



Work Safety Alert Fall from Suspended Metal Walkway Panel

1. **Date of Accident :** November 2024
2. **Place of Accident :** An airport concourse under construction
3. **Summary :**

A worker was using an elevating work platform (“EWP”) to install metal panels to form a maintenance walkway underneath the ceiling structure of an airport concourse under construction. During the installation work, the worker climbed to one of the panels that was being suspended in the air and fell from the panel for about 30m to several floors below. He was certified dead in hospital on the same day.

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

To prevent any workers from falling from height while installing walkway panels at height with the use of a EWP, contractors/ employers should provide and maintain the following precautionary measures:

- 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 and stays therein at all times in the course of work;
- prohibiting the leaving of an EWP’s platform and working on other places of work at height unless they are planned and allowed to do so after duly assessing and addressing the falling hazard;
- setting up and implementing a safe system of work for the operation of the EWP with due regard to work at height safety;
- providing all workers/ operators involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar



with the safe work procedures and relevant safety measures; and

- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference¹ :

- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)
- [Overview of Work-at-Height Safety](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)

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 documents