

Explain safe work practices for working at heights

Level 3

Credits 3

Purpose People credited with this unit standard are able to explain the legislative requirements associated with working at heights, and the systems suitable for working at heights.

Subfield Occupational Health and Safety

Domain Occupational Health and Safety Practice

Status Registered

Status date 25 May 2007

Date version published 25 May 2007

Planned review date 31 December 2012

Entry information Open.

Accreditation Evaluation of documentation by NZQA and industry.

Standard setting body (SSB) New Zealand Industry Training Organisation – Industrial Health and Safety Advisory Group

Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP) reference 0171

This AMAP can be accessed at <http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/search/index.do>.

Special notes

Definitions

Organisational requirements refer to instructions to staff on policy and procedures which are documented in memo or manual format and are available in the workplace. These requirements may include but are not limited to – site specific requirements, company quality management requirements, approved codes of practice and guidelines, and legislative requirements.

Legislative requirements include but are not limited to compliance with the – Health and Safety in Employment (HSE) Act 1992 and Health and Safety in Employment (HSE) Regulations 1995, and their subsequent amendments.

Working at heights includes but is not limited to – work carried out where falls of three metres or more may occur, plant and building maintenance, plant inspections, scaffolding work, working off platforms, and some areas of demolition.

Access systems include but are not limited to – permanently fixed access and platforms, temporary non-fixed access and platforms.

Fall arrest systems include but are not limited to – safety belts and harnesses, and safety nets.

Hazard identification and control includes but is not limited to – hazard isolation, elimination, and reduction; accidents and incidents recording and notification.

Temporary non-fixed access includes but is not limited to ladders.

Elements and performance criteria

Element 1

Explain the legislative requirements associated with working at heights.

Performance criteria

- 1.1 Legislative requirements stated in the HSE Act and its subsequent amendments are explained in terms of fall arrest, height work, and associated safety activities.
- Range requirements include but are not limited to – employers', employees', and principals' duties; hazard identification and control; regulations involved when working above three metres; safety equipment manufacturers' and suppliers' duties; training and supervision obligations.
- 1.2 Legislative requirements connected with standards and codes of practice are explained in terms of fall arrest, height work, and associated safety activities.
- Range requirements include but are not limited to – design, general safety, permanently fixed access and platforms, temporary non-fixed access and platforms, safety belts and harnesses, safety nets.
- 1.3 Hazard factors are identified in terms of each type of height work and type of fall arrest system to identify the controls required for health and safety compliance.
- Range factors include but are not limited to – weather conditions, unguarded openings and building perimeters, ill-considered designs, no means of prevention from or arresting a fall, inadequate anchorage points, lack of guard rails, lack of knowledge and experience, lack of safety and protective clothing.

Element 2

Explain the systems suitable for working at heights.

Performance criteria

- 2.1 Different types of access systems are identified.
- Range permanent fixed access and platforms, temporary non-fixed access and platforms, scaffolding, mechanical plant for the support of personnel.
- 2.2 The applications of safety nets are explained in terms of minimising risks resulting from falls.
- Range secondary protection for personnel, suitability for use, protection of other personnel/public.
- 2.3 Different types of safety belts and harnesses are explained in terms of their applications to the height work to be undertaken.
- Range types include but are not limited to – safety belts, sit-harnesses, line person belts, full body harnesses.

Please note

Providers must be accredited by NZQA, or an inter-institutional body with delegated authority for quality assurance, before they can report credits from assessment against unit standards or deliver courses of study leading to that assessment.

Industry Training Organisations must be accredited by NZQA before they can register credits from assessment against unit standards.

Accredited providers and Industry Training Organisations assessing against unit standards must engage with the moderation system that applies to those standards.

Accreditation requirements and an outline of the moderation system that applies to this standard are outlined in the Accreditation and Moderation Action Plan (AMAP). The AMAP also includes useful information about special requirements for organisations wishing to develop education and training programmes, such as minimum qualifications for tutors and assessors, and special resource requirements.

Comments on this unit standard

Please contact the New Zealand Industry Training Organisation office@nzito.co.nz if you wish to suggest changes to the content of this unit standard.