

RIBA Academy

Health & Safety of Facades

“Safety by Design” for Architects

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RIBA Architecture.com

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RIBA Academy

Designer CDM Guidance

www.diohas.org  
For Design Risk Management  
detailed guidance & discussion

PROPORTIONATE AND PRACTICABLE CDM


DIOHAS

DIOHAS

The Designers' Initiative on Health and Safety (DIOHAS) is a group of representatives from major architectural practices, other construction disciplines and the Health & Safety Executive (HSE).

We meet every 4 weeks to discuss and disseminate best practice in relation to construction health & safety, particularly with regards to the designers' role under the CDM Regulations.

Please see [HERE](#) for our website address.



UPCOMING MEETING

14 September 2020

2020 MEETING DATES

- 20 January 2020
- 7 March 2020
- 4 May 2020
- 29 June 2020
- 14 September 2020
- 22 November 2020

Time: 16.30 - 18.00

Venue: Alfred Hall Monaghan, Manx

Chair: Paul Bussey

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1.5 The Architectural Designer's Viewpoint (DIOHAS)

What is a Significant Risk Management as opposed to a Trivial Risk Management?

Lack of understanding by CDM Advisors and others about what "Designers" really need to know about Health & Safety, i.e. As against what can reasonably be addressed by the competent principal and trade contractors.

Expectations of CDM Advisors and others of Designers' Health & Safety knowledge is often excessive e.g. Engineers, Architects, Interior designers etc. all have different requirements and levels of knowledge.

Designers can only consider so much with regard to Health & Safety but how much?

Significant, project specific, unusual issues only and not everything.

Written Design Risk assessments have proven to be a tedious waste of time adding no value.

They have even caused "Designer disenchantment" with CDM.

Designers have to deal with CDM documentation within the myriad of other design considerations but often too much unnecessary bureaucracy is still expected by CDM Advisors and others causing a further Design Stage Disconnect within the industry.

Architectural designer competence defined by HSE as sufficient skills, knowledge and experience and provided by the RIBA.

Project pre-qualification H&S paperwork is often unnecessarily excessive. A sample PAS 91 process has been recommended by the HSE.

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Envelope Maintenance Systems - Manually Based

The Problem/Challenge

Cleaning glazing to elevations at high level and in difficult locations.

The Risks

Falls from height due to inappropriate work systems, poorly designed fabric or operative error.

The Solution

Early design consideration of cleaning options. Relatively low technology and low cost techniques to be considered, more reliant on manual efforts than mechanical assistance. Ladders, opening windows, long water – fed pole, reach and wash and roped access systems all rely on trained operators and good management control systems for their safety. All are inherently safe in the appropriate situations and when implemented correctly. Limitations of use to be fully understood.

The Benefits

Allows economies of scale to be proportionately applied to all building types. Enables quicker and more immediate response to cleaning demands. Roped access allows work positioning to difficult undercuts and geometrically intricate areas.

Key Points

Careful consideration of all relevant associated legislation is necessary especially the Working at Height Regulations to determine the most appropriate system or combination of systems for each building design. Large, flat and high elevations are less suited to these systems.

Ladder Limitations

Opening Window Criteria

Special roped access areas

Water-fed pole

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### Envelope Maintenance Systems - Mechanically Based


**The Problem/Challenge**  
Cleaning and maintaining glazing to elevations at high level in a safe manner.

**The Risks**  
Falls from height due to **unsuitable systems or inappropriately designed building fabric**. Systems of work that require high levels of supervision for their effectiveness are susceptible to human error. Falling objects can endanger people.


**The Solution**  
**Early consideration of cleaning options** should be made in relation to building form, scale and site constraints.  
**Careful selection** of engineered mechanical systems is needed to ensure that the required cleaning and maintenance tasks can be undertaken.

**The Benefits**  
**Economic and safe maintenance systems** appropriate to the scale, form and type of building. Provide the client with long-term maintenance strategy and **budgetary considerations**. If possible provide a **safe working platform** in line with the Work at Height Regulations hierarchy.


**Key Points**  
**Review** relevant viable options for mechanical systems at an **early stage**. Mechanically assisted work placement systems require early discussion with **specialists**. Non-manned **robotic systems** eliminate work at height but **can limit design solutions**. Mechanical systems are best suited to large areas with little geometrical complexity. Any access from the **ground**, including cherry pickers and MEWPs require stable hardstanding and **influences landscaping**.




MEWP



BMU



Cradle



Robotic

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SECTION 4: FACADE ACCESS AND MAINTENANCE PAGE 1/9 23

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### Fall Prevention Methods - Permanent


**The Problem/Challenge**  
To provide collective roof edge protection all around the new building where regular access to roof plant is required. Visual roof edge details were important to the design team and planners.

**The Risks**  
Falls from height by maintenance operatives during roof and plant maintenance operations.


**The Solution**  
A built-in 950mm parapet upstand design with integral sun shading brise-soleil feature. Ref: HSG - for maintenance areas.

**The Benefits**  
No need to assess frequency of access to roof areas.  
Edge protection system does not require harness training or rescue arrangements.  
No perimeter handrail due to integral parapet.  
No need for additional edge guarding.


**Key Points**  
Permanent edge protection provides an optimum safety solution and is at the top of the work at height hierarchy as a passive and collective protection system. Co-operation of client and project team required to avoid being "value engineered" out.  
There may be project reasons why this BROADLY ACCEPTABLE method may not be considered proportionate for other project reasons.




Mansafe cable and lanyard system



Fall Arrest



Edge Protection Railings



Fall Restraint protection, prevents falls

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SECTION 5: ROOF ACCESS AND MAINTENANCE PAGE 8/13 39

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### Unusual Roofs Maintenance Access - Dubai Metro


**The Problem/Challenge**  
To establish an **appropriate means of roof surface and glazing cleaning** on 40 overground station roofs of iconic structural form in the hot Middle Eastern climate of Dubai.

