



Work Safety Alert Failure of a Bored Piling Plant

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2014
2. **Place of Accident :** A foundation site
3. **Summary :**

While a team of workers was working on a pair of metal hinged covers at the platform of a reverse circulation drilling (RCD) rig which was rested on a bored piling casing, the RCD rig together with the pile casing suddenly subsided and the hinged covers flung up. As a result, one of the workers was thrown and fell out of the platform to his death and the other three workers were injured.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

To ensure the safety of workers engaged in bored piling work, the contractor/employer should provide and properly maintain safe plant and a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to the following:

- To appoint a competent person to conduct risk assessments which are specific to the job to be performed;
- To appoint a competent person/engineer to assess the stability of the plant, with regard to its weight and configuration and the soil and weather conditions etc., and ensure that the plant set-up is certified safe before it is used and/or allowing persons to enter and work on its platform;
- To formulate, based on the results of the task-specific risk assessments, detailed safe work procedures and safety precautionary measures, which should be in line with recognized safety standards and in conformity with the manufacturer's instructions;



- To put in place a robust mechanical integrity program to ensure the bored piling plant, equipment and all parts thereof are properly maintained;
- To ensure that all personnel involved in installation, adjustment, alteration and operation of the bored piling plant and equipment are competent by virtue of their knowledge, skills and experience;
- To provide necessary safety training, information, instruction and supervision to the workers involved; and
- To establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance \(Sections 6A & 6B\) - Know your General Duties](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)¹

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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