# BRIEFING ON SSIP GUIDELINES 18TH EDITION MAJOR UPDATED SSIP ITEMS

Steve HU 6 June 2025



### Major updated SSIP items

Section	Item
Working at Height	1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.4, 1.1.5, 1.1.6, 1.3.1, 1.3.6, 1.4.7, 1.5.1 & 1.5.2
Protection against Falling Objects	2.1.7, 2.1.8, 2.1.9 & 2.1.14
Lifting Operations	4.1.1, 4.1.2, 4.1.4, 4.1.6, 4.1.7, 4.1.11, 4.1.14, 4.2.1, 4.2.2, 4.2.6, 4.2.7, 4.2.11, 4.2.14, 4.3.1, 4.3.2, 4.3.11, 4.3.12, 4.4.1 & 4.4.11
Electrical Supply System	5.2.4
References	3, 13, 14, 15, 16, 23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33 &34

### References of updated content

- Legal requirements
- Publications from government departments (COPs, Guidelines...)
- Contract requirements
- New proposed enhancement in contract requirement
- New audit criteria of HASAS 1.8 and other references

# **Adding Guideline**

Item 1.1.1

Sound and stable construction; erected, inspected, examined by competent person (CP) and Form 5 displayed

#### Adding guideline

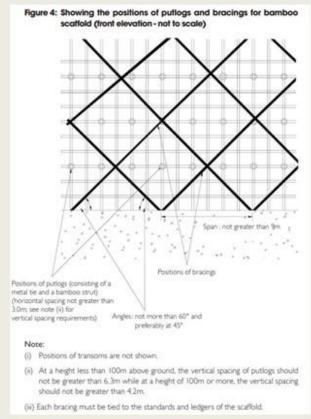
 The use of metal scaffolding is mandatory in case scaffolding is required for the construction of any part or parts of the Works. In the event that special circumstance arises which renders the Contractor unable to use the metal scaffolding, the contractor may propose to use other types of scaffolding with justifications to the CM for approval.

Item 1.1.1

Sound and stable construction; erected, inspected, examined competent person (CP) and Form 5 displayed

#### Adding guideline

- For bamboo scaffolds:
  - An effective lateral restraint takes the form of putlog which consists of a metal tie and a bamboo strut. It secures the scaffold to the face of building/ structure. To safeguard structural stability of bamboo scaffold, including under extreme weather conditions, putlogs should be provided at a horizontal spacing not greater than 3.0m. At a height less than 100m above ground, the vertical spacing of putlogs should not be greater than 6.3m while at a height of 100m or more, the vertical spacing should not be greater than 4.2m.



Labour Department. (2024). Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety. (5th ed.). HK: LD.

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by

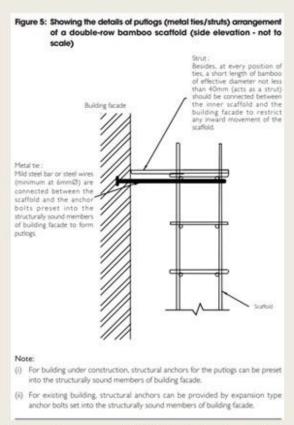
Item 1.1.1

Sound and stable construction; erected, inspected, examined competent person (CP) and Form 5 displayed

Figure 5: Showing the details of pullogs (metal ties/struts)

#### Adding guideline

- For bamboo scaffolds:
  - To safeguard structural stability of bamboo truss-out scaffold, including its status under adverse weather conditions, putlogs should be provided at spacings not greater than 3m both horizontally and vertically.
  - The metal tie should be made of a mild steel bar of at least 6mm diameter.
  - At every position of ties, a short length of bamboo of effective diameter not less than 40mm (acts as a strut) should be connected between the inner scaffold and the building face to restrict the inward movement of the scaffold.



Labour Department. (2024). Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety. (5th ed.). HK: LD.

