



Safe Work at Height

Safety Alert

The Facts

Following an HSE reported prosecution of unsafe work at height in a UK port (workers using a raised pallet on a forklift as a work platform) and another completely unrelated unsafe act / condition seen on a vessel visiting one of our Scottish ports (ships crew using the vessel gantry as a work platform from vessel crane) it has become prevalent to share these incidents throughout the business.

The firm who's employees were working at height from a raised pallet were fined for leaving workers at risk by failing to plan and supervise the work at height activity. (see inset picture above)

The vessel performing maintenance from their suspended gangway in the Scottish Port had this activity stopped and further action consisted of robust action by our marine colleagues resulting in Near Miss Reporting to both the MCA & MAIB. All over the side work was stopped whilst in port.

The Solution

Working at height is a particularly high risk activity and so requires the following to be in place:

- All work at height should be assessed, planned and Supervised by competent personnel.
- The hierarchy of control should be implemented at all opportunities and working at height avoided where possible.
- The Working at Height Planning Checklist should be used for all work that involves the activity of work at height.
- Safe access and egress must be maintained throughout the entire activity.
- All equipment used to work from (including ladders, platforms, scaffoldings and MEWPS) should be inspected by a competent person and fit for purpose.
- Personal fall protection (or restraint) must be certified, correctly worn / installed with a suitable rescue plan developed as part of the safe system of work.

All employees are reminded of their "Stop the Job" authority and are encouraged to make safe any abnormal condition or act they find throughout any activity.

Minimum briefing to be ticked:

Management	✓	Supervisors	✓
Operations	✓	Engineering	✓
Admin		Marine	✓
All Employees	✓	Noticeboards	✓

Issued on behalf of Forth Ports Limited by:

Health, Safety & Environment Department

**SAFETY
FIRST**

* Please remove from notice board after 1 month

