

WSH Alert



17 February 2021, Ref: 2021092

Accident Notification: Company director fell through floor opening

On 10 February 2021, a company director was at a private dwelling overseeing construction work when he fell through a floor opening and landed on a staircase about 4.7m below. The injured director was pronounced dead at the scene by attending paramedics.

The Ministry of Manpower has commenced investigations into the accident.

Occupiers, principals and employers are reminded to conduct a comprehensive risk assessment before work commencement. Site-specific hazards must be identified and risk controls put in place before allowing the work to proceed. All floor openings must be identified, securely covered or installed with guard rails. Appropriate warning signs must also be put up near the opening to alert workers of the presence of a fall hazard. Communicate all identified hazards and the risk controls implemented to on-site personnel (including management staff, workers, contractors and visitors). Implement security measures to ensure that access is only allowed to authorised persons aware of the on-site risks. Personnel who are feeling unwell should abstain from working at heights.

* Information on the accident is based on preliminary investigations by the Ministry of Manpower as at 15 Feb 2021. This may be subject to change as investigations are still on-going. Please also note that the recommendations provided here are not exhaustive and they are meant to enhance workplace safety and health so that a recurrence may be prevented. The information and recommendations provided are not to be construed as implying liability on any party nor should it be taken to encapsulate all the responsibilities and obligations under the law.

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