Collective Protection Measures in Work at Height & its requirements

Presented by:-
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Fatal injuries to workers by most common accident kinds
(Source: Fatal injuries reportable under RIDDOR, 2012/13-2016/17)

- Falls from a height: 28%
- Struck by moving vehicle: 17%
- Struck by moving object: 12%
- Contact with moving machinery: 9%
- Trapped by something collapsing/overturning: 8%
Non-fatal injuries to workers by most common accident kinds
(Source: LFS self-reported non-fatal injuries, 2014/15-2016/17)

- Injured while handling, lifting or carrying: 20%
- Slipped, tripped or fell on the same level: 18%
- Hit by moving, flying, falling object: 9%
- Contact with moving machinery: 7%
- Fell from a height: 7%
- Physically assaulted by a person: 7%
Figure 1: Number of fatal injuries to workers per year by accident kind

- Falls from a height: 40
- Struck by moving vehicle: 25
- Struck by moving object: 17
- Contact with moving machinery: 13
- Trapped by something collapsing/overturning: 11
- Drowning or asphyxiation: 6
- Contact with electricity: 6
- Injured by an animal: 5
- All other accident kinds: 21

Source: RIDDOR, annual average 2012/13-2016/17
Figure 2: Self-reported non-fatal injuries to workers by accident kind

- Handling, lifting or carrying: 122,000
- Slip, trip or fall on same level: 111,000
- Struck by moving object: 53,000
- Contact with moving machinery: 44,000
- Falls from a height: 43,000
- Acts of violence / Physical assault: 41,000
- Strike against something fixed or stationary: 26,000
- All other accident kinds: 170,000

Source: Labour Force Survey, annual average estimate 2014/15-2016/17
WHY?
Working at height is defined as working at any height from which a fall could cause personal injury.
Collective over personal protection

At all stages in the WAHR hierarchy, scaffolding contractors must consider collective protection over personal protection.

This means using measures that protect everyone working at height at all times when in place, such as guardrails or safety nets before specifying personal fall arrest equipment that is reliant on being attached.
Figure 10: A temporary scaffolders working platform to form the minimum **scaffolders’ safe zone**.

Figure 11: A finished working platform for users
Not more than 470 mm

Minimum height 150 mm in accordance with TG20

At least 950 mm
Figure 21: Shows the scaffolders’ step being used with (i. Left) an additional guardrail to the base lift to support step and (ii. Above) boarded base lift to support the step on uneven ground.
Safety nets

The manufacturer or supplier of a safety net must supply an instruction manual in accordance with BS EN 1263-1:2002.

This guidance should contain:
(a) the required anchorage forces
(b) maximum falling height
(c) minimum catching width
(d) safety net linkage
(e) minimum distance below the safety net
(f) storage requirements
(g) inspection and replacement requirements.
There are two main types of safety net:

(a) Personnel nets: 100 mm mesh. Intended to catch a person falling from above.

(b) Material or debris protection nets: smaller mesh 12 mm-19 mm. Intended to protect those below from falling objects.

Note:-

The maximum recommended distance a person should fall before contact with the net is 6 meters.
For a fall of 1 metre, an outrigged net must have a horizontal projection beyond the outermost working point of 2.6 metres, while for a fall of 6 meters a projection of 4.4 metres is necessary.
ADVANCED GUARDRAIL TOOL

Figure 23: Push type Advanced Guardrail Tool (AGT) using special couplers and a positioning tool.

Figure 24: Example of a system scaffold specific advanced guardrail tool.
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