

### CIC Safety Message No. 31/25

### A WORKER WAS STUCK TO DEATH BY A HARD OBJECT AT A CONSTRUCTION SITE IN TUEN MUN

On 1 December 2025, a worker was suspected to have been struck by a hard object ejected from a moving excavator at a construction site in Tuen Mun. He was certified dead later in 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**

- Undesirable layout design and sequencing of work processes which increase the risks workers being struck by hard object ejected by mobile plants.
- 2. Insufficient protective measures were provided to safeguard workers working within the affected area.
- 3. Poor housekeeping (e.g. failure to properly clean up the roads and the tracks of mobile plants, increasing the risk of hard object being squeezed and ejected when the plants move).
- 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.

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### **Critical Control Measures**

- 1. Prior to the commencement of works, construction team should conduct risk assessments to identify the risks of workers being struck by a hard object ejected from mobile plants; and formulate the safety measures.
- 2. Properly plan and coordinate the works to <u>prevent incompatible work activities being carried out at the same time within the same work area</u>.
- 3. <u>Provide and maintain safe walkways</u>. If there is mobile plant operation on site, the walkways must be separated from the mobile plant operation zone with <u>suitable barriers and warning notices</u>.
- 4. **The roads should be kept tidy**, and properly removing stones, debris, and hard object thereon on a regular basis.
- 5. Inspect the road conditions and follow the manufacturer's manual recommendations to <u>adjust the tracks</u> <u>tension of the mobile plants appropriately</u>, avoiding it being too loose or too tight.
- 6. Always clean up stones, debris, and hard object that attached to the tracks of mobile plants.
- 7. The mobile plants with its associated critical parts should be regularly inspected, tested, and properly maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's manual. **Damaged or worn parts (e.g. tracks) must be** replaced at once upon discovery.
- 8. Use <u>appropriate Smart Site Safety System (4S)</u>, for example, install Dangerous Situation Alert System. If a worker encroaches on the operation zone of a mobile plant, the system will activate a siren and signal light to alert them.
- **9.** Provide all workers concerned with the <u>necessary safety information</u>, <u>instructions and training</u>, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe 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 accidents be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers should properly plan the workplace layout and work sequence in order
  to eliminate or reduce risks from the source (e.g. reduce the movements of mobile plants within the
  workplace).
- During the construction stage, work team should ensure effective coordination among all parties involved including the main contractors, sub-contractors and operators of mobile plants, to avoid incompatible work being carried out simultaneously within the same work area.
- 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 measures, in case identifying any risks on being struck by hard object, report it to their supervisors and take action against it immediately.

### **Reference Information**



Guidelines on Safety of Site Vehicles and Mobile Plant



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



Poster - Designated Access for Pedestrian and Vehicle on Construction Sites

