

# **SAFETY. OUR WAY OF LIFE.**

HSE Management Conference  
June 2017 Romania

World-leading  
height safety  
solutions  
provider

Over 20 years  
expert design of  
innovative  
products

Industries:  
Construction,  
Telecommunicatio  
n Oil & Gas,  
Aviation,  
Transport, Power  
Distribution,  
Maintenance,  
Solar and Wind  
Power.

One goal:  
Global Leader  
providing  
unparalleled  
safety for  
workers.



**In the past safety  
was an after  
thought**



**Whatever it took  
to get the job  
done.**





**Until we started to count the cost.**



**Broken Hill workers memorial,  
Australia**

**Work doesn't mean risking your life anymore.**





# So why are we still using ladders like this?



# Falls from ladders. How big is the problem? At work

2015

Deaths from Falls **61**  
Injuries from falls **44,739**



OHS Canada 2015

From 2001 -2010  
Deaths from Falls on or  
from a ladder **317**



*International Statistical classification of Diseases and related problems 2010.*

In the eight years from  
1 July 2003 to 30 June 2015,  
**54 workers died**  
following a fall from a ladder.



work-related injuries and fatalities involving a fall from height, Safe Work Australia October 2015

2013-2014

Worker fatalities fall from heights  
**19**



*HSE statistics of workplace fatalities and injuries- fall from height*

2011

**523** workers  
with permanent disability  
following a fall from height.



Eurogip, EU

*"..... **135,000** people are treated in US emergency hospital for ladder related injuries*



*In 2007 more than **400 people died** as a result of falls on or from ladders or scaffolding".  
American Journal of Preventive Medicine (Vol. 32, No. 5, 2007)*

Electrocutions while working with metal ladders, cause one of every ten Construction worker deaths, with nearly **70 deaths in 2011**.



Electrocution: Work Safely with Ladders Near Power Lines | Transcript US Dept of Labour

Direct WorkCover costs (est)  
from falls from ladders  
Australia wide:  
\$50M



*Workcover Australia*



# Why people fall off ladders

## -Modes of failure

Source  
 Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety  
 Center for Injury Epidemiology (CIE)  
 From Research to Reality - Volume 15 | Number 3 | Winter 2012

Figure 1

Activity and task at the time of ladder fall	Step/Trestle (N=156)		Extension/Straight (N=123)		Rolling/Wheeled (N=27)		Total (N=306)	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
Standing/sitting and working from ladder	90	57.69	84	52.03	3	11.11	157	51.31
Climbing down ladder	42	26.92	29	23.58	14	51.85	85	27.78
Climbing up ladder	12	7.69	19	15.45	4	14.81	35	11.44
Getting on/off ladder	9	5.77	7	5.69	5	18.52	21	6.86
Other	3	1.92	4	3.25	0	0.00	7	2.29
Don't know	0	0.00	0	0.00	1	3.70	1	0.33

