



## Work Safety Alert Fall from Height while Erecting a Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold

1. **Date of Accident :** July 2024
2. **Place of Accident :** An industrial flat unit
3. **Summary :**

A scaffolder while preparing for truss-out bamboo scaffold erection work at the external wall on 15/F level of an industrial building to facilitate subsequent air-conditioning unit installation work, he plunged to his death onto the ground floor.

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

To prevent any workers from falling from height, the contractors/ employers engaged in erection/ dismantling/ alteration of bamboo scaffolds should provide and maintain a safe system of work which may include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments in identifying all potential hazards associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work, the work environment and the construction of the scaffold;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of the risk assessments, the requirements of relevant safety legislation, relevant codes of practice and guidelines to minimise the risks of workers;
- providing and maintaining suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work for workers;
- ensuring that scaffolds are only erected/ dismantled/ altered under the



immediate supervision of a competent person and by trained workmen processing adequate experience of such work;

- providing every worker concerned with a suitable safety harness and anchorage system meeting the specifications of international or national standards, and be fitted and used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions;
- ensuring that the harness the worker wears is continuously attached to a suitable anchorage system from a safe place with necessary steps taken to ensure that the worker is using the system properly throughout the work;
- providing each worker involved in the work with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensure the proper wearing of the same by the worker throughout the work;
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and 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 Work](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety](#)<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>
- [Overview of Work-at-Height 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.

Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.

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