


Title: Working at a Height from a Step Ladder
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RISK ASSESSMENT

Description of process:	Working at height from a stepladder (also please refer to Outline GRA001 & Outline MS1)								
Task on which assessment is made:	Proofing work; surveying; servicing and installation of electrical fly killers								
Location:	As required								
Hazard(s) identified:	Falling from height; dropping of equipment								
Person(s) considered at risk:	CSS PEST Services staff, Customer staff members, General public								
Risk rating before:	Likelihood	4	x	Severity	5	=	Risk:	20	
Control Measures/Safe Work Instructions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stepladders must be checked before use to ensure they are the correct length, type and condition. • All stepladders must be either Class 1 or EN131. • Defective ladders must be tagged and removed from service. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stepladders are subject to the planned inspection programme • Stepladders must be used in accordance to manufacturers guidelines • Stepladders must be used on a firm level base and not be used in a high wind. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A safe working perimeter must be established, either by informing staff present, or by the use of barriers and / or tape to cordon off the area. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When using the stepladder do not lean beyond the width of the base of the ladders and avoid working side on if possible. Consider tying the stepladder (Attach tie to Stiles, not Rungs) for added security 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When working from the stepladder it is important to keep stability. Maintain three points of contact, if possible, but as a minimum always keep two points of contact between the operative and the ladder, including a safe hand hold on the ladder. Do not operate from the top platform. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only one item of equipment is to be carried and used up the stepladder at any one time, unless secured within a tool belt. Do not overload. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensions on sprayers and dusters are to be used so as to minimise height as much as possible. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sprayers must be strapped over the shoulder so that both hands are free. 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No work is to be carried out within 9ft of power lines 								
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSS PEST field staff must attend ladder safety training and surveyors attend work at height course. 								
Typical injury:	Major injury								
Risk rating after:	Likelihood	2	x	Severity	5	=	Risk:	10	
Further control action requirement:	Site Specific Risk Assessment to be carried out before work activity begins								
Person making assessment / carrying out review:	Name: Jason Cholerton				Signature: 				
	Position: Technical Director								

Risk Ratings:

Likelihood

- 1.Improbable
- 2.Low
- 3.Medium
- 4.High
- 5.Near Certainty

Severity

- 1.Minor Injury
- 2.Moderate Injury
- 3.Serious
- 4.Very Serious
- 5.Fatality

Likelihood x Severity = Risk

CALCULATING THE RISK RATING



Is to be read in conjunction with the General Risk Assessment (GRA)

		Severity				
		Minor injury	Moderate injury	Serious	Very serious	Fatality
Likelihood	Improbable	1	2	3	4	5
	Low	2	4	6	8	10
	Medium	3	6	9	12	15
	High	4	8	12	16	20
	Near Certainty	5	10	15	20	25

Risk Rating Bands:

RATING BANDS (a x b)		
LOW RISK (1-6)	MEDIUM RISK (7-14)	HIGH RISK (15-25)
Continue but review periodically to ensure controls remain effective.	Continue, but implement additional reasonably practicable controls where possible and monitor regularly.	-STOP THE ACTIVITY- Identify new controls. Activity must not proceed until risks are reduced to a low or medium level.

Definition of risk:

A risk is the likelihood of the harm occurring and the severity of the harm if it does. Thus, in terms of "likelihood" there may be a hazard associated with water and drowning, but the risk can only be evaluated when the proximity of people to the water, the weather conditions, the equipment used, the people's proficiency and many other factors are taken into account.

As for severity, a hazard associated with falling can be evaluated also in terms of the distance and therefore the degree of harm which could occur – tripping and falling on the same level rarely causes serious injury (although this is not impossible) whereas falling down a flight of stairs is quite likely to result in broken bones or worse.

Finally, the risk factor should also consider the numbers of people potentially affected. A risk faced by many people every day should be treated as a higher priority than the same degree of risk faced by one person very occasionally. A key element of the risk assessment process is the measurement of the degree of risk present – improbable, low, medium, high or near certainty – in order to decide on these priorities and accord appropriate weight to preventative measures.

