


Reference	MTS-MS-OH-043			Work at Height using a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP).	
Revision	2	Review Date	01.03.21		

1. Purpose

To control the process by which work at Heights using a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP) is carried out in a safe and proper manner

2. Responsibilities

2.1 The **Team Leader** shall ensure that all staff involved in working to install O/H plant adhere to this method and are licensed under the BT scheme for the tasks they are to conduct.

2.2 The **Site Supervisor** shall periodically monitor the compliance to this method statement.

2.3 The **Management Representative** will ensure that the process is monitored periodically.

2.4 If this method cannot be adhered to, contact your supervisor for advice before proceeding.

3. References & Definitions

3.1 References

- EPT /OHP/C031.....Working on D Poles
- EPT/PPS/B025 Earthing Manual
- SFY/HSB/D043..... Working in the vicinity of overhead power lines and joint user poles.
- 1hshd040..... Working on the Overhead Network
- LOLER 1998
- New Roads and Street Works Act 1991.
- Safety at Street Works and Road Works – A Code of Practice


4. Safety considerations

4.1 Hazards

Traffic	√	Fumes/Gas	√	Falls of material	√	Mobile Plant & Vehicles	√
Buried Services	√	Dust		Demolition		Noise & Vibration	√
Overhead Services	√	Deep Excavations	√	Collapse of Structure		Lifting Operations	√
Fire/Explosions	√	Confined Spaces		Soft Ground	√	Manual Handling	√
Flying Particles/Objects		Lighting Levels	√	Falls on Level	√	Working near Water	
Heat		Falls from Height	√	Infected Materials		Adverse Weather	√

4.2 Precautions

- **ASSESS THE RISK - Ensure that prior to starting work a SITE SPECIFIC RISK ASSESSMENT is conducted and recorded. Review job pack for all indate and colour utility plans are available on site and understood and Line search to ensure there are no pipelines and services in the vicinity.**
- **ROAD WORKS GUARDING**
 - To be in accordance with the Safety at Street Works and Road Works Code of Practice (Red Book).
 - Signs and barriers to be secured with sand bags if necessary.
 - Maintain a safe route for pedestrians to pass by the works.
 - Provide kerb ramps for users of prams, pushchairs, wheelchairs etc.

Reference	MTS-MS-OH-043			Work at Height using a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP).	
Revision	2	Review Date	01.03.21		

- Guard pedestrians from vehicles when directed into carriageway. ☒ Where required lights to be attached to signing and guarding.

• PLANT, VEHICLES & WORK TOOLS


- An effective means of communication between all parties working on site must be available at all times.
- All plant, vehicles and tools are to be kept inside the work area.
- All plant, vehicles and tools is to be in good working order and properly maintained, serviced and calibrated.
- Always test to ensure that the emergency stop system fitted to the MEWP is functioning correctly before starting operations. **Do not use the equipment if the emergency stop is malfunctioning.**
- Vehicles to be fitted with, and use amber rotating beacon/s.
- Plant operators to be trained and competent in the use of the plant they are using.
- Switch plant off and remove keys when not in use.
- Ensure that all guards are properly secured and unauthorised persons do not use the plant/vehicle.
- Keep plant & vehicles away from the edge any excavation.
- Fuel oil to be stored and handled safely to prevent spillage or contact with skin or clothing.

4.3 Personal Protective Equipment

- Ensure the following are worn at all times during the works:
 - Flame retardant overalls.
 - Safety boots or safety wellingtons
 - High visibility jacket or long sleeved vest
 - Hard Hat
- Ensure the following are worn as required during the works:
 - Eye protection.
 - Ear protection.
 - Dust masks (FFP3).
 - Gloves.
 - Harness and Lanyard

5. Method

- If the MEWP has been hired in, then specific training may be required for operatives.
- The MEWP must be erected on firm ground
- The proximity to Buildings and Electrical Equipment shall be considered when positioning or using the MEWP.

Reference	MTS-MS-OH-043			Work at Height using a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP).	
Revision	2	Review Date	01.03.21		

- A full body harness shall be worn at all times, and secured to a secure point of anchorage. And either a suitable fall arrestor shall be fitted to the harness, or a work positioning system (e.g. a fixed length lanyard).
- Arrangements to rescue an Operative in an emergency shall be considered • All portable tools and equipment used on a MEWP shall be of 110v rating or below
- Tools and Equipment shall be kept tidy to prevent falling objects.

5.1 Access

- Clear access and egress shall be maintained at all times.
- When working in areas where the other users of the site may be working in the vicinity of the MEWP, a safe exclusion zone shall be maintained at the base of the MEWP using suitable barriers.
- Before commencement of work on any public highway, staff shall consider vehicle parking and that adequate attention has been given to the safety of the public and traffic and all works conform to the New Road and Street Works Act.
- **If existing O/H Plant exists and D Poles are identified, under no circumstances should a D Pole be climbed, use platforms elevating to reach the top of the pole. Ref to BT specification to what work can be carried out (added or removed alteration of loading)**

6.0 Rescue

This rescue plan has been compiled in order to comply with current legislation (Work at Height Regulations 2005) for people who work at height. It is to be brought to the notice of those exposed to the risk of working at height and those supervising and managing the same work at height.

6.1 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.

6.2 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.

6.3 Code of Practice for Mid Air Rescue

- The details of the risk assessment carried out shall be recorded onto the site-specific risk assessment form.
- 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.
- 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.)

Reference	MTS-MS-OH-043			Work at Height using a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP).	
Revision	2	Review Date	01.03.21		

- A double lanyard must be attached to the person being rescued and the anchor points on both machines before the rescue takes place.
- Care must be taken not to overload the rescue machine. This may mean making more than one journey to complete the rescue.
- 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).

Emergency Situation	Proposed Action
Failure of upper control functions while elevated	Where the normal upper control functions fail, the operator will use the auxiliary controls from the platform to lower the boom safely to the ground.
Failure of the operator to be able to operate the MEWP functions while elevated due to the following reasons: A. Operator incapacitated B. Auxiliary functions fail to operate	Where the operator is incapable of lowering the MEWP using the upper controls, an appointed person familiarised in the use of the lower 'ground' controls will lower the platform safely to the ground using the lower ground controls.
Failure of lower ground controls	Where the lower ground controls fail to allow the boom to be lowered safely to the ground, the appointed person will use the auxiliary ground controls to lower the boom safely to the ground
Failure of ALL normal and auxiliary lowering functions	Where all normal and auxiliary functions have failed, the appointed person on the ground should refer to BS8460 section 6.6 Rescue from height.

7.0 Housekeeping

- The roadwork's guarding and signs should be regularly checked to ensure they always meet the requirements of Safety at Street Works and Road Works Code of Practice.
- All spoil, materials, vehicles and plant should be properly guarded in accordance with Safety at Street Works and Road Works Code of Practice..

MUS - Openreach Contract	Generic Method Statement – MUS-OR-OH-04 - Work at Height using a Mobile Elevated Work Platform (MEWP).	MUS-OR-OH-01 Page 5 of
-------------------------------------	---	-----------------------------------

- The site should be kept as clean and tidy as is practicable during the works.
- Always be polite to the general public within the vicinity of the works and where necessary liaise with the local residents and other contractors present.

On completion of the work remove all signing, lighting and guarding equipment, materials and store securely on the vehicle/s ready for transport.