

Preventing Dropped Objects

Guidance Note

What this sheet covers:

This sheet covers the dangers of not securing tools, equipment and other materials whilst working at height and the impact arising from dropped objects.

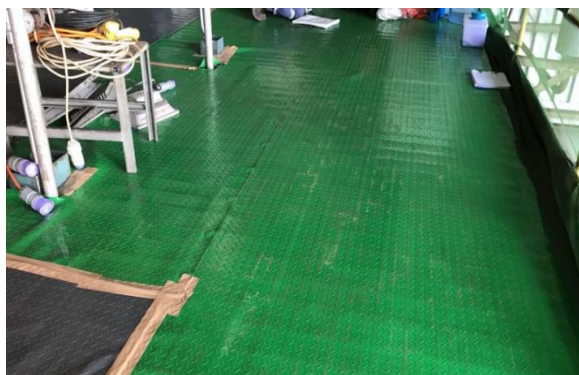
Types of dropped objects

Objects can fall from height due to a variety of reasons:

- ✓ Poor housekeeping and poorly secured equipment
- ✓ Dropped hand tools if there are sudden or unexpected movements such as a spanner slipping off a nut
- ✓ Vibration, corrosion & environmental conditions such as wind, corroded fastening.
- ✓ Unnecessary distraction/lack of attention
- ✓ Not following lifting plans or procedures
- ✓ Striking against or colliding with objects



Tools / parts stored in containers
工具及物料放置在容器中



Cover grating with canvas
用帆布鋪設地台

Preventing Dropped Objects

- ✓ Before you start any task, always consider the potential for dropped objects
- ✓ Discuss potential dropped objects during the PWRA / tool box talk meeting
- ✓ Visually inspect the work area for loose items at the beginning and end of every work shift
- ✓ Ensure maintenance and periodic inspection of tools
- ✓ Use mats or canvas sheets where there is a risk of small objects penetrating through scaffolding gaps and gratings
- ✓ Ensure that tools and equipment are placed into tool boxes when not being used
- ✓ Use toe-boards on scaffolding
- ✓ Always carry tools in a proper tool belt and not in coverall pockets
- ✓ Use lanyards on hand tools when there is an increased risk of dropping tools to lower levels
- ✓ Always return tools and equipment back to the stores at the end of every shift
- ✓ Use barricades below the work area to keep people out of the danger zone.
- ✓ Look for potential dropped objects during safety inspections

