Occupational Health and Safety Requirements at Construction Sites


Amended by the following Regulation (date, number, publication in the Riigi Teataja, date of entry into force):


This Regulation is established on the basis of subsection 4 (5) the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Chapter 1

GENERAL PROVISIONS

§ 1. Scope of application

(1) These Occupational Health and Safety Requirements apply to construction work, extraction and other earthworks, construction works renovation, maintenance or reconstruction work, the assembly and dismantling of prefabricated elements, demolition works performed on the ground, underground or in water (hereinafter construction).

(2) The requirements of the Regulation do not apply to drilling or extraction in the extraction industry.

(3) Upon application of the requirements provided for in Chapter 2 of the Regulation, the characteristics of a specific construction site and construction work shall be taken into account.

§ 1¹. Definitions

In this Regulation, the following definitions are used:

1) “construction site” means an area of land or water where construction work is performed;

2) "shared construction site" means a construction site where the workers of two or more employers or self-employed workers work at the same time or consecutively;

3) “health and safety coordinator” (hereinafter coordinator) means a specialist who has at least 3 years of practical construction experience and who has undergone no less than 8 hours of training in construction safety;

4) "building contractor“ means, for the purposes of the Building Act, a person responsible for construction work;

5) "owner of construction works" means an individual or entity at whose request construction work is performed;

6) "general contractor“ means a building contractor who has been appointed by an owner of construction works to manage and organise construction work on a construction site.
§ 2. Prior notice of commencement of construction work

(1) A building contractor shall notify the Labour Inspectorate of commencement of construction work at least 3 days in advance using the form set out in the Annex to the Regulation if:

1) the work is scheduled to last longer than 30 days and more than 20 workers will be working on the construction site simultaneously, or

2) the expected volume of work exceeds 500 man-days.

(2) In the event of commencement of work on a shared construction site the general contractor shall submit the prior notice specified in subsection (1).

(3) The information given in the notice specified in subsection (1) shall be placed in a place visible to the persons working on the construction site.

§ 3. General requirements

(1) During the period of construction work, the owner of a construction works and the building contractor shall be liable for the safety of persons working or present on the construction site.

(2) On a shared construction site the general contractor shall be responsible for ensuring that the construction work does not endanger persons working on the construction site or in the vicinity thereof. If no general contractor has been appointed, employers shall enter into a written agreement on joint occupational health and safety action and the liability of the employers. If no agreement has been made, the employers shall bear solidary liability for ensuring that the work does not endanger persons working or present on the construction site.

(3) To ensure safety and prevent health risks building contractors shall follow the occupational health and safety prevention principles provided for in § 12 of the Occupational Health and Safety Act and take into account the safety information given in the building design documentation upon preparation of construction work, making proposals for amendment or modification of the said information where necessary.

(4) Upon planning the stages and setting the deadlines of construction work, building contractors shall take into account the measures specified in the building design documentation, which need to be taken at each stage of the construction work in order to ensure the occupational health and safety or the workers.

(5) To ensure safety and prevent health risks on the construction site the employers whose workers work there and self-employed workers shall follow the requirements set out in Chapter 2, ensure the prescribed use of tools and personal protective equipment, follow the requirements for handling the materials used, and take into account the orders of the coordinator where a coordinator has been appointed for the construction site.

(6) The structure and condition of tools, cranes and other lifting equipment, scaffolding, mobile shuttering, temporary supports and protective equipment used in construction work shall ensure the safety of workers.
(7) The external border of a construction site shall be delineated or clearly marked. Measures shall be taken to ensure that only authorised persons can access the construction site.

(8) The construction site shall be in a good condition and sufficiently clean.

(9) The persons working on the construction site shall be protected against noise, dust, hazardous gases and other health hazards.

(10) If workers have to enter a high-risk zone, e.g. where the atmosphere contains dangerous chemicals, has an insufficient oxygen level or is inflammable, the area shall be monitored at all times, suitable measures shall be taken to protect the workers and quick assistance of the workers in the case of an accident shall be ensured.

