



National  
Operational  
Guidance

## Control measure

**Safe system of work: Fragile surfaces**



**NFCC**  
National Fire  
Chiefs Council

Developed and maintained by the NFCC

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### TRAINING SPECIFICATION

#### Knowledge and understanding

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Situational awareness	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How signage, SSRI and information from the responsible person or on-site staff can help to inform the risk assessment and tactical plan</li> </ul>
Access options	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The need to avoid going on or near a fragile surface</li> <li>• What existing means of support or protection may exist</li> <li>• What other methods of access could be used</li> </ul>
Fall protection systems	Understand: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How fall protection systems can be used when working on or near a fragile surface</li> </ul>

#### Practical application

Control measure element	Learning outcome
Ensure personnel and other emergency responders are informed when fragile surfaces are present or suspected	Demonstrate the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inform personnel and other emergency responders about the location and risks of fragile surfaces</li> </ul>
Consult with the responsible person or on-site staff to identify any fragile surfaces	Demonstrate the ability to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use information obtained about fragile surfaces from the responsible person or on-site staff to inform the risk assessment and tactical plan</li> </ul>



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**Control measure element**

**Learning outcome**

Consider the use of specialist equipment when fragile surfaces are present or suspected

Demonstrate the ability to:

- Consider the use of equipment to gain access while avoiding the fragile surface
- Consider the use of fall protection systems, in conjunction with anchor points and appropriate supervision, when working on or near fragile surfaces