28　June　2022

Dear Sir / Madam,

Inspection, Test and Examination and Repair and Maintenance of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms

The Labour Department ("LD")'s recent accident investigations involving power-operated elevating work platform ("EWP") revealed that some failure may be due to metal fatigue at the load bearing component welding joints. To prevent the recurrence of similar accidents, LD strongly advise your company/organisation/department to take, amongst other safety measures, the following precautions:

(i) Make reference to the operation and maintenance manual provided by the manufacturer and formulate a suitable repair and maintenance plan ("RMP") for EWPs;

(ii) Stipulated in the RMP to consider engaging a registered professional engineer to conduct non-destructive tests ("NDT") on critical load bearing components of the EWPs that have been put into use for 5 to under 10 years ensuring that the EWPs are structurally sound. If necessary, consult the manufacturer/agent of the EWPs or an independent checking engineer with relevant experience for their professional advice; and

(iii) Stipulated also in the RMP to engage a registered professional engineer to conduct NDT on critical load bearing components of the EWPs that have been put into use for 10 years or more to ensure that they are structural sound and in a safe working condition.

For safe use of EWPs, please refer to the "Guidance Notes on Safe Use of Power-operated Elevating Work Platforms" published by LD. Relevant publication can be downloaded from LD's website below https://www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/os/C/EWP.pdf.

We appeal to your continuous cooperation and support which are vital for safe use of EWPs. Should you have any queries, please contact Mr KEUNG Chi-kong on 2852 4960.

Yours faithfully,

(CHAN Kut-wah)
for Commissioner for Labour