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**Planning, design, setting up and use of
temporary suspended access equipment
— Code of practice**

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Summary of pages

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Foreword

Publishing information

This British Standard is published by BSI Standards Limited, under licence from The British Standards Institution, and came into effect on 31 October 2017. It was prepared by Subcommittee MHE/12/7, *Suspended Access Equipment*, under the authority of Technical Committee MHE/12, *Lifting Platforms*. A list of organizations represented on these committees can be obtained on request to their secretary.

Supersession

This British Standard supersedes BS 5974:2010, which is withdrawn.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard, and introduces changes as a result of changes in the Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) Regulations [5] and the Work at Height Regulations [6]. This revision also introduces the following updates:

- a) the use of auxiliary hoists; and
- b) rescue requirements.

Hazard warnings

WARNING. This British Standard covers procedures that can be injurious to health if adequate precautions are not taken. It refers only to technical suitability of the temporary suspended access equipment (TSAE) and does not absolve the user from legal obligations relating to health and safety at any stage.

Use of this document

As a code of practice, this British Standard takes the form of guidance and recommendations. It should not be quoted as if it were a specification and particular care should be taken to ensure that claims of compliance are not misleading.

Any user claiming compliance with this British Standard is expected to be able to justify any course of action that deviates from its recommendations.

Presentational conventions

The provisions of this standard are presented in roman (i.e. upright) type. Its recommendations are expressed in sentences in which the principal auxiliary verb is “should”.

Commentary, explanation and general informative material is presented in smaller italic type, and does not constitute a normative element.

Where words have alternative spellings, the preferred spelling of the Shorter Oxford English Dictionary is used (e.g. “organization” rather than “organisation”).

Contractual and legal considerations

This publication does not purport to include all the necessary provisions of a contract. Users are responsible for its correct application.

Compliance with a British Standard cannot confer immunity from legal obligations.

Particular attention is drawn to the following:

- a) The Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (LOLER) 1998 [1];

- b) The Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 [2];
- c) The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (PUWER) 1998 [3];
- d) The Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999 [4];
- e) The Construction (Design and Management) (CDM) Regulations 2015 [5];
- f) The Work at Height Regulations 2005 [6];
- g) The Machinery Directive (2006/42/EC) [7];
- h) The Manual Handling Operations Regulations 1992 [8];
- i) The Workplace (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations 1992 [9];
- j) The Shipbuilding and Ship-repairing Regulations 1960 [10];
- k) The Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992 [11];
- l) The Personal Protective Equipment Regulations 2002 [12].

Introduction

Temporary suspended access equipment (TSAE) is used to support or contain workers working at height. This British Standard gives recommendations and guidance to enable TSAE to be installed (erected, altered and dismantled), maintained, examined and used in a safe manner. It also sets out the responsibilities of all parties involved with those activities.

NOTE Attention is drawn to the Machinery Directive [7].

TSAE can be a temporary suspended platform (TSP), work cage or chair suspended from a suspension rig assembled at the place of work, used to carry out specific tasks, and then dismantled and removed from the place of work when the specific tasks are completed to be used elsewhere.

The equipment referred to in this British Standard is typically suspended from steel wire ropes that are attached to the outriggers of a suspension rig or other suitable high-level anchor point. It is capable of being raised or lowered by means of a hoist or climbing device that can be attached either to the TSP(s), work cage or chair, or be incorporated into the suspension rig. The lifting appliance or appliances can be manually or power operated. In certain instances, the TSAE can be incorporated into a system that allows traversing using traverse ropes.

1 Scope

This British Standard gives recommendations for the selection, design, installation, inspection, thorough examination, use and maintenance of temporary installed suspended access equipment/systems (TSAE), as defined in BS EN 1808.

Non-standard installations are covered by this British Standard.

Steeplejacks and steeplejack operations are not covered by this British Standard.

This British Standard is not applicable to permanently installed suspended access equipment which are covered by BS 6037-1.

Requirements for slung scaffolds, being TSPs on scaffold tubes or wire ropes, but which cannot be raised or lowered by the user, are given in BS EN 12811-1.

NOTE 1 BS EN 1808 specifies the design and construction requirements relating to the safety of suspended access equipment and is a harmonized standard supporting the provisions of the Machinery Directive [7]. BS EN 1808 is not retrospective and therefore does not relate to equipment manufactured before its introduction in 1999.

NOTE 2 Systems made up of equipment/components designed, supplied and taken into service prior to the existence of harmonized standards are recommended to be in accordance with the British Standards in force at the time of the equipment's manufacture and this British Standard.

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

BS 4444, *Guide to electrical earth monitoring and protective conductor proving*

BS 7375, *Distribution of electricity on construction and demolition sites — Code of practice*

BS 7671, *Requirements for electrical installations — IET Wiring Regulations — Seventeenth edition*

BS 7883, *Code of practice for the design, selection, installation, use and maintenance of anchor devices conforming to BS EN 795*