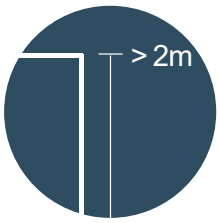
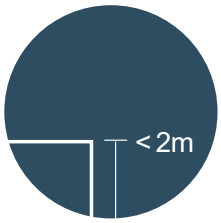
Work at Height

Work at height is any work where someone or something can fall from one level to another.

Primary risks that may be encountered:



Falling greater than 2m



Falling less than 2m

Being struck by a falling object

Additional hazards may be involved in work at height, these could include mobile or fixed plant, scaffolding etc. These additional hazards and risks must be identified and controlled during planning as per FPA's HSE Management System.

Planning

Prior to commencing electrical work, the following must be completed:

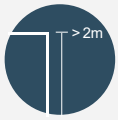
- Determine whether the need to work at height can be eliminated e.g. by working from the ground or a solid construction
- Select the highest level control for accessing and performing the work from the table below
- Determine if a work at height permit is required i.e. harness or roof access
- Confirm emergency response procedures are applicable to the risks
- Determine if a checklist is required i.e. industrial rope access systems
- Ensure the contractor is pre-qualified and review the SWMS against any site-specific requirements

Control Level	Control Type	Conditions
Eliminate	• Work from the ground • Work from solid construction	Nil
Passive fall prevention device	• Temporary edge protection • Scaffold • Elevated work platform • Building maintenance unit • Penetration cover • Temporary void system • Lift cover	Nil
Work positioning system	• Travel restraint systems • Industrial rope access systems	• Permit to work required if primary control above 2m • Industrial Rope Access Systems Checklist
	• Certified height access system	Roof Access Permit (Operational sites only)
Fall arrest system	• Safety harness systems: Harness Permit (Dvlpmt) or Roof Access Permit (Ops)	Permit to work required if primary control above 2m
Ladders	• Work from platforms (max 900mm) • Platform ladders (max 1800mm)	Must not be used as a control for works above 2m

Work at Height

Control

The following control measures must be implemented when there is the potential of the risk being encountered. Additional controls must be documented in the SWMS.



Falling greater than 2m

- Eliminate the risk or control with a passive fall prevention device
- Ensure the selected control has been implemented in accordance with the required specifications
- Ensure safe access and egress to workplace
- If it is not reasonably practicable to eliminate the risk or apply a passive fall prevention device, a work positioning system or fall arrest system may be used. An FPA Harness Permit (Development) or Roof Access Permit (Operations) must be obtained and approved
- Complete an Industrial Rope Access Systems Checklist (if suspended from ropes when undertaking work)

Falling less than 2m

- Eliminate the risk by working from the ground or from a solid construction
- Select the highest level control to prevent the fall from height
- Ensure the selected control has been implemented in accordance with the required specifications
- Ensure safe access and egress to workplace
- Must be protected by Residual Current Devices (RCDs)

Being struck by a falling object

- Assess the task and work environment to identify where an object may fall and strike a person below
- Establish a physical control, this may include:
  - temporary edge protection system that incorporates mesh infill panels and kickboards
  - perimeter safety screens
  - rated overhead protection gantries
  - physical exclusion zones signage (e.g. Danger - Workers Above) to prevent persons entering the area
- Verbally communicate the location and extent of exclusion zone to all on-site personnel

Monitoring

Work at height shall be monitored, checking the effectiveness of the controls measures identified to prevent the realisation of the risks.

Ensure the high-risk work inspection is recorded in Enablon and equipment inspections undertaken by the responsible person.