



Work Safety Alert Trapped between Mobile Elevating Work Platform and Partition Wall

1. **Date of Accident:** January 2026
2. **Place of Accident:** A building site
3. **Summary:**

While operating a scissor-type mobile elevating work platform (“MEWP”) to enter a lift pit in the basement of a residential building under construction, a worker was trapped between the guardrail of the MEWP and the upper frame of a door opening. He was rushed to hospital and passed away the same day.

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

To prevent any workers from being endangered by an MEWP, contractors/ employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work, including but not limited to the following precautionary measures:

- selecting a suitable MEWP to ensure that its safe working capacity, height and specifications are appropriate for the required work;
- so far as is reasonably practicable, installing effective and suitable secondary guarding devices on the MEWP such as physical barriers, pressure sensing devices or proximity sensing devices to reduce the risk of trapping;
- ensuring that every MEWP is of good construction, adequate strength, free from patent defect;
- regularly inspecting, testing, and properly maintaining the MEWP in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions to ensure that the MEWP is in safe working condition;



- ensuring that every control of the MEWP should have a "function enable control", i.e. when the control (such as a trigger with a joystick or foot switch) is released, it automatically stops or returns to neutral. The controls should be positioned or protected against accidental activation;
- ensuring that the function of each control device should be clearly indicated and marked on or beside the device;
- ensuring that the MEWP is only operated by persons who have received suitable training and are competent to operate the MEWP. The training should include theory and practical training. The operators should duly undergo and pass appropriate assessments after the training to ensure their familiarization with the safe operation of the MEWP;
- providing all workers involved with necessary safety information, and instruction, and ensuring their familiarization with the relevant safe work procedures and safety measures, e.g. emergency rescue plan; and
- setting up and implementing an effective monitoring and control system for the use of the MEWP.

5. Reference¹:

- [Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Mobile Elevating Work Platforms](#)
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)



職業安全及健康部
Occupational Safety and Health Branch
勞工處
Labour Department



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Note: The material contained in the Alert is not exhaustive, and will be supplemented/ adjusted where necessary if more relevant information comes to light.

¹ Click to view documents