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## PASMA's TowerGame

PASMA has added TowerGame to its e-learning package giving delegates the opportunity to practise assembling towers on their computer before doing it for real in the training room. It lets people get familiar with tower components and safe assembly methods - Through the Trap (3T) and Advance Guardrail (AGR) - in a safe, virtual environment. The game has four builds to choose from:

- Frame access using 3T Method
- Frame access using AGR Method
- Ladder frame using 3T Method
- Ladder frame using AGR Method

TowerGame is available to delegates sitting PASMA's Towers for Users course who complete the theory section online.

## "Be safe, don't fall, stay alive!"

As lockdown eases and people return to work, the No Falls Foundation is urging workers to 'Be Safe, Don't Fall, Stay Alive!' The charity is keen to ensure height safety remains a priority despite pressures to kick start the economy.

Peter Bennett PASMA managing director and chairman of the Foundation's trustees said: "Falls from height are the single biggest cause of workplace deaths and major injuries. It is therefore imperative that safety is not compromised for the sake of productivity. We have witnessed unprecedented collaboration among government, regulators, employers, trade associations, trade unions and employees - to fundamentally change behaviours to try and ensure that Covid-19 does not wreak devastation in the workplace. We need to harness and build upon that collaboration and sense of common cause, and apply it to that commonplace, often unnoticed danger - working at height."



## Check the validity of PASMA cards online

There's an easy way to check if a PASMA PhotoCard is genuine - simply go to the PASMA website and enter the details into the Check a Card facility, which will instantly confirm if the card is authentic and what courses the user has completed. Find it here: [pasma.co.uk/check-a-card](https://pasma.co.uk/check-a-card)



# Falls from height - still biggest workplace killer

Falling from height remains the single biggest cause of fatal accidents in British workplaces according to new figures released by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE). In the 12 months to March 2020, 29 people died after a fall from height at work - down from 40 in 2018/19.

A statement from PASMA said:

"We have mixed feelings about these numbers. Fewer people died last year than the year before - this is good news. However, it is disappointing to see that falling from height is still the most common way to die at work, despite these accidents being preventable with proper training, sufficient planning, quality equipment and a strong safety culture.

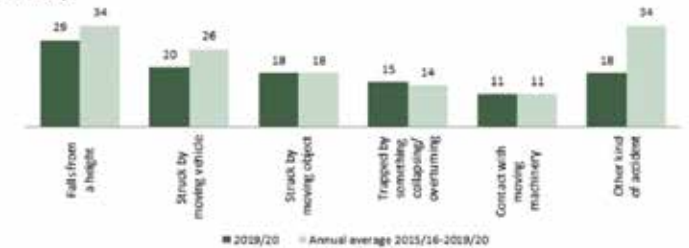
Most importantly, we must never forget the human stories that lie behind the statistics. The stories of 29 people who went to work and never returned, of 29 families left devastated. The victims are mostly, if not all, men - someone's dad, husband, partner, grandfather, son, uncle or friend. The number has gone down but is still 29 too many.

We also note that the HSE has allowed for the 'distinct possibility that the number of deaths was affected by the impact of Covid-19, with fewer falls in February and March than in 'normal' times. So, while we are cautiously optimistic, we need to see a sustained reduction, year on year, through the pandemic and beyond. We want everyone who works at height to come back down safely. This ambition is what unites PASMA and its members.

We urge you to make sure your workers are PASMA trained and that they hold the right qualification for the type of tower they are working with and that it is certified to an appropriate European Standard.

But let's speak about height safety more generally now. The statistics mean a person was killed by a fall every 13 days in the UK last year. This is a problem that we, and other organisations involved in height safety, want to solve. However, we still know nothing about the circumstances of these falls, not even what access equipment was used. Without data on the root causes of all falls it is impossible to direct our efforts and resources towards the areas where they will have most effect.

Figure 4: Number of fatal injuries to workers by accident kind, 2019/20p and annual average for 2015/16-2019/20p



Workplace fatal injuries in Great Britain, 2020 report (HSE)

"Last year the All Party Parliamentary Group on Working at Height published six recommendations for how to prevent more fatalities and serious injuries, including two which, if implemented, would give us the data we are looking for. The first of these is enhanced RIDDOR reporting and the second is an independent body to record near misses and accidents that do not qualify for RIDDOR.

As falls from height top the leader board for another year, once again accounting for around a quarter of all deaths, further evidence of why the group's work is so important. In our view, it is essential that their recommendations become reality. For the sake of the millions who work at height every day, the sooner the better."

**PASMA**  
The Access Industry Forum (AIF) and the No Falls Foundation charity for working at height, please visit [www.accessindustryforum.org.uk](https://www.accessindustryforum.org.uk) and [www.nofallsfoundation.org](https://www.nofallsfoundation.org)

[www.pasma.co.uk](https://www.pasma.co.uk)

## Save the date

The 2020 PASMA Conference, which was due to take place in September has been postponed until the 15th and 16th September 2021, when it will be held at the same Nottingham venue. Tickets will be available later for members and anyone with an interest in towers and access to work at height.