

INDUSTRY GUIDANCE – WORKING OVER PEOPLE

Overview:

Where you are working at height with people below you, measures shall be taken to prevent objects falling from the platform or basket. Where practicable, all tools and other loose objects shall be secured with lanyards.

Where slewing equipment is in use, clear demarcation of a ‘drop zone’ or other suitable means shall be applied as required to prevent persons entering the slewing zone.

The following controls shall be implemented:

- Warning devices (e.g. flashing lights, motion alarms) shall be positioned and maintained to advise persons of the activity. Exclusion zones shall be established to prevent injury to pedestrians.
- Warning signs shall be displayed.
- All necessary approvals shall be obtained from statutory authorities and other relevant parties (e.g. controllers of the premises).

The use of platform containment netting may be used. However, this may affect operator visibility and increase the wind resistance of the platform, reducing machine stability when used outdoors. The fitting of platform containment netting should only be undertaken after consultation with the MEWP manufacturer, who might require the maximum permissible wind rating of the machine to be reduced if netting or other such measures are used.

References:

AS2550.10, 5.20 Working above personnel access areas

IPAF – Safe use of MEWPs in public areas