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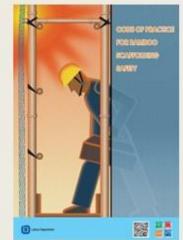
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Item 1.1.1

Sound and stable construction; erected, inspected, examined by competent person (CP) and Form 5 displayed

#### Adding guideline

- For bamboo scaffolds:
  - For a scaffold less than 15m in height (including all or part of the standards of the scaffold supported by the metal brackets fixed on the structural elements of a building), if more than 2 consecutive layers of working platforms are used at the same time at any bay (space between two adjacent standards along the face of a scaffold) for light duty purpose or more than 1 working platform for heavy duty purpose, the stability of the scaffold should be verified by a professional engineer.
- Unauthorized dismantling of putlog is prohibited.
- Reference:
  - Regulation Part VA (38A, 38AA, 38B, etc.) Cap. 59I CSSR
  - √ LD 2024 Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety
  - √ LD 2023 Guide on construction and work safety of truss-out bamboo scaffolds
  - √ CIC 2024 Standard and guide on scaffolding safety
  - √ PRE.B10.830.9 in contract requirement
  - Questions 14.1.3.4, 14.1.3.6 &14.1.3.11 in HASAS version 1.8



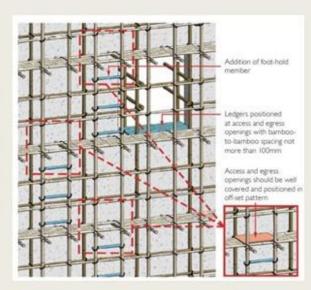
#### Item 1.1.2

Closely boarded, securely mounted, even surface without tripping hazard, and access and egress opening should be well covered by solid material.

#### Adding guideline

- Suitable and adequate quantities of planks that are of good construction and adequate strength and thickness should be provided to serve as working platforms; planks should be laid safely and properly, and maintained in safe conditions.
- Access and egress openings must be well covered when not in use. Each covering provided for an opening shall be so constructed as to prevent the fall of persons, materials and articles, and clearly and boldly marked to show its purpose or securely fixed at an appropriate position.

- √ Regulation Part VA(38A, 38AA&38B, etc.) Cap. 59I CSSR
- √ LD 2024 Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety
- Questions 14.1.3.3 & 14.1.3.4 in HASAS version 1.8



Labour Department. (2024). Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety. (5th ed.). HK: LD.

Item 1.1.4

Secure guard-rails and toe-boards

#### Adding guideline

 Suitable and adequate quantities of toe-boards that are of good construction and adequate strength should be provided to serve as working platforms; toe-boards should be laid safely and properly, and maintained in safe conditions.

#### Reference:

- Regulation Part VA(38B, etc.) Cap. 59I CSSR
- LD 2024 Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety
- ✓ Ouestion 14.1.3.4 in HASAS version 1.8
- HD Site Safety Handbook P.150 & P.151
- LD Safety hints about toe-boards on working platforms of scaffolds on 19 May 2025

Code of Fractive for Samboo Scaffolding Sales, Figure 2: Showing the proper working platform of a double-row bamboo scaffold (not to scale) Building facade Top guard-rail: at a height of between 900mm and 1,150mm above platform Standard Intermediate guard-rail: Toe-board: at a height of between at least 200mm high 450mm and 600mm above (end protrudes beyond Ledger Working platform: ledger for not less than at least 400mm wide

#### Note

- Each scaffold board should be not less than 200mm in width and not less than 25mm in thickness or not less than 150mm in width when board exceeds 50mm in thickness.
- (ii) Height of guard-rails shall not apply to a working platform on a bamboo scaffold if the platform is protected by not less than 2 horizontal bamboo members of the scaffold spaced at intervals between 750mm to 900mm.

Labour Department. (2024). Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety. (5th ed.). HK: LD.

