

## Integrated working platforms for planned work in agriculture and construction

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## **Summary**

This SIM draws Inspectors attention to the need to enforce the use of integrated working platforms in planned agricultural and construction work

## **Background**

1 Construction Inspectors have identified concerns about the use of non-integrated working platforms fitted to telehandlers and similar machines for planned work for example the erection of agricultural buildings and their demolition.

2 There are restrictions on the circumstances in which non-integrated working platforms (i.e. those that do not have controls on the platform to control their movement, and so rely on communication with the machine driver) can be used. Guidance note PM28 explains what these circumstances are.

3 The agriculture industry has been using the PM28 principles of exceptional use and employs non-integrated working platforms for occasional tasks such as replacing a single roof sheet. In recent years, it has become more common for the agricultural industry to undertake planned construction work but continue to use equipment as though it was for exceptional use.

## **Details**

4 Planned construction work is not exceptional use and therefore the appropriate equipment meeting the Essential Health and Safety Requirements of the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations must be selected and used. Where integrated platforms are used, they should have controls that are linked to and isolate the truck controls so that only the person on the platform can control the platform movements.

5 The timescale for compliance with the existing requirements of the Supply of Machinery (Safety) Regulations 1992 [as amended] and the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 [as amended] is that non-integrated working platforms must not be used for planned construction work on agricultural premises after 1 January 2008. This will bring agricultural building construction into line with the legal situation for all other construction activities.

## **Action by inspectors**

6 Inspectors may wish to refer to PM 28 & INDG369(rev1) when advising users of this type of equipment.

7 Enforcement action is to be taken in line with EMM for PUWER, in particular, Regulation 10.

## **Contact**

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