



## Work Safety Alert Fall from Height while Lifting Metal Sheet Rolls

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A metal cutting workshop in Fanling
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell off the top of a stack of metal sheet rolls to his death while he was handling a load of metal sheet rolls being lifted by a crane.

### 4. **Work Safety Alert for Proprietors/Employers :**

Proprietors/employers undertaking lifting operations in a workshop should:

- conduct risk assessments and formulate safe working procedures for the lifting operation;
- as far as practicable avoid staging any person on top of the stack of the goods;
- where access to the stacked-up goods is necessary, use suitable safe means of support as well as safe means of access and egress for the work;
- take adequate steps to avoid any persons from being endangered by any parts of the crane or the load in the course of the lifting operation; and
- exercise adequate monitoring and supervision to ensure that the above safety precautionary measures are strictly followed.



## 5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)<sup>1</sup>

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### DISCLAIMER

This Work Safety Alert (“the Alert”) is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as Managers and Supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Labour Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.

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## Work Safety Alert Fall through an Opening on a Working Platform

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site in Wan Chai
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell over the guard-rails erected around an opening on a ceiling bamboo platform and plunged about 5.5 metres to his death while he was working on top of an aluminum step-ladder placed next to the said opening.

### **4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :**

Contractors/employers should identify any fall hazard in the working environment and formulate relevant safety precautionary measures, including-

- Avoidance of using ladders for work-at-height as far as practicable;
- Openings are securely covered or erected with suitable guard-rails capable of preventing fall of persons;
- Suitable warning notices are displayed at prominent positions to alert workers of the falling hazard; and
- Effective monitoring and supervision are in place to ensure strict compliance with the above safety precautionary measures.



**5. Reference :**

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work<sup>1</sup>](#)

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## Work Safety Alert Fall from a Horizontal I-beam

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A renovation site in Causeway Bay
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker plunged about 6 metres to his death while working on a I-beam to carry out inspection work.

### **4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :**

Contractors/employers undertaking work-at-height should conduct risk assessments and formulate safe working procedures, including-

- working at height on an I-beam should be avoided as far as practicable and the use of suitable working platforms is preferred;
- where the use of working platforms is impracticable, a safe system of work to ensure workers to use suitable fall protection devices should be implemented;
- suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work should be provided and properly maintained;
- prominent warning notices to alert workers of the falling hazard should be displayed; and
- effective monitoring and supervision are implemented to ensure strict compliance with the above safety measures.



## 5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work<sup>1</sup>](#)

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**Work Safety Alert**  
**Fall from the Roof Top of a Lift Machine Room**

1. **Date of Accident :** January 2013
2. **Place of Accident :** A commercial building in Central
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a technician fell a distance of about 5.5 metres to his death from the top of a lift machine room on the roof of a commercial building while reinforcing a newly installed TV antenna.

**4. Work Safety Alert for employers :**

To prevent fall from height, employers undertaking work at height on roofs should:

- conduct risk assessments to identify and rectify hazardous conditions, including unprotected roof edges;
- ensure that every edge on the roof at which work is to be performed is properly fenced as far as practicable;
- ensure that suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work on the roof are provided and maintained as far as practicable;
- where provision of fencing and safe access and egress is impracticable, provide suitable fall protection devices and exercise effective supervision to ensure the workers make full and proper use of the fall protection devices so provided; and
- implement effective monitoring system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.



## 5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)<sup>1</sup>

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