

Coroner Jamieson
Coroners Court of Victoria
65 Kavanagh Street
SOUTHBANK VIC 3006

18 May 2016



Dear Coroner Jamieson

Name of Deceased: Norman ALDOUS
Coroners' Court Reference: COR 2012 2229
WorkSafe Incident Number: 175766

I refer to your findings and recommendation published in relation to the death of Norman Aldous, and sent to WorkSafe Victoria on 1 April 2016.

I note you ultimately recommended that:

- WorkSafe Victoria consider releasing an updated and comprehensive publication relating to both preventing and increasing awareness of the associated dangers of falls from height at the workplace.

I am pleased to update you on that topic.

The *Occupational Health and Safety Regulations 2007* ('the Regulations') are subject to an extensive review process. The current Regulations will sunset in June 2017 and the new Regulations will come into effect just prior to that time. Once the new Regulations commence, some key existing falls from height guidance material will be updated and/or developed to incorporate and support the new Regulations.

As part of the above process, two Codes of Practice relating to falls from height are scheduled for review and will be released for public comment in 2017. Following the public comment phase, the two Codes of Practice below will be finalised and reissued:

- Falls – Prevention of falls in housing and construction; and
- Falls in general construction.

Presently, WorkSafe has 32 guidance documents covering the issue of falls from height at the workplace which are all publicly available. Incidentally, WorkSafe has already commenced the development of guidance on *Fall arrest anchor point testing requirements and industrial rope access system for buildings*.

The above recommendation will also be addressed as part of WorkSafe's proposed Guidance Review Project (**the Project**). The main purpose of the Project is to identify the top 100 pieces of guidance material that are currently used and require review, updating, conflation and/or deletion.

Furthermore, the Project will seek to:

- Make reference to the new Regulations where appropriate;
- abbreviate and simplify prospective guidance material; and

- examine ways to better deliver guidance material to duty holders and others through a variety of platforms.

WorkSafe will also continue to be proactive in communicating its safety messages and targeting specific risks and hazards as necessary, including risks associated with falls from height at the workplace.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Mai Pham, Coronial Lawyer, on 9940 4828.

Yours faithfully,



Clare Amies
Chief Executive
WorkSafe Victoria