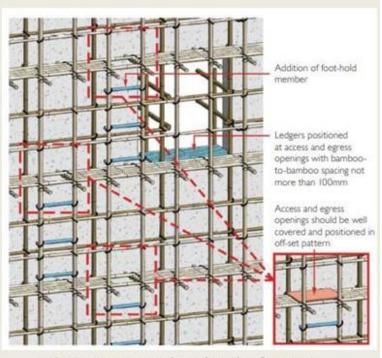
Item 1.1.5

Safe means of access and egress

#### Adding guideline

- For bamboo scaffolds:
  - Safe access to and egress from place of work should be provided for the scaffolders and the users of the scaffold. One way of providing a safe access to and egress from a scaffold is to provide a safe gangway between the existing building/ structure and the scaffold. Access and egress provided should be used and no climbing along the standards/ ledgers of the scaffold should be allowed.
  - Access and egress openings constructed on consecutive scaffold layers must be positioned in an off-set pattern, and an appropriate number of access and egress openings positioned in accordance with working requirements.

- Regulation Part VA(38A &38AA, etc.) Cap. 59I CSSR
- √ LD 2024 Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety
- √ Ouestion 14.1.3.3 in HASAS version 1.8



Labour Department. (2024). Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety. (5th ed.). HK: LD.

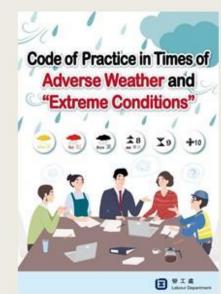
Item 1.1.6

Proper use (fencing off, no working on two or more levels, no overreaching, no overloading, no unauthorized use, no use of scaffold under adverse weather, etc.)

#### > Adding guideline

 Use of scaffold should be prohibited under adverse weather or "extreme conditions".

- √ LD 2024 Code of practices in times of adverse weather and "extreme conditions"
- LD 2023 Guide on construction and work safety of truss-out bamboo scaffolds
- ✓ Ouestion 14.1.3.10 in HASAS version 1.8



#### Item 1.3.1

Mobile working scaffolds/platforms (power driven)(e.g. mobile elevating work platforms)

#### Adding guideline

 \*Smart device as secondary guarding device (SGD) for protecting the operator from the risk of entrapment should be installed for all power-operated elevating work platform.

(Remark: Some new audit criteria of HASAS 1.8 are applicable to contracts tendered after 1 October 2025 or ongoing contracts issued with Contract Manager's instruction. The guideline criteria subject to this condition will be marked with "\*".)

- ✓ Ouestion 14.4.4.5 in HASAS version 1.8
- √ DEVB memo on 29 Nov 2025
- √ LD Work safety alert in Nov 2024

Item 1.3.6

Proper use (no riding while moving/no overreaching/no overloading, etc.); trained operator

#### Adding guideline

 All operators on a MEWP should attend a training course comparable to the 6-hr "Mobile Elevating Work Platforms Operator Safety Training" provided by the Occupational Safety and Health Council, one-day training course for aerial work platform operators provided by the Hong Kong Construction Association or equivalent. The operators on a MEWP who have not received the training are acceptable up to 31 December 2026 provided that they have made arrangement to attend the relevant training.

#### Reference:

✓ Question 14.4.4.6 in HASAS version 1.8



Item 1.4.7

Safe operation (no overreaching, no operation in adverse weather, etc.) and trained operators

#### Adding guideline

 Operations of a suspended working platform should be prohibited under adverse weather or "extreme conditions".

- √ Regulation 18, Cap. 59AC F&U(SWP)
- LD 1999 Code of practice for safe use and operation of suspended working platforms
- LD 2004 Guidance notes on the inspection, thorough examination and testing of suspended working platforms
- √ LD 2024 Code of practices in times of adverse weather and "extreme conditions"
- ✓ Question 14.4.3.6 in HASAS version 1.8

Item 1.5.2

Provision; sound construction; properly assembled

#### Adding guideline

 Suitable light-duty working platforms such as hop-up platform and step platform/ platform ladder with compliance of safety standards such as BS EN131-7 should be provided for work-above-ground. If the working platform does not comply with the standard(s), it would be counted as non-compliance.

