

Statutory basis: Work at Height Regulations 2005 reg 6 — a fall is prevented so far as is reasonably practicable, and equipment to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall is provided where prevention does not eliminate the risk; reg 8(c) — a net or other collective safeguard for arresting falls complies with Schedule 4, which allows it only where a risk assessment shows it can perform safely and a safer measure is not reasonably practicable, with enough people trained in it and its rescue procedures, of sufficient strength to arrest a fall, securely attached to anchors strong enough for the fall and any subsequent rescue, with sufficient clearance, and so far as practicable not itself causing injury; reg 12(2) — where safety depends on how equipment is installed, it is not used until inspected in position; reg 12(3) — equipment exposed to conditions causing deterioration is inspected at suitable intervals and after exceptional circumstances; reg 12(5) — equipment obtained from another undertaking is not used unless accompanied by physical evidence that the last inspection was carried out; reg 12(6) — the result recorded. Nets are made to BS EN 1263-1:2014, and installed to BS EN 1263-2:2014 and BS 8411:2019. This document is the recorded safe system of work required by HSWA 1974 s.2(2)(a) and MHSWR 1999 regs 3 and 5. Written for Great Britain; in Northern Ireland the equivalent Northern Ireland regulations apply.

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

Rigging, handover, in-use inspection, alteration and striking of safety nets rigged to arrest falls below work at height — steel erection, roofing, cladding, decking and similar work — by trained and competent net riggers: choosing the nets and anchorages, the clearance below the net, rigging from the ground or from MEWPs, the handover before anyone works above, inspection while the nets are in use, what happens after a fall into a net or damage to it, rescuing a person from a net, and striking.

This document does not cover: soft landing systems such as air-filled or bean bags (the supplier's instructions govern, on the same principles), debris netting and scaffold sheeting (they do not arrest falls), temporary edge protection (KD-RAMS-SC-004), and the handover certificate and inspection log themselves (KD-INS-SN-041).

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. Riggers falling while installing, altering or striking nets

At risk: Net riggers

Controls: Nets rigged from the ground with remote attachment equipment wherever possible; otherwise from MEWPs, with riggers in restraint in boom-type platforms; harness attached to a suitable anchor whenever a rigger is outside a protected position; rigging, alteration and striking only by trained and competent net riggers, never by the trades working above.

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

2. Nets relied on where a fall could have been prevented, or rigged too far below the work

At risk: Everyone working above the net

Controls: Nets are not a substitute for fall prevention; HSE's guidance on safety nets is that they are used alongside it where the risk of a fall cannot be eliminated. Work at Height Regulations 2005 reg 6 puts preventing a fall first (reg 6(3) and (4)), and only where that does not eliminate the risk, equipment to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall (reg 6(5)(a)). Nets are positioned as close as possible to the working level to minimise the height of a fall.

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

3. Net that cannot arrest a fall — wrong type, damaged, or without test evidence

At risk: Everyone working above the net

Controls: Nets and components made to BS EN 1263-1:2014, each net carrying its label and identification; the evidence of the test mesh testing the manufacturer's instructions require is on site and in date for every net used — no evidence, not rigged; nets checked for cuts, burns, broken meshes, UV and chemical damage before rigging. A net must be suitable and of sufficient strength to arrest safely the fall of anyone liable to fall onto it (Work at Height Regulations 2005 Schedule 4).

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

4. Anchorages or border ropes failing

At risk: Everyone working above the net

Controls: Installed to BS EN 1263-2:2014 and BS 8411:2019 and the manufacturer's instructions; anchorage points on the structure confirmed by the structure's designer or engineer, before rigging, as able to take the loads in arresting a fall and during any subsequent rescue (Schedule 4 para 4(a)); ropes and connectors of the type the net manufacturer specifies; edges that could cut a rope protected; the net secured to every anchorage it needs (Schedule 4).

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

5. Faller striking the ground, structure or objects below the net*At risk: Anyone falling into the net*

Controls: Clearance under the net enough for it to deflect without the faller hitting the ground or anything else — worked out at rigging from the installation instructions and written on the handover; the space below kept clear of stored materials, plant and scaffolds for as long as the net is in use; the height people could fall into the net kept within the installation limits.

