

7 General

7.1 Risk Management Process

“A person conducting a business or undertaking at a workplace must manage the risks to health and safety associated with a fall or the possibility of a fall, from one level to another that is reasonably likely to cause injury to the person or any other person.” (Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 Clause 78 Management of risk of fall)

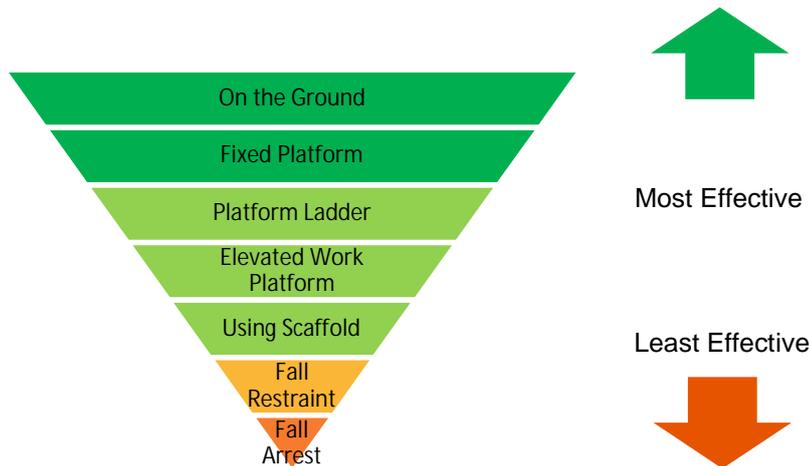
At Mt Arthur Coal no person shall be permitted to work at heights where that person could be exposed to the possibility of a fall from one level to another that is reasonably likely to cause injury to the person or any other person.

Including:

- in or on an elevated workplace from which a person could fall; or
- in the vicinity of an opening through which a person could fall; or
- in the vicinity of an edge over which a person could fall; or
- on a surface through which a person could fall; or
- in any other place from which a person could fall.

A systematic approach to control measures shall be adopted that follows the Work at Height Hierarchy of Controls.

Work at Height Hierarchy of Controls:



When a work at heights permit is required, the work at heights Permit Authoriser must be satisfied that the highest practicable level of control is applied during the planning stages of work (As per *MAC-STE-FRM-182 Working at Height Permit*)

1. Eliminate the risk of a fall and dropped objects:

- Carry out work that involves the risk of a fall on the ground.
- Remove or secure all loose objects that are located at height regardless of whether they are used or created during the work or have been stored or left behind prior to the work as a result of poor workplace housekeeping.
- Design new plant and equipment to eliminate the need to work at height where possible.

2. Prevent the fall by working on solid construction:

- Work from a permanent structure that has edge protection and fit for purpose access and egress from which there is no risk of a fall from one level to another.
- E.g. Permanent Platform walkways and ladders designed as per the requirements of AS1657 - Fixed Platforms, Walkways, Stairways and Ladders - Design, Construction and Installation. Refer to *MAC-ENG-STD-003 ACCESS SYSTEMS* for further guidance.

3. Minimise the risk of a fall by providing and maintaining a safe system of work:

- Provide a fall prevention device such as Work at Height “WAH” Bars, Temporary Handrails, and scaffolding or elevated work platform.
- Provide a work positioning system such as personal fall restraint.

- Provide a fall-arrest system that includes personal fall arrestors and anchor points.

Control measures are necessary where there is a risk of injury irrespective of potential fall height.

Before performing any working at heights activities a risk assessment must be completed. A JHA must be completed as per the requirements of *MAC-STE-PRO-024 60 Seconds 4 Safety & JHA Procedure*, or where a permit is required.

The JHA shall address as a minimum:

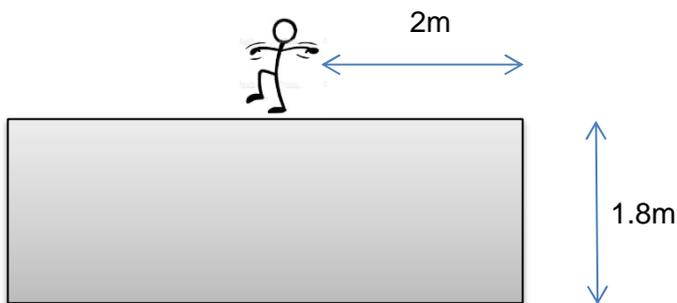
- Identify any hazard that exposes a person to the potential to falling while at the workplace or using any means of access to, and egress from the work place.
- Consideration of the potential for objects to fall.
- Consider and implement the means by which the hazard may be eliminated or controlled.
- The selection and pre-use inspections of all working at Heights equipment.

Fall Protection

The risk of a fall must be assessed in all situations and a safe system of work implemented.

As a minimum standard for protection is if a person is located at any level within 2m of an edge where there is any potential to fall a distance of 1.8m or more to another level a system of fall protection **MUST** be utilised.

This means that if a person is working at any height that is greater than 1.8m and within 2m of an edge they must be working behind guardrails, from an EWP, or utilising fall restraint or fall arrest.



8.6 Working near Openings, Holes and Penetrations

When persons are working within the vicinity of an opening in a floor, walkway or excavation where there is a risk of injury to personnel from a fall, a safe system of work shall be adopted in accordance with the hierarchy of controls.

Open sides of all floors, rooves, stairwells, light wells, lift shafts and any place from which a person or object could fall shall be securely covered with rigid material or provided with guard rails. Where guard rails are fitted they must be in compliance with *MAC-ENG-STD-003 Access Systems*

Where this is not practical, danger tape is to be erected and a person is to be in attendance of the open area preventing unauthorised access. Where required this person must utilising effective fall protection.

9.10 Temporary Edge Protection

Compliant handrail tube 1200mm and 2000mm, horizontal webbing and a range of scaffolding clamps can be utilised to provide temporary edge protection when removing handrails, ladders, floors, and exposing edges or until a permanent repair can be carried out.

At a minimum when scaffolding or handrail tube is used to provide temporary edge protection a top rail, mid rail and toe board must be used. The installation of the scaffolding edge protection must be compliant to AS4994.

A compliant installation would typically consist of a top rail at 900mm, mid rail at 450mm and a toe board of at least 200mm.

When installing edge protection, a minimum of Work at Heights training is required.



Document Reference - MAC-STE-STD-155