- LD 2023 Overview of work-at-height safety. (2nd ed.)
- ✓ Question 14.1.3.4 in HASAS version 1.8

























### **Protection against Falling Objects**

Item 2.1.7

Provision; sound construction; properly assembled

#### Adding guideline

 Screen nets must be erected to completely envelop the scaffold for the protection of person or vehicular traffic against falling objects. Suitable protective screen of fire retardant material should be provided to contain falling objects. Any damage of screen nets would be counted as non-compliance.

#### Amending guideline

 Erection of the protective canopy should be completed no later than the seventh floor slabs have been cast.

- LD 2024 Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety
- √ PRE.B10.910.9 &PRE.B10.860.9 (for Protective Canopy) in contract requirement.
- ✓ Question 14.1.5.3 in HASAS version 1.8

### **Protection against Falling Objects**

Item 2.1.8

Provision of covered walkway, hoardings, and fences

#### Adding guideline

- The bottom of each scaffold should be fenced off or restricted from access when work is being performed on the scaffold.
- The bottom of a suspended working platform should be fenced off or restricted from access when work is being performed on the suspended working platform.

- LD 2004 Guidance notes on the inspection, thorough examination and testing of suspended working platforms
- √ LD 2024 Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety
- ✓ Question 14.4.3.4 in HASAS version 1.8

### **Protection against Falling Objects**

Item 2.1.9

Use of receptacles for containing loose materials or tied up properly; use of tool bags or use of tool straps

#### Adding guideline

 Using tool straps with appropriate internation/national standards such as ANSI/ISEA 121-2018.

No materials are stacked or stored higher than edges of receptacles.

- √ PRE.C9.260.B in contract requirement
- Questions 14.1.5.9 &14.3.4.5 in HASAS version 1.8





Item 4.1.2 - TC inspected by CP (Form 1) and in safe working order

#### Adding guideline

 Provide interlock devices or other measures and implement effectively to secure the safety latches of crane hooks. The safety latches shall only be released manually, so as to prevent slipping of lifting gear out of the hooks.

- √ Regulation 7A, Cap. 59J F&IU(LA&LG)
- √ PRE.C9.250.B in contract requirement
- ✓ Question 14.4.2.4 in HASAS version 1.8

- Item 4.2.2 MC inspected by CP (Form 1) and in safe working order
- Item 4.3.2 ECB/W inspected by CP (Form 1) and in safe working order

#### Adding guideline

 Provide interlock devices or other measures and implement effectively to secure the safety latches of crane hooks (Not applicable for mobile cranes which are rented and are not expected to be used on site for more than six months). The safety latches shall only be released manually, so as to prevent slipping of lifting gear out of the hooks.

- √ Regulation 7A, Cap. 59J F&IU(LA&LG)
- √ PRE.C9.250.B in contract requirement
- ✓ Question 14.4.2.4 in HASAS version 1.8

Item 4.1.14, 4.2.14 & 4.3.12

Safe operation (signalers, riggers and lifting coordinators wearing high visibility clothing, no operation at adverse weather condition, etc.)

Item 4.4.11

Safe operation (no operation at adverse weather condition, etc.)

#### Adding guideline

 Lifting operations should be prohibited under adverse weather or "extreme conditions".

- LD 2024 Code of practices in times of adverse weather and "extreme conditions"
- ✓ Question 14.2.3.11 in HASAS version 1.8

Item 4.3.11

Clear lifting route without lifting over any person / obstruction or trapping

#### Adding guideline

 If the suspended load hits any structure, or is lifted over any person along its lifting route or underneath, it would be counted as non-compliance.

- √ Regulation 7J Cap. 59J F&JU(LA&LG)
- ✓ Question 14.2.3.5 in HASAS version 1.8

# **Amending Guideline**

Item 1.5.1

Ladder should not be used for working

#### Amending guideline

- If work equipment for below 2 metres or access equipment was found but no ladders were found on site for work-above-ground, this item would be counted as compliance.
- If no work equipment for below 2 metres and no work-above-ground activities were found, this item should be counted as N/A.

