

Advice Note – Access to Structures



These Advice Notes have been prepared in order to share current good practice with respect to various construction activities

- Safe access may be provided by either a stairway or ramp system
- A stairway system must be secure and have handrails on both sides
- A ramp system must be at a gradual incline, be surfaced with a granular material for grip and must also have handrails on either side
- Barriers should be installed at the top and bottom of access systems, to encourage workers to stop and look, preventing them from walking out directly in front of traffic



- Access system should be subject to weekly inspections
- Handrails should not stop short at top of ramp or stairway
- System should be installed and maintained by competent personnel only
- Construction work should be prohibited on structures without safe means of access

For further information refer to Regulations 51 (1)(a)(b)(g) and 34 of the Safety, Health and Welfare at Work (Construction) Regulations 2006

See overleaf for examples...

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Unsafe Practices



Good Practices



This document contains examples on good practice which are not compulsory but which you may find helpful in considering what you need to do.

For further information on Health and Safety related issues go to www.hsa.ie