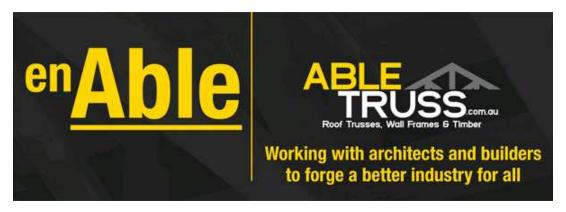
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Safety is a key factor for all of us, particularly

when we expect our staff to work at height and under

demanding conditions! Worksafe requirements for fall

protection as a result are;

Truss and batten erection

Current requirements

Roof trusses and battens should be spaced no more than 900mm centres to reduce the risk of internal falls.

New requirements

If internal fall protection cannot be provided, truss and batten spacing should be reduced to minimise the risk of internal falls by one of the following:

- if truss spacing does not exceed 600mm centres, the batten spacing must not exceed 900mm centres
- if truss spacing is greater than 600mm but not exceeding 900mm centres, the batten spacing must not exceed 450mm centres.

If truss spacing exceeds 900mm and batten spacing exceeds 450, other fall protection must be provided.

Roofing tasks

Current requirements

A system of physical fall protection should be provided

Stability of

buildings during

RSS

construction

WorkSafe inspectors have attended numerous incidents where buildings have partially or totally collapsed during the construction process. These collapses have often resulted in death or injury to workers and in addition to the damage to property, significant financial cost to the builder from the clean-up and rectification works.

WorkSafe's expectations

To prevent these types of structural collapses WorkSafe expects the person in control of the construction work to have systems in place that ensure the building/ structure is stabilised and adequately braced against live and dead loads, including lateral loads during all stages of construction.

Any system should include the following:

> • A competent person to check the

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- where a worker may be exposed to the risk of a fall greater than three metres
- · where a two metre clear zone cannot be established
- where the two metre clear zone is no longer being maintained
- the pitch of the roof is greater than the critical angle.

New requirements

Where there is a risk of a fall from a height of two metres

or more, implement:

 External fall protection in the form of physical edge protection (eg guardrailing or perimeter scaffolding). construction sequence and design appropriate temporary bracings or supports; some projects may require input from a structural engineer.

- Stability and bracing requirements should be documented, either in the work method statement or on the building plans, for each stage of construction.
- Stability and bracing arrangements are reviewed when structural changes are made
- Existing bracing is regularly checked to ensure the continued robustness of the whole building.
- Ensure that all temporary bracing is installed correctly and is maintained

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Able Truss are proud supporters of the YMCA's bridge project – providing hope, inspiring dreams for our youth.

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