

EUSWO42 - SQA Code HD50 04

Work safely at heights



Overview

This unit is about working safely at heights, on land or when working aboard a vessel. It includes assessing the risks involved, taking all suitable precautions and following the correct procedures.

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

Maintaining health and safety is of paramount importance at all times when working within a port environment. Unit 4.1.1 'Take action to reduce risks to health and safety within a port environment' is recommended to everyone working within a port environment, and supports this unit.

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Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 you undertake the work according to an agreed plan
- P2 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
- P3 you take proper precautions to address all risks identified
- P4 you wear suitable personal protection equipment correctly, including, where relevant, a full body harness, ensuring that these are in good condition and functioning properly
- P5 you ensure that safety barriers are in place around the working area
- P6 you obtain a permit to work, where required, before working at heights
- P7 you confirm that fall protection equipment is maintained and used properly
- P8 you undertake all required pre-use checks, including ensuring that height access equipment is free from obvious defects before use
- P9 you confirm that height access equipment is deployed, secured before operations and used correctly
- P10 you maintain frequent communication with an identified colleague
- P11 work areas are left clean, tidy and free of obstructions
- P12 you use and store all height access and personal protective equipment correctly

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Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

General knowledge and understanding

- K1 you 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

You need to know and understand:

Industry specific knowledge and understanding

- K2 you know and understand the risks associated with working at heights, especially when carrying or handling objects, and how to control these risks
- K3 you know and understand the precautions appropriate to minimising risks associated with working at heights
- K4 you know and understand current PSSSL guidance relevant to working at heights
- K5 a list of relevant HSE and related regulatory documents will be appended to the NOS and will be updated as required

You need to know and understand:

Organisational specific knowledge and understanding

- K6 you know and understand your organisation's policies and procedures for preparing for, and working at heights
- K7 you know and understand your organisation's procedures for using and storing height access and personal protective equipment
- K8 you know and understand how to operate your organisation's fall protection equipment
- K9 you know and understand the workplace policies and procedures relating to controlling risks to health and safety within your organisation

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Additional information

Behaviours

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

Links to other NOS

This national occupational standard 4.16 belongs to Port skills and Safety – the standards setting body for the ports industry’s organisation for health, safety, skills and standards

Maintaining health and safety is of paramount importance at all times when working within a port environment. Unit 4.1.1 ‘Take action to reduce risks to health and safety within a port environment’ is recommended to everyone working within a port environment, and supports this unit.

In addition, further units address best practice in ensuring health and safety when dealing with dangerous cargo (unit 4.1.2), working near water (4.1.3), surviving in water (4.1.4), working alone (4.1.5), and working in confined spaces (4.1.7).

The candidate and assessor must only sign below when all Performance Criteria and Knowledge points have been met.

Unit assessed as being complete

Candidate's Name:	
Candidate's Signature:	
Date submitted to assessor as complete:	

Assessor's Name:	
Assessor's Signature:	
Date assessed as complete:	

Internal Verification —

to be completed in accordance with centre's IV strategy

Evidence for this Unit was sampled on the following date/s:	IV's Signature	IV's Name

This Unit has been subject to an admin check in keeping with the centre's IV strategy.

Date of admin check	IV's Signature	IV's Name

Unit completion confirmed

IV's Name:	
IV's Signature:	
Date complete:	