Regulation 6(4)(a)

REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING PLACES OF WORK AND MEANS OF ACCESS OR EGRESS AT HEIGHT

Every existing place of work or means of access or egress at height shall—

- (a) be stable and of sufficient strength and rigidity for the purpose for which it is intended to be or is being used;
- (b) where applicable, rest on a stable, sufficiently strong surface;
- (c) be of sufficient dimensions to permit the safe passage of persons and the safe use of any plant or materials required to be used and to provide a safe working area having regard to the work to be carried out there;
- (d) possess suitable and sufficient means for preventing a fall;
- (e) possess a surface which has no gap—
 - (i) through which a person could fall;
 - (ii) through which any material or object could fall and injure a person; or
 - (iii) giving rise to other risk of injury to any person, unless measures have been taken to protect persons against such risk;
- (f) be so constructed and used, and maintained in such condition, as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable—
 - (i) the risk of slipping or tripping; or
 - (ii) any person being caught between it and any adjacent structure;
- (g) where it has moving parts, be prevented by appropriate devices from moving inadvertently during work at height.

SCHEDULE 2

Regulation 8(a)

REQUIREMENTS FOR GUARD-RAILS, TOE-BOARDS, BARRIERS AND SIMILAR COLLECTIVE MEANS OF PROTECTION

- 1. Unless the context otherwise requires, any reference in this Schedule to means of protection is to a guard-rail, toe-board, barrier or similar collective means of protection.
 - 2. Means of protection shall—
 - (a) be of sufficient dimensions, of sufficient strength and rigidity for the purposes for which they are being used, and otherwise suitable;
 - (b) be so placed, secured and used as to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, that they do not become accidentally displaced; and
 - (c) be so placed as to prevent, so far as is practicable, the fall of any person, or of any material or object, from any place of work.
 - 3. In relation to work at height involved in construction work—
 - (a) the top guard-rail or other similar means of protection shall be at least 950 millimetres or, in the case of such means of protection already fixed at the coming into force of these Regulations, at least 910 millimetres above the edge from which any person is liable to fall;
 - (b) toe-boards shall be suitable and sufficient to prevent the fall of any person, or any material or object, from any place of work; and

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- (c) any intermediate guard-rail or similar means of protection shall be positioned so that any gap between it and other means of protection does not exceed 470 millimetres.
- **4.** Any structure or part of a structure which supports means of protection or to which means of protection are attached shall be of sufficient strength and suitable for the purpose of such support or attachment.
- **5.**—(1) Subject to sub-paragraph (2), there shall not be a lateral opening in means of protection save at a point of access to a ladder or stairway where an opening is necessary.
- (2) Means of protection shall be removed only for the time and to the extent necessary to gain access or egress or for the performance of a particular task and shall be replaced as soon as practicable.
- (3) The task shall not be performed while means of protection are removed unless effective compensatory safety measures are in place.

Regulation 8(b)

REQUIREMENTS FOR WORKING PLATFORMS

PART 1

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL WORKING PLATFORMS

Interpretation

1. In this Schedule, "supporting structure" means any structure used for the purpose of supporting a working platform and includes any plant used for that purpose.

Condition of surfaces

2. Any surface upon which any supporting structure rests shall be stable, of sufficient strength and of suitable composition safely to support the supporting structure, the working platform and any loading intended to be placed on the working platform.

Stability of supporting structure

- 3. Any supporting structure shall—
 - (a) be suitable and of sufficient strength and rigidity for the purpose for which it is being used;
 - (b) in the case of a wheeled structure, be prevented by appropriate devices from moving inadvertently during work at height;
 - (c) in other cases, be prevented from slipping by secure attachment to the bearing surface or to another structure, provision of an effective anti-slip device or by other means of equivalent effectiveness;
 - (d) be stable while being erected, used and dismantled; and
 - (e) when altered or modified, be so altered or modified as to ensure that it remains stable.

