

This is a clip from the 28 April 2025 recording of the
Hong Kong Housing Authority
“Site Safety Seminar for Capital Works New Works Contracts”
The first Q&A session

(00:12)

My question is about Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs)
I would like to ask whether relevant personnel are required
to enrol in the safety operation course organised by the Association
Alright, Mr Ho, please

Thank you for your question
At present, there is no explicit legal requirement
that MEWP operators must receive formal course training
This is unlike operating forklifts or cranes
for which a licence is required
For the time being, there is no such statutory requirement

However, the Association has also noticed that
on some larger construction sites
such as the Three-runway System project I mentioned just now
contractors require operators on site
to complete the relevant course
before they are allowed to operate MEWPs on that site

Apart from our Association
we have also noticed that other organisations
in the market provide similar courses

Therefore, we believe the industry will have more options
and can make comparisons

Hello Mr Chow

A colleague online would like to ask
whether the Hong Kong Professional Hoisting Engineering Association

has recently organised any lifting courses involving innovative technology such as using virtual reality (VR) to simulate real-life scenarios for training

Thank you

Thank you, Mr Chow

For the time being, we do not provide this type of VR scenario-based training

However, in terms of lifting work

we have been gradually incorporating innovative technology elements and continuously integrating these technologies into our work

because these elements

can in fact help enhance the safety of lifting operations

We will also keep pace with the times

and hope to have opportunities in the future

to organise more related courses

such as content related to artificial intelligence

A participant online has asked

when the Construction Industry Council will launch

MEWP training courses

I wonder whether Mr Ho could respond on their behalf

If it is not convenient, that's fine too

I can put it this way

At this stage, whether it is the Construction Industry Council,

the Hong Kong Institute of Construction

or our Association

we are actually all working in the same direction

with the aim of establishing a more unified and formal course

If there are any updates in the future

we will introduce them to the industry as soon as possible

Thank you, Mr Ho

Are there any questions from the audience on site?

I would like to ask about MEWPs

For example, when machinery rental companies rent out machines, they may provide checklist forms for construction sites to select

the safety operation briefing information they need

Do you think there is a need to further assess market needs to see whether more comprehensive arrangements can be made

In fact, the checklist forms you just mentioned are still being used on some construction sites at present

This also reflects the situation I mentioned just now

Due to the limitations of the site environment

very often, even if machinery rental companies want to provide more in-depth or clearer training they may not actually be able to do so

because the site environment may be very noisy

There may be many people and many machines on site

And due to tight work schedules

there may not be enough time to arrange training

At the same time, it is also difficult to require so many different machinery rental companies to use the same set of teaching materials, or adopt a unified teaching method

Therefore, the Association also hopes to promote a unified or standardised safety operation course for operators to attend

There is another colleague at the back

Hello, from your presentation just now

I heard that the safe use of this type of machinery on construction sites depends largely on worker training

The machines you introduced just now
have also started to incorporate some intelligent operating features

For example, when there is an overload,
the system will automatically stop operating
But I would like to ask whether you can share
how machines in the future may become even more intelligent
so as to reduce mistakes made by workers

For example, some workers may have received training
but afterwards, they may later forget due to fatigue
or may not follow the procedures properly

For example, as mentioned just now
the outriggers may not have been fully extended
or the trial lift procedure may have been forgotten
These situations often happen on construction sites

Another example you mentioned just now
is that each hook connection should only take one link
but on site, there may sometimes be situations
where two links are connected to one hook
I would like to know whether in the future
the machinery itself may be equipped with detection functions

For example, if the trial lift procedure has not been completed
the system will stop the machine or will not allow any operation
In other words, in the future, will there be mechanisms or devices
that allow machines to further develop to this level
because very often, workers may not fully put into practice
what they have learned in training
So we hope that through the development of the machinery itself
the occurrence of accidents can be further reduced

Thank you very much for your question

As far as I know at present

the type of facility you just mentioned is not yet available

However, you have raised a very important point

For workers

continuous training, continuous professional development

and the establishment of a safety culture are all very important

As long as we can continue to promote

the establishment and practice of a safety culture

and continuously enhance workers' safety awareness

I believe this is one way to respond to

the issue you just mentioned

Of course, if you are asking whether in terms of machinery and devices

more supporting measures can be added

I think this is worth further in-depth discussion

If this can be achieved in the future

that would of course be even better

Thank you for your question

Thank you for watching

(06:37)