

Skanska UK

Mobile Elevated Working Platform (MEWP) Policy

Appendix 4 of HSWE Minimum Standards
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Responsibility: Director of Health,
Safety and Wellbeing

Forward

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide consistent control of Mobile Elevated Work Platforms (MEWPs) across all Skanska UK Operating Units. This will be achieved through Operating Units demonstrating documented compliance with the requirements of this procedure, statutory regulations and HSE guidance.

The use of a MEWP should not be adopted simply for convenience, but should be the result of a thorough selection process considering typically:

- 1) Has the plan of work considered an alternative to working at height?
 - Can it be designed out?
 - Can working at height be reduced in scope?
 - Can the programme wait for permanent or easier access?

- 2) Is there an alternative method of access that reduces the overall risk? Have the alternatives been considered, risk assessed and residual risks compared?

If the use of a MEWP remains the considered preference then you must comply with the following policy and HSE Regulations as a minimum.

1.2 Who the policy applies to

This statement sets out Skanska UK's policy for minimising risks associated with the use of MEWPS. It applies to all Skanska UK locations and those working at these locations, including employees and, where appropriate, others such as consultants, sub-contractors and agency workers working on a site under Skanska UK's control.

Policy requirements

This policy sets out a number of mandatory requirements in relation to the use of MEWPS on Skanska UK projects:

2.1 MEWP Selection:

- The MEWP selected meets the specification for the task and the site conditions
- A competent person makes or approves the selection. (Note that for sub-contractors wishing to use a MEWP, this could be a Skanska competent person.)

- A process is in place to check the selection, especially if the available MEWP is not as originally specified.
- Chain link driven Skyjack SJ12 and SJ16 models are not permitted for use on Skanska sites due to a history of failures that require enhanced maintenance programmes
- Secondary guarding to prevent crushing injuries
 - For activities involving boom type MEWPS (category 3b) the machine shall be fitted with Intelligent Secondary Guarding, such a pre-crush sensors, where available. Where Intelligent secondary guarding is not available for the make / model of the machine that is required, a form of secondary guarding that reduces the risk of entrapment, must be used. See Appendix B for technical specification of intelligent secondary guarding.
 - For activities involving scissor lifts (category 3a MEWPS) the machine shall be fitted with secondary guarding. This specific requirement applies to all Skanska hired equipment from January 2025 and all Supply Chain hired equipment from April 2025. See Appendix B for technical specification.
 - If the required secondary guarding device is not available or practicable, then additional control measures as agreed with the Skanska project team, must be implemented. Control measures and arrangements must be documented within a specific risk assessment.
- An intelligent anchor point that prevents the operation of a MEWP until the operator attaches their harness carabiner, must be installed on all boom type MEWPS (category 3b). Where prevention of the operation of the controls is not possible, the anchor point must, as a minimum provide visual and auditory alerts that the operator is not clipped on. This specific requirement applies to all Skanska hired equipment from 1st January 2024 and all Supply chain provided equipment from 1st April 2024. See Appendix C for technical specifications.

2.2 Safe Systems of work

- Specific risk assessments and method statements must be in place and reviewed regularly.
- Where the shared use of MEWPS is envisaged, special consideration must be given to the management of the MEWP's and additional controls implemented.
- Operations and site conditions including assessment of ground, weather conditions and adjacent activities must be continuously monitored and, where appropriate, remedial action taken by a competent person to ensure the safe operation of the MEWP.
- A system, such as electronic isolation, must be in place to prevent the unauthorised use of machines.
- Lone working in MEWPS is not permitted, with the exception of van mounted MEWPS where lone working is permitted for short duration tasks, following risk assessment

2.3 Emergency and recovery plans

A recovery plan must be in place including:-

- The consideration of lone workers (permitted in van mounted MEWPS for short duration tasks only – see above)
- The nomination of a person for performing a recovery.
- Communication of the plan to all personnel included in the plan