Stability of working platforms

4. A working platform shall—

- (a) be suitable and of sufficient strength and rigidity for the purpose or purposes for which it is intended to be used or is being used;
- (b) be so erected and used as to ensure that its components do not become accidentally displaced so as to endanger any person;
- (c) when altered or modified, be so altered or modified as to ensure that it remains stable; and
- (d) be dismantled in such a way as to prevent accidental displacement.

Safety on working platforms

- 5. A working platform shall—
 - (a) be of sufficient dimensions to permit the safe passage of persons and the safe use of any plant or materials required to be used and to provide a safe working area having regard to the work being carried out there;
 - (b) possess a suitable surface and, in particular, be so constructed that the surface of the working platform has no gap—
 - (i) through which a person could fall;
 - (ii) through which any material or object could fall and injure a person; or
 - (iii) giving rise to other risk of injury to any person, unless measures have been taken to protect persons against such risk; and
 - (c) be so erected and used, and maintained in such condition, as to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable—
 - (i) the risk of slipping or tripping; or
 - (ii) any person being caught between the working platform and any adjacent structure.

Loading

6. A working platform and any supporting structure shall not be loaded so as to give rise to a risk of collapse or to any deformation which could affect its safe use.

PART 2

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR SCAFFOLDING

Additional requirements for scaffolding

- 7. Strength and stability calculations for scaffolding shall be carried out unless—
 - (a) a note of the calculations, covering the structural arrangements contemplated, is available; or
 - (b) it is assembled in conformity with a generally recognised standard configuration.
- **8.** Depending on the complexity of the scaffolding selected, an assembly, use and dismantling plan shall be drawn up by a competent person. This may be in the form of a standard plan, supplemented by items relating to specific details of the scaffolding in question.
- **9.** A copy of the plan, including any instructions it may contain, shall be kept available for the use of persons concerned in the assembly, use, dismantling or alteration of scaffolding until it has been dismantled.

- 10. The dimensions, form and layout of scaffolding decks shall be appropriate to the nature of the work to be performed and suitable for the loads to be carried and permit work and passage in safety.
- 11. While a scaffold is not available for use, including during its assembly, dismantling or alteration, it shall be marked with general warning signs in accordance with the Health and Safety (Safety Signs and Signals) Regulations 1996(1) and be suitably delineated by physical means preventing access to the danger zone.
- 12. Scaffolding may be assembled, dismantled or significantly altered only under the supervision of a competent person and by persons who have received appropriate and specific training in the operations envisaged which addresses specific risks which the operations may entail and precautions to be taken, and more particularly in—
 - (a) understanding of the plan for the assembly, dismantling or alteration of the scaffolding concerned;
 - (b) safety during the assembly, dismantling or alteration of the scaffolding concerned;
 - (c) measures to prevent the risk of persons, materials or objects falling;
 - (d) safety measures in the event of changing weather conditions which could adversely affect the safety of the scaffolding concerned;
 - (e) permissible loadings;
 - (f) any other risks which the assembly, dismantling or alteration of the scaffolding may entail.

Regulation 8(c)

REQUIREMENTS FOR COLLECTIVE SAFEGUARDS FOR ARRESTING FALLS

- 1. Any reference in this Schedule to a safeguard is to a collective safeguard for arresting falls.
- 2. A safeguard shall be used only if—
 - (a) a risk assessment has demonstrated that the work activity can so far as is reasonably practicable be performed safely while using it and without affecting its effectiveness;
 - (b) the use of other, safer work equipment is not reasonably practicable; and
 - (c) a sufficient number of available persons have received adequate training specific to the safeguard, including rescue procedures.
- **3.** A safeguard shall be suitable and of sufficient strength to arrest safely the fall of any person who is liable to fall.
 - 4. A safeguard shall—
 - (a) in the case of a safeguard which is designed to be attached, be securely attached to all the required anchors, and the anchors and the means of attachment thereto shall be suitable and of sufficient strength and stability for the purpose of safely supporting the foreseeable loading in arresting any fall and during any subsequent rescue;
 - (b) in the case of an airbag, landing mat or similar safeguard, be stable; and
 - (c) in the case of a safeguard which distorts in arresting a fall, afford sufficient clearance.
- **5.** Suitable and sufficient steps shall be taken to ensure, so far as practicable, that in the event of a fall by any person the safeguard does not itself cause injury to that person.

