

Work at Height Hazards

Hazards associated with work at height include:

Ladders

- Damaged or worn rungs, uprights and feet
 - Uneven or unstable ground surfaces
 - Heavy or bulky loads
 - Over-reaching
 - Standing on the top rungs of the ladder
-

Scaffolding

- Poor design and construction
 - Inadequate foundations
 - Lack of maintenance
 - Overloading
 - Poor access and exit points
 - Poor housekeeping
 - Falling objects
-

MEWPs (Mobile Elevated Work Platforms)

- Overturning
 - Collapse
 - Becoming trapped between platform and fixed structure
 - Contact with overhead lines
-

General

- Falls from unprotected heights (roofs, towers, high trailers, etc.)
 - Lack of training and awareness
 - Lack of inspection and maintenance of equipment
 - Unsuitable or damaged equipment
 - Falling objects
 - All outdoor work at height hazards are greatly increased in bad weather
-

Work at height can cause

- Serious injury and possibly death
- Broken limbs
- Back and neck injuries
- Brain injuries
- Damage to property and equipment