



Work Safety Alert Fall from a Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold

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

A scaffolder fell about 20 metres to his death to the canopy while he was erecting a truss-out bamboo scaffold at the external wall of the building.

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

To prevent any person from falling from height, contractors/employers engaged in scaffold erection/dismantling/alteration work 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;
- ensure that every worker engaged in erecting/dismantling/altering the scaffold is wearing a suitable safety harness that is attached to a suitable anchor point, an independent lifeline or a fall arresting system;
- ensure that the scaffold is erected/dismantled/alterated by trained workmen with adequate experience under the immediate supervision of a competent person; 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 \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Code of Practice for Bamboo Scaffolding Safety¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Occupational Fatalities related to Truss-out Bamboo Scaffolding Works¹](#)
- [Safety Measures for Use of Truss-out Bamboo Scaffold¹](#)
- [「狗臂架」式棚架安全須知¹](#) (Chinese version only)

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.

¹ Click to view the document