(11) If construction work includes demolition, reconstruction, renovation or maintenance of a construction works or a part thereof, it must be made certain before commencement of the construction work that there is no presence of asbestos in the construction works. If it is confirmed that there is a presence of asbestos, the construction work shall be carried out in accordance with the Government of the Republic Regulation "Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Work with Asbestos."

(12) Workers and their representatives shall be informed of any and all measures applied on the construction site for ensuring their safety. The information shall be understandable for the workers.


§ 4. Safety and health plan

(1) In the course of preparation of construction work a building contractor shall draw up a written safety and health plan before commencement of work on the construction site. On a shared construction site the general contractor shall draw up a safety and health plan. No safety and health plan needs to be drawn up if no work involving particular risks specified in § 5 is performed on the construction site or if the volume of construction work does not call for submission of the prior notice specified in subsection 2 (1).

(2) A safety and health plan shall be updated and it shall be available throughout the construction period to all persons working on the construction site.

(3) A safety and health plan shall contain such data on the organisation of construction work, which allows all the persons working on a construction site to perform their duties in accordance with the requirements established in Chapter 2. The safety and health plan must contain at least the following information:

1) the order and duration of stages of work;

2) a list of construction work to be performed on a construction site involving particular risks, the approximate time of performance of the work, the contact details of a person responsible for them, and measures for ensuring the safety of workers;

3) organisation of waste transport and the name of the place of tipping or of the place where waste is rendered harmless;

4) measures for prevention of noise, vibration and air pollution in the vicinity of a construction site;
5) a plan for assembly and dismantling of scaffolding, if it is used on the construction site;

6) a plan for performance of work with asbestos if it is prescribed by the Government of the
Republic Regulation “Occupational Health and Safety Requirements for Work with Asbestos” and
has not been submitted as a separate document;

7) instructions for action in the event of a risk of an accident, the names and contact details of
persons responsible for leading people out of the danger zone and performance of rescue work;

8) organisation of first aid on a construction site, the names and contact details of persons giving
first aid, the nearest place of providing emergency medical assistance.

(4) In addition to the list of construction work involving particular risks specified in 5, the results
of a risk assessment of the work process and information about the measures set out in the
building design documentation which need to be applied at each stage of the construction work for
ensuring the occupational health and safety of workers shall be taken into account upon
determining the hazardousness of a construction site.

(5) A layout of a construction site constitutes a part of a safety and health plan. The layout shall
indicate the following:

1) the location of office rooms and non-work rooms on the construction site;

2) the places for the unloading and storage of materials;

3) the places for the storage of waste;

4) the location of installations and equipment;

5) the collection sites for aggregates or soil;

6) the places of overhead transmission lines and other technical installations, including other
hazards in the soil, which existed before creation of the construction site;

7) the location of access routes and danger zones;

8) access routes for rescue or ambulance crews;

9) the location of basic fire extinguishing equipment, first aid equipment and emergency phone;

10) the location of emergency routes and exits.


§ 5. List of work involving particular risks

Above all, the following is deemed to be work involving particular risks:

1) work which puts workers at risk of burial under cave-ins or engulfment, where the risk is
particularly aggravated by the work methods used or by the environment on the construction site;

2) work which puts workers at risk from biological agents or dangerous chemicals, incl. asbestos;
3) work with ionising radiation;
4) work near high voltage power lines and transformer substations;
5) work exposing workers to the risk of drowning;
6) work performed underground, e.g. in a well, tunnel;
7) work in water, which requires the use of an air supply system;
8) work in caissons;
9) work involving the use of explosives;
10) work involving the lifting, assembly and dismantling of heavy prefabricated components;
11) work which puts workers at risk of falling from a height;
12) work involving the requirement to examine the health of workers.


§ 6. Performance of construction work

(1) The general contractor shall appoint in writing one coordinator or several coordinators for the period of performance of work on a shared construction site. If no general contractor has been appointed, a coordinator shall be appointed by the owner of the construction works.

(2) Appointment of a coordinator does not release a building contractor or the owner of a construction works from the liability for performance of their duties and obligations.