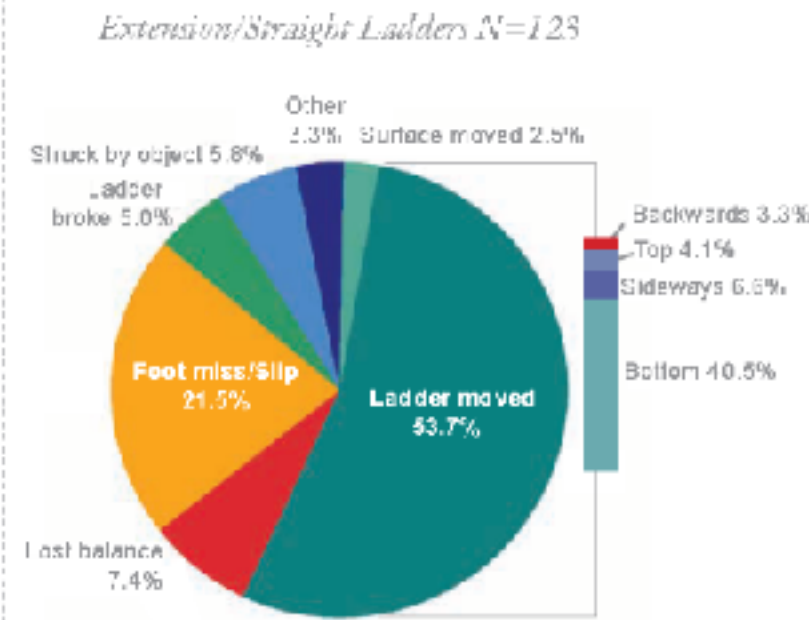
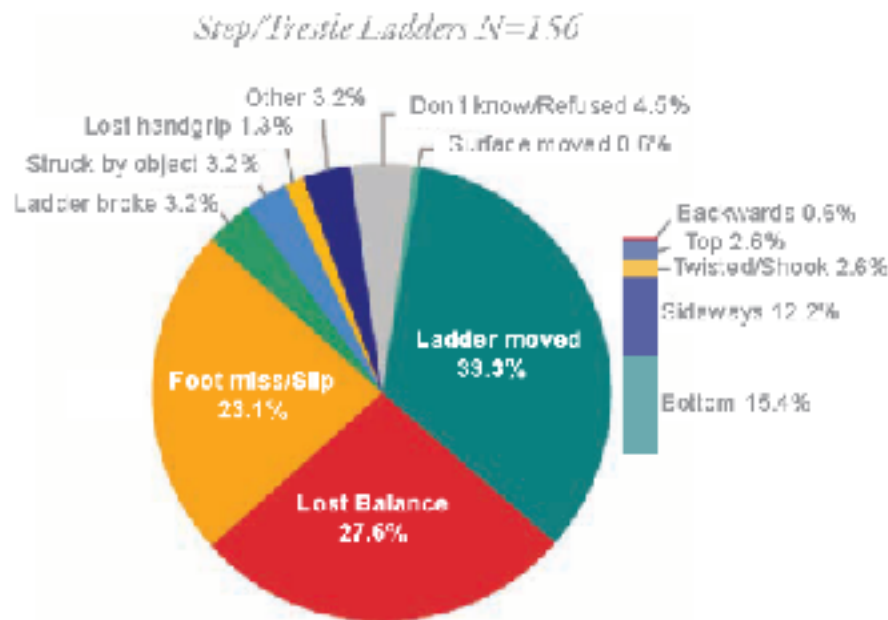


Figure 2

Figure 3

# Modes of failure - Electrical hazards

material of choice should be fiberglass

stats 89 deaths from **metal** ladders USA in five years

Of the 89 deaths, 81 (91%) were caused when workers working near an overhead power line moved portable metal extension ladders that contacted the line. The remaining eight (9%) deaths involved workers who touched an energized apparatus or power line while standing on metal ladders.  
1984-1988 CDC's National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)



## Man electrocuted, killed while painting Salem fire station

Victim made contact with primary power line

By Dustin Luca Staff Writer Mar 21, 2017



## 2 tree trimmers shocked by power lines in Tampa

WFLA Web Staff

Published: July 12, 2016, 2:05 pm | Updated: July 12, 2016, 4:34 pm

coming in direct  
filmed

By Web Staff | Posted: Sat 5:35 PM, Oct 15, 2016 | Updated: Sun 11:24 AM, Oct 16, 2016

**DANVILLE, Va. (WDBJ7)** Three people were injured from an electric shock in Danville, according to Battalion Chief Brian Alderson.

Three people were shocked while moving a ladder against a house on North Main Street in Danville. The ladder slipped and struck an electric high voltage line that runs parallel to the house.



## Henrico Worker Electrocuted

By Editors (<http://wric.com/author/editors/>)  
Published: June 20, 2008, 1:11 pm

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — A house painter was electrocuted when his ladder hit power lines as he was working at a residence in Henrico County.

Henrico County police say 46-year-old Thomas Michael Morrissey died at the scene of Thursday's accident.



# Branach works with many organisations who are world leading in terms of Safety at height.

Common threads show they have a systematic approach to height safety with a focus on increasing risk perception by all workers and then supporting them.



The image features a blue background with a circular arrangement of twelve yellow stars, characteristic of the European Union flag. A faint, light blue map of Europe is visible behind the stars. The text "European Standards" is written in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font on the left side of the image.

