To: All Authorized Persons
    Registered Structural Engineers
    Registered Geotechnical Engineers
    Registered General Building Contractors
    Registered Specialist Contractors

Dear Sir/Madam,

Safety of Scaffolding Works in Construction Sites during Typhoon Season

With the approach of the typhoon season, I am writing to solicit your cooperation in paying special attention to the safety of scaffolding works.

From past experience, most of the incidents involving the collapse of scaffold could have been avoided if the following site measures in scaffolding works were taken:

(a) sufficient ties of adequate strength are provided to secure the cantilever portion at the top most floor;
(b) the height above the top most floor should not be over-extended (maximum one floor);
(c) adequate putlogs, ties, struts, bracing and steel brackets are provided to secure the scaffolding framework; and
(d) any plastic sheeting should be removed when a tropical cyclone warning signal or a strong monsoon signal is announced.

Please impress upon your site supervision staff on the importance of the safety of scaffolding works and ensure that the above site measures are taken in all scaffolding works. When the building works have been completed, the related scaffolds should be dismantled as soon as possible. Also, any scaffolds which remain idle should be promptly removed.


Yours faithfully,

(K K CHOY)
for Building Authority