- Regular practice of the plan by those involved

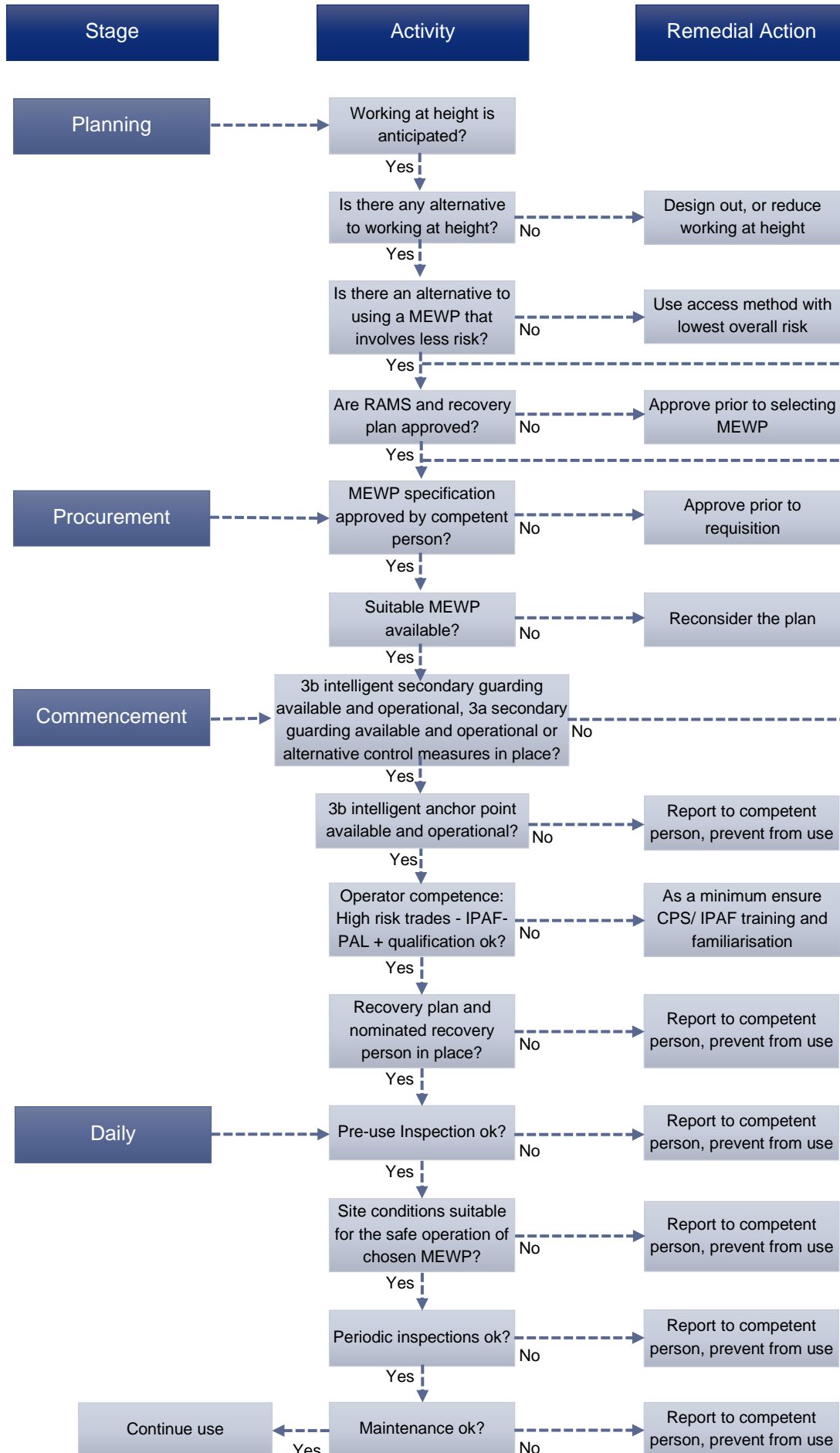
2.4 Supervisor and Operator competence

- The person responsible for planning the works, specifying the MEWP and controlling the works shall, as a minimum, have undertaken the IPAF “MEWPS for Management” training course.
- The operator of the MEWP shall hold, as a minimum, the CPCS or IPAF qualification for the appropriate category of MEWP. Unless the operator can demonstrate experience of the particular machine i.e. logs books or similar, they must undergo familiarisation of the machine prior to operating that machine.
- High risk trades (Steel erectors, netters and associated trades) shall hold as a minimum IPAF PAL+ qualification.

