

**Prosecution Cases under the Workplace Safety and Health Act in December 2012**

S/No	Case Details
1	<p>Date of Accident: 24 Feb 2010</p> <p>Location of Accident: Link Road</p> <p>Employer: Syntech Engineers Pte Ltd</p> <p>Description of Accident:</p> <p>On 24 Feb 2010, two workers, Workers A and B were tasked by the employer to install a tool box onto the undercarriage of a lorry. Worker A was positioned between the lorry and a forklift used for the task, when the forklift surged forward, trapping his head between the forklift and the lorry, fatally injuring him.</p> <p>Investigations showed that at the time of the incident, another worker, Worker C had agreed to assist Workers A and B by operating the forklift, although Worker C was not in possession of a valid forklift operator's license. As Worker C was untrained in operating forklifts, he would have no knowledge of the controls of the forklift and its potential hazards. Upon starting the forklift's engine, the forklift surged forward as the gear of the forklift was left in the 'forward' setting and the handbrake was not engaged.</p> <p>Investigations also showed that Worker B had operated the forklift prior to the accident when he was untrained in operating forklifts and not in possession of a valid forklift operator's license.</p> <p>The employer at the workplace had failed to conduct an adequate risk assessment and establish a safe work procedure for the mounting of a toolbox to the underside of a lorry to be carried out. It had also failed to implement adequate control measures to ensure that only a licensed forklift operator operates the forklift at the factory.</p> <p>The employer was charged under s12(1) read with s20 of the Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) Act and was fined \$100,000 for its lapses that led to the death of the worker. For its offence, the employer could have been fined up to \$500,000.</p> <p>Workers B and C were each charged with one count each under s 15(1)(b) of the WSH Act and were fined \$800 each. For their offences, Workers B and C could have been fined up to \$1,000 each.</p>

2	<p>Date of Accident: 5 Feb 2010</p> <p>Location of Accident: Marina View</p> <p>Occupier: Hyundai Engineering &amp; Construction Co. Ltd</p> <p>Description of Accident:</p> <p>On 5 Feb 2010, a worker was working near a formwork panel and was fatally injured when the formwork panel, weighing more than 2,000kg, fell onto him. The said formwork panel was found to be supported by wooden planks and without push props. The occupier had failed to ensure that the safe work procedure for dismantling such panels was adhered to by its contractor.</p> <p>The occupier was charged under s11(a) read with s20 of the Workplace Safety and Health (WSH) Act and was fined \$60,000 for its lapses that led to the accident.</p>
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