

Suspended Access Equipment Training for Construction Projects

Amendments to the Construction Projects regulation (O. Reg. 213/91)

New safety requirements related to the operation and installation of suspended access equipment (SAE) came into force on January 1, 2017. These amendments to the Construction Projects regulation will strengthen and clarify the existing requirements for all buildings and structures where SAE may be used and where the regulation applies (see O. Reg. 213/91, s. 136.1 to 142.)

Training Requirements

The Construction Projects regulation outlines training requirements for workers who may use, install, or inspect suspended work platform systems and boatswain’s chairs on construction projects. The training requirements are included in the amendments to the regulation. Refer to the last page of this document for an overview of the training requirements.

IHSA Training

IHSA has developed several training programs based on the training requirements. Here are some questions and answers about them.

Questions	Answers
<p>1. What SAE training do construction workers require under the new legislation?</p>	<p>The training required depends on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Will the worker be using a suspended work platform system (SWPS) or boatswain’s chair (BC), or B. Will the worker, in addition to using the equipment, also be responsible for installing and/or inspecting the installation of an SWPS or BC. <p>Different training requirements are specified in the Construction Projects regulation for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Workers who will use the equipment, and B. Workers who are designated by the employer as the competent worker who will install and/or inspect the equipment.

Questions	Answers
<p>2. What SAE training programs does IHSA offer?</p>	<p>IHSA offers the following training programs. These training programs are designed to meet the legislated training requirements.</p> <p>A. SAE – Users program (2 day) is intended for workers who use suspended work platform systems or boatswain’s chairs [O. Reg. 213/91, s. 138]. Click here for course description.</p> <p>B. SAE – User Proficiency program (1 day) is intended for workers who use suspended work platform systems, and whose training has expired [O. Reg. 213/91, s. 138]. Click here for course description.</p> <p>C. SWPS – Installers program (2 day) is intended for workers who have been designated by the employer to install and/or inspect the installation of suspended work platform systems [O. Reg. 213/91, s.138.1]. Click here for course description.</p> <p>D. SWPS – Installer Proficiency program (1 day) is intended for workers who have been designated by the employer to install and/or inspect the installation of suspended work platform systems and whose training has expired [O. Reg. 213/91, s.138.1]. Click here for course description.</p> <p>E. Window Cleaning (Boatswain’s Chair) program (1 day) is intended for workers who install and inspect the installation of boatswain’s chairs. [O. Reg. 213/91, s.138.1]. Click here for course description.</p> <p>F. SAE – Planners program is not a mandatory training course. It is designed to help employers meet some of their legal responsibilities for planning SAE work on construction projects. It is intended for the competent person who, before an SWPS or BC is put into service for the first time on a construction project, will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare written rescue procedures, • Conduct a risk assessment, and

Questions	Answers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare a written, site-specific work plan. [O. Reg. 213/91, s.141.5]. Click here for course description.
<p>3. Do IHSA’s SAE training programs replace previous SAE training programs?</p>	<p>YES. Prior to 2017, IHSA’s SAE training programs met some but not all of the new training requirements. Therefore, IHSA discontinued the following training programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>SAE Users Hazard Awareness</i> (1 day) • <i>Suspended Access Equipment</i> (2 day).
<p>4. For construction workers who have completed one of IHSA’s discontinued SAE training programs, do they need to complete the new training?</p>	<p>YES. Workers must receive training that meets the 2017 legislated training requirements.</p>
<p>5. Do IHSA’s training programs have prerequisites?</p>	<p>YES.</p> <p>A. SAE – Users program: Before taking this course, learners must complete either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IHSA’s <i>Working at Heights – Fundamentals of Fall Prevention</i> training, OR • An equivalent working at heights training program that was approved by the Ministry of Labour/Chief Prevention Office. <p>Note: While not a prerequisite, IHSA recommends that learners complete IHSA’s <i>Hoisting and Rigging</i> training program before taking <i>SAE – Users</i> training.</p> <p>B. SAE – User Proficiency program: Before taking this course, learners must complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IHSA’s <i>Working at Heights – Fundamentals of Fall Prevention</i> training, OR • An equivalent working at heights training program that was approved by the Ministry of Labour/Chief Prevention Office, and • IHSA’s <i>SAE – Users</i> training.

