

# H1: FALL PROTECTION IN MEWPS

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## Technical guidance Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWPs)

### Boom type platforms

When working from a boom type Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP), it is strongly recommended that a lanyard short enough for the wearer to be restrained within the platform be used. The lanyard may contain an energy-absorbing device, provided it is short enough to restrain the wearer within the platform. This includes Static Booms (1b) and Mobile Booms (3b).

### Vertical lifts

It is not normally necessary for personnel working from a vertical lift to wear fall protection equipment, other than in exceptional circumstances.

This includes Static Verticals (1a), Mobile Verticals (3a), Push Around Verticals (PAV) and Mast Climbing Work Platforms (MCWP).

### Working next to or over water

A risk assessment should determine whether it is more appropriate to wear a harness to address the fall risk, or a life jacket to address the risk of drowning.

The need for a fall protection system will be the outcome of a job-specific risk assessment undertaken prior to work commencing and taking into consideration the manufacturer's operator manual.



## For UK-specific guidance and information on preventing falls and on the use of harnesses and lanyards in MEWPs

- EN 354:** Personal fall protection equipment. Lanyards
- EN 355:** Personal protective equipment against falls from a height. Energy absorbers
- EN 358:** Personal protective equipment for work positioning and prevention of falls from a height. Belts for work positioning and restraint and work positioning lanyards
- EN 360:** Personal protective equipment against falls from a height. Retractable type fall arresters
- EN 361:** Personal protective equipment against falls from a height. Full body harnesses
- EN 362:** Personal protective equipment against falls from a height. Connectors
- EN 363:** Personal fall protection equipment. Personal fall protection systems
- EN 365:** Personal protective equipment against falls from a height. General requirements for instructions for use, maintenance, periodic examination, repair, marking and packaging
- BS 8437:** +A1:2012 Code of practice for selection, use and maintenance of personal fall protection systems and equipment for use in the workplace
- BS 8454:** Code of practice for the delivery of training and education for work at height and rescue
- BS 8460:** Code of practice - Safe use of MEWPs
- ISO 18893:** Mobile elevating work platforms. Safety principles, inspection, maintenance and operation
- BS EN 280:** Mobile elevating work platforms. Design calculations. Stability criteria. Construction. Safety. Examinations and tests

HSE General Information Sheet GEIS 6 – See also *the selection, management and use of mobile elevating work platforms*, available from the HSE website [www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/geis6.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/geis6.htm)

This guidance was originally developed by the Powered Access Interest Group, a joint committee of IPAF and the Construction Plant-Hire Association, with representatives from hire companies and the HSE. This updated version was approved by the Strategic Forum – Plant Safety Group on 19.09.17.

This document reflects UK legislation. For other country-specific versions and details about IPAF's full range of training programmes for all kinds of MEWPs and MCWPs visit [www.ipaf.org](http://www.ipaf.org)

