Steel Safety Day 2022
Working at heights
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Introduction
Established in 2014, Steel Safety Day was set up to reinforce awareness of the five most common causes of safety incidents and to create a safer working environment across the entire steel industry worldwide. The focus for 2022 is working at heights.

This year, worldsteel is collaborating with 3M to deliver a series of webinars identifying the risks involved at working at heights and how to manage them.
Webinar schedule
Fall protection fundamentals

24th February 2022, 14.00 UTC

David Baker, Application Engineering Product Specialist Leader - 3M Fall Protection EMEA

This online seminar, the first in a series of webinars dedicated to fall protection and working at height, will build your understanding of and cover the basics of the topic.

We will look at how to identify work at height, why we need to consider fall protection, and what the consequences of falling can be.

We will cover the hierarchy of control for work at height and the ABCs of personal fall protection, and understand the elements required to create an effective fall protection system.

We will then explore some of the basic key understandings of work at height and fall protection including fall factors, fall clearance, swing falls and arrest vs. restraint before finally covering some of the common terminology that is used in the industry.
In this webinar we will investigate work at height when using MEWPs and Cherry Pickers.

It is essential to understand the needs and requirements of using these types of equipment and how to ensure that you are protected from falls from height when using them.

We will look into different machine types and the fall hazards associated with them, what type of PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) you need to consider using and the limitations the choices have.

We will also look at rescue and recovery in the event of a fall and why this an important topic.
Working on industrial facilities and equipment such as pipe racking and cable trays can present many challenges when it comes to working at height safely.

Access can be difficult and often requires climbing over equipment to get to where you need to be working, and finding a suitable anchor point can be difficult.

In this webinar we will explore the fall hazards associated with this type of work and how we can mitigate and control them, looking into how to provide effective anchorage points, effective techniques to stay connected, the use of restraint and work positioning, and the need to consider rescue and recovery.
Cranes and gantries

21st April 2022, 14.00 UTC

David Baker, Application Engineering Product Specialist Leader - 3M Fall Protection EMEA

Overhead cranes and gantries present a unique challenge when it comes to working at height, often getting to the workplace itself can be hazardous and require the use of various pieces of fall protection equipment including ladders and cable systems.

Once at the workstation it can sometimes be necessary to evacuate quickly without retracing the long access route and the machines themselves require ongoing maintenance at height to continue working effectively.

In this online seminar we will cover all these topics, understand the hazards and control measures, and look at how equipment choice and use can increase the efficiency of operation.
Plant and equipment access

19th May 2022, 14.00 UTC

Peter Blackburn, AE Product Specialist EMEA, Fall Protection, 3M Personal Safety Division

Accessing plants and equipment presents some incredibly unique fall protection hazards, including the issue of low fall clearance, and often involves dealing with other issues such as heat and sparks from either the equipment itself or the work being carried out on it.

Access to the equipment and finding and utilising a suitable anchor point can also be a serious issue when working on this type of equipment, particularly if the equipment has mobile or moving elements.

This webinar will investigate and explain these hazards, how to mitigate them and how correct fall protection equipment choice and selection can be critical to success.
Climbing fixed ladders poses an interesting question with regard to fall protection. The default industry standard for protection for fixed ladders is normally a ladder cage, but how much protection do these really provide? In this webinar we explore the history of ladder cages (hoops), understand their limitations, and look at what other products and techniques can be used to provide greater levels of protection.

Erecting and dismantling scaffolding is one of the most common work at height activities undertaken on sites and contributes significantly to the number of work at height accident statistics. It is a very dynamic job, and the worker must remain mobile whilst staying safely attached.

We will understand the hazards that are unique to this application and explore the options available to allow the worker to remain protected whilst still being able to carry out the task.
14th July 2022, 14.00 UTC

Jason Giefer, Application Engineer, 3M Fall Protection

Working on vehicles or transportation logistics poses the dual issue of low fall clearance combined with the need to be highly mobile in order to be able to carry out the tasks required.

In this webinar we will look at the hazards involved in this type of low-level work at height, as well as understand what we need to do to control them, and the solutions that are available to achieve this.
11th August 2022, 14.00 UTC

Raymond Mann, QSSP, 3M Fall Protection, Global Senior Specialist Application Engineer

Working on buildings, facilities and roofs presents many work at height hazards, including suitable access, slippery or fragile surfaces, external factors such as weather conditions, material handling, leading edges, and rescue requirements.

