



Work Safety Alert Working Platform under Suspension at Height

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2012
2. **Place of Accident :** Reclamation works for construction of bridge near Tung Chung
3. **Summary :**

It is reported that while repairing the sheet piles fitted to a guide frame of a seawall cellular structure, a working platform suspended inside the guide frame suddenly collapsed, resulting in the death of one worker and injuries to 14 workers.

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

Contractors/employers undertaking work-at-height on temporary structures should ensure that a comprehensive risk assessment is conducted and relevant safe working procedures are formulated. A working platform should not be used unless:

- its design, construction, installation, ascending/descending and suspension systems are certified safe by a professional engineer;
- safe means of access and egress are provided;
- it is regularly checked and certified safe by a competent person;
- every person undertaking erection, alteration or dismantling of the working platform is wearing a safety belt properly attached to an independent lifeline or a suitable anchorage;
- relevant safety training, information, instruction and supervision are provided to the workers involved;



- an effective preventive maintenance program to ensure proper maintenance of all parts of the working platform, including its ascending/descending and suspension system is established and implemented; and
- an effective monitoring system to ensure compliance with all the above safety measures and precautions is implemented.

5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Factories and Industrial Undertakings Ordinance \(Section 6A\) - General Duties of Proprietors](#)¹
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems](#)¹
- [Safety Hints on Operation of Suspended Working Platforms](#)¹
- [Guidance Notes on Inspection, Thorough Examination and Testing of Lifting Appliances and Lifting Gear](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹

¹ Click to view the document



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