



## **Work Safety Alert** **Fall from a Portable Ladder**

- 1. Date of Accident :** June 2013
- 2. Place of Accident :** A church in Central
- 3. Summary :**

A worker fell to his death from a wooden stepladder on an inclined pavement while repairing an adjustable arm awning at a church entrance.

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

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

- conduct risk assessments and formulate appropriate safe working procedures for the work;
- use suitable scaffolds or working platforms for work-at-height and avoid using portable ladders for the work;
- ensure that the scaffolds or working platforms should only be used on level and even ground, unless they are so designed and constructed for use on inclined surface;
- provide workers with proper training and instruction on safe use of scaffolds and working platforms; and
- implement effective monitoring system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.



## 5. Reference :

- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Safety at Work – A Guide to Ladders and Elevated Working Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms](#)<sup>1</sup>
- [Brief Analysis of Site Accident Cases](#)<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