⁽¹⁾ S.I. 1996/341.

Regulation 8(d)

REQUIREMENTS FOR PERSONAL FALL PROTECTION SYSTEMS

PART 1

REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL PERSONAL FALL PROTECTION SYSTEMS

- 1. A personal fall protection system shall be used only if—
 - (a) a risk assessment has demonstrated that—
 - (i) the work can so far as is reasonably practicable be performed safely while using that system; and
 - (ii) the use of other, safer work equipment is not reasonably practicable; and
 - (b) the user and a sufficient number of available persons have received adequate training specific to the operations envisaged, including rescue procedures.
- 2. A personal fall protection system shall—
 - (a) be suitable and of sufficient strength for the purposes for which it is being used having regard to the work being carried out and any foreseeable loading;
 - (b) where necessary, fit the user;
 - (c) be correctly fitted;
 - (d) be designed to minimise injury to the user and, where necessary, be adjusted to prevent the user falling or slipping from it, should a fall occur; and
 - (e) be so designed, installed and used as to prevent unplanned or uncontrolled movement of the user.
- **3.** A personal fall protection system designed for use with an anchor shall be securely attached to at least one anchor, and each anchor and the means of attachment thereto shall be suitable and of sufficient strength and stability for the purpose of supporting any foreseeable loading.
- **4.** Suitable and sufficient steps shall be taken to prevent any person falling or slipping from a personal fall protection system.

PART 2

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK POSITIONING SYSTEMS

A work positioning system shall be used only if either—

- (a) the system includes a suitable backup system for preventing or arresting a fall; and
- (b) where the system includes a line as a backup system, the user is connected to it; or
- (c) where it is not reasonably practicable to comply with sub-paragraph (a), all practicable measures are taken to ensure that the work positioning system does not fail.

PART 3

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ROPE ACCESS AND POSITIONING TECHNIQUES

- 1. A rope access or positioning technique shall be used only if—
 - (a) subject to paragraph 3, it involves a system comprising at least two separately anchored lines, of which one ("the working line") is used as a means of access, egress and support and the other is the safety line;
 - (b) the user is provided with a suitable harness and is connected by it to the working line and the safety line;
 - (c) the working line is equipped with safe means of ascent and descent and has a self-locking system to prevent the user falling should he lose control of his movements; and
 - (d) the safety line is equipped with a mobile fall protection system which is connected to and travels with the user of the system.
- **2.** Taking the risk assessment into account and depending in particular on the duration of the job and the ergonomic constraints, provision must be made for a seat with appropriate accessories.
 - **3.** The system may comprise a single rope where—
 - (a) a risk assessment has demonstrated that the use of a second line would entail higher risk to persons; and
 - (b) appropriate measures have been taken to ensure safety.

PART 4

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR FALL ARREST SYSTEMS

- **1.** A fall arrest system shall incorporate a suitable means of absorbing energy and limiting the forces applied to the user's body.
 - 2. A fall arrest system shall not be used in a manner—
 - (a) which involves the risk of a line being cut;
 - (b) where its safe use requires a clear zone (allowing for any pendulum effect), which does not afford such zone; or
 - (c) which otherwise inhibits its performance or renders its use unsafe.

PART 5

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WORK RESTRAINT SYSTEMS

A work restraint system shall—

- (a) be so designed that, if used correctly, it prevents the user from getting into a position in which a fall can occur; and
- (b) be used correctly.

