Risk Assessment Working at Height



The people that might be harmed: Studioworks employees, contractors, public, artists

| HAZARD | CONTROL |
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| Collapse of structure. | All structures which could injure persons should they collapse (e.g. scaffolding, temporary structures, scenery, etc.) will be designed, built and maintained by competent people to ensure they remain structurally stable. The skills, knowledge and experience required to build structures will depend upon the nature of the structure concerned and its intended use. Greater care will be required in the case of structures that will support people (especially members of the public) than those that support only material, e.g. scenery. Whenever a structure is built to support people or where collapse would endanger people it will be inspected by a competent person before being put into use. There will be further inspections on a regular basis and also after severe weather or if the structure is significantly altered. Competence in terms of health & safety means a person with the appropriate qualifications, knowledge and experience to identify any defects likely to cause an increased risk. Regulation 9 (designer's duties and roles) of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM) applies whether or not the rest of the Regulations apply. The skills, knowledge and experience required of the designer will depend upon the nature of the structure concerned and the use or uses to which it is put. See HSE publications GS28/2 and GS28/3 on |

| | the safe erection of structures. A competent person will inspect the structure before it is put into use for the first time – if satisfied that it is structurally sound, they will attach a notice/certificate to the structure to indicate it is safe to use. Further inspections are required on a regular basis (at least weekly) and following any severe weather (external structures) or if the structure is significantly altered. All safety features such as guard rails and toe boards must be in place. If required, suitable PPE such as harness and fall arresters, must be used. All equipment that may fall must be attached with bonds. No loose items may be stored on structure. |
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| Person falling from height | Edge protection, e.g. guard rails will be used. Safety harnesses will be used where required. A safe distance from an edge will be maintained by use of an exclusion zone. |
| Object falling from height | All persons to be trained in basic ladder safety, including use, inspection and safety measures whilst working from ladders or platform ladders at height. Access ladders to be securely tied off to prevent slippage and movement. Where a ladder cannot be tied or secured in any other way, it will be securely footed by another workers. The correct angle for a ladder is 75° or at a slope 1:4. Over reaching from ladders shall not be permitted. 3 points of contact to be maintained with the ladder at all times. |

| | Use of a ladder as a working platform will only ever be for short duration work (<20 minutes) where no viable practicable alternative is available. The painting of ladders shall not be permitted as this may mask defects. Ensure adequate supervision is provided and that control measures remain valid for the duration of the work. Operative on the ground to wear head protection. All tools going up the ladder to be secured by lanyards. Also see grid working risk assessments and arrangements |
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