



Work Safety Alert Falling from Shore into Sea

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2024
2. **Place of Accident :** Shore of a fill bank
3. **Summary :**

While a sailor was walking along the shore of a fill bank towards a barge for moorings, he somehow fell into the sea. His corpse was discovered in the sea two days later.

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

To prevent any workers from falling into the sea while walking or working near the sea, proprietors/ employers should provide and maintain the following precautionary measures:

- ensuring that every worker who is at risk of drowning is wearing a lifejacket which conforms to relevant international standards with due regard to the working conditions;
- ensuring that the lifejackets so provided should fit the wearers and should not affect their vision, hearing or breathing, nor contain any component which may cause injury to the wearers in normal use;
- formulating effective rescue and emergency procedures to deal with emergency situations;
- providing and maintaining suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work for the workers;
- setting up and implementing a safe system of work for the work near the sea;
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information,



instruction and training, and ensure 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 all safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference¹ :

- [Code of Practice for Safety and Health at Work \(Land-based Construction over water -- Prevention of Fall\)](#)
- [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