

Safety\_160426\_Jack Fong converted

Here is the footage from “Site Safety Seminar for Capital Works New Works Contracts” organised by the Hong Kong Housing Authority on 26 April 2016.

The speaker is Mr Jack Fong , Senior Consultant of the Occupational Safety & Health Council (OSHC).

He is going to speak about

“Audit Findings of Housing Authority Safety Auditing System (HASAS) Version 1.5 (For Building and Engineering Contracts) and Housing Authority Lift and Escalator Nominated Sub-contracts Safety Auditing System (HALENSAS) Version 1.0 in Q4 of 2015 and Q1 of 2016”.

Hello, fellows of the industry.

I am Jack Fong of the OSHC.

I will report on the results of the safety audit schemes

HASAS and HALENSAS, implemented by the Housing Department and us,

in Q4 of 2015 and Q1 of 2016.

We will look at the results first,

and then go over some examples of good practices.

Some examples of good practices are worth sharing with you.

In the two quarters, two safety innovation measures were approved.

I will talk about them later.

(01:30-01:31 Audio volume suddenly goes up. Please amend.)

Finally, I will share with you some examples of good practices of HALENSAS in these two quarters.

From the very beginning in 1997

to Q1 of 2016, the overall results have improved continuously, and have now reached a desirable level.

In full-year 2015,

the average overall score – Part A and Part B combined – was over 80

for most projects.

Most projects achieved satisfactory scores in Q1.

Looking at HASAS alone,

42 projects completed the audit in Q4 of 2015

and 47 projects completed the audit in Q1 of 2016.

As to the results,

88% of the projects scored 80 and above in Q4 of 2015.

In Q1 of 2016, 80% of the projects scored 80 and above.

If we look at the critical pass items, most of them were up to standard.

One of the items, Housekeeping, has always been at an average score of 80.

Compared with other critical pass items, there was room for improvement.

Overall speaking, the results were satisfactory.

If we look at the HALENSAS results of NSCs,

in Q4,

16 projects out of 20 scored 70 or above.

In Q1,

12 projects in 13 audits scored 70 or above.

For electricity, fire services and air conditioning, all projects scored 70 or above in the past two quarters.

I am going to give you a summary.

Generally speaking, in the past two quarters, working at height required special attention.

In general, lifting operations and falling objects required special attention.

Attention should be paid to the safe access and standard of working platforms.

Housekeeping

There was room for improvement.

Let's look at some good practices.

Temporary access was provided.

This was satisfactory.

There was good access, with handrails.

Pit access and the ladders provided were satisfactory.

There was also safe access to the tower crane.

In many sites, designated pedestrian paths were provided.

Proper access was provided to the RCD platform.

This was satisfactory.

There was access to the material hoist.

There was proper access to different levels.

For gondolas, there were safe access and egress.

More ladder platforms have been observed on sites.

We appreciate your support.

We hope the Three Safety Buddies for working at height are effective.

Hop-up platforms with railing were provided.

Site access, guard-rails and safety nets were satisfactorily provided.

Openings were covered and fixed securely.

Housekeeping was properly maintained on most sites.

Materials were placed in designated areas,  
separated by railings and well protected.

The materials were properly stored on site.

They were labelled and stored safely.

Rebar caps on iron bars offered protection.

Protruding starter bars were adequately protected.

As to electrical works,

electric cables were often suspended to prevent them from touching the ground.

Regarding Lifting operations,

some companies used checklists to perform daily inspection.

Photos were used to indicate which parts are to be checked. This is very good.

It is clearer this way.

For lifting hooks,

some companies installed additional safety latches with interlocks  
which prevent objects from slipping out of the hook during lifting.

This was another way to do it,

a double safety device was installed on the lifting hook.

Colour codes are now used in the sites.

The hooks are sprayed with different colours every quarter.

This used QR codes for inspection.

Scanning the QR code would reveal the expiry date of the lifting hook certificate.

Some companies used smartcard readers.

This was used on a Bobcat loader.

The equipment could be activated by putting the card on the reader.

This ensured only authorised personnel could operate the equipment.

Bobcat loaders or forklifts were fitted with these devices.

There was adequate PPE, and storage of the equipment was satisfactory.

Major high risk activities for the month were displayed on a notice board.

Equipment was provided to reduce the risk of heat stroke.

“Non-return valves” were installed at the gas hose.

Welding areas were properly ventilated.

There was enough PPE.

For abrasive wheels, there were adequate guarding and warning signs.

Proper guarding was installed for bar bending machines

to prevent fragments from causing injuries during operation.

Proper guarding was installed for the moving parts of machine.

Exhaust fans and screens were installed at the welding areas.

Protective screens were installed at the abrasive wheel operation areas.

In the past two quarters, two safety innovation measures were approved.

The first was a tower crane lifting alert system.

Certain companies have applied for approval previously, and the applications have been accepted.

Its main feature is the cylindrical detection area.

Conventionally, it's a hemisphere.

What's the difference between the two?

In the cylinder, the height detection is more accurate.

This helps reduce errors.

This was approved in the last two quarters.

It makes lifting work more manageable.

When the lifting hook reaches a certain height, the alarm system will be triggered to alert the workers.

The other safety innovation is an unpiloted concrete skip.

Traditionally, a worker has to manually operate the concreting process on the skip platform.

With remote control,

it is no longer necessary for a worker to operate the equipment on the platform and the risks of working at height are reduced.

In the past two quarters, there were some examples of good practices in HALENSAS. For example, safety nets were provided in lift shafts.

This offered protection.

This was another safety net.

The working platforms were satisfactory.

Guard-rails and toe-boards were provided.

Openings were covered.

Housekeeping was generally satisfactory.

Electric cables were suspended.

Tools and shields were satisfactory.

The counterweight was adequately guarded.

I'd now like to share a video with you.

We recently went to Germany to study their benchmarking.

This time we focused on cranes,

but we have also been able to draw reference to some architectural procedures.

We have a video showing a quick assembly working platform, which is not too common in Hong Kong.

I'd like to share this video with you.

There may be things that we can draw on in future.

The working platform can be folded up and stacked.

It can be assembled quite easily,

but it's not very common in Hong Kong.

I'm not sure if we can bring these into Hong Kong,

but you can certainly consider doing so.

The parts are easy for assembly.

Especially the platform,

it can be installed quickly.

It is not required to install piece by piece.

Dismantling is also convenient. Check out the demonstration.

That's all for today.

Thank you.