



Work Safety Alert Fallen from the Deck of a Telescopic Mobile Crane

1. **Date of Accident :** January 2021
2. **Place of Accident :** A building site
3. **Summary :**

While a gang of workers was packing up tools on the deck of a telescopic mobile crane upon completion of a lifting operation, one of the workers fell from the deck onto the ground. He sustained serious head injury and passed away ten days later.

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

To prevent any workers/ employees from falling from the deck of a mobile crane, the proprietor/ contractor/ employer concerned should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments to identify all potential hazards associated with the work, taking into account the nature of work and the work environment, particularly the deck of the crane or other places where the workers/ employees may work or stay and from which they are liable to fall from height;
- formulating safe work methods and procedures for the work with due regard to the results of risk assessments, and following the requirements of safety legislation and guidelines to minimise the risks exposed to the workers/ employees, such as falling hazard;
- providing and properly maintaining suitable and adequate safe means of access to and egress from every place of work on the crane and ensuring the proper use of the access and egress by workers/ employees;



- avoiding workers/ employees performing work or staying on the deck of the crane by, for example, using specific hand tools or otherwise to ensure the work can safely be done from a safe place;
- providing and ensuring the proper use of suitable working platforms or other means of support for the work where necessary;
- if working on the deck of the crane is unavoidable and the use of suitable working platforms or other means of support is impracticable, setting up an effective fall arresting system by providing every worker/ employee concerned with, and ensuring the worker's/ employee's proper use of, a suitable safety harness with the lanyard continuously attached to a suitable anchorage throughout the work;
- providing each worker/ employee involved in the work with a suitable safety helmet equipped with a chin strap and ensuring the proper wearing of the same by the worker/ employee throughout the work;
- 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 that all safety measures are strictly followed.



5. Reference :

- [Safe Systems of Work¹](#)
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment¹](#)
- [A Guide to the Provisions for Safe Places of Work under Part VA of the Construction Sites \(Safety\) Regulations¹](#)
- [Guidance Notes on Classification and Use of Safety Belts and their Anchorage System¹](#)
- [Overview of Work-at-Height Safety¹](#)
- [A Casebook of Fatal Accidents related to Work-at-height¹](#)

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