FALL ACCIDENTS
United Kingdom

Risk perception
Most falls happen when people underestimate the risk of falling. This is proven by research which states that 68% of all fatal accidents happen from 2 meters or lower.

In the construction industry alone, falls from height account for 43% of all fatal injuries.

Construction industry
4% Fall from height
7% Struck by moving object
7% Struck by falling object
7% Contact with machinery
3% Contact with equipment
37% Other causes

Injuries and fatalities
Falls from height are the most common cause of fatalities, accounting for 3 out of 10 fatal injuries.

The most common injuries that workers suffer from when they fall from heights are:
- Head and neck injuries
- Back injuries
- Eye injuries and lacerations

Costs of a fall
The HSE estimates that the combined financial costs incurred by society as a result of slips, trips & falls in total is around £1.9bn million a year.

Conclusion
Falls from height remain one of the biggest causes of major injuries to workers and worker fatalities. Therefore, it’s vital that employers take measures to eliminate or control the risks to their employees and others. However, by carefully assessing the risks and ensuring work at height is properly planned, supervised, and carried out by competent people using the most appropriate and safest equipment and methods, employers can help keep everyone safe and avoid the terrible consequences of falls from height.