



## Work Safety Alert Fall from a Portable Ladder

1. **Date of Accident :** October 2013
2. **Place of Accident :** A building construction site in Tai Po
3. **Summary :**

A worker fell to his death while he was working on a metal ladder to assist in conveying a drainage pipe to a co-worker working at ceiling level.

### **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 working platforms as support for the work and avoid using portable ladders for the purpose;
- ensure that the working platforms should only be used on even and non-slippery ground;
- provide and maintain suitable and adequate safe access to and egress from every place of work;
- provide workers with proper training and instruction on safe use of working platforms; and
- implement effective monitoring and supervision 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>
- [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>

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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