(3) During performance of construction work a coordinator shall:
1) organise and coordinate occupational safety activities on a construction site;
2) ensure the introduction of the safety and health plan to workers working on a shared construction site, their employers, self-employed workers, and other persons;
3) verify adherence to the safety and health plan and update the plan if the work is changed;
4) make certain that all underground and on-ground cables, pipes and other installations and danger zones are marked and the necessary safety measures taken;
5) make certain that persons working on the construction site and persons allowed to access the construction site are equipped with personal protective equipment corresponding to the danger;
6) organise regular general inspection of a shared construction site.

§ 7. Inspection of construction site

(1) A general inspection involving inspection of the order on a construction site and compliance with the occupational health and safety requirements set out in Chapter 2 shall be conducted on the construction site at least once a week. A coordinator shall carry out a general inspection on a shared construction site.

(2) In the course of a general inspection it is checked that the tools used in construction, incl. scaffolding, ladders and lifting equipment are in a good condition in accordance with the requirements established on the basis of subsection 5 (4) of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

(3) Before scaffolding, work platforms and ladders are used on a construction site, and in addition to the general inspection specified in subsection (2) where they have been exposed to strong wind, heavy equipment or heavy loads or where they have not been used for more than one month, an inspection shall be carried out to check that they are in good condition. Special attention shall be paid to support and protective shuttering.

(4) A statement which sets out the persons participating in the inspection, the time, defects detected and any possible suggestions for changes shall be prepared concerning an inspection carried out on a construction site. A worker who uses the tool under inspection is allowed to participate in the inspection.

(5) Any defects detected during the inspection shall be eliminated as soon as possible or before using the tool again.

(6) If conditions which are dangerous for the life of persons working on a construction site or other persons become evident in the course of an inspection, the performance of the dangerous work or the use of the dangerous tool shall be suspended until the defects are eliminated.


Chapter 2

OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION SITES

Division 1

General Requirements

§ 9. Stability and solidity

(1) Buildings and working premises shall have the structure and strength corresponding to their purpose of use.

(2) Transparent walls in the vicinity of workstations and traffic routes shall be made of a safe material or be protected against breaking and be clearly marked.

(3) Materials, equipment and objects which, when moving, may endanger the life and health of workers, shall be stabilised in an appropriate and safe manner.
(4) Access to any premises made of insufficiently resistant materials shall be obstructed if no means for ensuring the safety of the work performed there are available.

§ 10. Electrical equipment and installations

(1) Electrical equipment and installations used on a construction site shall be in accordance with requirements established by legislation.

(2) Electrical installations shall be designed, constructed and used so as not to pose a fire or explosion hazard. Workers shall be protected against the risk of electrocution caused by direct or indirect contact.

(3) Power cables and other electrical installations shall be protected against mechanical injuries.

(4) The planning, assembly and choice of electrical equipment and protection devices shall take account of the type and power of the energy distributed, external conditions and the competence of persons with access to parts of the installation.

§ 11. Emergency routes and exits

(1) Emergency routes and exits shall be free from any obstruction and lead as directly as possible to a safe area.

(2) In the event of danger, it shall be possible for workers to evacuate all workstations quickly and as safely as possible.

(3) The number, distribution and dimensions of emergency routes and exits depend on the dimensions and location of the construction site, the work equipment used and the maximum number of workers that may be present.

(4) Emergency routes and exits shall be indicated by signs and provided with emergency lighting of adequate intensity if the workers may be in danger in the event of malfunction of artificial lighting.

§ 12. Risk of fire and explosion

(1) Work on a construction site shall be organised such that the fire risk is precluded. Instructions for action in the event of fire shall be displayed on the construction site.

(2) Depending on the characteristics of the construction site, the dimensions and purpose of use of the rooms, the on-site equipment, the physical and chemical properties of the substances present and the maximum potential number of workers present, an adequate number of appropriate fire
extinguishing equipment and, where required, automatic fire extinguishing systems and fire
detection and fire alarm systems shall be provided on site.

(3) Basic fire extinguishing equipment shall be positioned in a visible place which is free from
obstruction and, in rooms, as close to the exit as possible or directly by the workstation where the
risk of fire is the most likely.

(4) If substances which can cause combustion or substances the use of which may produce
explosive dust or gas are used or preserved on a construction site, special protective measures
(ventilation, prohibition on the use of open fire, etc.) shall be applied in order to prevent the risk of
fire and explosion.


