



NATIONAL ACCESS & SCAFFOLDING CONFEDERATION

National Access & Scaffolding Confederation Press Release

For Immediate dissemination

NASC Issues Amended Version of SG4:15 Management Guide

An amended version of the SG4:15 Preventing Falls in Scaffolding Operations management guide has been posted on the NASC website, incorporating a foreword from HSE. The document is available to download free of charge, and will shortly be available for purchase from the NASC in hard copy format.

The July 2016 version supersedes the launch version previously posted in November 2015, and is unchanged except for incorporation of the HSE foreword, addition of the HSE logo to the front cover, and an amendment to the preface to reflect a change of NASC President since the document was launched. There are no changes to the guidance content.

In the HSE foreword, Peter Baker, HSE Chief Inspector of Construction observes: "SG4 continues to represent the good industry practice established in previous editions", and notes that the guidance clearly shows that with proper planning, preparation, provision and the use of correct equipment and systems of work, the risk of a fall can be eliminated or minimised.

Mr Baker adds: "I hope that the wider industry rises to the challenge in embracing this revised guidance. HSE will not hesitate to take action against employers and scaffolding operatives who fail to comply with their legal obligations and place themselves and others at risk of injury when working at height.

"The HSE continues to work closely with the NASC and endorses this guidance which follows a sensible and proportionate approach to managing health and safety."

Adrian Rooney, SG4:15 Working Party Chair, said: "We're pleased to have received endorsement from HSE for this guidance. We are confident that the latest revision will be widely accepted by the industry. Work at height is by far the biggest risk faced by scaffolders. Adhering to the principles in SG4:15 will not only serve to

offer continual improvement in accident prevention, but will assist users to meet work at height legal obligations.”

Alan Lilley, NASC President, said: “The true impact of SG4 is evidenced by the 82% reduction in the frequency rate of falls from height by NASC members. These statistics speak for themselves and provide a clear demonstration that SG4 works.”

Re-titled ‘Preventing Falls in Scaffolding Operations’ for the update, SG4:15 was launched at the NASC 2015 AGM in Leeds. Numerous copies have been downloaded from the NASC website since launch.

Whilst many of the principles of SG4 remain unchanged, the fine-tuning “evolution not revolution” approach to the review of the guidance reflects a broader scope introduced by TG20 compliant scaffolds, changes to good practice and industry innovation in the scaffolding sector. These include:

1. Erecting floor height lifts
2. Bridging with beams
3. Loading bay gate installation
4. Cantilever scaffolding
5. Chimney stack scaffolding
6. New personal fall protection equipment

To download a free copy of the latest SG4:15 ‘Preventing Falls in Scaffolding Operations’ management guide, purchase a copy of the SG4:You user guide to SG4:15, or the TG20:13 full suite and for further information about the NASC – the UK scaffolding industry trade body – including how to become an NASC member, please visit www.nasc.org.uk or email: enquiries@nasc.org.uk directly.

And for more details on CISRS training, including a list of current providers, please visit: www.cisrs.org.uk