



DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

News Release

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**DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CITES
CONTRACTOR FOR ALLEGED SAFETY VIOLATIONS FOLLOWING
FATAL ACCIDENT**

HONOLULU - The Department of Labor and Industrial Relations' (DLIR) Hawaii Occupational Safety and Health (HIOSH) division has cited Permasteelisa Cladding Technologies, Ltd for alleged unsafe working conditions following a fatal accident where an employee fell to his death from a high rise condominium construction project on March 14, 2007.

HIOSH immediately performed an investigation into the fatality and the employer's safety and health program. A citation has been issued to the subcontractor by the HIOSH alleging three "serious" violations relating to its failure to provide an adequate fall protection system and one "other-than-serious" violation relating to the employer's duty to verify compliance of its fall protection training program. The violations carry a proposed penalty of \$5,000.00.

"The incident on March 14th of this year was a tragic event. We hope to work cooperatively with Permasteelisa to assist them in improving their safety and health

program," said Darwin Ching, interim director of labor and industrial relations. "An employer's first obligation is to ensure a safe and healthy work environment for their employees. They must instill a culture of safety that reduces the potential for accidents."

The employer has 20 calendar days from receipt of the citations to request an informal conference with the HIOSH or to contest the citations and proposed penalties before the Hawaii Labor Relations Board.

Under Chapter 396, Hawaii Revised Statutes, Hawaii employers are responsible for providing safe and healthful workplaces for their employees. HIOSH's role is to assure the safety and health of Hawaii's working men and women by setting and enforcing standards; providing training, outreach and education; establishing partnerships; and encouraging continual process improvement in workplace safety and health. For more information, visit www.hawaii.gov/labor/hiosh.

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