



## **Safety Decking Systems Guidance - Installing and Inspecting**

All sites are required to use safety decking systems as a fall prevention system when working at height.

When installed correctly to the manufacturer's guidance, decking systems provide a safe working platform and fall-prevention safety measure at various stages of housebuilding.

**It has to be emphasised that this document should be regarded as general practice for decking systems used on sites, in conjunction with the FASET Guidance and the installation guidance supplied by the manufacturer must be consulted and adhered to at all times.**

A vital stage of the installation and management routines is that site management must inspect the installation before first use, and at key stages in the build, such as between trades, to ensure it remains fit for purpose.

### **Storage**

- Decking must be stored properly in a laydown area when not in use, in stillages provided by the manufacturer.
- Components should be checked during the installation process to ensure they are in serviceable condition and fit for purpose.

### **Installers**

- Installers are individuals who are trained to erect the decking system within the plot. This may be operatives provided by the supplier or hirer, suitably trained scaffolders, or other trades persons who have attended suitable training in the erection of the system.
- All installers must have received product specific training, from the supplier / manufacturer before installing systems on our sites.
- A copy of the training certificate or card must be retained by site management and noted on induction records.

### **Pre-installation within the plot**

- Before installation, installers should consult with site management to ensure the plot is ready for the equipment.
- Site management should ensure that there is a clear area outside the plot to set down the stillages, with a safe access routes into the plot for the installer. There should be no slip / trip hazards on route.
- The total area to be installed should be assessed and only sufficient materials delivered down to the plot as excess materials can cause housekeeping and storage issues, and can lead to equipment being damaged.

### **Installation process**

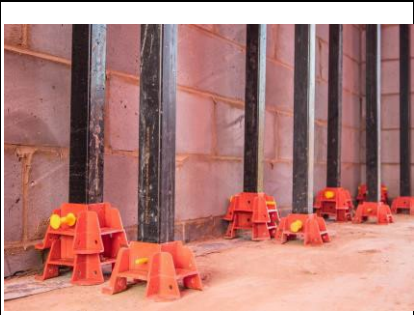

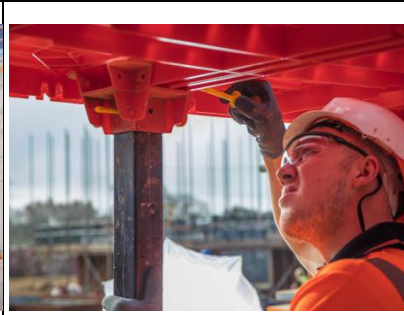

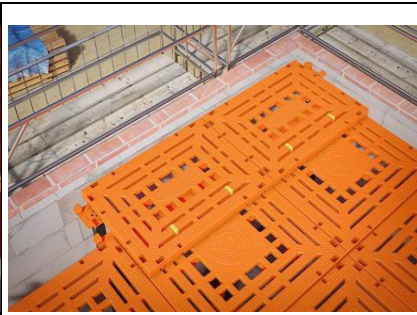

- Installers must install the decking to the manufacturers instructions.

Authorised by: HS&E Director	Version date: 08.11.2021	Version: 1	STD: W@H Safety Decking Guidance: Safety Decking
Uncontrolled if printed or copied – always check the Group HS&E policy folder for latest version			

- All equipment must be checked for damage or excessive wear and tear before being fitted into the platform.
- Once complete, the decking must not be used until inspected by site management.
- After “pre use” inspection site management will complete the safety decking systems inspection register.
- After the ground floor works have been completed, the decking is removed and placed on the upper and subsequent floors to allow work to continue.
- Site management must inspect the decking on a regular basis, but as a minimum, an inspection must be documented before first use, after significant alteration, or between trades (such as when bricklayers finish and joiners take over the use etc).

### **Inspection routine**

- The photographs below, show areas that should be routinely checked by the installers and particularly site management during the inspection stages.
- They are intended as guidance, and are not exhaustive, however will provide site management with a visual reference checklist of things to check.

