

# Safety Alert

## Working at Height

26 August 2022

ASGrOps\_SA\_041

V1.0

### Background

At Heathrow safety is our highest priority and therefore everyone should be managing their operations to ensure the health, safety, and well-being of their employees and others affected by their operations.

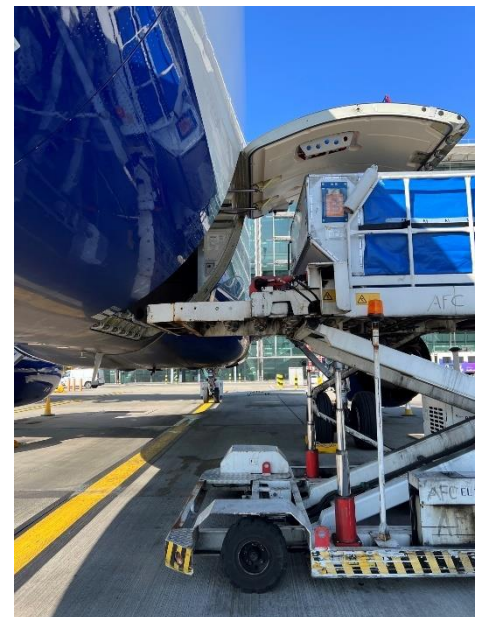
Falls from height are one of the biggest causes of workplace fatalities and major injuries. The purpose of this Safety Alert is to remind Team Heathrow of their duty to ensure the risks associated with working at height are identified, controlled, and effectively managed.

This Safety Alert is being issued following a serious incident airside, whereby a colleague fell to the ground from an extended ULD elevator at height and sustained potentially life-changing injuries.

**The HSE defines Work at height as** *“any work in any place where, if there were no precautions in place, a person could fall a distance liable to cause personal injury”* This is not limited to excessive height and may result from falls at low level.

### Heathrow expects all licenced operators to:

- Recognise the health and safety risks associated with working at height and commit to controlling the risk within their organisation in accordance with the Work at Height Regulations 2005 (WAHR).
- Ensure any work at height activity is appropriately planned and risk assessed. All risks associated with work at height must be evaluated and suitable measures put in place to manage them. This includes: -
  - Prevent the risk of falls as far as is reasonably practicable.
  - Put in place sufficient measures to minimise the distance and/or consequences if a falling risk remains.
  - Ensuring the correct type of work at height equipment is used.
  - Ensuring only suitably trained and experienced employees use work at height equipment.
  - Ensuring anyone working at height is appropriately supervised at all times.
  - Carry out your own inspections and monitoring of work at height activity to ensure safe systems of work are being followed.
  - Remind employees of work at height risks and safe working methods through safety briefings or other suitable communications.
- Remind colleagues to report any unsafe work at height activity to a supervisor and through local safety incident reporting.



**Enquiries:** Any questions regarding this Safety Alert should be addressed to the Airside Standards and Assurance Team at [airside\\_safety@heathrow.com](mailto:airside_safety@heathrow.com). Additional information can be found at [heathrow.com/airside](https://www.heathrow.com/airside).

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