§ 13. Ventilation

(1) The supply of fresh air shall be ensured at places of work. The characteristics of the work
process, the work methods used and the physical demands for workers are taken into account
upon determining the level thereof.

(2) If substances or dust that may endanger the health of a worker is emitted in the work process,
it shall be removed from the place of work.

(3) The ventilation system used shall be kept in order and it shall not cause any draughts which are
harmful to health.

(4) The ventilation system shall be equipped with an automatic control system that informs of any
malfunction if it is necessary for protection of the health of workers.


§ 14. Physical demands

(1) In order to avoid the physical demands placed on workers becoming too high, the work
methods and work equipment shall be chosen so that the use thereof is not too strenuous for
workers.

(2) Upon manual handling of loads, the requirements established on the basis of subsection 9 (4)
of the Occupational Health and Safety Act shall be taken into account.


§ 15. Use of personal protective equipment

(1) A protective helmet is mandatory on a construction site in an area where, due to the work
process, the risk of head injury exists, e.g. work in heights, on ladders and scaffolding, assembly
and disassembly of scaffolding, work in the work zone of lifting equipment, incl. cranes.
(2) Safety belts equipped with safety ropes shall be used while working on scaffolding, roofs and work platforms and in other places where falling from a height cannot be prevented by other safety measures.

(3) Safety footwear shall be generally used on construction sites. Kneepads shall be used while working on the floor or during other work involving kneeling.

(4) If work is performed in the dark or underground, a reflex reflector or a reflector-band shall be worn on clothing. If work is performed in places in the vicinity of traffic, the worker shall wear a bright waistcoat or clothing and, in the dark, also a reflector-band. A reflector-band shall be attached in a visible place and, if necessary, also to a protective helmet.

(5) If workers have to enter a high-risk area, e.g. an area where the atmosphere contains dangerous chemicals, has an insufficient oxygen level or is inflammable, the workers shall use personal protective equipment in order to prevent any damage to their health.


§ 16. Temperature

(1) The temperature in the rooms on the construction site where workstations are located shall be appropriate for the workers, having regard to the nature of the work and the physical demands placed on the workers.

(2) The temperature in non-work rooms shall correspond to their purpose of use.


§ 17. Lighting

(1) The lighting of workstations, rooms and traffic routes shall be sufficient and preference shall be given to natural lighting. Artificial lighting shall be provided at night and when natural daylight is insufficient; where necessary, portable light sources that are protected against impact shall be used.

(2) Large differences in lighting and dazzling shall be avoided. Where required, the lighting of a workstation shall be increased according to the worker's age or health status.

(3) The minimum permitted intensity of the lighting throughout traffic routes is 25 lux.

(4) The colour of artificial light used shall not alter or affect the perception or visibility of safety signs, signposts and marked objects.

(5) Lighting installations for work rooms, workstations and traffic routes shall be placed in such a way that there is no risk of accident to workers.

(6) Work rooms, workstations and traffic routes where workers are exposed to risks in the event of failure of artificial lighting shall be provided with emergency lighting.

§ 18. Doors and gates

(1) Sliding doors shall be fitted with a safety device to prevent them from derailing and falling over.

(2) Doors and gates opening upwards shall be fitted with a mechanism or another protection to secure them against falling back.

(3) If it is unsafe for pedestrians to cross gates intended primarily for vehicle traffic, there shall be doors for pedestrian traffic in the immediate vicinity of the gates. Such gates shall be clearly marked and kept free at all times.

(4) Power-operated doors and gates shall operate without any risk of accident to workers and shall be fitted with emergency stop devices which are easily identifiable and accessible. If power-operated doors and gates do not open automatically in the event of a power-cut, it shall be possible for them to be opened manually.

(5) Transparent doors shall be made of a safe material or be protected against breaking and be clearly marked.

(6) Revolving doors and gates and swing doors shall be transparent or with a transparent sight hole.


§ 19. Traffic routes and danger zones

(1) Traffic routes, including all stairs, fixed ladders and loading bays and ramps, shall be designed, located and laid out to ensure safe use and easy access in such a way as not to endanger persons employed in the vicinity of these traffic routes.

