

Hazard Alert - Floating Work Platforms

Working on a floating platform presents significant hazards to workers if the platform is not properly designed, constructed, inspected, and maintained.

Recommended Precautions

- Floating work platforms must be designed and inspected by a professional engineer who will attest that the platform meets all safety requirements dictated by all legislation and standards.
- Floating work platforms must have a means (such as guardrails) to prevent workers from entering the water.
- Any worker on a floating work platform must wear a personal floatation device at all times that meets Transport Canada and Canadian Standards Association (CSA) requirements.
- A comprehensive site specific hazard assessment and adequate safe work procedures must be developed and reviewed with workers prior to the beginning of work.
- Workers shall have all necessary training for the work required, and be aware of all identified hazards related to the work and measures to be taken to ensure safety.
- Proper site specific safety orientation is critical to working safely and must be completed prior to the start of work.
- Any time a worker is required to work alone, procedures to ensure the worker's safety must be implemented. These procedures must be based on the level of risk identified for the work.
- An Emergency Response Plan must be developed and communicated to all workers to ensure quick and adequate response in an emergency.

gov.nl.ca/dgsnl/ohs

General inquiries: 1.800.563.5471

Serious accident line (24 hours): 709.729.4444

