

## **APPENDIX 2f - EIS SPECIFICATION FOR WORKSTREAM 6 - FALL PROTECTION TESTING AND INSPECTION**

### **Workstream 6 - Fall Protection Testing and Inspection**

#### **References:**

Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER)  
The Work at Height Regulations (WAHR)  
The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (MHSWR)

#### **Purpose**

The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998 require the “Duty Holder” to ensure that any work equipment provided is;

1. Suitable for use, and for the purpose and conditions in which it is used
2. Maintained in a safe condition for use so that peoples Health and Safety is not at risk; and
3. Inspected in certain circumstances to ensure that it is, and continues to be safe for use.

The Working at Height Regulations (WAHR 2005) state that ‘suitable and sufficient measures are provided to prevent, so far as is reasonably practicable, any person falling a distance liable to cause personal injury’.

And that

‘Every employer shall ensure that, where the safety of work equipment depends on how it is installed or assembled, it is not used after installation or assembly in any position unless it has been inspected in that position.’

#### **Scope**

- 1.1. The workstream covers all fall protection equipment and Collective protective systems covered under the Working at height regulations 2005 & The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998
- 1.2. Types of equipment included but not limited to:
- 1.3. Handrail, Guardrail Balustrade & barrier inspection
- 1.4. Ladders, steps & walkways
- 1.5. Cable based system and inspection
- 1.6. Roof safety wire test and inspection
- 1.7. Abseil anchor and Eyebolt testing and inspection
- 1.8. Rail based system and testing.
- 1.9. Mansafe system testing-Latchways Mansafe test and inspection
- 1.10. Single point anchors

#### **Inspection and testing of Handrail, Guardrail Balustrade & barriers**



It is recommended that collective protection systems should be tested and inspected by a competent person at frequencies not exceeding 12 months

All Testing, inspection and certification of collective protection systems are to be carried out in accordance with:

- a) British Standards; BS EN 795.
- b) BS 6180:2011. Barriers in and about buildings. Code of practice

### **Inspection of fall protection systems**

For Collective protection systems The Working at Height Regulations (WAHR) 2005 & The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998 both state that such equipment should be inspected & maintained by a competent person at a frequency not exceeding 12 months.

All Testing, inspection and certification of fall protection systems are to be carried out in accordance with current British Standards; BS EN 795 & BS EN 7883.

#### **1.1. Inspection of Ladders, steps & walkways should be inspected in accordance with:**

- a) British standard BS4211
- b) BS 5395-3:1985 – Code of Practice for the design of industrial type stairs, permanent ladders and walkways.
- c) BS EN 14122 – Safety of machinery. Permanent means of access to machinery. Working platforms and walkways.
- d) BS 1129 Specification for portable timber ladders, steps, trestles and lightweight stagings  
British Standards Institution
- e) BS 2037 Specification for portable aluminum ladders, steps, trestles and lightweight stagings  
British Standards Institution
- f) BS EN 131 Ladders (Specification for terms, types, functional sizes; Specification for requirements, testing, marking; User instructions; Single or multiple hinge-joint ladders)  
British Standards Institution

#### **Particulars to be included in a report of inspection**

- a) The name and address of the person for whom the inspection was carried out.
- b) The location of the work equipment inspected.
- c) A description of the work equipment inspected.
- d) The date and time of the inspection.
- e) Details of any matter identified that could give rise to a risk to the health or safety of any person.
- f) Details of any action taken as a result of any matter identified in paragraph 5 above.
- g) Details of any further action considered necessary.
- h) The name and position of the person making the report.

#### **Definitions:**

“access” and “egress” include ascent and descent

“ladder” includes a fixed ladder and a stepladder

“line” includes rope, chain or webbing

“Personal fall protection system” means a) a fall prevention, work restraint, work positioning, fall arrest or rescue system other than a system which in the only safeguards are collective safeguards; or b) rope access and positioning techniques

**Collective protection** methods (sometimes referred to as 'passive') involve the use of equipment in a way that removes the risk of an individual falling from height, and do not rely on personal protection equipment (PPE) to ensure safety throughout the system-of-work process

“Suitable” means suitable in any respect which it is reasonably foreseeable will affect the safety of any person



**“working at height”** means a) work in a place, including a place at or below ground level; b) obtaining access to or egress from such place while at work, except by a staircase in a permanent workplace, where if measures required by WAHR were not taken, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury

**“work equipment”** means any machinery, appliance, apparatus, tool or installation for use at work (whether exclusively or not) and includes anything to which regulation 8 and Schedules 2 to 6 apply

**“working platform”** a) means any platform used as a place of work or as a means of access to or egress from a place of work; b) includes any scaffold, suspended scaffold, cradle, mobile platform, trestle, gangway, gantry and stairway which is so used

**“inspection”** means examination in accordance with the examination scheme, carried out during installation, pre-use checks, interim inspections, periodic inspections and supplementary inspections, as appropriate, for safety purposes

*NOTE 1 An inspection could include tests, as appropriate.*

*NOTE 2 Where anchor systems come under the jurisdiction of LOLER [3], periodic inspections are known as thorough examinations.*

**“Inspector”** means competent person carrying out the inspection in accordance with the examination scheme, and recommendations and instructions issued by the manufacturer applicable to the relevant PFPS, including the anchor system and PFPE

*NOTE 1 An inspector might need to be trained by the manufacturer or their authorized representative on specific PFPE or other equipment, e.g. due to its complexity or innovation, or where safety critical knowledge is needed in*

*the dismantling, reassembly or assessment of the PFPE or other equipment, and might need to have that training updated due to modifications and upgrades.*

*NOTE 2 An inspector could be competent to carry out inspections on one particular model of PFPE or other equipment or could be competent to inspect several models*