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

6. People working above a net before it has been handed over, or after an alteration*At risk: Everyone working above the net*

Controls: A net is not used until a competent person has inspected it in position after installation (Work at Height Regulations 2005 reg 12(2)). HSE's guidance on safety nets advises a handover certificate after that inspection; it is recorded on KD-INS-SN-041 and normally completed by the rigging contractor's competent person, and nobody works above the net until it is signed. Because the nets come from another undertaking, the signed handover — and afterwards the latest inspection record — is the physical evidence of the last inspection that reg 12(5) requires before they are used; any alteration made by net riggers only, and the net inspected again before work above resumes; other trades never unhook, move or cut a net.

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

7. Net deteriorating while in use — debris, weather, sparks, damage*At risk: Everyone working above the net*

Controls: Inspected at suitable intervals and after anything liable to affect its safety (reg 12(3)): at least weekly, as HSE's guidance on safety nets advises, and after loading by materials or people, after damage, and after high wind, snow or ice; results recorded (reg 12(6)). Debris cleared from the net; hot work above a net only where the net is protected from sparks or removed from beneath the work.

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

8. A fall into the net — damaged net reused, injured person left*At risk: The faller, everyone working above*

Controls: Work above that net stops at once; the net installer is told straight away; a net that has arrested a fall will almost certainly need replacing and is not relied on again until a competent person has inspected it; the incident reported through the site procedure.

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

9. Rescuing a person from the net*At risk: The faller, rescuers*

Controls: The rescue plan is written before rigging: how a person, possibly injured, is reached and brought out of the net — MEWP access from below or the side, or a stretcher system — and how first aid is given while they are in the net; enough people trained in the net and its rescue procedures on site whenever work goes on above (Schedule 4); emergency service access to the area below kept open; nobody enters the net to reach the casualty except as the rescue plan specifies.

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

10. Striking — nets and components falling, riggers exposed*At risk: Riggers, everyone below*

Controls: Nets struck only when all work above has finished and the work is protected another way; exclusion below while striking; nets lowered under control, never dropped; nets inspected, dried and stored off the ground, away from sunlight, heat and chemicals.

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

11. Manual handling of boards, materials and components*At risk: Operatives*

Controls: Mechanical aids first — trolleys, board lifters, hoists. Two-person lifts for boards and long components; order materials in manageable sizes; plan storage close to the workforce; keep carrying routes clear and lit.

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 H/...	RESIDUAL...	ACTION OWNER	BY WHEN

4 METHOD — SEQUENCE OF WORK

- Receive the net layout: net type, sizes, anchorage positions, clearance below, fall heights and the rescue plan; confirm the structure's designer has accepted the anchorage loads.
- Check every net and component on delivery: label, identification, condition and the test mesh evidence; reject anything without it.
- Set the exclusion below the rigging area; rig from the ground or MEWPs, in restraint; protect sharp edges.
- Rig to the layout, BS EN 1263-2:2014, BS 8411:2019 and the manufacturer's instructions; tension and join the nets as instructed.
- A competent person — normally the rigging contractor's — inspects the installation in position — nets, anchorages, joins, clearance — and completes the handover certificate on KD-INS-SN-041.

- 06 The principal contractor accepts the handover and briefs the trades above: the area covered, what they must not do to the net, and what to report. The signed handover, and afterwards the latest inspection line, is the evidence of the last inspection that reg 12(5) requires before the nets are used.
- 07 Inspect at least weekly and after loading, damage, high wind, snow or ice; record each inspection on KD-INS-SN-041; clear debris.
- 08 STOP work above a net after any fall into it, damage, an alteration, a missed inspection, or loss of clearance below.
- 09 If someone falls into a net: raise the alarm, keep them still in the net, carry out the rescue plan, call the emergency services, and tell the installer.
- 10 Strike only when work above is finished: exclusion below, riggers in restraint, nets lowered under control, inspected and stored.

SITE-SPECIFIC AMENDMENTS TO THE SEQUENCE

5 PLANT, EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

- Safety nets and components to BS EN 1263-1:2014, labelled, with test evidence
- Border ropes, tie ropes and connectors to the manufacturer's specification
- Remote attachment equipment for rigging from the ground
- MEWPs for rigging and rescue
- Rescue equipment as the rescue plan specifies
- Barriers for the exclusion zone

INSPECTION / THOROUGH EXAMINATION REFS

COSHH ASSESSMENT REFS

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

- Head protection
- Safety footwear
- High visibility
- Gloves — task-rated
- Eye protection
- Hearing protection
- Harness with restraint lanyard for riggers in boom-type MEWPs

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

Where the site requires a permit for rigging and for work above the nets.

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	2026-09-12	first-issue	First issue.	— not yet approved —
A0	2026-09-12	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.