

The following Minimum Standard is applicable on all projects

Introduction

Stairways are in constant use as a main walkway and usually form the main access and emergency escape route(s). Protection against falls of persons & materials from stairways and landings must be maintained throughout all stages of the construction process.

Planning

The use of proprietary solutions must be considered in the planning of protection to stairs landings and corridors. These can include staircase shutters complete with edge protection e.g. Stairmaster or edge protection solutions which bolt or clamp to the staircase e.g. Combisafe, Easiedge, MK Stair Safety Systems or similar.

Stairways must not be used until the edge protection to landings and staircases is installed and handed over.

Where newly constructed staircases are installed that do not require edge protection, then the staircase must have a minimum of one handrail fixed to the stair wall.

All components used must be of sufficient structural strength (and may need to be designed).

Screw jacks and other components reliant solely upon friction fittings are NOT to be used.

No scaffold tubes should protrude into the stairway. Exposed tube ends must be fitted with plastic cap ends. Scaffold fittings and protruding bolts are to be protected by plastic covers.

Consideration must be given during the design process for the provision of pre-drilled/fixed sockets/cleats which minimise the need to work at height when installing the edge protection. Temporary edge protection should be located whenever practicable in such a position so that the permanent balustrades can be fitted from a place of safety, after which the temporary edge protection can then be safely removed.



Plastic covers to tube and fitting components (Armadillo caps, end and thread caps etc.) available from The Blinking Lamp Company
Tel: 01179 828180

In addition to controls to restrict access to height externally (scaffold stairs etc.) at the end of the work shift, consideration must be given to securing access to height internally. This can be achieved by fencing, gates or plywood screens.

Competence/Training

Scaffold tube and fitting stairway edge protection must be installed by CISRS qualified scaffolders. Proprietary systems must be installed by personnel formally trained in the system to be used.

Further Guidance/Reference

CITB GE 700 – BS EN 13374

Suppliers of proprietary solutions include: -

- Combi-safe – Tel: 01604 660600
- Easi-edge – Tel: 01777 870901
- Stairmaster – Tel: 01733 895911
- MK Engineering Services – Tel: 07850 078819

PROTECTION OF STAIRWAYS, LANDINGS & CORRIDORS CHECKLIST

Project:

Contract No:

Date:

Name of Person Undertaking check or safety monitoring:

Check		Complete	
1.	Is the permanent stairway and landing protection programmed for installation at the earliest opportunity? (i.e. pre-fitted to stairs)	✓	✗
2.	Will access be controlled to areas beneath the installation/striking of works?	✓	✗
3.	Are personnel installing the edge protection protected against risk of falls?	✓	✗
4.	Will the protection remain in place until the permanent protection is installed?	✓	✗
5.	Is the top edge of the protection high enough to prevent a person falling?	✓	✗
6.	Does the fixing detail require design input?	✓	✗
7.	Are the operatives installing the system competent?	✓	✗
8.	Is there a process for the completed stairway protection to be handed over/accepted?	✓	✗
9.	Is there a monitoring regime to verify that the protection remains in good order?	✓	✗
10.	Will the stairway be adequately lit & is emergency lighting required?	✓	✗
11.	Have trip hazards been identified and addressed? e.g. Screed rebate at landing levels, etc	✓	✗
12.	Have sharp edges and protrusions (scaffold fittings) been protected?	✓	✗
13.	Have other work operations to be undertaken within the stairway been considered?	✓	✗
14.	If the stairway is part of an emergency exit route to be used by others (e.g. school students or client staff). Are emergency access provisions adequate?	✓	✗
15.	Do the landings have toe-boards fitted?	✓	✗

Signature

Date