



## Work Safety Alert Fall from a Window Opening

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

A plasterer was suspected to have fallen to his death through the opening of a window nearby while he was conducting ceiling plastering work.

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

To prevent falls of persons undertaking internal fitting out works, 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 working platforms as safe means of support for the work;
- properly fence off or cover any dangerous edges, openings or other void spaces over or through which persons are liable to fall;
- provide and ensure the use of suitable fall protection devices by workers where the use of working platforms or protection of dangerous edges, openings or void spaces are impracticable;
- provide workers with proper training and instruction to ensure their safe



conduct of work; 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>](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms<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.

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