**The Risks**  
**Falls from height and heat exposure** on curved metal roofs and glazed elevations above operational railway and busy 6-lane motorway adjacent.

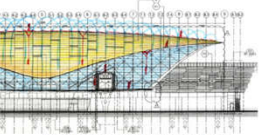
**The Solution**  
**Variety of roof access options analysed** including BMU's, cherry pickers and roped access, with possible use of roof cleaning sprinkler system. All discounted on grounds of impracticability and safety to operatives and road users. Design team and client agreed solution was a **purpose designed robotic system**.

**The Benefits**  
Man access to roofs eliminated for general maintenance purposes.

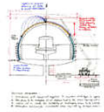
**Key Points**  
Details of **sun-shading devices** critical to allow passage of robot. Roof apex robot attachment system, **water supply** and mansafe fall restraint harness system to be developed in detailed design with specialist subcontractors.




Gold metallic curved roof 120m X 30m



Roped access +sprinkler options analysis



Cherrypicker option



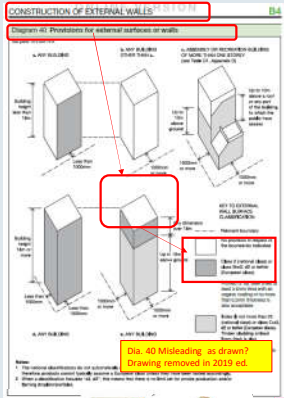
Robotic system at top

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### Construction of external walls

**Then:2017**  
Class 0 (national class) or class B-s3, d2 or better (European class)  
Class "0" surface spread of flame was acceptable & ACM was "Class 0"  
No reference to notes 12.5-12.9 in Dia.40?  
The refurbishment complied with the ADB but this proved NOT to meet the Building Regulations 2010 in 2017

**Now:2018 +**  
Nov. 2018:- Changed to Class A1 or A2-s1-d0  
3500+ other buildings have CLASS "0" cladding so are the designers & contractors ALL guilty??.....OR  
Is this an unintended consequence of regulatory relaxation by previous governments?



CONSTRUCTION OF EXTERNAL WALLS

Diagram 40: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

Diagram 41: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

Diagram 42: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

Diagram 43: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

Diagram 44: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

Diagram 45: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

Diagram 46: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

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Diagram 97: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

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Diagram 100: Probabilities for external cladding or finish

BBA

LABC

Kingspan

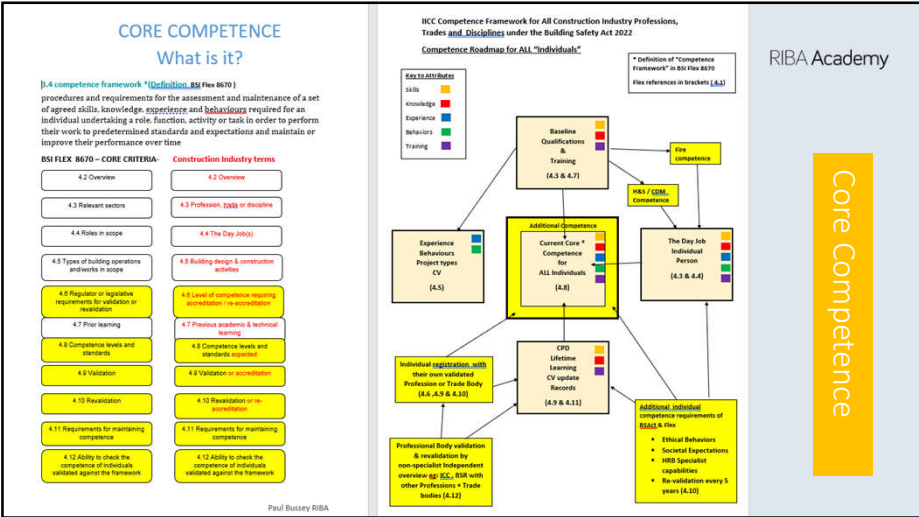
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EXOVA

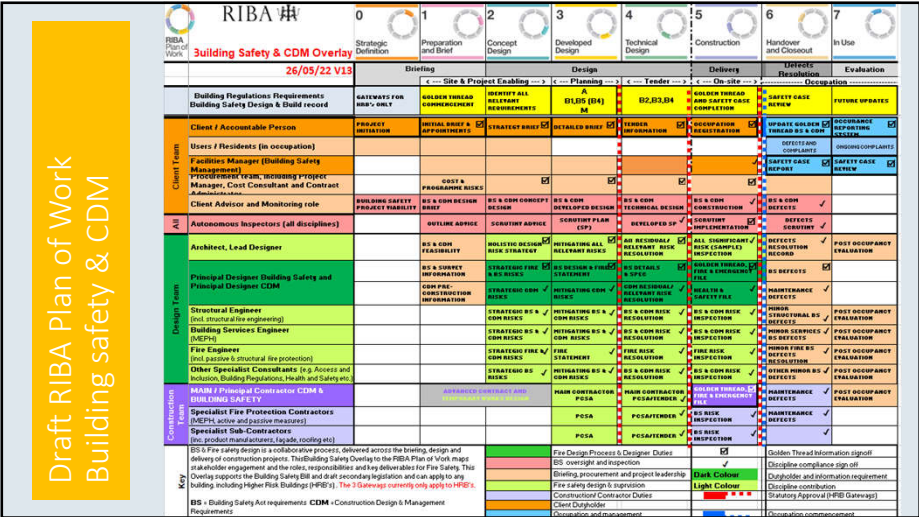
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Thanks

Contact :-  
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