



ONE WORKER DIED AFTER BEING ELECTROCUTED AND ONE WORKER WAS PRESSED BY A COLLAPSING WALL AND DIED ON THE SAME DAY

On 19 August 2023, a worker was electrocuted when working at a false ceiling in a construction site at Sky City Road East, and he was certified dead after sending to the hospital later. On the same day, a wall suddenly toppled over a worker in a demolition site at Yuen Long and he was certified dead. 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

Electrical Work:

1. Failure to properly implement the "lockout/tagout" work permit system.
2. Prior to the electrical works, the electricity supply is not properly turned off, locked, and tagged with a warning sign.
3. Workers accidentally touch the live part during work.



Demolition Work:

1. Failure to provide additional tie wires and temporary supports during the demolition work in accordance with the requirements of the "Code of Practice for Demolition of Buildings".
2. The demolition plan is not properly formulated, including demolition procedures, method statement, safety precautions and contingency measures.
3. Workers do not stay away from the dangerous area during the demolition process.

Critical Control Measures

Electrical Work:

1. Prior to the electrical works, switch off the incoming power supply switchgear, isolate/rack-out the switchgear.
2. Padlock the switchgear and affix with proper warning tag to the switchgear/panel and implement "lockout/tagout" work permit system.
3. Check the incoming power supply if it is completely dead or provided with proper protection to the live part of the switchgear prior to commencement of work.

Demolition Work:

1. Prior to carrying out any demolition work of a building, a detailed building appraisal by means of surveys and appropriate assessments is required, and then develop a demolition plan with sequences, method statements, safety precautions and contingency measures according to the result of assessments.
2. Implement effective design for safety management, where reasonably practicable, utilise machines to replace manual demolition.
3. Demolition workers, including plant or equipment operators, shall go through proper work safety training and be informed of any the potential hazards by attending training sessions as well as on-the-job training.



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 accident be avoided?

Electrical Work:

- In the design stage, designers should consider the operations and establish the proper method and relevant safety measures.
- During the construction stage, work team should plan, manage and monitor the electrical works effectively, take adequate safety measures, such as avoid live work, and provide personal protective equipment.
- Work team must not begin electrical works unless reasonable steps are taken to prevent turning on the power accidentally by unauthorised persons.
- Workers should follow to the developed safe working procedures, in case identifying any changes in the construction process, report it to their supervisors immediately.

Demolition Work:

- In the design stage, designers should review or modify the designs with relevant stakeholders to eliminate, reduce or control foreseeable risks.
- During the construction stage, work team should plan, manage and monitor the demolition work effectively to ensure that each worker is under their control with appropriate supervision, instructions and information so that the work can be carried out, so far as reasonably practicable, without risks to health and safety.
- Work team must not begin demolition work unless reasonable measures are taken to prevent access by unauthorised persons to the demolition zone.
- Workers should follow the developed safe working procedures, in case identifying any changes in the construction process, report it to their supervisors immediately.

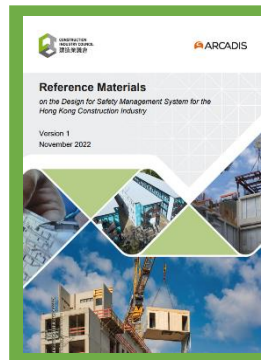
Reference information for sharing



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



Reference Material on Safety Roles and Responsibilities of Key Stakeholders in the Hong Kong Construction Industry (Practical Reference Guidance On Electrical Work)



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



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