(2) Routes used for pedestrian traffic and vehicle traffic shall be dimensioned in accordance with the number of potential users and the type of activity concerned.

(3) If means of transport are used on traffic routes, a sufficient safety clearance or adequate protective devices shall be provided for pedestrians.

(4) Sufficient clearance shall be allowed between vehicle traffic routes and doors, gates, passages and staircases for pedestrians.

(5) Routes shall be clearly marked, regularly checked and properly maintained.

(6) If a construction site includes limited-access danger zones, these shall be signposted and equipped with devices to prevent unauthorised persons from entering. Only workers who have received special training may work in danger zones and appropriate measures shall be taken to protect these workers.

§ 20. Loading bays and ramps

(1) Loading bays and ramps shall be suitable for the dimensions of the means of transport or the loads to be transported.

(2) Loading bays shall have at least one exit point.
§ 21. Freedom of movement at workstation

(1) The floor area at a workstation shall be such as to allow workers sufficient freedom of movement to perform their work, taking account of any necessary materials and work equipment present.

(2) The floors of workplaces shall not be slippery and shall have no dangerous bumps, holes or slopes.

§ 22. First aid

(1) First aid by a respectively trained worker shall be guaranteed for workers who have had an accident or have suddenly been taken ill on the site.

(2) A construction site shall be equipped with means for transporting an injured or ill worker to a room where first aid can be provided and to where a victim can, if necessary, be removed until the arrival of medical care. This room shall be accessible with a stretcher.

(3) Construction sites shall be equipped with first aid kits and eyewash. First aid equipment shall be marked in accordance with the requirements.

(4) A construction site shall have a telephone connection to emergency call number 112. The emergency call number shall be displayed in a visible place.

(5) If work exposes workers to the risk of drowning, life saving equipment and a worker who knows how to use the equipment shall be present on the construction site.

§ 23. Non-work rooms

(1) By the time of commencement of construction work non-work rooms shall be ready for use on the construction site. The rooms shall be constructed and furnished having regard to the working conditions and the number and gender of the workers. The non-work rooms shall be kept in order and they shall be cleaned regularly.

(2) Non-work rooms shall generally be located on the construction site or as close to the construction site as possible. In the case of a construction site which is moved in stages, for example during road construction, or if the duration of construction work on the site does not exceed 2 weeks, changing rooms and drying and washing facilities may be located in the place where the workers assemble.

(3) Changing rooms shall be provided for workers who are required to wear working clothes. The changing rooms shall be sufficiently large and be equipped with seats and lockers. Separate lockers or sections shall be for workers’ working clothes and their own clothes. If no changing rooms are necessary for workers, a place for keeping workers’ own clothes and personal effects shall be ensured for each worker. Provision shall be made for separate changing rooms for men and women or the use of the changing room at different times shall be organised.
(4) Depending on the nature of work, a drying chamber or dry boxes which are large enough, well ventilated and at an appropriate temperature shall be provided for the drying of wet or damp clothes and footwear. The moist air coming from the drying chamber or dry boxes shall not enter other rooms.

(5) According to the nature of the work, a sufficient number of showers with hot and cold running water shall be provided for workers, meaning not less than 1 shower for up to 15 workers. If showers are not necessary, workers shall be provided with the possibility to use washbasins with cold and, where required, hot water, thereby there shall be no less than 1 washbasin for up to 10 workers. The washing facilities shall be provided in the vicinity of the changing rooms. Provision shall be made for separate washing facilities for men and women or the use of the washing facilities at different times shall be organised.

(6) Provision shall be made for separate lavatories for men and women on the construction site, where possible. The lavatories shall be located in the vicinity of workstations and washing and drying facilities. A lavatory shall be equipped with facilities for washing and drying hands. An adequate number of lavatories shall be provided for workers, meaning not less than 1 lavatory for every 15 workers.

(7) Workers shall be provided with facilities enabling them to take their meals and rest in satisfactory conditions. If meals are not provided for the workers on the site, they shall be provided with facilities enabling them to preserve the foodstuffs they have brought with them and, if necessary, to heat them.

(8) If a barrack or rest room is required due to the nature of the work or the location of the construction site, it shall be of sufficient size and contain an adequate number of tables and chairs with back support, considering the number of workers.

