

Standard and timber frame bag

Installation guide



1. Clear debris from work area



2. Load bags into work area and place in position



3. Check clips are free of debris



4. If using new bags feed webbing through before releasing clips



5. Ensure bags are secured tightly together



6. Continue to assemble until the floor area is covered



7. If the 'foot test' fails add more bags



8. Completed installation should be checked by competent, trained and authorised individual

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FALL PROTECTION UK
Fall Safety Systems

THIS SYSTEM IS NOT COMPATIBLE WITH ANY OTHER FALL ARREST SYSTEM

Standard and timber frame bag

Method Statement

Where to use the Soft Landing System

The purpose of the system is to mitigate the effect of falls from height during construction by reducing the potential fall height and by providing an energy absorbing landing area. The Soft Landing System has been designed for use principally inside a building, where the bags will be enclosed by walls or partitions.

Checking bags

Each bag must be visually inspected to ensure that there is no damage to the outer casing. The clips must be inspected for damage to ensure that they are fully operational. Any build-up of mortar or mud should be removed with a stiff hand brush. The overall appearance of the bag should be assessed to check if the energy absorbent material has not been crushed. The ID tag sewn into the seam of bags must be checked to ensure the "Inspection Due By" date has not been exceeded. At all times bags should be kept free from debris.

Installation at ground floor

The floor area should be cleared of all debris prior to installation. Working from one corner, clip the "Soft Bags" together to form a complete unit. As each bag is installed it must be pushed hard into the previous bags to ensure that a continuous mat is assembled. Ensure all clips except those on the perimeter are used. Where the area of floor to be covered by the final row of bags is smaller than the length or width of bag, simply allow the bag to curve up the perimeter wall. (This should direct a falling body onto the "Soft Landing System"). It is advisable to protect the perimeter of the SLS from falling mortar by means of strips of polythene, etc.

Checking installation

Once the bags are installed the "Foot Test" should be carried out. This is a simple way to check that the bags have been correctly installed. If the bags have been correctly installed, you will be unable to push your foot in between the bags. (See Installation Guide). If the foot test fails, additional bags should be installed.

Installation at first floor joists

Once first floor joists/flooring are fixed and brickwork has commenced, the bags can be used for protection on the first floor by passing them up through the stairwell opening. Alternatively a forklift truck fitted with our special stillage can be used to offer up the bags to the operatives standing on the scaffold. The stillage should be raised so that each layer of the bags can be pulled on to the scaffold over the handrail on to the scaffold platform. At first floor, it is recommended that the bags are laid on "Weather Deck" or similar weatherproof flooring or on temporary boarding. However, if engineered "I beams" are used then weatherproof boarding should always be installed before using the bags. Particular care should be taken at stairwells which must be adequately boarded over to ensure that a firm base is in place for the bags as bags will not span a stairwell without support. Once a safe working platform is established, installation procedure is the same for Ground Floor.

Installation in multi-storey buildings

Dependent on the construction method, installation of the bags follows the same basic procedures as above and is applicable where the fall potential is below 2.6 metres. If the fall potential exceeds 2.6 metres a further layer of bags will be required. (In addition to the Standard size bag, a Timber Frame bag is available where higher ceiling heights are encountered). In all cases the fall potential must be assessed in line with current legislation. It is essential that a safe working platform is in place for the operatives passing the bags from one floor to another.

Storage/Handling

The Soft Landing System bags are very durable but should be treated with care to ensure a long life and must only be walked on where absolutely necessary. Continued compression will affect the efficiency of the energy-absorbing fill and thus reduce the active life expectancy of the bags. Bags should be stored undercover.

The outer skin, inner bag and polystyrene fill are treated with flame retardant chemicals. However, the materials are not fully fireproof and will burn if exposed to sufficient heat and flame. It is, therefore, essential that bags are not exposed to these risks.

Installation supervision

We recommend that only competent and authorised personnel, as appointed by the user organisation, should carry out installation of the Soft Landing System.

Reporting system

Where someone has fallen into the Soft Landing System the details of the fall should be reported to Fall Protection UK Limited so that we may analyse the data. This information may be useful in improving the design of our system.

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