

## **Superstructure Works Measures for Public Safety**

### **Introduction**

Although the general site safety situation has been improved after the setting up of the Site Monitoring Section, the number of incidents of falling objects from buildings under construction remains high. Such incidents have highlighted the need to enhance precautionary measures at construction sites where superstructure works are being carried out, to better protect the public from falling objects.

### **General Requirements**

2. A properly built and maintained hoarding/covered walkway is always required to protect the public near building sites. General guidance on the provision of such structure can be found in PNAP APP-23.
3. Additional protection for the public near building sites undergoing superstructure works, except where the condition in paragraph 4(a) or (b) applies, should include the following precautionary measures : -

#### **During Erection of the Structural Frame of a Building**

- (a) Proper protection and safe passage for the public must be provided at all times by the erection and maintenance of suitable hoardings, covered walkways and gantry, and catch platform. Reference could be made to paragraph 22 to 24 of PNAP APP-21 for their general design requirements. An example of hoarding, covered walkways and gantry, and catch platform is also given in Appendix B of the same PNAP.

#### **Protective Screen on the Facade of a Building**

- (b) The building under construction should be provided on its facade with a screen consisting of two layers (with overlaps, and fixed to scaffold at regular intervals): an inner net of heavy duty nylon netting with thread diameter of not less than 3.5 mm and a maximum centre to centre spacing of 50 mm, and an outer net of fine nylon netting. However, in order not to impede the smooth operation of the construction programme, the double layer netting may be removed locally during the installation of external cladding/curtain wall.

4. The above additional preventive measures are not required if a building under construction is:

- (a) under 30 metres in height, or
- (b) set back from the site boundary such that an inclined projection plane from the top outer edge of the building at 10 degree from the vertical does not go beyond the site boundary at ground level.

**Alteration and Addition Works, Minor Works and Concrete Repair Works**

5. Where any alteration and addition works, minor works or concrete repair works are carried out at the external walls of an existing building, adequate protection and precautionary measures should be provided to ensure site and public safety. In this respect, reference could be made to “Technical Guidelines on Minor Works Control System” on general safety requirements published by the Buildings Department. Additional precautionary measures and suitable working procedures specific to individual Alteration and Addition Works and minor works should also be provided as and when necessary.

( AU Choi-kai )  
Building Authority

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