

HEIGHT SAFETY LEGISLATIVE REFERENCES

INSPECTION

Occupational Safety & Health Regulations 1996 - 2011 3.51. Inspection of fall injury prevention systems

A person who, at a workplace, is an employer, the main contractor, a self-employed person or the person having control of the workplace must ensure, in relation to each fall injury prevention system provided at the workplace that —

(a) each component of the system and its means of attachment to an anchorage is inspected by a competent person —

(i) after it is installed but before it is used; and

(ii) at regular intervals; and

(iii) immediately after it has operated or should have operated in relation to a person's free fall at the workplace; and

(b) any component of the system or its means of attachment to an anchorage that, on an inspection referred to in paragraph (a), shows wear or weakness is withdrawn from use until it is replaced with a properly functioning component.



Occupational Safety & Health Regulations 1996 - 2011 3.53. Inspection of anchorages

A person who, at a workplace, is an employer, the main contractor, a self-employed person or the person having control of the workplace must ensure —

(a) that an anchorage at the workplace is inspected by a competent person and —

(i) in the case of an anchorage that is permanently fixed and in regular use, inspected at intervals not greater than 6 months; and

(ii) in the case of an anchorage that is permanently fixed but not in regular use, inspected before it is used;

AS/NZS 1891.4- 2009 Industrial Fall Arrest Systems and Devices – Selection, Use and Maintenance.

3.1.2 Single point anchorages suitable for direct connection of personal fall-arrest equipment

(g) Where used, drilled-in anchorages such as friction and glued-in anchorages shall be placed so that the shear load is at least twice the tension load. For collared eye-bolts this translates to a pull at an angle not exceeding 20° to the surface in which the bolt is installed.

Every friction and glued-in anchorage shall be proof loaded to 50% of the design ultimate strength specified in Table 3.1 in accordance with manufacturer's instructions after installation and prior to its initial use. The proof load shall be applied as an axial pull-out force. Proof loading to 50% of design load shall also be carried out as part of subsequent periodic inspections.

AS/NZS 1891.4- 2009 Industrial Fall Arrest Systems and Devices – Selection, Use and Maintenance.

9.3.3 Anchorages

Anchorages shall be visually inspected for signs of deterioration which might make them unserviceable, together with any other requirements contained in manufacturers' instructions.

The parent structure shall also be visually inspected for modifications or deterioration which might lead to loss of anchorage strength.

Drilled-in anchorages such as friction or glued-in anchorages shall be proof tested in accordance with Clause 3.1.2(g) as part of each inspection.



To summarize inspection requirements:

- Harnesses, Lanyards and associated equipment are required to be inspected every 6 months as per OSH Reg 3.51.
- Structurally fixed anchors, static lines and ladder safety systems (eg: anchors bolted to structural steel, anchor fixed to purlins, anchors fixed to timber trusses) are required to be inspected every 6 months as per OSH Reg 3.53.
- Drilled-in or friction anchorages (masonry mounted anchorages eg: chemset anchors set into concrete or 'dyna-bolt' style anchors fixed to concrete) require visual inspection every 6 months (as per OSH Reg 3.53). Additionally, AS/NZS 1891.4 Section 9.3.3 requires that masonry anchors be load tested every 12 months.

HEIGHT SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Occupational Safety & Health Regulations 1996 - 2011

3.55. Edges of scaffolds, slabs etc.



(1) A person who at a workplace, is an employer, the main contractor, a self-employed person or a person having control of the workplace must ensure that edge protection that complies with subregulation (5) is provided and kept in place whenever there is a risk that a person could fall 2 or more metres from the edge of —

- a scaffold, fixed stair, landing or suspended slab at the workplace; or
- formwork or falsework at the workplace.

(2) A person who, at a workplace, is an employer, the main contractor, a self-employed person or a person having control of the workplace must ensure that either —

- edge protection that complies with subregulation (5) is provided and kept in place whenever there is a risk that a person could fall 3 or more metres from an edge at the workplace other than an edge referred to in subregulation (1); or
- a fall injury prevention system is provided and in operation whenever there is a risk that a person could fall 3 or more metres from an edge at the workplace other than an edge referred to in subregulation (1).



Occupational Safety & Health Regulations 1996 - 2011

3.57. Working on or from brittle or fragile roofing

(1) A person who, at a workplace, is an employer, the main contractor, a self-employed person or a person having control of the workplace must ensure that if a person is required to work on or from a roof at the workplace where brittle or fragile material forms the whole or any part of the roof then —

(a) the person to work on or from the roof is informed that the roof is wholly or in part brittle or fragile, as is relevant to the case; and

(b) the person to work on or from the roof is provided with a safe working platform and safe access way; and

(c) the person to work on or from the roof is trained and instructed on —

(i) the precautions to be taken; and

(ii) how and where to access the roof; and

(iii) how and where to gain access to the working platform or access way referred to in

paragraph (b); and

(d) to the extent practicable, a warning notice bearing the words “DANGER — FRAGILE ROOFING — USE WORKING PLATFORM” is placed at each place where a person who is to work on or from the roof is to access the roof.



To summarize height safety requirements:

- A system to prevent a person from falling from a roof (or other structure not mentioned in subregulation 1) is required if a person can fall 3 mtrs or more from an edge at the work place. This may include guardrails, anchor points, scaffolding and harnesses.
- Persons must be informed of fragile areas in a roof and must not be allowed to fall through the fragile areas.

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