

Statutory basis: Work at Height Regulations 2005 regs 4 and 5 — the rope access work is planned, supervised and carried out by competent people, with the rope access system, anchors and rescue in place under KD-RAMS-HA-002 and rope access practice to BS 7985:2013; CAR 2012 — the asbestos register checked before old glazing compounds and sealants are cut out; COSHH 2002 for sealants, primers and solvents carried on the ropes; the public protected from falling objects following HSE HSG151 (2nd edition, 2009); CDM 2015 regs 13 and 15. This document is the recorded safe system of work required by HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5.

1 DOCUMENT AND PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

RAMS REFERENCE	PROJECT / SITE REF	SITE NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE PREPARED	NEXT REVIEW DATE
CLIENT / PRINCIPAL CONTRACTOR	PLANNED START	DURATION	OPERATIVES	SUPERVISING THE WORK

2 SCOPE OF WORKS

Glazing tasks carried out by industrial rope access on high-rise façades: surveys of glazing and seals, cutting out and replacing gaskets, beads and perimeter sealant, making cracked or loose panes safe from outside, and handling small glazing components on the ropes. The rope access system — rigging, anchors, team structure and rope rescue — is KD-RAMS-HA-002, which must be in place alongside this document; this document adds the glazing-specific hazards.

This document does not cover: the rope access system itself — rigging, anchor proving, team structure and rope rescue (KD-RAMS-HA-002); sealant, primer and solvent COSHH controls in detail (KD-RA-GL-002); replacement of glass units that needs both hands and significant force, done from inside, from a cradle or BMU (KD-RAMS-HA-001), or by crane under a separate lift plan and RAMS; and window cleaning by rope access (KD-RAMS-WK-002).

SITE-SPECIFIC SCOPE, LOCATIONS AND LIMITATIONS

3 RISK ASSESSMENT — SCORE EACH RISK FOR THIS SITE, THEN ADD WHAT IS MISSING

The hazards and controls below are the starting point for this activity, written by a working main contractor. They are not complete for your site until a competent person has scored each risk, added the site-specific hazards, and struck out anything that does not apply. Rate risks High / Medium / Low before and after controls.

1. Ropes cut or damaged on glass edges, mullions, transoms and cracked panes

At risk: Rope access technicians

Controls: Ropes rigged clear of glass edges and sharp framing, with rope protectors at every edge and deviations to keep ropes off broken or cracked glass; ropes checked before every descent on a glazed drop.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

2. The technician's own blade cutting a rope or harness while cutting out gaskets and sealant

At risk: Rope access technicians

Controls: Retractable blades only, tethered to the technician. Cuts made away from the body and to the side of the ropes — never towards or across a rope, lanyard or harness. The blade retracted and stowed between cuts, and the working position set so the ropes hang clear of the cutting line.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

3. Ropes and harnesses damaged by solvents, primers and sealants carried on the drop

At risk: Rope access technicians

Controls: Solvents and primers carried only in closed containers, in a bag hung below the technician and away from ropes and harness; product controls as KD-RA-GL-002 sets out. Any contamination of rope or harness is reported and the item quarantined for inspection before it is used again.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4. A cracked or loose pane above the technician falling on them

At risk: Rope access technicians, people below

Controls: Glazing above each drop inspected from inside and from the roof before descent. A cracked or loose pane is made safe — filmed or taped from outside, or removed from inside — before anyone works below it; the drop line is never set directly below damaged glass.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

5. Glass, beads, gaskets, tools and sealant guns dropped onto people below

At risk: The public, building users

Controls: Every tool tethered with a lanyard rated for its weight; beads, gaskets and cut-out sealant bagged as they come out. Ground-level exclusion zone barrierred and staffed, sized for the height and the wind, with pedestrian diversion and entrances covered or closed. Work stops the moment the zone is breached.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

6. Disturbing asbestos-containing materials in existing buildings

At risk: Operatives, building occupants

Controls: Check the asbestos register before any intrusive work (CAR 2012). No register, or unclear entries, means stop and refer. If suspect material is found: STOP, withdraw, secure the area and report it — the discovery procedure applies before any further work.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

7. Building systems moving into the drop — BMUs travelling, windows opened by occupants

At risk: Rope access technicians

Controls: BMU movements and window opening on the drop agreed with the building manager, and locked out or suspended for the work; occupants on the affected elevation told when and where work is happening.

