

HSEQ Bulletin

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Tiers of Secondary Guarding

Brian Parker, our Business Development Manager (Technical Support), recently presented his second safety webinar; this time on the subject of secondary guarding.

In the webinar, Brian explained that most of the major principal contractors have now stated that no-one will be allowed to operate a MEWP on their sites if the MEWP does not have a secondary guarding device fitted, so as well as the vital health and safety issue, secondary guarding devices also make good business sense.

Brian outlined the two Tiers of secondary guarding (SG):

Tier 1: Mechanical SG

Tier 3: Electronic SG

He explained the difference between a physical secondary guarding device and a pressure sensing device, and he also discussed electronic interface devices and non-interface devices.

Brian emphasised that there are a wide range of devices available and it's essential that you get the one most suited for the work you are planning to carry out. That means discussing the job in detail with your machine hirer to make sure that the secondary guarding device specified really will be a life saver.

Brian also revealed that the HSE have recently started to review all secondary guarding devices currently in the market place to see if these devices really do achieve what they set out to do.

The webinar also explained the recent fatal statistics and covered legislation and guidelines relating to secondary guarding devices, uses for secondary guarding and possible hazardous situations to consider.

If you missed the webinar you can watch a recording of it at afi-group.co.uk/webinars.

To find out more about what training you or your employees need for working at height and what courses are available, visit our training brand www.utntraining.co.uk or call us on 08707 871 511.