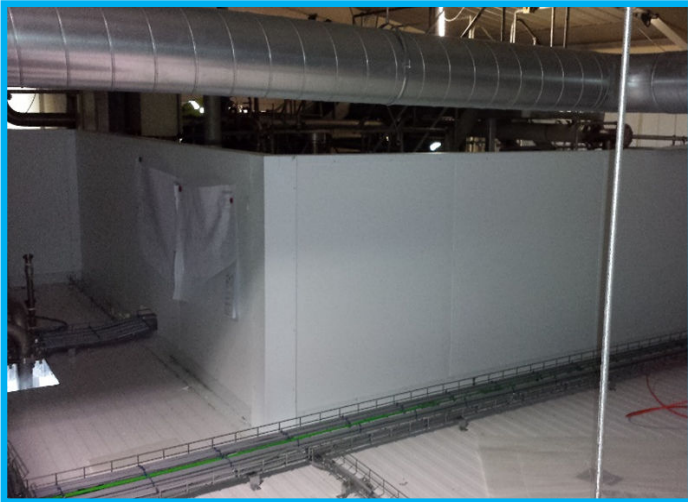


Simple Cleanroom Edge Protection



The Problem / Challenge

The installation of pre-fabricated Cleanroom Partition and Ceiling systems is common practice in the Pharmaceutical, Electronics and Food and Drinks Industries. Installations often incorporate accessible or “walk-on” ceiling panels as part of the design to provide access for maintenance, for example to change light fittings. Working at height remains one of the biggest causes of fatalities and major injuries both during construction activities and throughout ongoing maintenance during the life of a facility.



Upstand Viewed from Roof



View From Ground

The Solution

One method to mitigate the risk of fall is to install a perimeter/edge guarding and handrail system such as a proprietary tubular rail system, together with a toe plate and perhaps, mesh infill. However, this has its own complications:

- The need to provide temporary fall protection before the permanent edge protection is installed.
- Possible additional strength to the wall and ceiling panels to support the edge protection brackets.
- Additional procurement and installation costs.
- Site time required to install the edge protection.

There is however an alternative and simpler method which is to design the external wall panels to extend vertically 1100mm above the roof level. This simple concept provides an instant protected edge, during both the construction stage and throughout the life of the installation. This type of design has been adopted on several recent projects and proved to be a quick, safe and economical solution to reducing the risks of working at height.

Key Points

- Eliminate the risk of falling.
- Potentially eliminates the need for temporary edge protection
- Provides a very cost effective and simple solution to a high risk situation.
- Minimal impact on, and potentially reduce installation time.
- The edge protection is provided by a solid panel, thereby eliminating the risk of tools and other small items being “kicked-off” the roof and presenting a further hazard to workers below.
- Aesthetically more pleasing than conventional edge protection systems.

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