

Produced by the Access Industry Forum (AIF), EPF and FASET, and supported by the Home Builders Federation.
IMPORTANT NOTE: Toolbox Talks are not intended to replace formal training but to supplement it.

TEMPORARY EDGE PROTECTION TRAINING & COMPETENCE

What is the risk?

Temporary edge protection is used to prevent people and objects from falling to a lower level from sloped or flat working surfaces (such as roof edges, floor edges, stairs and voids).

Falls from height remain one of the main causes of injuries and fatalities within the industry. Installing edge protection correctly is fundamental to site safety and preventing falls. Proper training plays a vital role in ensuring operatives are competent to correctly install and amend temporary edge protection.

Types of Edge Protection - A Reminder

- **Proprietary** - pre-manufactured systems, typically Temporary Works Category 0;
- **Tubular Guardrail** - tube and fitting components used to create a system that is typically Temporary Works Category 1 but can be Category 0.

Competence

Although both proprietary and tubular guardrail systems need to meet the requirements of BS EN 13374, they are very different in how they are installed:

Proprietary Edge Protection Competence - EPF Card



- EPF Edge Protection Operative Training and Assessment **and**
- Manufacturer Training
- Follow Manufacturer User Instructions

Check that operatives have received both parts of the training.

An operative who has received training for one system is not competent to install another.

Tubular Guardrail Edge Protection Competence - FASET CSCS Card



- FASET Edge Protection Operative Training and Assessment
- Follow System Design

WHATEVER THE EDGE PROTECTION SYSTEM, CHECK THAT OPERATIVES AND THOSE INSPECTING SYSTEMS, ARE TRAINED TO BS EN 13374.



5 KEY POINTS

1. Training plays an important role in ensuring competence
2. Installation of edge protection differs by system
3. Training on one system doesn't mean operatives can install any system
4. Check all operatives and inspectors are trained to BS EN 13374
5. Get certified training via the lead industry bodies, EPF and FASET

Useful references:

- BS EN 13374: The Standard for Temporary Edge Protection Systems
- epf-uk.org/training
- faset.org.uk/training