This online seminar will look at these hazards in detail, helping you to understand the risks and consequences of these activities, and exploring the planning required and the options, equipment, and solutions available to mitigate them.
Rescue and recovery from height

15th September 2022, 14.00 UTC

Heidi Lopez-Hidalgo, PE, Senior Application Engineer, 3M Fall Protection

Rescue and recovery from height is an often-overlooked part of providing a safe and effective work at height solution.

It is critical that should a fall occur that there are suitable and sufficient plans and equipment in place to be able to affect a rescue safely and quickly.

This webinar will explore why rescue planning is so important, investigate the consequences of poor rescue planning, the considerations we need to make, and the equipment available to provide a safe and effective rescue.
Confined space

20th October 2022, 14.00 UTC

Stewart Ayrey, Advanced Application Engineering Specialist, EMEA Segment Team

Confined spaces often present unseen challenges like extreme temperatures, unstable materials, the potential for falls, and the need for specialist access equipment. We will cover the definitions of confined spaces and typical hazards such an environment presents, but will spend more time looking at how to provide a safe working environment for individuals and teams to complete tasks safely and effectively. We will also demonstrate how to plan and implement effective safety controls. Rescue and escape will also be discussed along with roles and responsibilities of each team member.

In this webinar we will investigate the subject of confined spaces, the considerations that need to be made, and the solutions and equipment available to safely develop a confined space entry solution.
Dropped Objects have the potential to cause serious or fatal injuries to workers or cause expensive damage to equipment that they strike.

The potential for harm, even a long way from the drop site makes dropped objects an important addition to consider when planning work at height.

In this webinar we will explore the statistics behind dropped objects and understand the potential for injury and damage that they have as well as looking into the ways in which we can control those risks and the equipment available to provide safe and effective solutions.
Regular inspection and maintenance of PPE is critical to ensuring that it will go on providing effective protection throughout its lifespan. Fall protection equipment is often exposed to extremely hazardous or extreme environments and therefore regular inspection and maintenance must be carried out to ensure it continues to work effectively.

In this webinar we will understand the need for inspection and look at suitable inspection schedules and product lifespans as well as gain an understanding of the types of inspection and maintenance, who can carry them out safely, and how we can safely dispose of FPPE at the end of its life.
David Baker is the EMEA Application Engineering Product Specialist Leader for the 3M Fall Protection Business, part of 3M’s Personal Safety Division.

David has worked in the fall protection industry for over 20 years, including roles in fall protection systems design, fall protection training, project management, and business ownership.

Since joining 3M he has held several roles including Special Projects Manager, Fall Protection Systems Specialist and currently leads a team of application engineering specialists for the EMEA region for fall protection.

This team is responsible for providing an advanced level of technical support for customers, product training & education, as well as supporting 3M fall protection new product introductions, customer insights and regulatory development.

Fall protection fundamentals – 24.02.2022
MEWP and cherry picker work at height – 24.03.2022
Cranes and gantries – 21.04.2022
Service and maintenance of FPPE – 15.12.2022
During a 40-year career spanning many industries and sectors including telecoms, wind energy and construction, Stephen has gained extensive experience with many aspects of the fall protection and confined spaces access industry. Starting his working career as a telecoms rigger he has progressed into height safety and confined space access training, taking the role of 3M Safety Training Manager in 2010. Currently Stephen is an Application Engineer – Fall Protection – Confined Space Access for 3M UK and Ireland, providing an excellent opportunity to support customers on all technical aspects of these challenging arenas.

Based in North Wales, Stephen covers the UK and Ireland, supporting our customers, distributors, and sales teams.
Peter Blackburn

AE Product Specialist EMEA, Fall Protection, 3M Personal Safety Division

Peter Blackburn is a Product Specialist Application Engineer at 3M, specifically for their range of fall protection products. He has been based in one of the company’s French offices since 2001, covering the EMEA Area.

He has worked in fall protection since completing a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Manchester in product design and development.

His professional career at 3M started in the R&D office where he was responsible for the development and certification of textile products, notably harness and fall arrest lanyards. He then accepted various roles in technical support and training through to product marketing manager. Since 2020 Peter has been able to leverage his vast product and insight experience as a product specialist, fuelling the development new products via the expression of the strong voice of customer studies.
Nathan Meyer is the Global Application Engineering Leader for the 3M Fall Protection Business, part of 3M’s Personal Safety Division. Nathan started his career in the fall protection industry working as a mechanical designer, creating new and innovative fall protection products.

