

NMT Crane Hire Limited Working at Height Policy

1. Policy Statement

NMT Crane hire Limited is committed to ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of all its employees, contractors, and visitors. This policy outlines the company's approach to managing work at height to prevent accidents and injuries. It is the responsibility of the company, managers, supervisors, and employees to comply with all relevant health and safety legislation and to minimize risks associated with working at height.

2. Purpose

This policy is designed to ensure that:

- Work at height is planned, risk-assessed, and conducted safely.
- Employees and contractors are protected from the risks associated with working at height.
- Proper equipment, training, and supervision are provided to mitigate any risks.

3. Scope

This policy applies to all employees, contractors, and temporary workers of NMT Crane Hire Limited who perform work at height or oversee the planning and management of such activities.

4. Legal Requirements

This policy is based on the following UK regulations and guidelines:

- The Work at Height Regulations 2005 (WAHR)
- The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974
- Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER)
- Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations 1992
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations 1998 (LOLER)

Under the Work at Height Regulations 2005, employers are required to:

- Ensure that work at height is properly planned, supervised, and carried out.
- Use suitable equipment for working at height.
- Ensure that workers are adequately trained and competent.
- Regularly inspect equipment used for working at height.

5. Responsibilities

5.1 Employer Responsibilities

- Ensure compliance with the Work at Height Regulations and this policy.
- Provide appropriate training for employees working at height.
- Ensure that all equipment used is safe, properly maintained, and suitable for its purpose.
- Conduct risk assessments before any work at height is undertaken.
- Monitor the health and safety of workers and provide adequate supervision.

5.2 Manager/Supervisor Responsibilities

- Ensure that risk assessments are conducted and that safe systems of work are implemented.
- Ensure that all equipment is checked and maintained.
- Provide supervision and monitor the performance of workers at height.
- Ensure workers have the necessary protective equipment and are trained.
- Ensure that workers are made aware of the risks associated with working at height and the precautions they should take.

5.3 Worker Responsibilities

- Follow all safe working procedures and use the correct equipment.
- Attend training and follow all instructions from supervisors.
- Report any unsafe conditions or concerns about the equipment to their manager immediately.
- Ensure they are fit to work at height and use fall protection or personal protective equipment (PPE) where necessary.

6. Risk Assessment and Planning

Before starting work at height, a Risk Assessment must be carried out by a competent person. This assessment should identify the hazards, assess the risks, and implement control measures to eliminate or minimize them. Key considerations should include:

- The type of work being undertaken.
- The height at which the work will be performed.
- The type of equipment required (e.g., ladders, scaffolding, MEWPs).
- Weather conditions (e.g., wind, rain).
- The duration of the work.
- The experience and competence of workers.

7. Equipment for Working at Height

Only equipment that is suitable for the task and regularly maintained should be used. This includes:

- **Ladders and stepladders:** Should be used only for short-duration tasks and where there is no other safer alternative.
- **Scaffolding:** Must be erected, altered, and dismantled by competent personnel.
- **Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs):** Should only be used by trained operators.
- **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** Must include fall arrest systems, harnesses, helmets, and other appropriate safety gear.
- **Edge Protection:** Must be used when working near the edge of a building or structure.

All equipment should be regularly inspected and maintained, and any damaged equipment must be immediately removed from service.

8. Training and Competence

All employees who work at height must receive appropriate training, including:

- **General Working at Height Training:** Covering the basics of working at height safely, equipment use, and risk management.
- **Specific Equipment Training:** Training on the safe use of any equipment such as ladders, scaffolding, or MEWPs.
- **Rescue Training:** Employees must be trained in emergency procedures, including rescue techniques if necessary.

Training records will be maintained and updated regularly.

9. Supervision and Monitoring

- Supervisors will monitor the progress of work at height to ensure safe working practices are being followed.
- Random inspections may be carried out to ensure compliance with this policy.
- Regular reviews of work at height activities will be conducted to identify areas for improvement.

10. Emergency Procedures and Rescue Plans

In the event of an accident or emergency while working at height, a rescue plan must be in place. All workers must be trained in how to react in an emergency situation, including:

- Raising the alarm.
- Evacuating the area safely.
- Administering first aid (where applicable).

Specific rescue equipment, such as fall arrest devices, must be readily available and regularly inspected.

11. Health and Safety Inspections

Routine inspections of work at height equipment and procedures will be conducted at regular intervals to ensure compliance with safety standards. Additionally, workers should immediately report any faulty equipment or unsafe working conditions.

12. Review and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed at regular intervals and after any significant incidents or changes to legislation. A review will ensure that the working practices remain safe and compliant with relevant regulations.

13. Conclusion

By implementing this policy, NMT Cranes aims to provide a safe working environment for employees and reduce the risks associated with working at height. It is essential that all workers adhere to the safety guidelines and procedures outlined in this document to prevent accidents and injuries.

14. Policy Acknowledgement

I, the undersigned, acknowledge that I have read and understood the Working at Height Policy and agree to comply with its requirements.

Signed: *G White*

Director on behalf of NMT Crane Hire Ltd.

Date Approved:
09.12.2024

Next Review Date:
09.12.2025