

RISK ASSESSMENT

ACTIVITY: Using ladders and step ladders

HAZARDS IDENTIFIED:

Distance of fall
Manual handling

RISKS:

Falling from height
Slips and trips

ASSOCIATED RISKS:

Musculoskeletal injuries
Operatives/general public being hit by falling materials tools
Strain injuries
Serious injury
Fatality

SEVERITY RATING:

LIKELIHOOD RATING (severity X Likelihood) = 3 x 3

OVERALL RISK RANKING (severity X Likelihood) = 9

1 = MINOR

1 = LOW

2 = SERIOUS

2 = MEDIUM

3 = MAJOR

X

3 = HIGH

X

RISK RANKING PRIORITY:

8-9 Unacceptable
4-7 Tolerable
2-3 Adequate
1 Acceptable

RISK SCORE ACTION

(Works must not start until strict controls are in place)
(Prioritise and control action as far as practicable)
(look for possible improvement at next review)
(No further action required review periodically)

The law says that ladders can be used for work at height when a risk assessment has shown that using equipment offering a higher level of fall protection is not justified because of the low risk and short duration of use; or there are existing workplace features which cannot be altered.

CONTROL MEASURES:

The following are all requirements in law that the Company must carry out when working at height:

- (a) Provide the most suitable equipment appropriate for the work.
- (b) Take account of factors such as the working conditions (e.g. weather).
- (c) Take into account the nature, frequency and duration of the work.
- (d) The risks to the safety of everyone where the ladder/step ladder will be used.

Planning

Before starting a task, employees must carry out a 'pre-use' check to spot any obvious visual defects to make sure the ladder is safe to use to include:

- (a) Employees will check the stiles to make sure they are not bent or damaged.
- (b) Check the feet if they are missing, worn or damaged the ladder could slip.
- (c) Check there are not any bent, worn, missing or loose rungs and locking mechanisms.
- (d) Check the stepladder platform and steps and ensure it is not split or buckled or contaminated.








Assessing risk

- (a) Ground conditions: Avoid slippery surfaces.
- (b) Site the ladder where they will not be struck by vehicles (protect the area using suitable barriers or cones)
- (c) Site the ladder where they will not be pushed over by other hazards such as doors or windows.
- (d) Site the ladder where the general public are prevented from using it, walking underneath it or being at risk because they are too near (use barriers, cones)

Safe use of a ladder.

- (a) Make sure the ladder angle is at 75°.
- (b) Always grip the ladder and face the ladder rungs while climbing or descending.
- (c) Don't try to move or extend ladders while standing on the rungs.
- (d) Don't work off the top three rungs, and try to make sure the ladder extends at least three rungs above where you are working.
- (e) Avoid holding items when climbing (consider using a tool belt)
- (f) Don't work within 6 m horizontally of any overhead power line, unless it has been made dead or it is protected with insulation. Use a non-conductive ladder (e.g. fibreglass) for any electrical work.
- (g) Maintain three points of contact when climbing (this means a hand and two feet) and wherever possible at the work position.
- (h) For a leaning ladder, you should secure it by tying the ladder to prevent it from slipping.
- (i) Use only Class 1 'Industrial' or EN 131 ladders for use at work. Make sure the temporary access equipment is a suitable size for the work.

REVISED SEVERITY RATING LIKELIHOOD RATING (severity X Likelihood) = 3 X 2 OVERALL RISK RANKING (severity X Likelihood) = 6	1= MINOR 1=LOW	2= SERIOUS 2= MEDIUM X	3 = MAJOR X 3 = HIGH
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Head EN 397		Dust Mask FFP3	Boots BS EN 345-1	Gloves BS EN 388	Hearing EN 352-1	Eye protection BS EN Spec 166
YES	YES	Site specific	YES	YES	Site specific	YES

ASSESSMENT COMPLETED BY: Neil Gulvin Tech IOSH MCIQB

DATE: July 2022

Signed



REVIEW DATE: July 2023