

Falls Prevention in Construction – sample site safety checklist

Inspected by:	Record No.	Date of Inspection:
Site Address:		

NOTE: This checklist is a guide only and may be used to assist obligation holders in determining their compliance with safety requirements for fall prevention in construction. To be used in conjunction with part 17 of the WHS Regulation 1997. Further information can be obtained by contacting Workplace Health and Safety Queensland (1300 369 915) or www.deir.qld.gov.au

MAIN ISSUES / CONTROL MEASURES:	Compliance indicators and references	Compliant (yes / no / N/A)	Action required
Construction Safety Plan (CSP) in place Prepared by principal contractor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Principal contractor has prepared a CSP that is readily available - CSP adequately addresses relevant risks on site, including how control measures will be monitored and reviewed <p style="text-align: right;">WHS Regulation 1997, s160</p>		
Work Method Statements (WMS) adequate for purpose Prepared by relevant person / sub-contractor <i>for construction work at heights over 2m (commercial) or 3m (housing)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sub contractor/s have prepared a WMS that is readily available - Workers are aware of selected work method and control measures - Addresses relevant risks, and the control measures to be employed (e.g. edge protection, scaffolds, EWPs, fall arrest harness) - Includes monitoring and reviewing of controls - WMS is current to ensure that controls are still appropriate, adequate and maintained <p style="text-align: right;">WHS Regulation 1997, s157; s191; s194</p>		

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Roof-edge protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fall protection control measures in place for workers who are installing / altering / removing edge protection - Engineering certification for the system (and includes method of attachment and supporting structure details) - Installed and used according to manufacturer's instructions or engineer/competent person's instructions - Adequate to withstand the force of a person falling against it - Top rail fitted (900mm high) - Lower rails/mesh/sheeting fitted <p style="text-align: right;">WHS Regulation 1997, s216</p>		
Scaffolds and work platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fall protection control measures in place for workers who are installing / altering / removing edge protection - Modular scaffold and hanging bracket system is design registered - Erected in accordance with scaffold plan and designer's instructions - Work platforms can support load and are adequate width for the work - Person erecting scaffolds (over 4m high) must hold scaffold certificate - Positioned at least 3m from low voltage overhead electrical wires (<i>Electrical Safety Regulation 2002, schedule 2</i>) - Scaffold is safe and properly maintained - Adequate ties and braces as per scaffold plan - Adequate base plates / sole boards / solid foundation <p style="text-align: right;">AS 1576, AS 4576; WHS Scaffolding Code of Practice WHS Regulation 1997, s217J; 217K</p>		
Work platforms on trestle ladders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trestle ladders secured to prevent moving - Edge protection in place to prevent a fall - Minimum 2 planks wide (450mm) - Platform not higher than 5m <p style="text-align: right;">WHS Regulation 1997, s217H</p>		

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Fall arrest platforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Able to withstand force of a person falling onto it - Minimum 675mm (3 planks) wide - Within 1m below edge of roof (less than 26° pitch) - Within 300mm below roof edge (more that 26° pitch) - Edge protection around platform to prevent a fall <p style="text-align: right;"><i>WHS Regulation 1997, s217B</i></p>		
Travel restraint system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Installed by competent person - Anchor point has adequate capacity - All users trained in the safe use of the system - Checked for wear and/or weakness - Inspected by competent person every 6 months (written record kept) <p style="text-align: right;"><i>WHS Regulation 1997, s217A</i></p>		
Fall arrest harness system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Anchor point has adequate capacity and is engineer designed or inspected and approved by competent person before use - Installed, used and maintained according to manufacturer's instructions or engineer/competent person's instructions - Energy absorber used - Adequate free-fall distance available - All users trained in the safe use of the system - Written procedures for rescue and retrieval of persons - All components checked for wear and/or weakness - Inspected by competent person every 6 months (written record kept) <p style="text-align: right;"><i>WHS Regulation 1997, s217C</i></p>		

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Stair void protection	If stairs being installed, the risk of falling must be controlled <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Edge protection (see above requirements for roof-edge protection) - Fall protection cover: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can withstand force of a person falling onto it • Secured in place to prevent accidental removal <p style="text-align: right;"><i>WHS Regulation 1997, s217</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proprietary systems: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engineer designed • Installed by competent person, in accordance with instructions • Inspected and maintained 		
Balcony edge protection	If balustrades being installed, the risk of falling must be controlled <p>Edge protection (see above requirements for roof-edge protection)</p>		
Industrial safety net	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Designed by engineer or competent person - Made of material designed to minimise injury and absorb energy - Installed close below work surface and adequate distance above ground or other objects, in accordance with instructions - Used, inspected, and maintained in accordance with instructions <p style="text-align: right;"><i>WHS Regulation 1997, s 217D</i></p>		
Excavation falls protection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Identify hazards associated with a person falling into the excavation, assess the risk and implement and maintain the control measures for the work, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures to exclude other workers and public from accessing open trenches/exposed excavations (e.g. barricade/hoarding erected at least 900mm high – where practical) • More substantial controls where required for deeper excavations <p style="text-align: right;"><i>WHS Regulation 1997, s208; s209</i></p>		

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OTHER NOTES
