

Health, Safety & Environment Department

Important – Please read carefully and take appropriate action

**HS&E ADVICE NOTE** 

**UPDATED H&S STANDARDS** 

REF: HSE-24-01

Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024

#### DESCRIPTION

Following communications over 2023, our new safety decking requirements will come into effect from now.

- All safety decking contractors on our approved contractors list will need to have SSIP accreditation via FASET (or working towards this).
- All safety decking installers working on our sites will be required to have a FASET CSCS card for the decking system they are installing.

Also, to clarify:

- The SSIP accreditation via FASET applies only to safety decking contractors, if the contractor is another trade such as a scaffolder, then SSIP through FASET is not required but preferable. Please note we will be making this a requirement at a future date; we just want to stagger the work demands on FASET.
- If we are using directly employed/ self-employed labour to install safety decking, then arrangements will need to be made to get these individuals FASET CSCS cards and the local business will have to take the responsibility to arrange and pay for this.

To reflect these changes, the Group Shared Drive and Persimmon Cloud have now been updated to include updates to the following H&S Standards:

- <u>HSMS-STD-Training.pdf</u>
- HSMS-STD-Contractors-and-Designers.pdf
- HSMS-STD-Working-at-Height.pdf

#### Action the business will need to take:

- Commercial Directors, please ensure all safety decking contractors have SSIP accreditation with FASET or can evidence they are in the process of being accredited.
- Site management teams, please re-induct all safety decking installers in January 2024, to check they have a FASET CSCS card in the system they are installing, ensuring a copy of this card is retained. If a person does not have a FASET CSCS card, then require them to obtain one.

Please note - if an installer does not have a FASET CSCS card by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2024 they will be prohibited from installing safety decking on our sites.

### Action the HS&E Advisors will be taking:

From January to the 1st of March 2024:

- Advisors will issue a 1 score if a safety decking installer does not have a FASET CSCS card for the system they are installing, with a task to obtain the card by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2024.
- If the task is not completed by the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2024, then the safety decking installer will be prohibited from installing decking until the card is obtained.

From the 1st of March 2024:

• Advisors will issue a 0 score if a safety decking installer does not have the FASET CSCS card for the system they are installing, and the safety decking installer will be prohibited from installing decking until the card is obtained.

In January/ February 2024 all HS&E Advisors, will be completing safety decking training Toolbox Talks with all site management, to ensure they understand these new requirements. They will also be reminded of the safety decking standards and the importance of:

- Undertaking an inspection of safety decking at handover and every 7 days, recording this check on the safety decking register.
- Communicating out to operatives at induction and regular Tool Box Talks that anyone using safety decking must complete basic visual checks of the safety decking before they use it, reporting any issues to site management immediately.
- Safety decking must not be loaded out without a risk assessment and safe system of work being
  put in place to ensure the load capacity is not exceeded. Prior to the safety decking system being
  used to store loads the Group HS&E Department must approve the risk assessment and safe
  system of work.

## ACTION

Please ensure you read and follow this communication and updated standards.

If you have any questions then please do not hesitate to contact your local Group HS&E Advisor.

# This message has been sent to:

Χ	Commercial	Finance	Х	Administration/MD
	Technical	Sales		Land
Х	Construction	Customer Care	Х	PLC – H&S staff