



## WAHSA PGN01

Practical Guidance Note 01 (formerly TGN01)

# CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL FALL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

A series of informative notes for all industries  
involved with work at height or rescue.

# WAHSA PGN01

Practical Guidance Note 01 (formerly TGN01)

## CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE USE OF PERSONAL FALL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

---

### INTRODUCTION

This information sheet gives very brief guidance on points to consider when selecting and using personal fall protection equipment such as anchor devices, harnesses and lanyards.

It is intended for employers, supervisors and users of such equipment, as an indication of the types of issues which should be considered. It is summary guidance only. The order of items is not significant.

---

The information contained in this material has been compiled by the Working at Height Safety Association from information that is already in the public domain. The material is intended to provide guidance but does not interpret and apply the law to particular circumstances and cannot be relied upon as advice.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, neither the Working at Height Safety Association nor its employees, officers or members will be liable by reason of breach of contract, negligence or otherwise from any loss or damage (whether direct, indirect or consequential) occasioned to any person acting or omitting to act or refraining from acting upon this material. Such loss and damage as referred to above shall be deemed to include, but is not limited to, any loss of profits, anticipated profits, damage to reputation or goodwill, loss of business or anticipated business, damages, costs, expenses incurred or payable to any third party (whether direct, indirect or consequential), or any other direct, indirect or consequential loss or damage.

All advice or information contained in publications by Work at Height Safety Association (WAHSA) is intended for users who will evaluate the significance of the advice or information, including its limitations, and take responsibility for its use and application.

## 01 WHAT TRAINING IS REQUIRED?

WAHSA strongly recommend that all users of fall protection equipment are trained by a competent organisation. Training should include information on the selection of the correct products for the intended work situation and pre-use checks for specific equipment.

---

## 02 TEN CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE USE OF FALL PROTECTION EQUIPMENT

1. **Suitability** – have you got the right equipment and is it fit for purpose?
2. **Condition** – has the equipment suffered any damage and is it fit for use?
3. **Traceability** – do you know the history of the equipment and has it been cared for properly?
4. **Compatibility** – does it function effectively with other products?
5. **Security** – is the equipment (both the individual item and the system) fastened properly to prevent release?
6. **Anchorage** – are proper anchors available for the intended method and have you considered their strength and position?
7. **Fit** – does the equipment fit you and are you the right size and weight according to the manufacturer's specification?
8. **Age** – has the equipment exceeded its recommended lifespan?
9. **Clearance** – is there a safe working height to allow equipment to deploy properly?
10. **Selection** – is the product suitable for the particular situation?