

Roof Access - Permanent Fall Prevention Methods- Initial Design

The Problem / Challenge

Roof access fall prevention methods proportionate to the frequency of access requirements for maintenance activities whilst considering the aesthetic and cost considerations.

The Risks

Falls from height by plant maintenance operatives or roof workers. Access is unlikely to be entirely eliminated on any roof due to annual inspections, clearance of rainwater outlets, etc.

The Solution

- Collective protection measures should be selected in preference to other methods of protection, especially in areas requiring plant maintenance on a frequent basis.
- Where other factors prevent the addition of roof edge parapets, balustrading or railings, mansafe type fall restraint systems may be appropriate, set back from roof perimeters.
- Fall arrest methods using mansafe systems are the least acceptable option and are only workable if fall recovery and rescue systems are in place. Consider adequate means of safe access to roof level for operatives with tools and kit.

The Benefits

Facilities managers, maintenance operatives and inspection staff can make low frequency visits eg. for rainwater outlet clearance if properly planned management measures are in place.

Key Points

- Early decisions must be made at Initial Design stages considering frequency of access in various roof zones.
- Detail of the roof access design may require further development at later stages as plant areas grow.



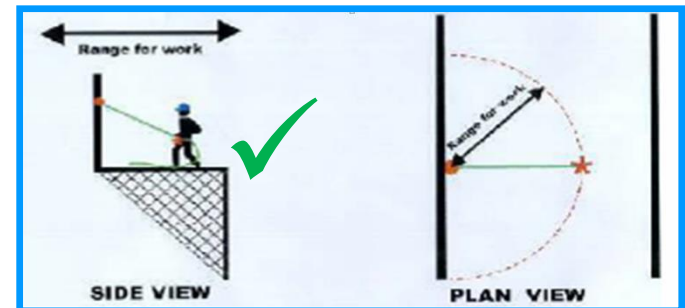
Mansafe Cable and Lanyard System



Fall Arrest



Edge Protection Railings



Restraint Protection, Prevents Falls