



## Safety Bulletin 122

### Safety alert – podium steps collapse

An electrical sub-contractor was installing a length of conduit over a door way from a set of podium steps. The steps collapsed and the electrician fell heavily, sustaining a fractured wrist.

#### How was it caused?

Investigation is continuing but it appears that the podium steps were not set up correctly. This may have reduced their stability, leading to collapse.

#### Further actions/learning points

- ✚ Work at height should be avoided if possible
- ✚ If unavoidable, it must be planned (risk assessment) and suitable equipment (not too long or too short) used
- ✚ Inspect access equipment for obvious damage before use - if damaged, quarantine it and label “do not use”
- ✚ Correctly assemble and use equipment only in accordance with manufacturers instructions
- ✚ Avoid over reaching or leaning over any safety barriers fitted to the access equipment or work platform - if you can't reach, get down off the equipment and move it to a better position before recommencing work



**If you require any further information, clarification or assistance with the above, then please do not hesitate to contact us;**

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