

Roof-lights and Fragile Roofing Materials

The Problem/Challenge

Roof-lights and fragile roofing materials are economic, sustainable and aesthetically desirable features which should not be eliminated from design projects purely for reasons of safety. Safety associated with demolition of existing buildings, new build construction and long term maintenance all require the identification of fragile roofs and light roofs.

The Risks

Falls through fragile roofing materials are statistically high and often highly injurious or fatal.

The Solution

Construction, Maintenance and Demolition Phases -Important to identify existing and new fragile roof lights and other fragile roofing materials on drawings and pre-construction information as a method of informing the contractor to control the risk of falls through these materials during construction and demolition. Contractors to recommend methods of temporary protection in tender or construction phase plan proposals to show their response. In-use - Additional protection measures are required for the longer term in use condition such as metal railings, barriers, wire mesh or non - fragile walk on type roof lights. Avoid in-plane roof-lights or sheeting.

The Benefits

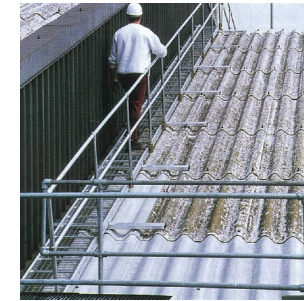
Natural daylighting is a human right and engenders healthy and sustainable environments.

Key Points

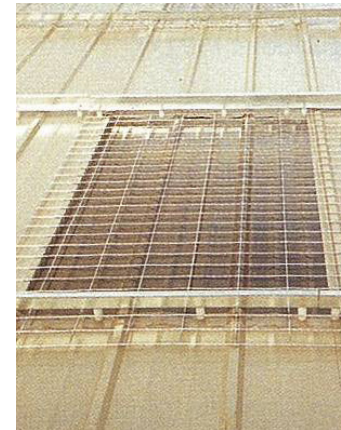
Walk-on roof lights tend to be very expensive so control mitigation measures are necessary. Safe Cleaning methods also need to be considered. Use symbols on drawings and CDM analysis documents.



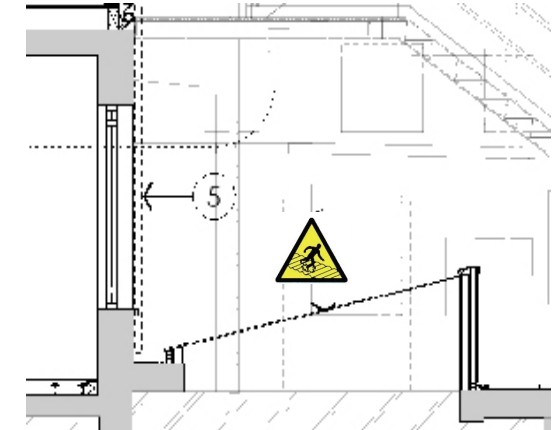
Fragile roof symbol



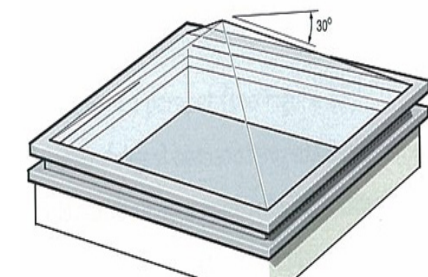
Protection Methods



Mesh fall protection



Fragile roof-lights identified



Fragile and Non-fragile roof-lights can be used