



## Work Safety Alert Use of Portable Ladders

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2011
2. **Place of Accident :** A shop in Tin Shui Wai
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell a distance of about 1.5 metre from a wooden stepladder while conducting false ceiling installation work and subsequently passed away.

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

Contractors/employers undertaking building repair/maintenance works should -

- avoid work at height where possible;
- consider using portable ladders only if other alternatives, such as scaffolding or elevated working platforms, are not reasonably practicable;
- ensure the use of portable ladders is restricted to light-duty work that is performed for short periods of time; and
- provide workers with proper training and instructions on the safe use of portable ladders.

### 5. **Reference :**

- [Safety at Work – A Guide to Ladders and Elevated Working Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>

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



職業安全及健康部  
**Occupational Safety and Health Branch**  
 勞工處  
**Labour Department**



- [Guidance Notes to Renovation Safety](#)<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.



## Work Safety Alert Tree Work

1. **Date of Accident :** January 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A slope in Sha Tin
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell a distance of about 9 metres to his death while pruning a tree with a portable chainsaw.

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

Contractors/employers undertaking tree work should -

- appoint a competent person to conduct risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working methods for the tree work;
- avoid work at height wherever possible;
- where work at height is necessary, use elevating work platforms or suitable scaffolds as safe means of access and support for the work so far as reasonably practicable; and
- provide workers with proper training and instructions on the safe use of chainsaws.

### 5. **Reference :**

- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the](#)



[Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)

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<sup>1</sup> [Click to view the document](#)



## Work Safety Alert Use of Portable Ladders

1. **Date of Accident :** January 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** A car park in Tsuen Wan
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that a worker fell a distance of about 2 metres while climbing up a metal stepladder to repair a sewage pipe and subsequently passed away.

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

Contractors/employers undertaking building repair/maintenance works should -

- avoid work at height where possible;
- consider using portable ladders only if other alternatives, such as scaffolding or elevated working platforms, are not reasonably practicable;
- ensure the use of portable ladders is restricted to light duty work that is performed for short periods of time; and
- provide workers with proper training and instructions on the safe use of portable ladders.

### 5. **Reference :**

- [Safety at Work – A Guide to Ladders and Elevated Working Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>

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