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(36) in GL/BT/PUB/02

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Your reference 來函檔號：

11 November 2008

All Registered Contractors, Registered Examiners and Builder's Lift Owners

Dear Sirs / Madams,

**Circular No. 1/2008**  
**Serious Builder's Lift Incident in Fujian (福建)**

You may notice that a serious builder's lift incident happened in Fujian (福建) on 30 October 2008, in which the cage of the builder's lift fell to the ground claiming the lives of 12 workers.

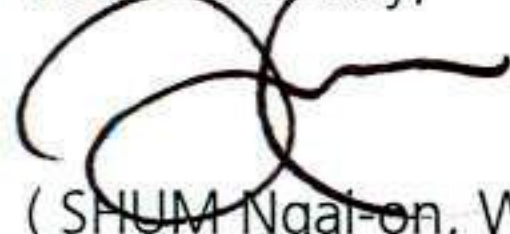
To prevent occurrence of similar incident in Hong Kong, we had collected information from various media and conducted a desk-top review on the incident. From the review, we noted that the mast of the builder's lift was broken, but without any major sign of distortion, at the overhang section of the mast.

Thus, to ensure the safe operation of builders' lifts, I would like to remind you to put additional effort on the maintenance, examination and operation of the builder's lifts in the following aspects:

1. To strengthen the maintenance by checking on all safety components, in particular the safety gears, overload sensing devices and suspension systems;
2. To check the mast thoroughly for any signs of damage, e.g. wear & tear, fatigue of welding joints, etc., and to ensure the joint between each mast section is effective, i.e. there is no missing / loosening of connection bolts, no deformation at the joint of each mast section, etc.;
3. To check the integrity of the wall anchorages thoroughly and to ensure the anchorages are in proper spacing as recommended by the manufacturer;
4. To ensure the length of overhang is well within manufacturer's recommendation for the mast above the highest wall anchorage and to avoid lift operation into overhang section as far as possible;
5. To check for any foreign objects leading into the liftway or resident on the guides that likely to jeopardize the traveling of lift cage and counterweight (if any);
6. To remind all operational and maintenance personnel to continue to discharge their duties earnestly and cautiously, and to ensure the competent operators to lock off the lift whenever they leave.

This letter is based on the limited information collected and the observation of the desk-top review. It does not represent the investigation / cause of the incident at Fujian happened.

Yours faithfully,



( SHUM Ngai-on, William )

for Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services