



Labour Department (Headquarters)

勞工處 (總處)

Your reference 來函編號 :

Our reference 本處檔案編號 : (36) in LD OD/I-55/83

Tel. Number 電話號碼 : 2852 4176

Fax number 傳真機號碼 : 2157 9250

19 August 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

Safe Operation of Sliding Gates

The Labour Department (“LD”) is highly concerned about two fatal work accidents that had happened since 2019 involving the toppling of electric metal sliding gates during manual mode operations. These accidents are mainly related to the gate operation, their safety devices, structural components and improper maintenance. I write to appeal you to take safety measures immediately with a view to preventing recurrence of similar accidents.

2. To ensure the safety of workers/employees engaged in sliding gate operations (especially when switching from electric to manual mode operation), the proprietors/employers shall provide and maintain safe plant and system of work which shall include, but not limited to the following:

- conducting task-specific risk assessments, and based on the results of the risk assessments to formulate and implement the required safe work procedures;
- ensuring that the sliding gate is of good mechanical construction and properly maintained in safe conditions; the relevant measures include:
 - ensuring that the sliding gate is installed with suitable and effective device (e.g. stopper), for preventing the gate from being excessively pulled;
 - checking whether the floor track is in safe condition and properly maintained frequently, to ensure that the gate slides safely on the track;
 - setting up a regular inspection system and comprehensive mechanism for report of damage and maintenance, and ensuring that the gate and relevant device are properly inspected and maintained, and immediate repairs are carried out as required in accordance with the inspection

findings;

- providing all workers/employees concerned with the necessary information, instruction, training and supervision, and ensuring their proper operation of sliding gates, to safeguard their occupational safety and health.

3. According to the general duties provisions of the Occupational Safety and Health Ordinance (Cap. 509), the occupiers of premises/employers shall provide safe working environment, plant and systems of work for their employees. Contravention of the provisions is liable to a maximum fine of \$200,000 and imprisonment for six months.

4. For safe operation of sliding gates, please refer to "A Safety Guide on Gate Work" published by LD, and "Code of Practice for Installation of Electrically Operated Sliding Gates, Sliding Glass Doors and Rolling Shutters" published by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department ("EMSD"). Relevant publications can be downloaded from LD's website below <https://www.labour.gov.hk/eng/public/os/D/Gate.pdf> and EMSD's website below https://www.emsd.gov.hk/en/other_regulatory_services/electric_sliding_gates/publications/codes_of_practice/index.html respectively.

5. Should you need further information, please contact Mr JABBAR Aziz on 2852 4960.

Yours faithfully,



(NG Ho-wang)
for Commissioner for Labour