Questions	Answers
<p>5. Do IHSA's training programs have prerequisites? (continued)</p>	<p>C. SWPS – Installers program: Before taking this course, learners must complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IHSA's Working at Heights – Fundamentals of Fall Prevention training, OR • An equivalent working at heights training program that was approved by the Ministry of Labour/Chief Prevention Office, and • IHSA's SAE – Users training. <p>D. SWPS – Installer Proficiency program: Before taking this course, learners must complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IHSA's Working at Heights – Fundamentals of Fall Prevention training, OR • An equivalent working at heights training program that was approved by the Ministry of Labour/Chief Prevention Office, • IHSA's SAE – Users training, and • IHSA's SWPS – Installers training or proof of a third party Installer training. <p>E. Window Cleaning (Boatswain's Chair) program: Before taking this course, learners must complete:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IHSA's SAE – Users training program. <p>F. SAE – Planners program: There is no prerequisite for this course. However, IHSA recommends that learners complete the following IHSA training programs before taking SAE – Planners training:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SAE – Users training program • SWPS – Installers training program OR <i>Boatswain's Chair</i> training program • Basics of Supervising training program.
<p>6. Will learners receive a record of training from IHSA?</p>	<p>YES. Learners will receive a record of training for each training program they successfully complete.</p> <p>To receive a record of training, learners must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be present for the full training program, • Pass a written knowledge evaluation, and • Pass a hands-on evaluation of specific critical tasks.

Questions	Answers
<p>7. What happens if a learner does not successfully complete a training program?</p>	<p>Learners who do not successfully meet the evaluation requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will not receive a record of training • Will not receive a refund • Will be given another chance to complete the training one additional time at no further charge.
<p>8. Does the record of training expire?</p>	<p>YES. The record of training is valid for three years after the date of training.</p>
<p>9. Do employers need to provide additional training for workers who complete IHSA's training programs?</p>	<p>YES. In addition to IHSA's training program(s), an employer must ensure that the workers also receive adequate training including written and oral instructions in the hazards and requirements for the site-specific SWPS or BC and fall protection system used in the workplace.</p> <p>The additional training should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring workers are familiar with the equipment that is used in the workplace, and • Reviewing the manufacturer's instructions for all equipment with workers.

Training Requirements in the Construction Projects regulation (213/91)

Requirements for Users	Requirements for Installers
<p>Employers must make sure that workers complete a training program before using a suspended work platform system (SWPS) or boatswain’s chair (BC) for the first time.</p> <p>[O. Reg. 213/91, s.138(1)]</p>	<p>Employers must designate a competent worker for the installation and inspection of a suspended work platform system (SWPS) or boatswain’s chair (BC) before it is put into service for the first time.</p> <p>Employers must make sure that designated competent workers complete a training program before installing or inspecting the installation of a SWPS or BC for the first time.</p> <p>[O. Reg. 213/91, s.138.1(1)(2)]</p>
Requirements for the Training Program	
<p>Have oral and written instruction on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulations • Fall hazards • Selecting, putting on, using, and inspecting PPE • Identifying and using fixed supports • Components, functions, and limitations of SWPS or BC, tiebacks, and operational controls • Reading and using roof plans and work plans • Load limitations of SWPS and BC • Elements of emergency rescue. <p>[O. Reg. 213/91, section 138 (2)(a)]</p>	<p>Have oral and written instruction on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rigging • Methods to secure beams and equipment • Fixed supports • Principles of suspension lines, hoisting devices, and load limits • Manufacturers’ instructions for assembling, installing, and disassembling a SWPS or BC • Reading and using roof plans and work plans • Securing an SWPS or BC to the face of a building • Electrical systems. <p>[O. Reg. 213/91, section 138.1 (3)(a)]</p>
<p>Require proficient demonstration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selecting, putting on, using, and inspecting PPE • Rigging procedures and tying adequate knots • Locating fixed supports that are identified in a roof plan • Safely operating the SWPS or BC • Operating the controls in accordance with the manufacturer’s instructions. <p>[O. Reg. 213/91, section 138 (2)(b)]</p>	<p>Require proficient demonstration of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Installing and torquing rigging hardware • Inspecting cable and terminations • Tying adequate numbers of different knots • Setting up an SWPS or BC, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Selection and use of fixed supports – Set-up of equipment – Use of hoists from reeving cables – Use of descent controls and emergency controls – Impact of different work plans on set up of equipment – Protection of public ways. <p>[O. Reg. 213/91, section 138.1 (3)(b)]</p>