

OPERATIVES USING ROPE ACCESS

Introduction

The utilisation of rope access techniques to carry out a variety of works has in recent years become more prevalent within the UK Engineering Construction Industry, on NAECI Categorized and Other Work.

While in the majority of cases traditional scaffolding is used as the preferred solution for access needs on engineering construction work, rope access is used where access difficulty means use of scaffolding is not viable.

Guidance

Where NAECI operatives are required to use rope access while undertaking their in-scope NAECI work, the following should apply:

- Where a task is evaluated and identified as requiring rope access, the operative must be suitably trained and certified to use rope access safely, in accordance with Industrial Rope Access Trade Association (IRATA) standards*.
- The operative working from the rope must be suitably trade qualified for the NAECI work they are undertaking, in accordance with the NAECI Grading structure.
- The operative should be paid the appropriate NAECI Grade rate for the work being undertaken.

Categorised Work

On Categorized work NJC Guidance Note (14)02 should be referenced and applied by the parties during the Supplementary Agreement negotiation process. All potential scope issues specific to the project, including the potential for rope access requirements on in-scope work, should be fully considered and appropriately defined during those discussions wherever possible. Where rope access is not planned but is then required during the course of a project due to unforeseen circumstances, then the appropriate notification and communications should take place between the stakeholders as early as possible.

Reference: NAECI 5.4.1, Occupations; NAECI 5.4.2, Grades; NJC Guidance Note (14)02, Supplementary Project Agreements - Scope

* www.irata.org