- √ LD 2023 Overview of work-at-height safety. (2nd ed.)
- √ PRE.B8.251.Ain contract requirement
- √ Question 14.1.3.2 in HASAS version 1.8

- **Item 4.1.1** TC, associated lifting gear(LG) and lifting receptacles tested & examined by CE Form 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 where applicable
- Item 4.2.1 MC, associated lifting gear (LG) and lifting receptacles tested & examined by CE Forms 3, 5, 6, 7 where applicable

#### Amending guideline

\*Implement efficient and effective smart site safety system (SSSS) with aid of wireless communication technologies incorporated with Artificial Intelligence System, RFID, infrared, Internet of Things (IoT) or equivalent, for checking data of personnel, plant and equipment, etc. and alerting against unsafe acts or conditions; allow retrieval of such information instantly on site by an electronic device; and set up and update computerised database regularly.

- √ PRE.B8.267.C &PRE.C9.294.C in contract requirement
- Question 14.4.1.15, 14.4.2.11 &14.5.1.8 in HASAS version 1.8

#### Item 4.1.4

Controls of TC (levers, handles, switches, monitor camera of CCTV on crane jib and at not higher than 6/F level of building) are clearly marked and are regularly maintained

#### Amending guideline

- Installation of CCTV surveillance system with recording function with camera installed at 6/F level above lifting zone, at jib or saddle of tower crane with the following features:
  - CCTV camera at each designated lifting zone and associated equipment in the tower crane cabin;
  - CCTV camera (wireless type) fixed onto tower crane saddle or fixed onto the end of the tower jib / boom when there is no saddle and associated equipment in the tower crane cabin.
  - CCTV camera at each tower crane cabin and associated equipment in Contractor's Site office.

- √ PRE.B8.242.B in contract requirement
- √ Question 14.4.1.9 in HASAS version 1.8

Item 4.1.11

Accessories are properly attached at tool box of Large Panel Formwork during lifting

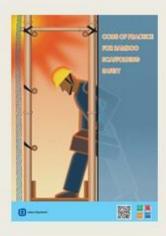
#### > Amending guideline

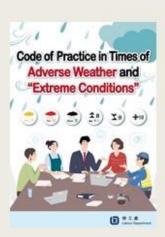
- In case no TCs or no lifting operations of large panel formwork are seen, this item should be "N/A".
- Reference:

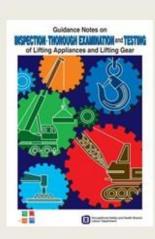
N/A

### REFERENCES

- Major adding / updating reference:
- Labour Department. (2024). Code of practice for bamboo scaffolding safety. (5th ed.). HK: LD.
- Labour Department. (2024). Code of practices in times of adverse weather and "extreme conditions". HK: LD.
- 3. Labour Department. (2001). Guidance notes on the inspection, thorough examination and testing of lifting appliances and lifting gear. HK: LD.



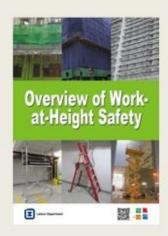




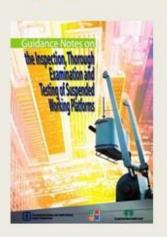
### REFERENCES

#### Adding / updating reference:

- Labour Department. (2023). Overview of work-at-height safety. (2nd ed.)
   HK: LD.
- Labour Department. (1999). Code of practice for safe use and operation of suspended working platforms. HK: LD.
- 3. Labour Department. (2004). Guidance notes on the inspection, thorough examination and testing of suspended working platforms. HK:LD
- 4. Occupational Safety & Health Council. (2025). Independent safety audit scheme: Housing Authority safety auditing system version 1.8. HK: OSHC.









### REFERENCES

- Adding / updating reference:
- Labour Department. (2023). Guide on construction and work safety of truss-out bamboo scaffolds. HK: LD.
- 2. Construction Industry Council. (2021). Guidelines on safety enhancement of and notification arrangement for truss-out bamboo scaffolds. HK: CIC.
- Construction Industry Council. (2024). Standard and guide on scaffolding safety. HK: CIC.





