

Task/Operation:	Use of Ladders and Step Ladders		
Group(s) affected:	Staff, Volunteers, Trainees		
Person(s) undertaking assessment:	JULIE BENNETT	Date:	19 MARCH 2004
Employee(s) consulted:	Alan Cameron, Richard Taylor, David Owen, Mark Gash		
Union Safety Rep(s) consulted:	Andy Pegg		

Reviews			
Next Review Required	Date actually reviewed	Changes Required? (Yes/No)	Assessor Signature
April 2006	20.10.05	No	RTT
<b>20.10.2006</b>			

Hazard	Resultant effect(s)	L	S	R	State control measures and person responsible to action each one	L	S	R
Falling from Ladders as a result of overreaching or carrying a load.	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, paralysis or death	3	3	9	Assess need for use in first place, if possible to avoid do not use. Install independent system of staging. Any use should be for a maximum of 10 minutes and for light work only. Training in safe use of ladders. Second person should always be in working area. If second person unavailable work should not be above 1metre. In any case no working on ladder above 6 metres in height, if necessary consider specialist contractor. Both hands to be used when climbing or descending, always face ladder, 3 points of contact should always be maintained. Use shoulder bag for tools, do not hook tools to ladder. Tools requiring use of both hands should not be used.	1	3	3

					Only one person at a time to use ladder. Thighs and hips to remain within stiles, to avoid overreaching.			
Falling from broken ladder	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, paralysis or death	3	3	9	All ladders should be maintained in good condition and stored correctly. All ladders to be subject to checks prior to any use and an annual detailed inspection. No ladders to be painted, this avoids concealing possible damage.	1	3	3
Falling from ladders as a result of uneven base.	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, paralysis or death	3	3	9	Ladders to be set on firm base, strong enough to support ladder. No form of makeshift block be used to raise height. Locate away from any excavations. Barriers should be used around base for additional protection. Second person to foot ladder to prevent slipping. With step ladders, legs should be as far apart as possible and both should be on stable base, and placed at right angles to work.	1	3	3
Risk of fall from ladder as result of insecure resting place.	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, paralysis or death	3	3	9	Ladders should not be leant against a fragile surface. Ladder ties, stay's or appropriate lashing or clamping to be used. Person using step ladder should keep knees below top rung. Top tread should not be used as a working platform, unless it has been constructed as such.	1	3	3
Risk of fall from steepness of angle of ladder or repositioning.	Cuts, bruises, broken bones, paralysis or death	3	3	9	Ladder to be set at angle of 75° Ladder not to be repositioned by jumping, whilst standing on ladder.	1	3	3
Electric Shock from	Minor burns, or major burns,	3	3	9	All aluminium ladders to be labelled up and	1	3	3

aluminium ladder	or possible death				not used near to any source of electricity, including overhead cables.			
Risk of injury to unauthorised person.	Cuts, bruises, broken limbs, paralysis or death	3	3	9	Ladders not to be left unattended, but removed from location. If location has to be maintained, use or board lashed between rungs to be in place.	1	3	3
Risk of impact and manual handling injury from carrying of ladder.	Cuts, bruises, broken limbs.	3	2	6	Ladder to be carried upright by lower rungs if small. Larger ladders to be carried horizontally by two people.	1	1	1
Risk of impact injury from raising and lowering of ladder	Cuts, bruises, broken limbs.	3	2	6	Two people to carry lift and lower. Lay ladder on ground, one person to stand on bottom rung whilst second person raises ladder from ground rung by rung from the top rung and first person grasps lower rungs asap and draws ladder in steadying it all the time., lowering is a reverse of this procedure. A shorter ladder can be raised by one person.	1	2	2
Risk of injury from unsafe storage.	Cuts, bruises, broken limbs.	3	2	6	Where possible ladders should be stored on racks and hung by stiles only. Indoor storage is preferable, if outdoor they should be protected form adverse conditions. Consider use of board lash .	1	2	2