



SAFETY ALERT

A serious accident occurred recently at Jumeirah Lake Towers when a worker fell while working in a mechanical shaft area that resulted in serious injuries.

Whilst the MEP foreman was working on the 27th floor and a pipe fitter was working on 26th floor, the foreman lost his balance and fell. He landed on his co-worker below causing head and leg injuries to the pipe fitter and injuring himself.

Investigation by EHS identified that there was no edge protection or fall protection in the shaft. Also the platform used for working was incomplete (see the photograph above left) and did not provide a safe means of access for the work to be carried out from.

All contractors involved with working in mechanical and electrical risers should note the following:-

- ➔ *Consider safety in the design of service risers such as the use of cast-in wire mesh. This will provide built in protection during construction. The mesh can then be cut away in sections to allow services to penetrate through the riser.*
- ➔ *Carry out risk assessments for all work in service risers. Identify possible hazards and implement control measures to reduce the risks.*
- ➔ *In some situations (as identified in the risk assessment) a permit to work in service risers will need to be in place. This will ensure there is only single level working reducing the risk of materials falling onto workers.*
- ➔ *Provide overhead protective crash decks where the risk of materials falling onto workers can't be eliminated.*
- ➔ *Where there is a risk of workers falling into a service riser then edge protection must be provided.*
- ➔ *Every effort must be made to reduce the risk of materials falling through a service riser. This may include riser cupboard doors, toeboards, debris netting or similar.*

For further information contact:
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Safety Alert 035 030308