



# Safety Notice

## Working at Height – Near Miss

During a recent lifting operation, a slinger/ signaller, positioned on a flat roof, decided to climb over the temporary edge protection provided, to speak to an individual at ground level.

Whilst the slinger/ signaller was wearing a harness with the lanyard attached to the temporary edge protection, the length of the lanyard would not have prevented him from falling off the roof, further, the fixing point was considered inadequate for fall arrest.



The picture shows the flat roof where the slinger/signaller was standing, between the handrail and the edge of the roof.

### Action – Managing Work at Height

All Manager and Supervisors are reminded that for all work at height:

- full details of the activity and work environment must be included in the Risk Assessment & Method Statement (RAMS) to ensure that everyone involved in the task understands the risks and the controls to be implemented;
- the person preparing the RAMS must visit the work location prior to developing the RAMS to identify and assess the risks from both the activity and work environment;

- RAMS are approved by individuals with the required training and experience in the activity being carried out;
- RAMS briefings are delivered at the point of work;
- if edge protection cannot be provided and harnesses are required, the RAMS must stipulate the fixing point and type of protection (i.e. fall arrest, fall restraint);
- the individuals undertaking work are competent and have adequate training for the activity and associated control measures;
- harnesses and lanyards are subject to formal detailed inspection every three months, inspected before first use on site and every seven days; and
- work is stopped if circumstances change or the controls cannot be implemented and the activity is reassessed and the RAMS updated as necessary.

Individuals undertaking work activities must:

- provide feedback on proposed work methods and controls;
- ensure that they fully understand the risks and control measures and have the necessary training and competence;
- ensure pre use checks are completed on all work equipment before use and any defects are reported to their supervisor; and
- stop work and advise their supervisor if circumstances change or the control measures cannot be implemented.

**Record of briefing**

Briefing given by:		Signed:		Date:	
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Forename	Surname	Role	Employer	Signature