



## **Work Safety Alert** **Fall from a Bamboo Scaffold**

- 1. Date of Accident :** October 2015
- 2. Place of Accident :** A building renovation site
- 3. Summary :**

A worker engaged in planking work fell about 4 metres from a bamboo scaffold at the external wall of a building to the ground. He sustained serious head injury and passed away subsequently.

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

To prevent any person from falling from height, contractors/employers engaged in work on scaffolds should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments taking into account the nature of work and identify all associated potential hazards;
- formulate appropriate safe work methods and procedures for working at height with due regard to the results of the risk assessments;
- provide and properly maintain suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- where a suitable working platform or other safe means of support cannot be provided for any work on scaffolds (such as planking work), provide every worker engaged in the work with a suitable safety harness that is attached continuously to a suitable and secure anchor point, an independent lifeline or a fall arresting system, and ensure the proper use of them by workers;



- provide all workers involved with relevant safety information, instruction and training to ensure that they are conversant with the safe work procedures and safety measures, such as proper use of personal fall arresting system; and
- develop and implement an effective monitoring and supervision system to ensure that the above safety precautionary measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference :

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

<sup>1</sup> Click to view document