

PC2 10 Work safely at height (PSSL) Unit 4.1.6

This unit is a tailored version of unit 4.1.6 from the Port Operations suite of standards produced by Port Skills and Safety.

(SQA Unit Code FG82 04)

What this unit is about

This unit is about working safely at heights, inside or when working outside. It includes assessing the risks involved, taking all suitable precautions and following the correct procedures. This unit is for you if you have completed the necessary training and hold the appropriate licenses to operate access equipment.

For the purposes of this unit a height is defined as a place from which a person could be injured by falling, regardless of whether it is above, at or below ground level.

Who this unit is for

This unit applies to individuals who work at heights, including those working for example on gantries, ladders or similar structure from where there is a danger of falling.

Outcomes of effective performance – what you must do

1. You undertake the work according to an agreed plan
2. You assess correctly the risks associated with the task to be undertaken, taking into account the potential dangers of falling, of dropping tools and debris, the stability of ladders, the working area, any overhead cables and equipment, and other people in the vicinity
3. You take proper precautions to address all risks identified
4. You wear suitable personal protection equipment correctly, including, where relevant a full body harness, ensuring that these are in good condition and functioning properly
5. You ensure that safety barriers are in-place around the working area
6. You obtain a permit to work, where required, before working at heights
7. You confirm that fall protection equipment is maintained and used properly
8. You undertake all required pre-use checks, including ensuring that height access equipment is free from obvious defects before use
9. You confirm that height access equipment is deployed, secured before operations and used correctly
10. You maintain frequent communication with an identified colleague
11. Work areas are left clean, tidy and free of obstructions
12. You use and store all height access and personal protective equipment correctly

Behaviours which underpin effective performance – how you must do it

1. Your personal activities and attitude in the workplace are designed to maintain the health and safety of yourself and others around you at all times

Knowledge and understanding – what you must know

General knowledge and understanding

1. You must know and understand your own individual responsibility relating to maintaining safe working practices and procedures when working at heights, and are aware of their link to Health and Safety legislation

Industry specific knowledge and understanding

2. You know and understand the risks associated with working at heights, especially when carrying or handling objects, and how to control these risks
3. You know and understand the precautions appropriate to minimising risks associated with working at heights
4. You know and understand current employer/business guidance relevant to working at heights

Organisational specific knowledge and understanding

5. You know and understand your organisation's policies and procedures for preparing for, and working at heights
6. You know and understand your organisation's procedures for using, cleaning and storing height access and personal protective equipment
7. You know and understand how to operate your organisation's fall protection equipment
8. You know and understand the workplace policies and procedures relating to controlling risks to health and safety within your organisation