
STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

2005 No. 735

The Work at Height Regulations 2005

Interpretation

2.—(1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires—

“the 1974 Act” means the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974;

“access” and “egress” include ascent and descent;

“construction work” has the meaning assigned to it by regulation 2(1) of the Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996(1);

“fragile surface” means a surface which would be liable to fail if any reasonably foreseeable loading were to be applied to it;

“ladder” includes a fixed ladder and a stepladder;

“line” includes rope, chain or webbing;

“the Management Regulations” means the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999(2);

“personal fall protection system” means—

(a) a fall prevention, work restraint, work positioning, fall arrest or rescue system, other than a system in which the only safeguards are collective safeguards; or

(b) rope access and positioning techniques;

“suitable” means suitable in any respect which it is reasonably foreseeable will affect the safety of any person;

“work at height” means—

(a) work in any place, including a place at or below ground level;

(b) obtaining access to or egress from such place while at work, except by a staircase in a permanent workplace,

where, if measures required by these Regulations were not taken, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury;

“work equipment” means any machinery, appliance, apparatus, tool or installation for use at work (whether exclusively or not) and includes anything to which regulation 8 and Schedules 2 to 6 apply;

“working platform”—

(a) means any platform used as a place of work or as a means of access to or egress from a place of work;

(b) includes any scaffold, suspended scaffold, cradle, mobile platform, trestle, gangway, gantry and stairway which is so used.

(1) S.I.1996/1592, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(2) S.I. 1999/3242, to which there are amendments not relevant to these Regulations.

(2) Any reference in these Regulations to the keeping of a report or copy of a report or plan shall include reference to its being kept in a form—

- (a) in which it is capable of being reproduced as a printed copy when required;
- (b) which is secure from loss or unauthorised interference.