

Critical Controls Working at Heights

Critical controls are those that must be in place if work is performed at heights.

Where reasonably practicable working at heights must always be designed out and work methods revised to undertake work at ground level, if this is not possible the below controls must be considered and applied.

Access Controlled

Only authorized staff will have access to high risk areas

Physical Barriers

Unprotected edges must have temporary or permanent physical barriers

Access Equipment

Safe working platforms must be used when performing work at heights

Travel Restraint systems

Correct selection & use of travel restraint equipment i.e. lanyard, a lifeline & a safety harness or belt

Fall Arrest System

Fall arrest system must be in place. e.g. Fall arrest equipment, lanyard & anchor point

Exclusion zones

Exclusion zones must be established based on risk & includes physical barriers, signage & monitoring

Work at Height Permit

*See below controls

Emergency Response & Rescue

Emergency Response & Rescue contingency plan, equipment & training must be in place

Controls for Work at Height Permit include:

- Contractor engagement process - license checks, hazard identification & risk assessment, consultation & communication on works to be undertaken. Authorization of work under Permit to Work System.
- Safe Systems of work: High Risk Work Permit & associated controls in place, underpinned by Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) or Job Safety Analysis (JSA).
- Appropriate & compliant licensing and competency. High risk work license, for erecting of scaffolding, operation of EWP, Working from height.
- Correct selection of Work at heights plant and equipment including PPE i.e. travel restraint systems, fall arrest equipment, harness, lanyard, hard hat.
- Monitoring & review of work at height controls Systems & processes.