDEEN

On 29 October 2026, two workers were doing external wall repair work in Aberdeen. The work platform suddenly became unstable and threw them off from about 6 metres high. They were wearing safety harnesses, so they did not fall to the ground, and were taken to hospital. 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. Failure to properly design the site layout to segregate the areas where the Aerial Platform may operate.
2. Failure to implement effective monitoring and supervision systems to ensure that workers strictly comply with relevant safe working procedures.
3. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to an anchorage point.
4. Failure to provide necessary safety information, instructions, training and supervision to the workers concerned.
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. Select an Aerial Platform with due consideration to the reach limitation of the Aerial Platform and its required clearance working space upon the specific model of the Aerial Platform being used.
2. Plan and coordinate the works properly, to prevent incompatible work activities being carried out inside the operation zone of Aerial Platform at the same time.
3. An Aerial Platform should only be operated by persons who have received training for that specific model of Aerial Platform and are competent at operating the machine.
4. At the beginning of each shift, dynamic risk assessments should be conducted to evaluate the workplace conditions, including mobile plant operations nearby, traffic conditions, openings, steep slopes and overhead obstacles.
5. Physical and functional checks to ensure the Aerial Platform is in safe working condition.
6. While working on the Aerial Platform, workers must wear a suitable safety harness with its lanyard anchored to a specified anchorage point of the Aerial Platform.
7. Before and while moving the Aerial Platform, make sure there are no surrounding obstacles and no person, plants and vehicles are nearby.
8. Cordon off and control the operation zone of Aerial Platform properly and display suitable warning signs in a prominent location.
9. Supervise, co-ordinate and monitor the operation of mobile plants in fatal zones, and implement the procedures as stated in the logistics plans and the safe working procedures.
10. Prior to the commencement of works, construction team should conduct risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the using of the aerial platform.

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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 accidents be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers and engineers should consider adopting design for safety methods to eliminate or reduce the movements of mobile plants at construction site, and carry out design of site layout properly including segregating Aerial Platform operation zones and fatal zones etc.
- During the construction stage, the work team must ensure that the Aerial Platform is only operated by an authorised person who has adequately trained and is competent by reasons of substantial training and practical experience; in addition, make sure that the Aerial Platform is regularly inspected, tested, and properly maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure that it is in safe working condition at all times.
- The work 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 should follow the developed safe working procedures, in case identifying any changes in the construction process, report it to their supervisors and take action against it immediately.

Reference Information



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong



Reference Materials on the Work-At-Height Safety Handbook



Poster - Working at Height Safety

Please Click the Images

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