



CONSTRUCTION BLITZ ON FALLS FROM HEIGHTS

Falls from heights are the leading killer on NSW construction sites.

To combat a rising number of falls fatalities and serious injuries in the Construction industry, SafeWork NSW Inspectors will be visiting sites across the State to focus on securing compliance, raising awareness and promoting a fair and level industry playing field when it comes to controlling the risk of falls from heights.

HERE ARE SOME PRACTICAL TIPS:

- Eliminate the need to work from heights where possible
- Use a suitable working platform such as scaffolding, boom lifts or scissor lifts
- Provide adequate edge protection by using jump screens, scaffolding or guardrails - ensuring ALL components are in place
- Ensure scaffolds are installed, regularly inspected and maintained by a competent person, and that a handover certificate is provided prior to use

- Prevent unauthorised access to the scaffold while the scaffold is incomplete or unattended
- Securely cover and visibly mark, or edge protect, all open penetrations in formwork or concrete slabs
- Provide workers with safe means of access and egress to work areas
- Only use fall restraint or fall arrest systems when edge protection or work platforms are not reasonably practicable
- Many falls take place when people are using ladders. You should consider whether an elevating work platform or scaffolding would be safer and more efficient.

From 1 November 2017, on-the-spot fines of up to \$3600 can be issued for failing to control the risk of falls adequately.

For more information

- visit www.safework.nsw.gov.au
- call 13 10 50

Disclaimer

This publication may contain information about the regulation and enforcement of work health and safety in NSW. It may include some of your obligations under some of the legislation that SafeWork NSW administers. To ensure you comply with your legal obligations you must refer to the appropriate legislation.

Information on the latest laws can be checked by visiting the NSW legislation website www.legislation.nsw.gov.au

This publication does not represent a comprehensive statement of the law as it applies to particular problems or to individuals or as a substitute for legal advice. You should seek independent legal advice if you need assistance on the application of the law to your situation.

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