

FASET Bulletin SN18 (Revision 6) Safety Net Hand-Over & In Use Inspections by a Competent Person

Prior to allowing any work to commence above a Safety Net system, those controlling the workplace must ensure that there is a documented Hand-Over procedure and a regular Inspection regime in place.

The Work at Height Regulations 2005 state that, "any work equipment [Safety Nets] where the safety of the work equipment depends on how it is installed may not be used after installation unless it has been inspected by a competent person".

A Hand-Over document should be issued by the Rigging Company who has installed the Safety Net system.

FASET has prepared a 'Hand-Over Certificate' for use by FASET member companies only.

Although its use is not mandatory, companies who do not use this document should ensure that their Safety Net Handover Certificates include as a minimum, confirmation that:

- the Safety Net system components comply with the appropriate standards
- there is evidence on site that the safety nets have been tested within the previous 12 months, together with a list of net numbers in use
- it has been installed in accordance with BS 8411
- the area that is being "handed-over" and the name of the competent person who has confirmed this
- the date of handover and the signature of the receiving client representative

The Safety Net system for which the Hand-Over certificate applies must be completed by a Competent Person.

A Competent Person who can Hand-Over a Safety Net system is defined as an operative who holds a skilled CSCS Safety Net Rigger Card.

NB: A holder of a CSCS Trainee card is not qualified to hand over a safety net.

| COMPANY LOGO HERE | | Address Here | | Tel No. | | Fax No. | |
|--|-----|--|----------|--|--|---------|--|
| Client: | | Project/location: | | Job ID No.: | | | |
| Date: | | Site Contact: | | Tel No. | | Fax No. | |
| Description of work undertaken (including guidelines if applicable): | | | | | | | |
| Net ID Nos. Installed for which this certificate applies: | | | | | | | |
| Safety Nets: Hand-over | | | | | | | |
| Checklist | Yes | No | Comments | | | | |
| 1 Are the nets listed opposite in good condition, been tested within the previous 12 months and have a valid ID test label attached? | | | | | | | |
| 2 Have the nets been installed as close as is reasonably practicable, to the underside of the working platform? | | | | | | | |
| 3 Are all gaps between the net and the structure less than 100mm? | | | | | | | |
| 4 Are the attachment points a maximum of 2.5m centres for rope ties, 1.8m for Grippas and 1.5m - 2.0m centres for net claws? | | | | | | | |
| 5 Does the net sag between 5-10%? | | | | | | | |
| 6 Are all overlaps: greater than 2m, or if less than 2m, are both sides of all overlaps laced together? | | | | | | | |
| 7 Have 8mm lacing or 12mm rope ties been used for the lacing & does the lacing go through every other mesh? | | | | | | | |
| 8 Are the knots tied correctly? | | | | | | | |
| 9 Are all nets attached to the structure/attachment device correctly? | | | | | | | |
| 10 Is the excess of the net gathered / underrolled where necessary? | | | | | | | |
| 11 At the time of handover are there any materials/objects within 3m below the netted area? | | | | | | | |
| 12 Do operatives working above the nets need to take additional safety measures eg. wearing a harness? | | | | | | | |
| Additional comments: | | | | | | | |
| Safety Net Installer Representative | | | | Client Representative | | | |
| Name | | | | Name | | | |
| Signature | | | | Signature | | | |
| Date | | | | Date | | | |
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Figure 1. FASET Safety Net Handover Certificate

For more information about FASET, contact:

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FASET
Fall Arrest Safety Equipment Training

Safety Net Inspection

The Work at Height Regulations 2005 state that, "any work equipment [safety nets] exposed to conditions causing deterioration which is liable to result in dangerous situations is inspected at suitable intervals and each time that exceptional circumstances which are liable to jeopardise the safety of the work equipment have occurred, to ensure that health and safety conditions are maintained and that any deterioration can be detected and remedied in good time".

This means that organisations responsible for controlling the workplace, i.e. Principal Contractors and Employers, must ensure that Safety Net systems are inspected by a competent person after:

- periods not exceeding 7 days
- the integrity of the installation may have been jeopardised through loading by materials / persons or damaged
- adverse weather such as high winds/snow/ice

A Competent Person who can carry out post-handover inspections of a Safety Net system (e.g. 7-day inspections) is defined as a person who holds **either** a valid CSCS Blue Skilled Safety Net Rigger CSCS Card, **or** a valid FASET Safety Nets for Managers certificate (known previously as Safety Net Inspector).

A FASET Inspection Form has been made available and can be obtained from FASET.

This form is not mandatory and may be used by non-FASET companies. Companies who do not use this document should ensure that their Safety Net Inspection Form includes as a minimum, confirmation of:

- the date & time the Inspection was carried out
- who the Inspection was carried out for and who carried out the Inspection
- the specific location for which the Inspection applies to on site
- that the specified Safety Net system is fit for purpose, or
- if the safety net system fails the inspection that the safety net system is to be taken out of service
- where a safety net system has been taken out of services then work should not commence until remedial works have been undertaken to remedy the fault and the safety net system has been inspected by a competent person.

| FASET | | Safety Net Inspection Sheet | |
|---|----------|---|--|
| <small>Fall Arrest Safety Equipment Training</small> | | | |
| Date / Time: | | Site Name: | |
| Contractor: | | Main Contractor: | |
| <p>Safety Netting must be visually inspected by a competent person and these records kept every 7 days or after adverse weather, as required by the Provision & Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998. A competent person is defined as a FASET qualified Inspector or a FASET qualified Rigger.</p> <p>Please ensure that all of the following areas are checked and deemed to be of satisfactory quality, noting any comments and remedial action.</p> | | | |
| Check | Yes / No | Comments | |
| Damage to nets | | | |
| Debris in nets | | | |
| Attachments in place and secure | | | |
| Tie cord knots | | | |
| Gaps | | | |
| Net overlap | | | |
| Lacing / pinning | | | |
| Any site specific checks | | | |
| Remedial action taken: | | | |
| Safety Net Installer Representative | | Site Representative | |
| Name | | Name | |
| Signature | | Signature | |
| Position | | Position | |
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Figure 2. FASET Safety Net Inspection Form

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