MINIMUM STANDARD
Low Level Access Systems

SHEMS-MST-DPS-0009

The following Minimum Standard is applicable on all projects

Introduction
When planning work at height, the hierarchy of controls must be applied in accordance with SHEMS-STD-GR-049 Work at Height Standard.

The SafeStand low level access system is the preferred option for low level access equipment. This system has proved to be robust, effective, and versatile and when used as per the manufacturer's instructions, it is recognised as a safe and effective solution.

Use of the SafeStand Low Level Access System

Ensure that when used any potential internal falls are protected as follows:

- Proprietary Internal handrails are installed
- Alternative handrails are fitted to steelwork or columns (where applicable)
- The system is erected to both sides of the element to be built
- Soft landing system is installed (Proprietary Soft Landing Systems Minimum Standard reference SHEMS-MST-DPS-0017)

Fig 1: SafeStand access system

Planning
A risk assessment must be undertaken in order to identify the site specific hazards (Risk and Impact Assessment Standard SHEMS-STD-GR-014). A manual handling assessment must be undertaken for the installation of the access system. Ground conditions must be prepared as required and if used externally, the ground may require levelling and compacting. Block and beam floors may need to be boarded in order to eliminate point loading.
The safe working load must be sufficient for the load being applied (Temporary Works Standard SHEMS-STD-GR-048).

Procurement
SafeStand is the preferred low level access solution. Proposals to use any alternative system are to be approved by your local SHE Manager/Advisor.
The SafeStand system must be delivered to site as a complete access equipment package which includes: base frames, boards, edge protection, toe boards, braces, struts and access stairs/ladders.

Competence/Training
All persons erecting the access system must be trained in the erection of the system being used via the manufacturer or approved supplier.

Safe Use of SafeStand access system

Brick guards fitted where appropriate, no overloading

Anti-flip brackets used to eliminate the overlapping of boards which prevents trip hazard

Base frames set up at specified centres (No more than 1.2m apart)

Diagonal bracing and all other components installed in accordance with manufactures instructions

Edge protection to be inserted when platform is used to remove risk of falls

Access Gates are to be used at your designated points of access

Safe Stand® Staircase to be used as the 1st choice for access

Solid level base that is capable of taking the load to be imposed

Fig 2 SafeStand system set at 2.2M platform height with stair access

Documentation

A prior to first use inspection is required to be carried out by a competent person trained in the system. The inspection will be recorded in writing.
Subsequent inspections are to be carried out and recorded every 7 days, or after any major alteration or adverse weather after any alterations (not Major), adverse weather conditions or anything that may have affected the stability of the low level access system i.e. contact with moving plant etc.

Further Guidance/Reference

Manufacturer's erection/installation instructions
SafeSstand 020 8795 3579 www.safestand.co.uk

LOW LEVEL ACCESS SOLUTION: INSTALLATION & USE CHECKLIST

Project:

Contract No: Date:

Name of Person Undertaking check or SHE monitoring:

	Check	Complete	
1.	Has the Safestand system been selected?	✓	×
2.	If not, has the alternative been discussed with your SHE Manager?	✓	×
3.	Is the equipment selection based on a Risk Assessment?	✓	×
4.	Has the ground been prepared to facilitate the use of the access system (levelled, compacted, cleared of obstructions etc.)?	✓	×
5.	Is the SWL of the access system suitable for the load to be imposed?	✓	×
6.	Do block and beam floors need boarding in order to avoid point loads?	✓	×
7.	Have the operatives erecting the system been trained in that system?	✓	×
8.	Has a Manual Handling Assessment been undertaken for the erection of the system?	✓	×
9.	If the system is to be used by Bricklayers, are controls in place to prevent/mitigate falls over the top of the wall being built, i.e.: ▪ Proprietary Internal handrails fitted ▪ Alternative handrails fitted to steelwork or columns ▪ System erected both sides of wall to be built ▪ Soft landing system installed (see separate guidelines)	✓	×
10.	Are scaffold boards/working platforms supported at correct centres as specified by the manufacturers' instructions?	✓	×
11.	Are toe boards fitted?	✓	×
12.	Are brick guards required/fitted?	✓	×
13.	Has a designated staircase or ladder been provided and secured at each ladder access point?	✓	×
14.	Are anti-flip brackets being used to avoid lapped boards on platform?	✓	×
15.	Has there been an inspection prior to first use inspection?	✓	×
16.	Is there a regime for on-going inspection/monitoring?	✓	×
17.	Has the Temporary Works Standard been implemented where required?	✓	×

Signature …….

Date …….