

Talk No: 8	Title: WORKING AT HEIGHTS
<p>Introduction: Falling from height is the major cause of fatalities in the construction industry. More than half of falls from a height of over 2 metres result in death or serious injury. All such deaths and serious injuries are preventable.</p>	
<p>Main points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Can work at height be avoided and the risk eliminated? – Plan work at height to include safe access/egress, edge protection (for people and materials), PPE and suitable training as applicable. – Any work above 2m requires guard-rails, intermediate guard-rails and toe-boards to be fitted. – Where impracticable to fit guard-rails, intermediate guard-rails and toe-boards (short duration) then personal suspension equipment/fall arrest equipment must be utilised as required. <p>Discussion points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – If roof work is involved identify any fragile areas and/or openings and implement suitable protective precautions. – Access ladders must be secured and extend sufficiently beyond working platforms to allow for safe access/egress. – Where access ladders run for more than 9m then suitable intermediate platforms must be provided. – Consider weather conditions – wet, windy and/or icy conditions can have a serious impact on safety at height. – Ensure operatives are suitably trained and physically capable for tasks being undertaken. – If guard-rails, fragile surface covers, void protections, etc, are removed for any reason then they must be replaced as soon as possible, and in the interim, should be physically guarded. – Use crawling boards/roof ladders where applicable. <p style="text-align: center;">IT'S NOT THE FALLING THAT HURTS – IT'S THE LANDING!</p>	
<p>Notes:</p>	