Regulation 8(e)

REQUIREMENTS FOR LADDERS

- 1. Every employer shall ensure that a ladder is used for work at height only if a risk assessment under regulation 3 of the Management Regulations has demonstrated that the use of more suitable work equipment is not justified because of the low risk and—
 - (a) the short duration of use; or
 - (b) existing features on site which he cannot alter.
- 2. Any surface upon which a ladder rests shall be stable, firm, of sufficient strength and of suitable composition safely to support the ladder so that its rungs or steps remain horizontal, and any loading intended to be placed on it.
 - 3. A ladder shall be so positioned as to ensure its stability during use.
- **4.** A suspended ladder shall be attached in a secure manner and so that, with the exception of a flexible ladder, it cannot be displaced and swinging is prevented.
 - 5. A portable ladder shall be prevented from slipping during use by—
 - (a) securing the stiles at or near their upper or lower ends;
 - (b) an effective anti-slip or other effective stability device; or
 - (c) any other arrangement of equivalent effectiveness.
- **6.** A ladder used for access shall be long enough to protrude sufficiently above the place of landing to which it provides access, unless other measures have been taken to ensure a firm handhold.
- 7. No interlocking or extension ladder shall be used unless its sections are prevented from moving relative to each other while in use.
 - **8.** A mobile ladder shall be prevented from moving before it is stepped on.
- **9.** Where a ladder or run of ladders rises a vertical distance of 9 metres or more above its base, there shall, where reasonably practicable, be provided at suitable intervals sufficient safe landing areas or rest platforms.
 - 10. Every ladder shall be used in such a way that—
 - (a) a secure handhold and secure support are always available to the user; and
 - (b) the user can maintain a safe handhold when carrying a load unless, in the case of a step ladder, the maintenance of a handhold is not practicable when a load is carried, and a risk assessment under regulation 3 of the Management Regulations has demonstrated that the use of a stepladder is justified because of—
 - (i) the low risk; and
 - (ii) the short duration of use.

SCHEDULE 7

Regulation 12(7)

PARTICULARS TO BE INCLUDED IN A REPORT OF INSPECTION

- 1. The name and address of the person for whom the inspection was carried out.
- **2.** The location of the work equipment inspected.
- 3. A description of the work equipment inspected.

- **4.** The date and time of the inspection.
- 5. Details of any matter identified that could give rise to a risk to the health or safety of any person.
- **6.** Details of any action taken as a result of any matter identified in paragraph 5.
- 7. Details of any further action considered necessary.
- **8.** The name and position of the person making the report.

Regulation 19

REVOCATION OF INSTRUMENTS

| (1) | (2) | (3) |
|--|---|---|
| Description of instrument | Reference | Extent of revocation |
| The Shipbuilding and Ship- repairing Regulations 1960 | S.I.1960/1932, amended by S.I. 1983/644 and 1998/2307 | Regulations 7 to 10 and 12 to 30 |
| The Docks, Shipbuilding etc. (Metrication) Regulations 1983 | S.I. 1983/644 | In the Schedule the entries relating to regulations 9(1)(a) to 26(1) of the Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations 1960 |
| The Docks Regulations 1988 | S.I. 1988/1655 | Regulation 7(4) and (5); in regulation 7(6) the words "and (c) any other place not being a quay or jetty where any person working or passing might fall a distance of more than 2 metres" |
| The Loading and Unloading of Fishing Vessels Regulations 1988 | S.I. 1988/1656 | In regulation 5(3) the words "and (c) any other place not being a quay where any person working or passing might fall a distance of more than two metres" |
| The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 | S.I. 1992/3004 | Regulation 13(1) to (4) |
| The Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1996 | S.I.1996/1592 | In regulation 2(1), the definitions of "fragile material", "personal suspension equipment" and "working platform"; regulations 6 to 8; in regulation 29(2) the word "scaffold" in both instances; regulation 30(5) and (6)(a); Schedules 1 to 5; and the entry first mentioned in columns 1 and 2 of Schedule 7 |

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