



Work Safety Alert Struck by a Falling Drainage Pipe

1. **Date of Accident :** November 2013
2. **Place of Accident :** A factory building under renovation in Tai Po
3. **Summary :**

A worker undertaking formwork erection was suspected to have been struck by a scrap drainage pipe section falling through a floor opening from an upper floor. He subsequently passed away two days later.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

To prevent any workers from being struck by falling objects, contractors/employers should:

- conduct risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working procedures for the work;
- safeguard any floor edges or openings by suitable barriers, fencings, covers or toeboards so as to prevent any materials from falling over or through the edges or openings;
- ensure that no loose materials are put at or near the floor edges or openings where they are liable to fall;
- fence off the areas where hazards of falling objects are foreseeable, so as to prohibit any workers from entering the hazardous areas;
- display prominent warning notices to alert workers of the work being conducted aloft and hazards of falling objects;



- ensure that every worker on the site is wearing a suitable safety helmet;
- implement effective monitoring and supervision to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Brief Analysis of Site Accident Cases](#)¹
- [Safety Handbook for Construction Site Workers](#)¹

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