



## Work Safety Alert Fall from a Bamboo Scaffold

1. **Date of Accident :** December 2013
2. **Place of Accident :** A building under renovation
3. **Summary :**

A worker was suspected to have fallen from a bamboo scaffold erected at the external wall of a building through a void of the scaffold at the 2/F level onto the ground while he was conducting preparation work for making a window opening.

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

To prevent any workers undertaking work-at-height on scaffolds from falling, contractors/employers should:

- conduct task specific risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working procedures;
- provide and properly maintain suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work;
- provide and ensure the use of suitable scaffolds and working platforms where practicable;
- properly fence off or cover any void spaces of the scaffolds through which persons are liable to fall;
- closely board or plank working platforms and provide suitable toe-boards;
- ensure that scaffolds are inspected and certified safe by competent



persons;

- provide and ensure the use of suitable fall protection devices by workers, where the use of working platforms or protection of dangerous void spaces are impracticable; and
- develop and implement an effective monitoring and supervision system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

## 5. Reference :

- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety<sup>1</sup>](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage Systems<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.

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