


# METIS HOMES

Modern Homes. Traditional Values.



## SAFETY ALERT

## NO. 3

<b>Alert date:</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> October 2022</b>
<b>Condition:</b>	<b>Operative working from top rungs of stepladder</b>
<b>Resulting risk:</b>	<b>Fall from height, due to unsuitability of access equipment for the task height, over-reaching and inability to maintain 3 points of contact with ladder</b>
<b>How identified:</b>	<b>MSAFE safety monitoring visit</b>
<b>Condition supporting commentary:</b>	<p><b>Photo Notes / Actions:</b> Ladder too short.</p> <p>Item discussed with the operative and Site Manager at the time of inspection.</p> <p>As discussed with the Site Manager, step ladders are being used where scaffold tower/podium steps could be used as a safer alternative.</p> <p>Where ladders are used, ensure a risk assessment/permit demonstrates they are appropriate to use, for example work is of short duration and 3 points of contact can be maintained.</p>
<b>Condition supporting photos:</b>	<div data-bbox="453 1435 927 2085"></div> <p><b>Operative needs to work from top two rungs of stepladder in order to reach workface</b></p> <p><b>Unsuitable choice of access equipment for the task</b></p> <p><b>Ground has not been cleared of debris to provide level ground to foot stepladder on</b></p>

# METIS HOMES

Modern Homes. Traditional Values.



<b>Work being performed:</b>	<b>Electrician fitting outside light to soffit of porch</b>
<b>Relationship between condition and work being performed:</b>	<b>Suitable access equipment was not easily / readily available so operative used own step ladders</b>
<b>Corrective action (options &amp; selected):</b>	<b>Stepladders should only be used for low risk short duration work (e.g. 30 mins) and in the following conditions:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Ladder can be footed securely on level ground</li><li>- Ladder is in good condition and sized appropriately so that operative can reach the work face whilst maintaining 3 points of contact with 3 clear steps</li><li>- No over-reaching</li><li>- Ladder is Class 1 and / or BS EN 131 compliant</li></ul>
<b>Corrective action supporting photos:</b>	<p>The diagram shows a silhouette of a person on a step ladder, holding a power drill. A circular callout at the top left states 'MEETS BRITISH OR EUROPEAN STANDARD'. Red callout boxes point to various safety features: 'RIGHT HEIGHT FOR JOB' (pointing to the person's reach), 'GOOD GRIP' (pointing to the handhold), 'NO OVER-REACHING' (pointing to the person's arm position), 'LADDER UNDAMAGED' (pointing to the ladder structure), 'FRONT-ON' (pointing to the person's stance), 'FIRM AND LEVEL BASE' (pointing to the ladder's feet), 'FOUR NON-SLIP FEET' (pointing to the ladder's base), 'CLEAN STEPS' (pointing to the ladder's rungs), and 'FLAT SHOES' (pointing to the person's feet).</p>

# METIS HOMES

Modern Homes. Traditional Values.



<b>Preventative action:</b>	<p><b>Avoid use of stepladders for longer duration work and provide safer alternative means of access such as podium steps or mobile scaffold tower set to correct height</b></p> <p><b>Check sub-contractors' RAMS identify where stepladders may be intended to be used and consider whether safer alternative means are an option</b></p> <p><b>Ensure step ladders are appropriately sized for the task so that operative can maintain 3 points of contact and does not need to overreach or work from top 3 steps</b></p> <p><b>If stepladders are used, ensure immediate surrounding area cleared of debris to allow footing on solid and level ground</b></p>
<b>Alert prepared by:</b>	<b><i>Andrew Sinclair</i></b>