

Working at Heights

Principal Hazard Standard (Template)

<insert document number>

EHSQ Management Systems

1.0 PURPOSE

To ensure the risks arising from Working at Height are effectively managed by the implementation of fall protection and fall restraint measures.

2.0 SCOPE

This Principal Hazard Standard applies to all <Insert Company Name> controlled sites, its joint venture operations, employees, contractors and visitors and is subject to the requirements of other <Insert Company Name> HSE Standards and applicable health and safety legislation.

3.0 DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Competent Person	A person who has, through a combination of training, qualification and experience, acquired knowledge, skills and authority enabling that person to correctly perform a specified task.
Elevating work platform (EWP)	A general term used for a scissor lift, aerial platform, or an extensible or articulating boom aerial device (either self-propelled or vehicle-mounted) used for the purpose of positioning personnel, their tools, and necessary materials to an elevated work location.
Fall Arrest	A combination of equipment and components connected together designed to stop a person from striking a lower level or any other obstructions during a fall.
Fall Prevention	Is eliminating the possibility of a fall by using a fixed working platforms, temporary working platforms, scaffold, physical barriers, and elevating or mobile work platforms.
Fall Protection	Equipment, systems and procedures used to effectively protect an individual from fall hazards
Fall Restraint	A fall restraint system consists of equipment used to keep a person from reaching a fall point, such as the edge of a roof or the edge of an elevated working surface. The most commonly utilised fall restraint system is a guardrail. A tie off system that "restrains" the employee from falling off an elevated working surface is another type of fall restraint.
Working at Heights	Access, egress, ascending, descending, or working in any position where a person can fall from, into or through anything from one level to another as well as where objects could fall from one level to another causing injury him or herself and/or causing injury to those below. Or exposed to a fall of more than 2 m.

4.0 ACCOUNTABILITY AND RESPONSIBILITY

<Insert Company Name> Accountable Managers shall ensure:

- This standard is effectively implemented within their area of responsibility.
- Variations to this standard are approved through a documented risk and change management process.

- Provision is made for the procurement and availability of suitable equipment for use when working at heights across the business and that such equipment is maintained in accordance with manufacturer and legislative requirements.
- Sufficient resources are provided to adequately manage all risks associated with Working at Height across the business.
- A system of work for prevention of falls from height is established and maintained.
- Adequate information, instruction, training and supervision shall be provided to ensure personnel who undertake Working at Height activities undertake such works safely.
- Provision is made for appropriate means of rescue should it be required.

5.0 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

5.1 General Requirements

- Working at Height shall not be undertaken where there is a risk of falling without adequate fall prevention measures.
- Where there is a risk of a person or object falling from one level to another, then those risks shall be effectively mitigated to a level as low as reasonably practicable.
- Any work activity undertaken at a height of 2 metres or above outside the confines of a permanent barrier or fixed guard rail shall require the mandatory use of fall restraint or arrest equipment.
- Fall restraint shall take precedence over fall arrest.

5.2 Risk Assessment

Prior to undertaking any work at height, the following risk assessment activities shall be undertaken:

- Take 5;
- Job Safety Analysis;
- Working at Height Permit.

Working at Height risk assessment activities shall be:

- Documented;
- Undertaken prior to the commencement of work;
- Undertaken by all participants involved in the Working at Height activity;
- Verified by the Supervisor responsible for overseeing the work;
- Reviewed should the work scope or work conditions change.

Working at Height risk assessments shall give consideration to:

- Personnel undertaking working at heights level of training;