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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2005 No. 279**

**The Work at Height Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005**

**Selection of work equipment for work at height**

- 7.—(1) Every employer, in selecting work equipment for use in work at height, shall –
- (a) give collective protection measures priority over personal protection measures; and
  - (b) take account of –
    - (i) the working conditions and the risks to the safety of persons at the place where the work equipment is to be used;
    - (ii) in the case of work equipment for access and egress, the distance to be negotiated;
    - (iii) the distance and consequences of a potential fall;
    - (iv) the duration and frequency of use;
    - (v) the need for easy and timely evacuation and rescue in an emergency;
    - (vi) any additional risk posed by the use, installation or removal of that work equipment or by evacuation and rescue from it; and
    - (vii) the other provisions of these Regulations.
- (2) An employer shall select work equipment for work at height which –
- (a) has characteristics including dimensions which –
    - (i) are appropriate to the nature of the work to be performed and the foreseeable loadings; and
    - (ii) allow passage without risk; and
  - (b) is in other respects the most suitable work equipment, having regard in particular to the purposes specified in regulation 6.