



TOOLBOX TALK



TOPIC DISCUSSED:

SAFE USE OF A MAN-CAGE



Safety is crucial for any lifting and transport machinery. Hook blocks should provide a complete guarantee and meet the highest quality standards, since a safety failure may lead to severe consequences in terms of costs and workers' exposure to risks. Therefore, lifting materials must be always designed in compliance with recognised standards, and their safety factor against breakages and yield strength should be based on those specifications.



QUESTIONS:

1. Explain how workers can communicate when performing work on a platform.
2. What type of personal protective equipment should be worn when working on a platform?
3. True or False? When working on a platform, it is fine to use other means to reach the area of work when the platform does not reach the area.

REQUIREMENTS TO PROPERLY USE A MAN-CAGE ON CONSTRUCTION SITES:

“**MAN-CAGE**” means a platform enclosed on all sides, whether closed or open at the top, designed to **RAISE AND LOWER PERSONS** utilizing a lifting machine, but does not include mobile elevated platforms and suspended access platforms.



REGULATION 18(8)

No user shall require or permit any person to be moved or supported through a lifting machine unless that machine is fitted with a man-cage designed and manufactured according to an approved SANS standard and approved for that purpose by an inspector, and after a risk assessment has been done.

ONLY 2 PEOPLE

can occupy the platform at a time



All persons involved with work platforms should be properly

TRAINED,

including action to be taken in the event of an emergency



All persons occupying the work platform shall be secured to the work platform by means of a full body harness or any other PPE suitable for working at heights



The cage must be designed & manufactured to an approved **SANS STANDARD**



Must be approved by an **INSPECTOR OF THE DOL** for the purpose it will be used for



A RISK ASSESSMENT must be done every time before it is used, by a responsible person

PERFORM WORK SAFELY:

- Shall remain on the floor and inside of the platform and shall not use any other means to achieve a higher position such as a ladder
- The platform shall be in the correct position so that the person does not need to lean out to perform the work.
- The platform shall be lowered to the floor level so that the person can enter and exit safely.



COMMUNICATION:

Persons shall be **lifted & lowered SMOOTHLY,** with caution, and only at their **REQUEST**

There shall be adequate communication between the truck operator (Specifically for mobile crane usage) and persons on the platform.

HAND-HELD communication devices or a system of signals should be used where communication is difficult.



Where the platform is lifted to a **HEIGHT GREATER THAN 4M ABOVE**

the truck operator, or the work platform is used in a noisy environment, then it is likely that communication aids will be required.



