

Safe Work Method Statement

### **Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) for Working at Heights**

**Project:** High Rise Construction Project
**Location:** 456 High Tower Lane
**Date:** October 7, 2024
**Prepared by:** Jane Smith, Safety Coordinator

#### **1. Project Details**

* **Project Manager:** James Anderson
* **Site Supervisor:** Sarah Lee
* **Safety Officer:** Michael Roberts

#### **2. Activity Description**

The activity involves working at heights above two meters using scaffolding and ladders to install external cladding on a new high-rise building.

#### **3. Legislation and Standards**

* Work Health and Safety Act
* National Code of Practice for Working at Heights
* Company Health and Safety Policy

#### **4. Identification of Hazards**

* Falls from heights due to unstable working platforms or slip hazards.
* Falling objects that could injure workers or pedestrians below.
* Weather conditions that may compromise safety on scaffolding (e.g., high winds, rain).

#### **5. Risk Assessment**

* **Falls:** Risk level is high. Potential for serious injury or fatality.
* **Falling Objects:** Risk level is moderate to high. Potential for injury to persons below the work area.
* **Adverse Weather:** Risk level is moderate. Could lead to slips or loss of control.

#### **6. Control Measures**

* **Falls:**
	+ Only trained personnel were allowed to work at heights.
	+ Use of fall arrest systems, including harnesses and safety nets.
	+ Regular inspection and maintenance of all scaffolding.
* **Falling Objects:**
	+ Use of toe boards and tool lanyards to prevent tools and materials from falling.
	+ Mandatory hard hats for everyone in the vicinity.
* **Weather Conditions:**
	+ Monitoring of weather updates via local weather service.
	+ Suspension of work during high winds or electrical storms.

#### **7. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

* Safety harnesses and lanyards for all workers working at heights.
* Hard hats, safety boots, and high visibility clothing for all site personnel.
* Gloves and eye protection as required by task specifics.

#### **8. Training and Competency**

* All workers must have completed a recognized safety training program specific to working at heights.
* Regular refresher training courses to be attended by all site workers.

#### **9. Emergency Procedures**

* Detailed rescue plan in place for fall incidents, including on-site rescue equipment and trained personnel.
* Immediate reporting procedures for all incidents and near-misses.
* Emergency contact information readily accessible to all workers.

#### **10. Review and Monitoring**

* Weekly safety inspections by the Safety Officer to ensure ongoing compliance with the SWMS.
* SWMS to be reviewed and updated following any incident or introduction of new work methods or equipment.

#### **11. Worker Agreement**

* All workers involved in this task must read and sign this SWMS to acknowledge understanding and acceptance of the risks and controls.