(9) If there is no rest room on the construction site, another room shall be furnished as a place where the workers can stay during breaks.

(10) If it is necessary to regularly accommodate workers on the construction site due to the nature of the work or the location of the construction site, bedrooms of a sufficient size shall be provided for such purpose. The rooms shall be equipped with a number of beds, cupboards, tables and chairs with backs, which corresponds to the number of workers. Upon planning the bedrooms the gender of the workers shall be taken into account.


Division 2

Special Requirements for Outdoor Workstations

§ 24. Stability and solidity

(1) High-level or low-level workstations shall be solid and stable, taking account of the number of workers occupying them, the weight distribution and the maximum loads they may have to bear, and the outside influences to which they may be exposed to.

(2) If the support and other components of these workstations are not intrinsically stable, their stability shall be ensured by appropriate and safe methods of fixing.
(3) The stability and solidity of workstations shall be checked regularly and especially after any change in the height of the workstation.

§ 25. Outdoor energy distribution installations

(1) On-site energy distribution installations, especially those exposed to outside influences, shall be regularly checked and maintained.

(2) Installations existing before the site began shall be identified, checked and clearly signposted.

(3) Whenever possible, where unnecessary overhead electric power lines exist, either they shall be redirected away from the area of the site or else the current shall be cut off. If this is not possible, the power lines shall be supplied with warning signs to ensure that vehicles and installations are kept away.

§ 26. Atmospheric influences

Workers shall be protected against atmospheric influences which could affect their safety or health.

§ 27. Falling objects

(1) Workers shall be protected by collective methods against falling objects. Where necessary, there shall be covered passageways or access to danger areas shall be made impossible.

(2) Materials and equipment shall be laid out or stacked in such a way as to prevent their collapsing or overturning.

§ 28. Scaffolding and ladders

(1) Generally, scaffolding shall be industrial or manufactured according to the design of a civil engineer or designer.

(2) All scaffolding shall be properly designed, constructed and maintained to ensure that it does not collapse or move accidentally.

(3) Work platforms, gangways and scaffolding stairways shall be constructed, dimensioned and used in such a way as to prevent people from falling or being exposed to falling objects.

(4) Ladders shall be sufficiently strong and correctly maintained. Ladders shall be used in accordance with their intended purpose.

(5) Mobile scaffolding shall be secured against spontaneous movements.

(6) The earth on which scaffolding is located shall be levelled and flattened. Provision shall be made for leading off rain water therefrom.

(7) Scaffolding which is located near traffic routes or in places where loads are lifted shall be protected against impact, damage and accidental movements. The danger zone shall be separated by barriers and supplied with warning signs.
§ 29. Lifting equipment

(1) All lifting devices and accessories, including their accessories, component parts, supports and anchors, shall be properly designed, constructed and installed and sufficiently strong for the use to which they are put, and they shall be maintained in good working order.

(2) Lifting equipment may only be operated by workers who have received the appropriate training.

(3) All lifting devices and accessories shall clearly display their maximum load values.

(4) Lifting equipment and accessories may not be used for other than their intended purposes.

§ 30. Excavating and materials-handling vehicles and machinery

(1) All excavating and materials-handling vehicles and machinery shall be checked and tested beforehand and kept in good working order.

(2) Drivers and operators of excavating and materials-handling vehicles and machinery shall be specially trained.

(3) Preventive measures shall be taken to ensure that excavating and materials-handling vehicles and machinery do not fall into the excavations or into water.

(4) Where appropriate, excavating and materials-handling vehicles and machinery shall be fitted with structures to protect the operator or driver against being crushed if the machine overturns, and against falling objects.

§ 31. Excavations, wells, underground works, tunnels and earthworks


(1) Suitable precautions shall be taken when working in an excavation, well or tunnel or underground:


1) to use an appropriate support or embankment;

2) to prevent hazards entailed in the fall of a person, objects or materials, or flooding;

3) to provide sufficient ventilation at all workstations so as to ensure a breathable atmosphere;

4) to enable workers to reach safety in the event of fire or inrush of water or materials.

