



NATIONAL ACCESS & SCAFFOLDING CONFEDERATION

National Access & Scaffolding Confederation Press Release

For Immediate dissemination

NASC 2016 Safety Report Launch

The NASC is set to launch its 2016 Safety Report at the forthcoming 'The Health & Safety Event' industry event being held at the NEC, March 22-24.

The highly-regarded annual NASC Safety Report documents and analyses accident and injury statistics for all 199 NASC full contracting member companies in 2015 – covering 14,954 scaffolding operatives, which constitutes a major proportion of the UK's total scaffolding workforce.

In addition to its launch on the NASC stand (C66) at The Health & Safety Event on March 22nd, the NASC 2016 Safety Report is also being circulated with *Construction News* in their April Work at Height issue, publishing April 29th.

And a digital PDF version will be available to view online [here](#) and hard copies of the report will be sent to all NASC Full Contracting member companies, Hire, Sales and Manufacturing members and Information members, as well as construction and health and safety industry professionals.

All 199 NASC full contracting members are required to submit a completed annual accident return as a requirement of membership, and the NASC Safety Report is based on data generated by this exercise. It features:

- * Injuries and fatalities to operatives, members of the public and third parties.
- * Accident causes and types.
- * Detailed analysis of accidents.
- * Comparison of HSE/NASC accident statistics.
- * What the NASC does to support safe scaffolding practice.

In line with current HSE reporting procedures, the NASC 2016 Safety Report reports on seven day incidents only (as it did in 2014 and 2015). As such, the latest report appears to show a marked reduction in incidents.

Positively, figures included in the 2016 NASC Safety Report show another zero for fatal accidents within the membership, there were no reported falls from a scaffold/working platform where the fall was arrested by a lanyard/harness, and

falls from scaffolds/working platforms showed a decrease of 44% in 2015 from 9 to 5 incidents, in addition falls from ladders also decreased.

However, as per the trend of the previous 12 years, the major cause of injury to scaffolders during 2015 continues to be Slips, Trips and Falls (STF) on the same level, amounting to just over 34% of all injuries reported this year.

The NASC Health and Safety Committee is committed to looking at ways of reducing the amount of slips, trips and falls – starting with the publication of a new Safety Guidance note later this year; SG32:16 'Management of Slips, Trips and Falls.'

The report also states, as per previous years, that the highest number of accidents occurred in the 21- 30 age group = 42 (44%) and it was scaffolders reporting the greatest number of incidents (also at 44%) compared to other scaffold sector jobs, like labourers and managers.

NASC President, Alan Lilley said: "The NASC continues to produce this most detailed and honest breakdown of the incidents that occur annually within the membership of the confederation. Safety professionals across the construction industry rush to analyse the detail, as do we: the information it contains is used to benchmark our members against the wider industry and to ensure that our safety and technical guidance remains good practice and fit for purpose within the scaffolding and access sectors.

"The NASC members' incident statistics over the years have seen dramatic reductions in major injury and fatalities – and this year sees many positive safety statistics again.

"As ever, we must continue to strive for zero incidents throughout the scaffolding and access industry. And I am confident that through greater regulation on the part of the confederation future issues of this well received annual Safety Report will show further reductions in reported incidents within our membership."

NASC Managing Director, Robin James added: "It's pleasing to see that our members and their 15,000 scaffolding operatives – accounting for a significant share of the UK scaffolding workforce – have once again helped reduce accident and injury statistics across the sector.

"By training staff properly and adhering to the latest industry regulations and Safety and Technical guidance – like SG4:15 'Preventing Falls in Scaffolding Operations' – the NASC membership is helping to make scaffolding and work at height as safe as possible."

To obtain a digital PDF copy of the NASC 2016 Safety Report please visit the new website Safety Report section [here](#) (<https://www.nasc.org.uk/information/safety-reports/>) or contact NASC directly for a hard copy.

And to obtain details about becoming an NASC member and to find out more about the NASC, the national trade body for access and scaffolding in the UK, visit www.nasc.org.uk or email: enquiries@nasc.org.uk.