



Work Safety Alert Pressed to Death by a Topped Sliding Gate

1. **Date of Accident :** August 2022

2. **Place of Accident :** A health centre

3. **Summary :**

A security guard while closing a power-driven metal horizontal sliding gate manually at the entrance of a health centre was pressed to death by a toppled leaf of the gate.

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

To ensure the safety of workers/ employees engaged in sliding gate operations, the proprietors/ employers should provide and maintain safe plant and a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- ensuring that the sliding gate is of good mechanical construction and properly maintained in safe conditions through:
 - installing a slide-stopper and securing it against excessive pulling of the gate by bolts and welding;
 - adding a piece of rubber to the slide-stopper to minimise the impact of percussion and vibration;
 - providing an additional slide-stopper at the top of the gate so that in case the original stopper malfunctions, the gate would not collapse for lack of support when it is excessively pulled;



- ensuring that the number of guiding wheels matches with the width and position of the gate;
- checking the condition and levelling of the floor track, and removing any debris left in it;
- checking the guiding wheels and the axle regularly for wear and tear;
- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work in either mechanical or manual mode, taking into account the design and construction of the gate, the operation, the ground conditions and the working environment;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments and manufacturer's instruction, with the consideration of the requirements of relevant safety guidelines;
- devising a system for workers/ employees to report gate irregularities found to their supervisors to facilitate follow-up action;
- designing a checklist for trained and competent personnel to conduct regular safety inspection of the gate and make immediate repairs as required in accordance with the inspection findings;
- setting up a regular gate maintenance system for competent technical personnel to perform maintenance and repairs of the gate;
- providing all workers/ employees concerned with the necessary safety information, instruction and training, and ensuring that they are familiar with the safe work procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure all safety measures are strictly followed.



5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training¹](#)
- [A Safety Guide on Gate Work¹](#)

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 document