

HSEQ Bulletin

Safety advice notice: 39 November 2014

The importance of work at height training is one of the key topics covered in a new information sheet from the HSE entitled 'The Selection, Management and Use of Mobile Elevating work Platforms', which can be viewed at: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/geis6.pdf>

The information sheet is aimed at those who select, specify, manage and operate Mobile Elevating Work Platforms (MEWP). It tells you what you should consider before selecting a MEWP and the risks that need to be assessed and managed while the MEWP is in use. The information sheet also covers topics such as:

- **What the law requires:** *Overview of the relevant legislation and how to comply.*
- **Selection criteria:** *Information that you should consider when selecting a MEWP.*
- **Pre-use inspections:** *What should be inspected and why.*
- **Thorough examination:** *When should you inspect and why.*
- **Emergency rescue:** *You must have a plan which details foreseeable emergencies.*
- **PPE:** *What PPE is and what is required.*
- **Familiarisation:** *This is an option if you are not familiar with the machine you are using.*
- **Documentation:** *The documentation you should have once you have selected the equipment, managed the risk and ensured competence.*

This document is easy to follow, clear and concise. Whether you are new to working with MEWPs or have years of experience, it will refresh your knowledge and may teach you something new. Following the information in this document will help you manage all aspects of working with MEWPs.

But remember – whilst this information gives guidance on what you should be doing, it can never be a replacement for training, which is a legal obligation for anyone managing or supervising the use of a MEWP.

Source: AFI HSEQ team November 2014

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