



Work Safety Alert Struck to Death by Falling Concrete Debris

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2019
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site
3. **Summary :**

A worker was struck to death by a piece of falling concrete debris while he was conducting ink marking work on the ground outside a building under construction where the bamboo scaffolds and screen nets erected at the external wall had been partially dismantled at the upper level.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from being struck by any falling objects on a construction site, the contractors/ employers should:

- appoint a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work, the work environment and the work activities in the vicinity, particularly the hazards of falling objects;
- formulate safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regards to the results of risk assessments, and following the requirements of safety legislation, relevant codes of practice and guidelines;
- where scaffolds are erected at the external wall of a building, ensure that no loose materials are placed or stacked on or near the scaffold at the external wall which they are liable to fall;
- strictly prohibit any workers/ employees from entering the hazardous areas where hazards of falling objects are foreseeable by, for example, cordoning or fencing off the areas;



- display warning notices at prominent locations to alert workers to the hazards of falling objects;
- provide each worker involved in the work with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensure the proper wearing of the same by the worker throughout the work;
- provide all workers/ employees involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and relevant safety measures; and
- establish and implement an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on the Selection, Use and Maintenance of Safety Helmets](#)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.

Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.

¹ Click to view document