

The Work at Height Safety Association

Technical Guidance Note 7

“Reference information for work at height”

A series of informative notes for all industries involved with work at height or rescue.

The Work at Height Safety Association (WAHSA) is a UK trade association for manufacturers of equipment for work at height and rescue. This series of guidance notes is published by WAHSA to provide information on topical issues relating to work at height which may be a source of confusion, or where other information may be lacking. The information provided is only intended to apply within the UK.

They should be regarded by readers as a source of information only and are not intended to be exhaustive, or to indicate any specific course of action.

It is the responsibility of readers to judge the relevance and applicability of this information to their own situation. All contents copyright WAHSA 2006.

Reference information for work at height

Introduction

This information sheet is a reference guide to sources of information relating to work at height in a wide range of industries. It has been compiled with considerable assistance from HSE's Construction Division Technology Unit to which we offer thanks.

General – Regulations and HSE Guidance

The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (and HSE Operational Circular), SI 2005, No.735,
HSE Inspector Briefings: Presentation, Parts 1 to 6, www.hse.gov.uk/falls/downloads/index.htm
The Work at Height Regulations 2005 – A Brief Guide, INDG 401
Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 and ACoP L21
5 Steps to Risk Assessment, INDG 163
Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998, ACOP and Guidance, L22
Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992, Guidance on Regulations
Health and safety training: What you need to know, INDG 345
Falls from height, inspection topic pack, www.hse.gov.uk/foi/internalops/fod/inspect/falls.pdf
Height safe - Absolutely essential health and safety information for people who work at height

Training

BS 8454 – Code of Practice for the delivery of training and education for work at height and rescue
(publication imminent)

Roofing

Health and safety in roof work, HSG 33
Working on roofs, INDG 284
Advisory Committee for Roofwork (www.roofworkadvice.info):

- Test for non-fragility of profiled sheeted roofing assemblies (Third edition), ACR(M)001: 2005 (The Red Book)
- Recommended Practice for Work on Profiled Sheeted Roofs, ACR(CP)001:2003 (The Orange Book)
- Guidance Note for Safe Working on Fragile Roofs, ACR(CP)002:2005 (The Green Book)

Construction

Health and Safety in Construction, HSG 150
Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996
Question and answer brief for the Construction Industry on the Work at Height Regulations 2005
(www.hse.gov.uk/construction/pdf/fallsqa.pdf)
Construction health and safety checklist, Construction Information Sheet (CIS) 17
Inspections and reports CIS 47
Having construction work done? Duties of clients under the Construction (Design and Management)

Regulations 1994, MISC 193

HSE Videos

- High designs, Design of safe access and places for work at height during maintenance operations
- A head for heights, Guidance for working at heights in construction

Scaffolds

General access scaffolds and ladders, CIS No 49
National Access and Scaffolding Confederation (NASC) (www.nasc.org.uk)

- The use of fall arrest equipment whilst erecting, altering and dismantling scaffolding, SG4:05
- Guide to good practice for scaffolding with tubes and fittings, TG20:05
- Safe system of work for birdcage scaffolds, SG23:03

Mobile Access Towers (MAT's)

Prefabricated Access Suppliers' and Manufacturers' Association (PASMA), (www.pasma.org.uk)

- Operator's Code of Practice (Revision 12)

DVDs:

- Guide to the safe use of mobile access towers, PASMA, 11/05
- "Don't Fall for It!", PASMA/HSE, 06/05

Tower scaffolds, CIS 10

Mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs)

BS 8460 (Publication imminent)
Preventing falls from boom-type MEWPs, MISC 614 (and HSE Operational Circular, OC312/20)
International Powered Access Federation (www.ipaf.org)

Mast climbing work platforms (MCWPs)

Code of practice for the installation, maintenance, thorough examination and safe use of mast climbing work platforms, BS 7981:2002

Collective safeguards

Filled collective fall arrest systems, PAS 59:2004

Requirements for personal fall protection systems

Code of practice for selection, use and maintenance of personal fall protection systems and equipment for use in the workplace, BS 8437: 2005
Inspecting fall arrest equipment made from webbing or rope, INDG 367
Personal protective equipment against falls from a height— General requirements for instructions for use, maintenance, periodic examination, repair, marking and packaging, EN 365: 2004
Issues surrounding the failure of an energy absorbing lanyard, SIR 59
Rope Evacuation from Mechanical Handling Equipment, OC 282/31
Work at Height Safety Association (WAHSA) (www.wahsa.org.uk)

Rope Access

Industrial Rope Access Trade Association – IRATA (www.irata.org)
Guidelines on the use of rope access for industrial purposes – IRATA
BS 7985 – Code of practice for the use of rope access for industrial purposes
Safety in window cleaning using rope access techniques, MISC 612

Ladders

Safe use of ladders and stepladders: an employers guide, INDG 402 (and HSE Operational Circular, OC200/30)
Top tips for ladder safety/pocket card, INDG 405

Ladders toolbox talk, INDG 403
Safety in window cleaning using portable ladders, MISC 613
British Ladder Manufacturers' Association (BLMA) (www.ladders-blma.co.uk/):

- The BLMA Leaning Ladder and Stepladder Users Guide
- BLMA Risk Assessment Cards

Procurement and control of contractors

Use of contractors - a joint responsibility INDG 368
Managing contractors: a guide for employers, HSG159

Agriculture

Tree work Accidents, INDG 278
Why fall for it? Preventing falls in agriculture, INDG 369
Safe working on glass house roofs, AIS12
Preventing falls from fragile roofs in agriculture, AIS32
FASTco Arboricultural Association Safety Guides (<http://www.trees.org.uk>):

- 401 Tree-climbing operations
- 402 Aerial tree rescue
- 403 Mobile elevating work platforms (MEWPs) for tree work

Food and drink industry

Preventing falls from height in the food and drink industries, Food Information Sheet 30

Engineering

Health and Safety in Motor Vehicle Repair, HSG 67
Health and Safety in Engineering Workshops, HSG 129
Falls from height in Engineering, SIM 3/2002/18
Work at Height on Car Transporters, SIM 3/2001/07

Utilities and Telecommunications

Climbing and working on lattice towers in the electricity industry, SIM 3/1999/04
Climbing of wood poles in the electricity industry, SIM 3/2002/9
Climbing and working on lattice towers in the telecommunications and broadcasting industry, SIM 3/2000/26

Entertainment

Working at heights in the broadcasting and entertainment industries, EIS 6

Window Cleaning

Safety in window cleaning using suspended and powered access equipment, MISC 611
Safety in window cleaning using rope access techniques, MISC 612
Safety in window cleaning using portable ladders, MISC 613
Preventing falls from boom-type mobile elevating work platform, MISC 614
Federation of Window Cleaners (formerly National Federation of Master Window & General Cleaners) (www.fwcuk.org)

Want to know more?

Free guidance is available on the HSE website, www.hse.gov.uk/falls and from HSE InfoLine, on 0845-345-0055. To purchase British Standards, go to <http://www.bsonline.bsi-global.com/server/index.jsp>.