(2) Before excavation starts, measures shall be taken to identify and reduce to a minimum any hazard due to underground cables and other distribution systems.

(3) Safe routes into and out of excavations, wells or tunnels shall be provided.

(4) Piles of earth, materials and moving vehicles shall be kept away from the excavation and, if necessary, appropriate barriers shall be built.

§ 32. Cofferdams and caissons

(1) All cofferdams and caissons shall be:

1) well-constructed, of appropriate, solid materials of adequate strength;

2) appropriately equipped so that workers can gain shelter in the event of an irruption of water and materials.

(2) The construction, installation, transformation, dismantling or inspection of a cofferdam or caisson shall take place only under the supervision of a competent person.

§ 33. Installations, machinery, equipment

Installations, machinery and work equipment, including hand tools, whether power-driven or not, shall be kept in good working order. Installations, machinery and work equipment shall be used solely for the work for which they were designed and operated by workers who have received appropriate guidance and training.

§ 34. Demolition work

(1) Upon the demolition of a construction works or a civil engineering works, appropriate precautions shall be adopted and the demolition work shall be undertaken only under the supervision of a competent person.

(2) Before the commencement of demolition work, it shall be verified that the site to be demolished is disconnected from all possible electricity, gas, water and other supplies.

(3) Special requirements apply to the demolition of constructions which contain asbestos.

(4) Dusty waste and materials may be removed from a site only through tubes. A dusty load shall be covered during carriage.

§ 35. Metal or concrete frameworks, shuttering and heavy prefabricated components

(1) Metal or concrete frameworks and their components, shuttering, prefabricated components, temporary support and buttresses may be erected and dismantled only under the supervision of a competent person.

(2) Adequate precautions shall be taken to protect workers against risks arising from the temporary fragility or instability of civil engineering works.

(3) Shuttering, temporary supports and buttresses shall be designed, installed and maintained so as to safely withstand any strains and stresses which may be placed on them.

§ 36. Risk of falling from height, and work on roofs

(1) If there is a risk of falling from a height while working or moving and if the height of the fall would exceed 2 metres, safety devices such as cradles, safety nets and other equivalent protection devices shall be used. If the use of such equipment is impossible because of the nature of the
work, workers shall be provided with a safety belt or safety harnesses to be affixed with safety
cables or ropes, or other anchoring safety methods shall be used in order to ensure safety.

(2) Additionally, protection devices shall also be used if the height of the fall would be less but if,
because of the nature of the work, there exists a particular risk of falling or a risk of falling to the
ground related to the particular risk.

(3) A cradle which is placed in order to prevent falls from a height shall have a handrail which is of
a height of at least 1 metre, an end-board, and an intermediate handrail at a height of 0.5 metres
between the handrail and end-board. The intermediate handrail may be replaced by plates or nets
intended for such use. Cradles shall be placed to the free sides of work platforms or traffic routes
where the height of a fall would be at least 2 metres. Scaffolding shall be equipped with cradles if
the height of a fall would be at least 2 metres.

(4) If the slope of a roof is less than 15° and the eaves are higher than 3.5 metres from the
ground, a cradle with three horizontal bars shall be placed at the edge of the roof in order to
prevent falling. If work is performed in good weather conditions and the surface of the roof has an
anti-slip finish, a cradle shall be placed if the height of the eaves exceeds 5 metres.

(5) If the slope of a roof is 15° or more and the height of the eaves exceeds 2 metres, a cradle or
safety net shall be placed at the edge of the roof and, in the event of a slippery roof, the work area
shall be covered with supports placed every 30 centimetres to provide foot support.

(6) If the slope of a roof is 34° or more, an additional cradle or safety net shall be placed not
further than 5 metres from the work area in addition to the devices specified in subsection (5).

(7) If the slope of a roof exceeds 60°, the devices specified in subsection (6) shall be used if the
distance between the additional cradle or safety net and the worker does not exceed 2 metres.

(8) If work on a roof is short-term and the worker is secured by an anchored safety belt or
harnesses, it is not necessary to use the protection devices specified in subsections (4)–(7).

(9) The placement of cradles, safety nets and other protection devices on roofs and their removal
from roofs shall be safe for the workers.

§ 37. [Omitted from this text].