



Work Safety Alert
Fallen from a Mobile Elevating Work Platform

1. Date of Accident : January 2022

2. Place of Accident : A construction site

3. Summary :

A proprietor while working on the work platform of a power-operated articulating boom type mobile elevating work platform (“EWP”), fell out of the platform onto the ground for about 13m. He sustained serious bodily injuries and passed away on the same day.

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

To ensure the safe operation of EWP, contractors/ proprietors/ employers should provide and maintain safe plant and a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- ensuring the EWP is of good mechanical construction, made of strong and sound materials;
- ensuring the EWP is properly maintained and free from patent defect;
- ensuring that the EWP is regularly inspected, tested, and properly maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions in order to ensure that it is in safe working condition at all times;
- ensuring that the inspection, test, maintenance and repair of the EWP are performed by persons who are suitably trained and competent for such work;
- ensuring that pre-operation inspection is carried out to ensure that the EWP is in a serviceable state;

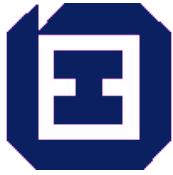


- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work and the working environment;
- formulating detailed safe work procedures and safety precautions with due regard to the result of the assessment, and in conformity with the instructions given in the machine manufacturer's manual;
- ensuring that the EWP is operated by an authorised person who has adequately trained and is competent by reasons of substantial training and practical experience;
- ensuring every person working on the EWP is wearing a suitable safety harness with its lanyard anchored to a specified anchorage point of the work platform designed by the manufacturer to prevent falling from the platform;
- providing all workers/ employees involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and the necessary safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training¹](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms¹](#)

¹ Click to view document



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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.