

TOOLBOX TALK #40



Step on Safety

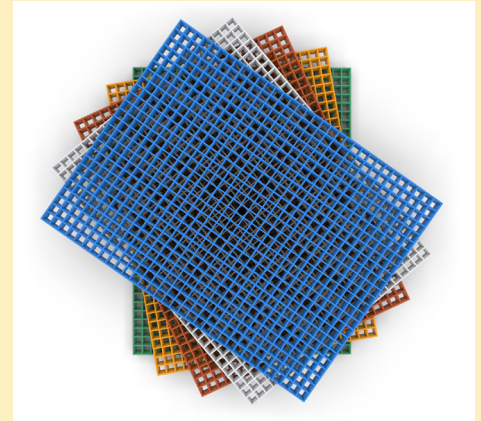
Cutting GRP Grating for Services

Prepare: Quiet location? No distractions? Talk aids ready?

Reason: Grating must be installed as per manufacturers' specifications.

Why: Grating should be cut correctly the first time to reduce waste. Also, if the grating is not cut correctly, then this could cause injury or worse, a fatality.

Outline: This talk will cover how to safely cut the penetrations.



Safety:

- All GRP profile and internal framework to riser has been designed to allow for position of services and ensure structural integrity after service penetrations have been made.
- Under no circumstances should perimeter supports or internal supports be cut or moved without authorization. Any clashes of services and GRP riser supports should be reported to your supervisor.
- As a minimum, an exclusion zone should be set up around the riser on the level that the cut out will take place and also on the level immediately below, and the level above, using chapter eight barriers affixed with the appropriate notification signage.
- Operative performing cut outs must be wearing five point PPE as per site rules with additional face fitted FFP3 half mask respirators and appropriate ear protection. Any exposed skin should be kept covered as in some cases GRP dust can irritate the skin.
- COSHH data sheet and safety data sheet for GRP is available within the RAMS.
- For larger size service penetrations, these will be performed by a harness trained operative wearing a full body harness and fall restraint lanyard adjusted so a fall is not possible and attached to a suitable pull tested anchor point.

NOTES

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call: 01206 396 446

Email: sales@steponsafety.co.uk

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- Larger size service penetrations should be cut out and removed in smaller manageable sizes to reduce weight.

Q: On what levels should exclusion zones be set up as a minimum?

Q: Where can you find the COSHH Data Sheets?

Install:

- Check the dimensions and position of the cut out and mark out on grating. Cut outs should be as tight as possible to services allowing for install and any lagging.
- Cutting of GRP grating is best performed with a jigsaw attached to appropriate dust extraction fitted with a Bosch T141HM CT blade or similar carbide tipped jigsaw blade.
- Always try to keep at least a full square of grating between service outs (this is two structural bars).
- Cut to the marked out area with jigsaw and ensure to support the cut out before final cut to prevent cut out falling down to the next level.
- All GRP waste from cut out should be disposed of immediately in the correct general waste bins.

Q: What document should you always work to?

Q: What should you do if you have a large cut out to do?

Do you have any questions for me?

REMEMBER:

IF IN DOUBT THEN ALWAYS WORK TO YOUR RAMS

Sources

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/pdf/fatalinjuries.pdf>

<https://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/industry/construction.pdf>

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