2.5 Inspection and Maintenance

- A competent person is responsible for ensuring the MEWP is suitable for the specific operation.
- A competent person must perform pre-use inspections, weekly and statutory inspections.
- All inspection should be recorded.
- The MEWP must be maintained in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions.
- A competent person must ensure the MEWP is identified and prevented from use in the event of defects or malfunctions and this is recorded.

Appendix A – MEWP Flowchart



Appendix B – Technical specification for secondary guarding devices

Specification for additional Secondary Guarding safety devices to guard against entrapment:

Where available, an intelligent safety device, such as pre-crush sensors utilizing envelope sensing, shall be fitted to the basket of 3b machines.

Physical secondary guarding, such as pressure sensing devices must be used on all 3a machines, and on 3b machines where intelligent secondary guarding is not available.

These additional safety devices shall be supplied in addition to any cowl, foot-switch or standoff bar already fitted by the Manufacturer / MEWP supplier.

The device(s) must be approved by the manufacturer of the MEWP and must:

- Be fit for purpose
- Reduce the overall risk of entrapment
- Have undergone structured & documented field trials
- Be CE / UKCA marked
- Have OEM approval
- Be compliant with BSEN 8460

1	Envelope sensing	An intelligent system fitted to the MEWP basket which senses the envelope above and around an operator and electronically stops the movement once a pre-set distance is reached, allowing the operator to make a safety decision.
2	Operator Override	A device that allows the operator to close into their place of work. The system should ensure the operator continues to be vigilant by providing a local audible and visual warning system and clear definition of being 'in or out' of the object sensing zone.
3	Stop the MEWP	A device which operates when a person becomes trapped. Any device fitted must automatically stop the movement of the MEWP immediately that an entrapment/crushing situation has been detected and not rely on the operator to take action.
4	Stability of the MEWP	Any device fitted should not create additional stability issues for the MEWP when the device operates.
5	Effectiveness should impact occur	The device must be able to withstand the impact which causes it to operate and continuous function until a rescue has been affected.
6	Audible and visual warning	When the device senses that an entrapment has taken place, and audible and visual alarm must activate with the ability to alert those on the ground who may need to affect a rescue.
7	Operator Interference	Any device fitted to the machine must easily re- set from within the basket.

8	Risk transfer	Any device fitted must not introduce any significant additional risks to the operator during the normal operation of the machine.
9	Working envelope of the MEWP	Any device fitted should not reduce the operators working envelope to an extent that they would be unable to undertake their normal works without significant improvisation.
10	Protection to the MEWP operator	Any device fitted should afford protection to the operator in all significant entrapment situations.
11	Circumventions of the additional safety device	Any additional safety device must be designed and fitted to guard against potential misuse or removal by the operator.

Quality and Safety standards:

12	CE / UKCA Marked	All devices shall meet all relevant European and UK design standards. Any device fitted must be CE / UK CA marked and supported by the requisite certification and Technical files.
13	Pre use checks	Any device must be function tested by the operator during the pre-use checks and recorded on supporting documentation.
14	EN280 and BSEN 8460	Any device fitted must not impinge on the machinery regulations/PUWER or EN280. A device that extends the physical structure of a MEWP beyond its current design limits is likely to require the approval of the MEWP manufacturer. All devices must comply with BSEN 8460.
15	Insurance	Any device fitted should be indemnified by the supplier/hirer for its intended use.
16	Instructions	Additional instructions on the safe operation of the device must be provided by the hirer for its intended use ie: familiarisation training
17	Self-Diagnostics	When the MEWP is started the device should carry out a self-diagnostics check and alert the operator if a fault is detected.

Appendix C – Technical specification for Intelligent anchor points

Specification for additional Intelligent anchor point to prevent the operation of a 3b MEWPs without a harness carabiner being attached.

The device must:

- Be fit for purpose
- Prevent the operation of the in basket control without a carabiner being attached to the intelligent anchor point.
 - Where prevention of the operation of the controls is not possible, the anchor point must, as a minimum provide visual and auditory alerts that the operator is not clipped on.
- Not interfere or impact with the operation or safety functions of the machine
- Be CE / CA UK marked
- Have the required warranties & insurances
- Be approved by the owner / hirer for use on site for the machine it is fitted