



HEALTH & SAFETY ALERT

Safety Decking Systems

WHAT HAPPENED

There have been a number of serious incidents throughout the construction industry, involving safety decking systems. The cause of these incident includes the following:

- Damaged components
- Not installed correctly
- Not supported on all four sides

If the safety decking is installed correctly and robustly inspected it will be safe to use!

ACTION TO TAKE

WHO NEEDS TO TAKE ACTION: Contracts Managers, SMs/ ASMs, Site Agents and Site Teams

WHAT TO DO

- Ensure that the installers are trained.
- Make sure that the site team have been trained to inspect the safety decking.
- Remind the installers to inspect each component for damage; damaged components must not be used.
- It is imperative that a trained member of the site team inspect the decking on hand over, before first use.
- Ensure that the Safety Decking Inspection Register is completed at handover and a copy of the handover certificate is retained.
- The safety decking must be re-inspected every 7 days or if any alterations have taken place.
- Remind site operatives not to make any alterations themselves.
- Remind operatives to do a visual check of the decking before they use it, highlighting any concerns to site management immediately.
- Ensure that you have a copy of the manufactures handbook on site.

Full details can be found in our [Working at Height Standards](#) (refer to section on safety decking systems).

If in doubt contact your local Group Health Safety & Environment Advisor for advice.