

Metal Refuse Chutes at Construction Sites

Temporary refuse chutes, assembled from old metal barrels, have been in common use at building construction sites.

2. Such installations at the external parts of buildings under construction are not satisfactory. The chutes can be a **noise nuisance** to residents in the neighbourhood. In particular, they are **not safe**. They are subject to the effects of weather and the constant impact of building debris. These conditions could affect the stability of the installations.

3. In the event of collapse, these metal chutes pose a hazard not only to the workers on site, but also to any passers-by.

4. You are requested to adopt other safer means of lowering and removing building debris at construction sites. Where refuse chutes are used, you should ensure that they are properly assembled, secured and installed. You should consider using chutes made of other materials of sufficient strength and installing them in internal areas of the site, so as to reduce the noise level.

5. Authorized persons and registered structural engineers have an important role in supervising building works and in ensuring construction site safety. Please ensure that proper safety measures are in place in the sites under your control. Please also help to bring home to contractors and developers the message about safety and environmental consideration.

6. A similar practice note has been issued to registered contractors.

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