

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CIC Publishes Safety Alert No. 001/18 Lifting Operation Safety**

**Hong Kong • 22 January 2018** – The Construction Industry Council (CIC) today released the *Safety Alert No. 001/18 Lifting Operation Safety* (Safety Alert).

With a view to preventing the occurrence of accidents or dangerous occurrences due to unsafe lifting operation, the Task Force on Site Safety Incidents under CIC's Committee on Construction Safety has prepared this Safety Alert to remind construction industry stakeholders, including contractors, subcontractors, employers, safety practitioners, operators of lifting appliances, signallers, slingers, and workers to strictly implement the safety measures, such as:

### **As Contractors / Subcontractors / Employers:**

- 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
- 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
- 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
- Ensure that operators and signallers have completed relevant training courses and hold valid certificates, and all loads are securely attached by a properly trained and competent slinger to avoid slipping or displacement of the loads during the lifting operation

### **As Safety Practitioners:**

- Assist their employers/clients to 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
- Provide safety training to relevant persons/workers

- Develop and implement an effective and proactive inspection programme on compliance checking and reporting of non-compliance of safety requirements

**As Lifting Appliances Operators:**

- Ensure at all-time safe operation of the lifting appliance under his control
- Inspect the conditions of the lifting appliances and lifting gear before use
- Follow the safe working procedures and the manufacturer’s instructions to ensure safe lifting operations, for example, the outriggers should be fully extended as far as practicable and the “safe working load” should not be exceeded during the lifting operation

**As Signallers and Slingers:**

- Inspect the conditions of the lifting gear before use
- So far as reasonably practicable, erect fences or barriers to ensure effective segregation of persons from lifting area
- Ensure that all loads are securely attached by a properly trained and competent slinger to avoid slipping or displacement of the loads

**As Other Site Personnel:**

- Beware of the lifting area arrangement and take note of all relevant safety issues
- Beware of and alert the surroundings, and do not stay beneath suspended loads and within the sphere of operation of any lifting appliances
- Liaise with contractors’ responsible person(s) (for example: Lifting Supervisor) for lifting arrangement

Mr. Victor KWONG, Chairperson of Task Force on Site Safety Incidents of CIC said, “We should always accord top priority to the safety and health of site personnel. Contractors, subcontractors and employers should ensure that their operators of lifting appliances, signalers and slingers have completed relevant training courses and have obtained valid certificates. All lifting operations have to be closely monitored to ensure that no person stays beneath suspended loads and within the sphere of operation of any lifting appliances. All relevant site personnel should maintain effective communications with each other.”

The full version of *Safety Alert No. 001/18 Lifting Operation Safety* can be download from CIC's website: <http://www.cic.hk/eng/main/aboutcic/publications/alert/>

### **About the Construction Industry Council**

The Construction Industry Council (CIC) was formed in 2007 under the Construction Industry Council Ordinance (Cap. 587). The CIC consists of a chairman and 24 members representing various sectors of the industry including employers, professionals, academics, contractors, workers, independent persons and Government officials.

The main functions of the CIC are to forge consensus on long-term strategic issues, convey the industry's needs and aspirations to the Government, provide professional training and registration services, and serve as a communication channel between the Government and the construction industry.

Please visit [www.cic.hk](http://www.cic.hk) for further details.

### **Media Enquiries**

Patricia CHIU / Lucy POON  
Corporate Communications Department  
Tel: (852) 2100 9044 / 2100 9041  
Fax: (852) 2100 9090  
Email: [corpcomm@cic.hk](mailto:corpcomm@cic.hk)

~ End ~