

BS 6037-1:2017



BSI Standards Publication

**Planning, design, installation and use of
permanently installed access equipment
— Code of practice — Part 1: Suspended
access equipment**

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Summary of pages

This document comprises a front cover, and inside front cover, pages i to ii, pages 1 to 33, an inside back cover and a back cover.

Foreword

Publishing information

This part of BS 6037 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This part of BS 6037 supersedes BS 6037-1:2003, which is withdrawn.

Information about this document

This is a full revision of the standard, and introduces the following principal changes:

- a) recommendations for manual rigging (maximum weights and heights);
- b) ongoing testing of auxiliary hoists;
- c) recommendations for refresher training/instruction;
- d) reference to early/beneficial use; and
- e) updates to bring in line with BS EN 1808:2015 and CDM Regulations 2015 [\[1\]](#).

Use of this document

As a code of practice, this part of BS 6037 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 part of BS 6037 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.

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.

Introduction

Permanently installed suspended access equipment (SAE) is designed and installed to provide a suspended platform that gives safe access to areas of a building or other permanent structure and to serve only that structure. Such installations are customarily used for window cleaning and light building maintenance. The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (CDM Regulations) [1] require that all façades including windows and skylights are designed and positioned so that they can be accessed safely. It is essential that the requirements for permanently installed SAE be considered at an early stage in the building design process. The dimensions and capability of SAE need to be appropriate for the nature of the task/s to be performed.

Permanently installed SAE generally comprises a platform suspended by steel wire ropes from a securely mounted overhead structure (suspension rig). It is normally capable of being raised and lowered and can also be capable of being moved laterally across the building façade.

The suspension rig can be fixed or mounted on a rail track or other suitable load-bearing surface (e.g. reinforced concrete) at high level or can be fixed to the façade or underside of a cantilevered portion of the building.

Parts of the installation can be demountable for storage purposes.

The installation can be manually or power operated or a combination of both. The hoist can be mounted either on the suspension rig or the suspended platform.

Working at height can expose workers and other persons in the vicinity to particularly severe risks to their health and safety, in particular the risk of falling from height, falling objects and other serious occupational accidents.

NOTE See *Work at Height Regulations* [2].

1 Scope

This part of BS 6037 gives recommendations for the planning, design, installation, use, examination, maintenance and testing of permanently installed suspended access equipment, including equipment installed on a building to facilitate continuing routine maintenance of the building. It is intended for use by those involved in specifying, designing, managing the use of, maintaining and examining permanently installed suspended access equipment.

This British Standard does not cover industrial rope access and work positioning techniques, recommendations for which are given in BS 7985.

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 7671, *Requirements for Electrical Installations — IET Wiring Regulations*

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

BS EN 795, *Personal fall protection equipment — Anchor devices*

BS EN 1808:2015, *Safety requirements for suspended access equipment — Design calculations, stability criteria, construction — Examinations and tests*