INITIAL (H/M/L)	RESIDUAL (H/M/L)	SITE-SPECIFIC ADDITIONAL CONTROLS, OR N/A	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

Site-specific hazards not listed above — every site has at least one:

HAZARD	WHO IS AT RISK	CONTROLS	INITIAL HI...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- Confirm KD-RAMS-HA-002 is in place for every drop — rigging, anchors, team and rope rescue — and briefed by the rope access supervisor.
- Confirm the glazing layout and the BMU and window arrangements with the building manager.
- Check the asbestos register before any old compound, putty or sealant is cut out. Suspect or unrecorded material means stop and refer.
- Inspect the glazing on each drop from inside and from the roof. Make cracked or loose panes safe before anyone works below them.
- Set up the ground-level exclusion zone with barriers, staff and pedestrian diversion before work on the drop starts.
- Fit rope protectors and deviations to keep ropes clear of glass edges and damaged panes.
- Brief the glazing task: tethered retractable blades and cutting to the side of the ropes, solvent carrying, dropped-object controls and stop conditions.
- Descend with every tool tethered, blades retracted between cuts and solvents carried closed below the harness. Bag removed beads, gaskets and sealant.
- STOP and come off the rope if the exclusion zone is breached, a rope, lanyard or harness is cut, damaged or contaminated, glass above moves or cracks, or suspect asbestos is found.
- At the end of the shift, hand the drop back to the building manager with any damaged glazing reported.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

Rope protectors and deviations for glazed edges	Closed solvent containers in a bag hung below the harness
Tethered retractable blades	Barriers and signage for the ground exclusion zone
Tool lanyards and closed tool bags	Bags and labels for removed seals and sealant
INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS	COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

6 PPE — THE LAST LINE OF CONTROL, NOT THE FIRST

Head protection	Gloves — task-rated	Cut-resistant gloves for glazing components
Safety footwear	Eye protection	
High visibility	Hearing protection	
RPE TYPE, FACE-FIT STATUS, AND ANY OTHER PPE REQUIRED		

7 PERMITS REQUIRED BEFORE THIS WORK STARTS

A permit authorises this work in that place, on that day. It extends the safe system of work in this document — it does not replace it (HSE HSG250). The site issues the permit; record its number before work starts.

KD-PTW-WH-006 — Work at Height Permit

For rope access work where the site requires a permit.

PERMIT NUMBER

8 EMERGENCY ARRANGEMENTS — COMPLETE FOR THIS SITE

FIRST AIDER AND LOCATION	NEAREST A&E	ASSEMBLY POINT

HOW THE ALARM IS RAISED	EMERGENCY ACCESS FOR THIS WORK AREA	SPILL / ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE

9 BRIEFING RECORD — EVERYONE WORKING UNDER THIS RAMS SIGNS BEFORE STARTING

By signing you confirm the contents of this RAMS have been explained to you, you understand the hazards and controls, and you will work to the sequence stated. Tell the supervisor if the work or the site does not match this document — work stops until it does.

NAME	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE

10 PREPARED AND ACCEPTED

Prepared / adapted for this site by — I confirm I have adapted this document to the site, scored the risks, and that it describes how the work will actually be done.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE / COMPETENCE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Accepted for the site by — principal contractor or site manager review.

PRINTED NAME	ROLE	COMPANY	SIGNATURE	DATE	TIME

Review this RAMS if the work, the site or the law changes, and at least before each new phase of the works. Flatten the completed PDF before filing so the record cannot be silently edited.

R REVISION HISTORY

Every revision of this document, and every review that found nothing to change. The revision on the front of this sheet is the one you are holding — check kubitdocs.com for the current one before use.

Rev	Date	Class	What changed	Authorised by
D0	2026-09-11	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-09-11	review	Approved for issue by the author. Content unchanged from the reviewed draft; the draft status strip is removed. No independent third-party review has been carried out.	Author — director, UK principal contractor, SMSTS. Not an independent review.

Class: first-issue · material (the law, a control, a field or the scope changed — past buyers are notified) · editorial (wording or layout only) · review (checked, nothing changed) · withdrawal. Revision prefix D = draft, not approved and not for sale; A = approved for issue by the person named, on the date shown.