

Removable Guardrails and Barricading

Many defects on guard rails and barricades are routinely observed that have led to dropped objects, in particular where movable modular types are used.



Prior to starting any task around guard rails; particularly lifting and stacking, check that all fastenings and pins are in place and secured.

If there is a likelihood that movable sections of guardrail may be snagged during lifting, consider temporarily removing and securing these away from the task.

Ensure guard rails are functionally designed for the area. Not all guard rails are capable of withstanding additional forces or loading.

All guard rail and barricade securing should be visually inspected on a regular basis to ensure integrity of fastenings.

Report any defects in guard rails and barricades (e.g. cracks, deformation, collision damage, corrosion; particularly around pockets or fastenings).

Ensure modular rails can be inserted into pockets and secured with a through-pin and safety keeper pin (do not use incompatible materials as this may cause corrosion).

Permanent safety barricades and mesh systems may be applied to reduce the potential for items to fall through guard rails.

Barricade systems should be of suitable materials, incorporate appropriate fastening devices and installed in accordance with manufacturers recommendations.

Home-made barricade systems or netting may not be suitable for dynamic working environments and may not be constructed of robust materials.

Ensure all temporary barricading such as netting or hoarding is secured against the environment, inspected regularly and removed when the work is complete.



The design and installation of modular guard rails and toe / kick boards is subject to relevant national regulatory dimensions and recommended industry practices. However, particular vigilance is required where rails and boards are interrupted by gaps, especially between modules and around stairways.



Ensure any modifications to guard rails carefully consider all design requirements, impact / snagging / fatigue potential and address appropriate secondary retention and safety securing requirements.



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