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

Work Safety Alert
Fall from Rooftop of a building

1. Date of Accident : August 2026

2. Place of Accident : An alteration site

3. Summary :

While conducting a safety inspection on the rooftop of a building undergoing alteration works, a manager fell about 30 metres from an unprotected floor edge to the 4/F flat roof. He was rushed to hospital in an unconscious state and passed away later that day.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/ Employers:

To prevent any employees from falling from height while engaging in safety inspection, contractors and employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work, including but not limited to the following precautionary measures:

- providing and properly maintaining suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work;
- safeguarding all unprotected floor edges, over which persons are liable to fall, by suitable guard-rails and toe-boards;
- ensuring that every unprotected floor edge is protected with (i) suitable guard-rails, including intermediate guard-rails between 450mm to 600mm in height, and top-guard-rails between 900mm to 1150mm in height; and (ii) suitable toe-boards or other similar barriers with a height of not less than 200mm; and
- where the provision of guard-rails to prevent fall from unprotected floor edges is impracticable and where work at such dangerous places cannot be avoided, setting up an effective fall arresting system by: (i) providing

every employee concerned with a suitable safety harness with a lanyard, and (ii) ensuring the employee's proper use of the harness with the lanyard continuously attached to a suitable anchorage throughout the work.

5. Reference[1] :

- A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites (Safety) Regulations
- Overview of Work-at-Height Safety
- A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height
- Safe Systems of Work
- Five Steps to Risk Assessment
- Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training

****

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.

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