Throughout his 14 years in the fall protection business, Nathan has also held positions as project engineer and portfolio manager, responsible for 3M’s confined space and flexiguard anchorage product offerings. Most recently, Nathan has been leading the Global Application Engineering team for fall protection.

This team is responsible for providing an advanced level of technical support for customers, product training and education, as well as supporting 3M fall protection new product introductions and customer insights.
Jason Giefer
Application Engineer, 3M Fall Protection

Jason is an application engineer for 3M’s Fall Protection division, residing professionally at the Red Wing Minnesota manufacturing plant. His passion of keeping workers at heights safe spans a 20+ year career in the fall protection industry.

His experience includes hundreds of site visits assessing fall hazards and providing solutions. His duties consist of supporting and educating 3M’s US and international fall protection teams relating to product use and general fall protection ideology. He also works on new product development teams to ensure products being developed meet the real-life needs of end users. He maintains a strong knowledge base of the applicable fall protection regulatory standards.
Ray has been a Global Senior Specialist Application Engineer with 3M Fall Protection for over 16 years and offers more than 33 years of industry experience regarding design, manufacture, testing, qualification and use of fall protection, fall arrest systems, confined space products, rescue equipment, and services.

Additionally, Ray has extensive knowledge of current Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations as they pertain to the requirements for personal fall protection systems regulated under General Industry under OSHA 29 CFR 1910.140 and Construction Industry OSHA 29 CFR 1926.502.

Ray continues to demonstrate his passion from an application engineering capacity, helping to provide safety engineers, product managers and end-users within the global fall protection industry by supporting development of product design and performance standards. This includes participating as an active committee member of ANSI/ASSP Z359 Fall Protection Code, ANSI/ASSP A10 for Construction and Demolition Operations and ANSI A14.3 for Fixed Ladders. Ray is also an active member of the International Safety Equipment Association (ISEA), holding positions of Fall Protection Product Group vice chair-person and current chair-person from 2012 to current.
Heidi Lopz-Hidalgo
Senior Application Engineer, 3M Fall Protection

Heidi is a Senior Application Engineer for 3M Fall Protection based in St. Paul, MN, USA.

She is a professional engineer licensed in multiple states in the USA with a background in structural engineering design. She has a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from LeTourneau University.

Over her career she has had in depth experience working with fall protection applications in the general industry and the construction industry as well as the petrochemical industry. Her current role as an Application Engineer for 3M Fall Protection involves harnessing customer insight and serving as a fall protection subject matter expert to all industries.

Rescue and recovery from height –
15.09.2022
Stewart Ayrey has worked for 3M for over 24 years, the last 14 years in the PPE Technical Team (Personal Safety Division) as an EMEA technical specialist. Through these years, Stewart has worked on PPE product development and regulatory approvals. In more recent years, Stewart has become solely focussed on supporting end-users across several key market segments, including metals, manufacturing, transportation, chemicals, and pharmaceutical manufacturing. Additionally, following the acquisition of Capital Safety and more recently Scott Safety by 3M, Stewart has been also become 3M’s EMEA expert in confined space solutions, including PPE, training and all aspects of evaluation, planning, and safe working in confined spaces.

Amongst other qualifications, Stewart is a Fit2Fit accredited RPE fit tester, is qualified by City & Guilds in confined space and is currently studying to become a Certified Industrial Hygienist.
Don Medeiros
Senior Safety Applications Professional, 3M Fall Protection

Don brings to 3M a Bachelor of Applied Science (BASc) from the School of Occupational and Public Health at Ryerson University (Canada) as well as 19 years of practical experience in the field of occupational health and safety. He is currently serving as a Senior Safety Applications Professional supporting the USAC fall protection business. He has worked predominantly within the construction sector in a wide range of industrial and commercial settings and has been a practicing Canadian Registered Safety Professional (CRSP) for over a decade.

In recent years, Don has shifted his safety focus to fall protection given the continued frequency of fall injuries and fatalities both in construction and at large, through training, disseminating technical specifications and field consultation for various applications. Don has been a certified instructor in Ontario, under the Ministry of Labour (MOL) Working at Heights Program, with both the Infrastructure Health & Safety Association (IHSA) and 3M’s own safety training organisation.
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