

CIC Safety Message No. 10/25

## A METAL STRUCTURE COLLAPSED AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN CHEK LAP KOK RESULTING IN ONE DEAD, ONE INJURED

On 10 July 2025, a fatal accident happened at a construction site in Chek Lap Kok, in which a worker was struck to death by a collapsed metal structure during dismantlement, while another male worker was injured. 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. Workers not staying away from the fatal zone during the dismantling process.
- 2. Workers fail to comply with the safe working procedures of the dismantling works.
- 3. Failure to formulate a detailed work plan for the dismantling works, including failure to select suitable lifting appliances and failure to design detailed dismantling sequence.
- 4. Workers working on the Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) fail to connect the safety harness to a specified anchorage point of the MEWP.
- 5. Failure to implement effective monitoring and supervision systems to ensure that workers strictly comply with relevant safe working procedures.



### **Critical Control Measures**

- 1. Prior to the commencement of works, construction team shall conduct risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the dismantling works.
- 2. Formulate safe working procedures for the dismantling works with due regard to risk assessments, and set up fatal zone.
- 3. Fence off the fatal zone properly and the lookout man should stay outside the fatal zone to ensure that the fatal zone is clear of pedestrians at all times.
- 4. Provide substantive support to the adjourning structures and the structures to be dismantled, in order to prevent any parts of the structures from accidental detachment, collapse, toppling or failure.
- 5. Select a suitable MEWP and ensure that its safe working capacity, height and specifications are appropriate for the work.
- 6. Before the operation of MEWP, operators should have received appropriate training and be familiar with the operation for that specific model of MEWP.
- 7. Workers working on the MEWP must wear a suitable safety harness with its lanyard anchored to a specified anchorage point of the MEWP.
- 8. A clear indication of dismantling sequences should be placed on site to avoid wrong working sequences.
- 9. Provide all workers concerned with the necessary safety information, instructions and training, and ensure the dismantling works are carried out under the immediate supervision of a competent person.
- 10. Use appropriate Smart Site Safety System (4S), for example, install Dangerous Situation Alert System. If a worker is encroaching the fatal zone, siren and signal light from the system will be activated to secure their safety.







# 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 review the working methods in order to eliminate, reduce or control foreseeable risks of the dismantling works.
- During the construction stage, the work team should implement a Temporary Works Management Plan and adopt a permit-to-work system. The person in-charge of the work should only authorise workers to carry out the dismantling works after confirming that all necessary safety measures have been taken (e.g. substantive support and suitable lifting appliances are in place).
- 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, if any risks of falling from height associates with the structure is identified, report it to their supervisors immediately.

## **Reference Information for Sharing**



Temporary Works Management Plan



Reference Materials on the Design for Safety Management System for the Hong Kong Construction Industry





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



#### Disclaimer

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