



3 March 2021, Ref: 2021096

Accident Notification: Worker trapped between two shipping containers

On 21 February 2021, a worker was walking along a path between two shipping containers in a stockpile yard when one container (retrofitted into a rest area) suddenly moved, trapping him. The injured worker was subsequently pronounced dead at the scene by attending paramedics.

The Ministry of Manpower has commenced investigations into the accident.

Relevant stakeholders must consider and implement applicable risk control measures, including:

- Proper worksite layout and planning with rest area(s) located a safe distance away from storage areas and from locations where potentially dangerous work activities are carried out;
- Safe storage of loose materials within a containment solution (e.g. a skip bin or a walled-up storage area) to limit the impact of unplanned movement;
- Providing safe routes for worker access to and egress from designated work and rest locations; and
- Briefing workers on the on-site hazards, risk controls implemented and the precautions to be taken.

* Information on the accident is based on preliminary investigations by the Ministry of Manpower as at 26 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.

Accident Notification: Worker caught in-between lift car and hoist way structure

On 27 February 2021, a worker and his co-worker were tasked to carry out lift maintenance works. The worker was situated at the top of the lift car when it ascended and trapped him against a structure within the lift hoist way. The worker was subsequently extricated and pronounced dead at the scene by attending paramedics.

The Ministry of Manpower has commenced investigations into the accident.

Relevant stakeholders must consider and implement applicable risk control measures, including:

- Ensuring that Safe Work Procedures (SWPs) for lift maintenance and repair

- are established and adhered to by all relevant stakeholders (including contractors);
- SWPs should cover the following: Position of the lift car for safe access and work, control of the lift car during work e.g. placing the lift in maintenance or inspection mode, roles and responsibilities of persons involved;
 - Stop work if any of the controls or safety devices are found to be faulty, or established work procedures are not implementable. Controls should be fixed by qualified and competent lift maintenance personnel, and risks reassessed for suitable work procedures to be established, before allowing works to proceed; and
 - Prior to commencement of work, workers must be instructed on the safe work positions to adopt when on the lift car top, the need to lookout for overhead hazards in the hoist way, and the use of the emergency stop button.

* Information on the accident is based on preliminary investigations by the Ministry of Manpower as at 2 Mar 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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