

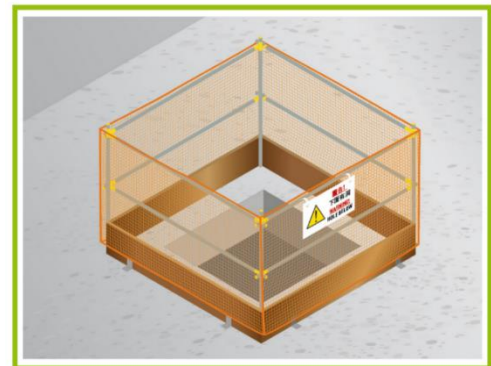


## A WORKER WAS INJURED BY FALLING FROM AN OPENING IN A CONSTRUCTION SITE AT SAU MAU PING

On 24 October 2023, a worker fell into an opening while working in a construction site at Sau Mau Ping, the worker was injured and sent to the hospital. The Construction Industry Council (CIC) would like to deliver this safety message for your attention. It would be appreciated if you could distribute the message below to your fellow members, relevant personnel or other industry stakeholders where appropriate. Thank you very much.

### Common Accidents

1. Fall from the opening reserved for the works.
2. Fall from unprotected edge.
3. The materials used for covering the opening have not been adequate size and sound construction.
4. Failure to effectively implement design for safety management, to eliminate or reduce the risks of working near the hole at the source.
5. Failure to regularly review risk assessment and control measures in response to the actual situation site conditions, works sequence or the affected activities, etc.



Provide guard-rails, toe-boards and warning signs at the opening

### Critical Control Measures

1. Adopt a design for safety approach, produce a work plan to eliminate or reduce risks at the source, e.g. by reducing the quantity of holes and the frequency of working near the holes.
2. The construction team shall develop a holistic plan containing the location and sizes of holes, details of the items installed through the hole, control measures used for each hole, the person responsible and their contacts, etc. The plan should be reviewed regularly during the works to account for the changes made during operation.
3. Ensure the holes are securely covered and fenced off to prevent workers fall from height.
4. Display warning notices prominently on the hole covers / fencing to openings.
5. Adopt appropriate Smart Site Safety System to strengthen the safety management to reduce the risks, e.g. Electronic lock and key system, and alert system for danger zone.
6. Provide workers with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensure that they are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures.



CONSTRUCTION  
INDUSTRY COUNCIL  
建造業議會

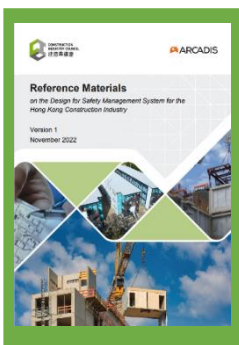


## SAFETY ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS IN THE HONG KONG CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

What if all stakeholders can act together and take one step further to fulfill their roles and responsibilities, can similar accident be avoided?

- In the design stage, designers or engineers should consider adopting a design for safety approach, to eliminate or reduce the quantity of holes at the source. In addition, identify all potential risks associated with work near holes by taking into account the location and size of holes, the site environment and constraints, the work sequence and the activities affected by the works, and adopt appropriate construction methods and control measures.
- During the construction stage, the construction team should review the risk assessment regularly to monitor the effectiveness of the hole management implementation and take actions after the review including: (i) refining the control measures used for the works; (ii) upgrading type of materials for the hole covers / fencing; and (iii) providing more supervision personnel to cover the hole management implementation.
- The work team could have effectively implemented fall prevention management and provided cover with stopper and fencing for all openings.
- Workers could identify openings with potential falling risks and report it to their supervisors and take action against it.

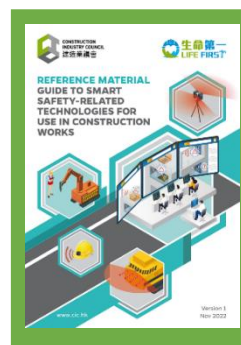
### Reference information for sharing



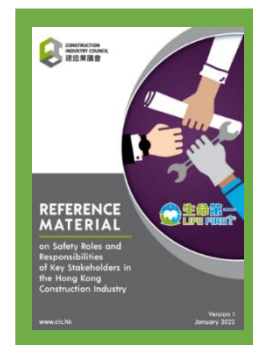
Reference Materials –  
on the Design for Safety  
Management System for the  
Hong Kong Construction  
Industry



Reference Material –  
on Hole Management



Reference Material –  
Guide to Smart Safety-  
Related Technologies for  
Use in Construction Works



Reference Material –  
on Safety Roles and Responsibilities  
of Key Stakeholders in the Hong  
Kong Construction Industry



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