

WORKING AT HEIGHTS POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

As part of our commitment to achieving the principles of health and safety in our workplace, we recognise our moral and legal responsibility to provide a safe and healthy work environment for workers, contractors, customers and visitors. This commitment also extends to ensuring the safety of persons working at heights by providing safe access to workplaces above ground and ensuring that adequate means of preventing persons falling from heights are provided.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

We will ensure that:

- Adequate means of preventing persons from falling when working at heights are provided at a workplace
- All workers engaged in working at heights are fully trained in the proper safe working practices for working at heights
- Any work at heights is carried out in the prescribed manner, and that
- All equipment necessary for the safe working at heights is safely erected, used and maintained.

RESPONSIBILITIES

We will identify and manage, so far as is reasonably practicable, risks to health and safety associated with a fall by a person from one level to another that is reasonably likely to cause injury to the person or any other person.

Where a risk of a fall of a person exists, we will ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that any work that involves the risk of a fall is carried out on the ground or on a "solid construction".

Risk assessments will be carried out FOR any work where there is a risk of a person falling, especially if the area to which a person may fall presents abnormal hazards. The length of time of exposure to a fall will not be considered when evaluating the hazard, but may have some bearing on the control measures adopted.

The hierarchy of preferred fall control measures that will be implemented are:

- a stable and securely fenced work platform (such as scaffolding or other form of portable work platform), or
- if a stable and securely fenced work platform is not reasonably practicable, secure perimeter screens, fencing, handrails or other form of physical barrier that is capable of preventing the fall of a person, or
- if screens, fencing, handrails or barriers are not reasonably practicable, other forms of physical restraints that are capable of arresting the fall of a person from a height of more than 2 metres.

AUTHORISED BY

Name: Billie Sharp

Position: General Manager

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Signed:

