



IPAF

Guidance on Rescue Plan

1. Purpose

Under normal circumstances, back-up systems built into the machine will allow the operator to bring the platform of the machine to ground level under controlled conditions. It is extremely unusual for these systems to fail.

To ensure that a safe method of rescue is available when all other back-up systems for returning personnel to ground level have failed, the following procedures can be used.

2. Standard Operating Procedure

Ensure that all normal emergency lowering procedures have been activated.

Contact the site manager to report failure of back-up emergency lowering systems and request engineering back-up.

If, after inspection by the engineer, it is not possible to effect a repair to allow the machine to be brought to the ground, the site manager must be contacted for permission to carry out basket to basket rescue.

3. Code of Practice for Mid Air Rescue

- A. The details of the risk assessment carried out shall be recorded onto the site-specific risk assessment form.
- B. The rescue machine must be positioned so as to enable the rescue procedure to be carried out without compromising the safety of personnel involved in the rescue.
- C. The platforms of both machines must be adjacent to each other with a minimal gap between them unless exceptional circumstances mean this is not possible. (Where this is not possible, the circumstances shall be recorded onto the risk assessment form.)
- D. A double lanyard must be attached to the person being rescued and the anchor points on both machines before the rescue takes place.
- E. Care must be taken not to overload the rescue machine. This may mean making more than one journey to complete the rescue.
- F. Where alternative emergency systems are not possible, consideration should be given for the use of an emergency evacuation system, examples of which are: control descent systems, crane basket rescue (this is not exhaustive).

Further guidance can be found in BS8460, section 6.6.

