

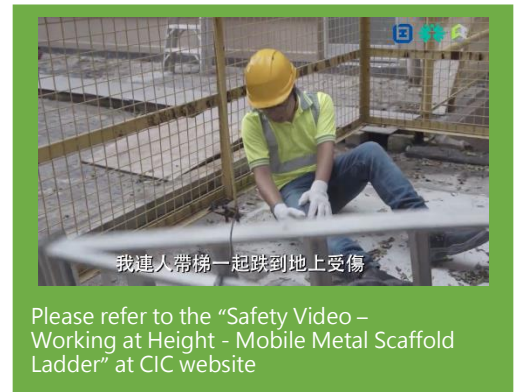


A WORKER FELL TO HIS DEATH FROM A LADDER IN A RESIDENTIAL BUILDING AT KAU TO SHAN

An accident happened on 24 August 2023 in a residential building at Kau To Shan, in which a worker fell from a ladder while he was demolishing a shelter, and he was certified dead after sending to the 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.

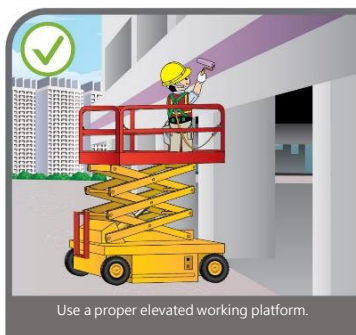
Common Accidents

1. Workers use ladders for work-above-ground, which caused loss of balance and resulted in fall from height.
2. Failure to use proper working platform.
3. PPE is not properly used and safety harness is not connected to anchorage point.
4. Failure to strictly control on the use of ladders such as no implementation of a permit-to-work system to ensure adequate and suitable control and safety measures are adopted.



Critical Control Measures

1. In the first place, work-above-ground should be avoided as far as possible, for instance, through design and by using specific hand tools which allow the work to be done on the ground (e.g. using a long reach pole).
2. Whenever work-above-ground could not be avoided after conducting risk assessments, suitable working platforms (e.g. mobile working platforms) should be provided and used irrespective of the working height.
3. Working platforms should be suitably designed and constructed.
4. As far as reasonably practicable, working platforms should be braced or tied into a permanent structure to enhance stability.
5. Identify falling risks, establish system of work and ensure measures are implemented.
6. Provide workers with the necessary safety information, instructions and trainings, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures.



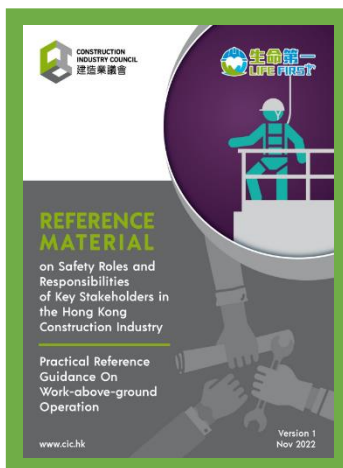


SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

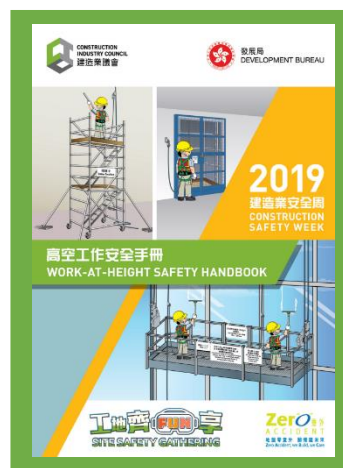
What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, the designer and engineer should consider the operations and establish the proper methods and relevant safety measures.
- During the construction stage, the work team should effectively implement work-above-ground management, and provide sufficient working platforms which are up to standard for workers to safely carry out work-above-ground.
- Ladders should normally be restricted for access/egress purpose only, the work team shall stringently control to prevent using ladders for work-above-ground.
- Workers can identify the environment with potential falling risks and report it to their supervisors and take action against it.

Reference information for sharing



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



Work-at-Height Safety Handbook



Guidelines on Work-above-ground
Safety



Disclaimer

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