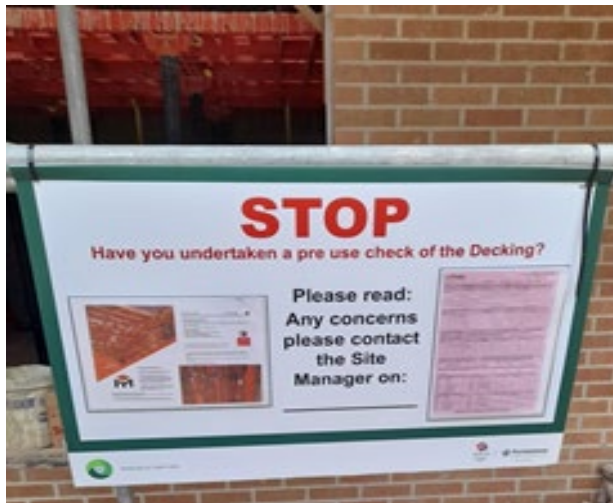
		
1. Ensure all foot plates are firmly positioned and level to floor	2. Ensure legs vertical and fully grounded / fitted into foot plates	3. Ensure legs are fully pinned and secured to the panel. In most cases this will require 2 pins
		
4. Ensure camstraps are tight and bracing the system.	5. On an overlapped section 2 camstraps are required per panel.	6. On a split section, 4 camstraps are required per panel.

Authorised by: HS&E Director	Version date: 08.11.2021	Version: 1	STD: W@H Safety Decking Guidance: Safety Decking
Uncontrolled if printed or copied – always check the Group HS&E policy folder for latest version			

		
7. Ensure platform decking is butted tightly to walls on all sides. No large gaps or open edges should be evident	8. Corner posts that cannot be secured by a fixing pin to the base and head need to be fastened using a camstrap.	9. When checking if a “push off” has been performed correctly the blue tag needs to face the external wall
		
		
10. Components must be checked for obvious signs of damage or excessive wear, including UV degradation etc		



## Good practice signage



Signage located at ladder points prompting users to undertake a pre use check of the decking system with two weather proof pockets for decking installation guidance and handover forms.

## Plot Inspection checklist

- In conjunction with the guidance above, the table below can be used as an “aide memoir” for site managers when inspecting decking system installation.
- Where an item cannot be confirmed by ticking the “”Checked OK” column then the decking must not be used until corrective action is taken and noted in the comments.
- It is important for auditing and evidence purposes, that all details are completed, including dates and times.
- The sheet can be copied to ensure a new checklist is available for each stage of installation and checking.
- This does not replace the safety decking systems inspection register.

Authorised by: HS&E Director	Version date: 08.11.2021	Version: 1	STD: W@H Safety Decking Guidance: Safety Decking
Uncontrolled if printed or copied – always check the Group HS&E policy folder for latest version			

<b>Site :</b>	<b>Plot No :</b>	<b>Installation type ( circle ) : GF / FF / SF / Garage</b>
<b>Installed by :</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Checked By :                      Date :                      Time:</b>
<b>Check Item</b>	<b>Checked OK</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1. Foot plates positioned and level to floor.		
2. Legs vertical and fully grounded		
3. Legs fully pinned and secure to panel		
4. Camstraps positioned and tight bracing the system		
5. All overlaps fitted with 2 camstraps per panel		
5. All split sections fitted with 2 camstraps per panel		
6. Platform decks firmly butted to walls on all sides with no gaps or open edges		
7. All components free of defects		
8. Corner posts attached via cam strap where required.		

<b>Site :</b>	<b>Plot No :</b>	<b>Installation type ( circle ) : GF / FF / SF / Garage</b>
<b>Installed by :</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>Checked By :                      Date :                      Time:</b>
<b>Check Item</b>	<b>Checked OK</b>	<b>Comments</b>
1. Foot plates positioned and level to floor.		
2. Legs vertical and fully grounded		
3. Legs fully pinned and secure to panel		
4. Camstraps positioned and tight bracing the system		
5. All overlaps fitted with 2 camstraps per panel		
5. All split sections fitted with 2 camstraps per panel		
6. Platform decks firmly butted to walls on all sides with no gaps or open edges		
7. All components free of defects		
8. Corner posts attached via cam strap where required.		