

# Roof Truss Safety Ladder - User Guide



## User Guide

### Introduction

ROOF TRUSS Safety Ladder is intended to provide safe access for the fixing of timber bracing to timber roof trusses.

Ensure that RTSL is suitable for providing access for the work being carried out (Risk Assessment). Before use read the whole of this guide, if the ladder is passed on to another person they should also receive these instructions.

Ensure you are using the correct PPE equipment for work being carried out.

Note: If in doubt about anything, consult your line manager, safety advisor or Ladders999.

### Specification

RTSL is a ladder system which complies with EN131 professional, SWL 150kg.

RTSL also meets the requirements of the old BS2037 Class 1, SWL 175kg.

### Inspection

Pre-use check: To be carried out by the user each day before use, after an incident (i.e. ladder dropped), this check should pick up immediate / serious defects.

This should look at welds for signs of cracks and that there are no loose bolts. Check does not need to be recorded.

### Detailed Visual Inspection

Should be a thorough inspection of all parts of the system. Should be done and recorded at least once every 6 months depending on usage.

Note: A pre-use check is less detailed and less thorough than a detailed visual inspection.

Note: Treat the system with reasonable care to prevent any damage which could lead to risk of injury.

### Safe Use Of ROOF TRUSS LADDER – Safe method of working

#### Access to the work position:

Ensure there is a safe method of gaining access to the work position and of positioning the RTSL. This may be by the use of a working platform below the roof trusses, a safe method of forming access ways across the trusses (boarding) or another method deemed suitable by risk assessment.

#### Positioning the RTSL:

To position the RTSL it should be fed between the trusses on an angle then twisted so the spreader spars then span onto the trusses. The bar fixed at the base of the ladder spans between two roof trusses and sits on the bottom chord of the truss.

To prevent it moving along the truss it should be located in the “V” of a node point or against timbers which prevent it from sliding along the truss.

Ensure the brackets protruding from the spreader bars are located to the outside of each of the two trusses. This prevents sideways movement of the RTSL and ensures the spreader bars remain on both trusses.

Extend the upper section of the two part ladder to the correct working level. Ensure the ladder extends sufficiently so that 3 rungs of the ladder will be above the rung on which you will be standing. This allows three points of contact to be maintained whilst fixing the timber braces.

Before climbing the ladder ensure it is correctly positioned, stable and suitable for the work you are about to do.

#### Work Position

Positioning the RTSL between the correct two trusses allows the most productive and safe method of working, i.e. it should not need to be positioned between every line of trusses.

From one position bracing should be able to be safely fixed to two trusses to either side of the RTSL. Do not overstretch to reach further trusses!

#### Removal

Remove the RTSL in the reverse order of the installation and store in a safe and secure manner to prevent damage, trips or theft.

- ◆ Never use damaged equipment
- ◆ Ensure a safe method of access to the work position
- ◆ Ensure ladder is securely founded on base of truss or suitable platform
- ◆ Ensure ladder is at a suitable angle. Approximately 70°
- ◆ Do not over reach.
- ◆ Always keep three points of contact

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