# European Standards



# EN131 (2007 + A1:2011) changing to EN131 (2015)

The European Committee for Standardisation (CEN) approved a revised EN131 Standard for Ladders on Sep 11, 2015.

The standard will have two classifications : Professional and non-professional ladder use.

The main change from EN131(2007) is the addition of Stabilisers/Wider bases to improve ladder stability.

The structure of the standard is as follows:

EN131 -1 Terms, Ladder types, function sizes.

EN131 -2 Requirements, Testing, Marking

EN131 -3 User Instructions

EN131 -4 Single or multiple hinge ladders

EN131 -6 Telescopic ladders

EN131 -7 Mobile ladders with platforms

The parts 1 and 2 have to be aligned before the standard can be enforced and this is expected by end of 2017.

At that time ladder manufactures typically get between 12 to 24 months to implement the change.

Ladders in use complying to EN131(2007) will not be required to be replaced.

# Increased Stability required (EN131-1:2015).

European standards (EN131-1:2015) now require extra stability

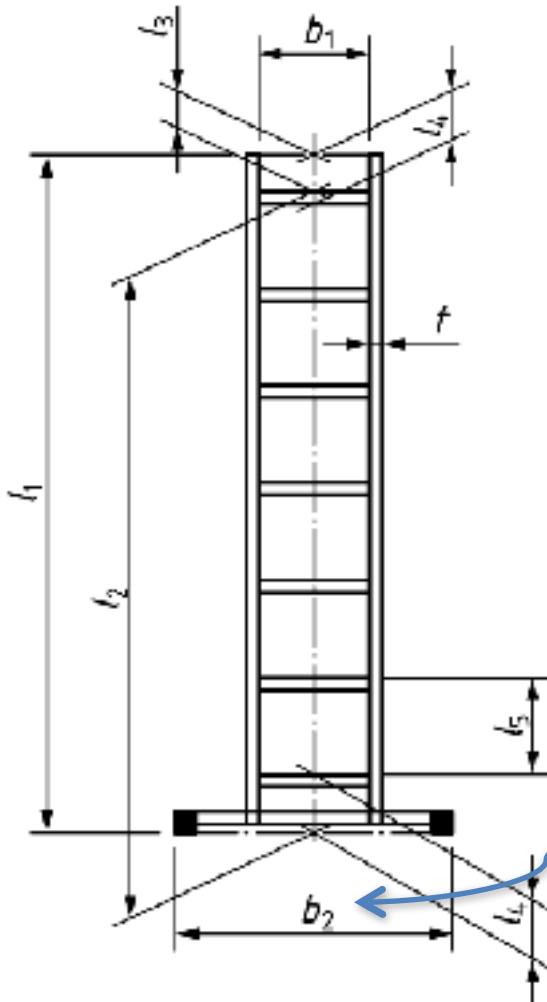
BS EN 131-1:2015  
EN 131-1:2015 (D)

Table 2 — Functional sizes of painting ring ladders

Dimensions in millimetres

	$\alpha$ , °	h <sub>1</sub> min	h <sub>2</sub> max	$\beta$ , °	b <sub>1</sub> min	b <sub>2</sub>	a
		h <sub>1</sub> ≥ 3 000	h <sub>2</sub> ≥ 3 000				
min.	30	340	$h_1 + 1/10 \cdot h_2$	—	0,5 · h <sub>2</sub>	250	60°
max.	—	—	c	10	h <sub>2</sub> + 15	300	72°

- a) The dimension applies also to single parts of a ladder if they are to used separately e.g. as leaning ladders.
- b) The dimension for extending ladders (see Figure 27) is relevant only when the upper section is to be used in the lower section.
- c) The dimension for extending ladders may be increased to a maximum of 200 mm in addition to the dimension.
- d) The thickness of the feet is to consider a maximum of 20 mm.
- e) The minimum useful distance between the feet is to be at least 200 mm.



Base width increases  
by 1/10 of the height  
increase

# Increased Stability required (EN131-1:2015).

European standards (EN131-1:2015) now require extra stability

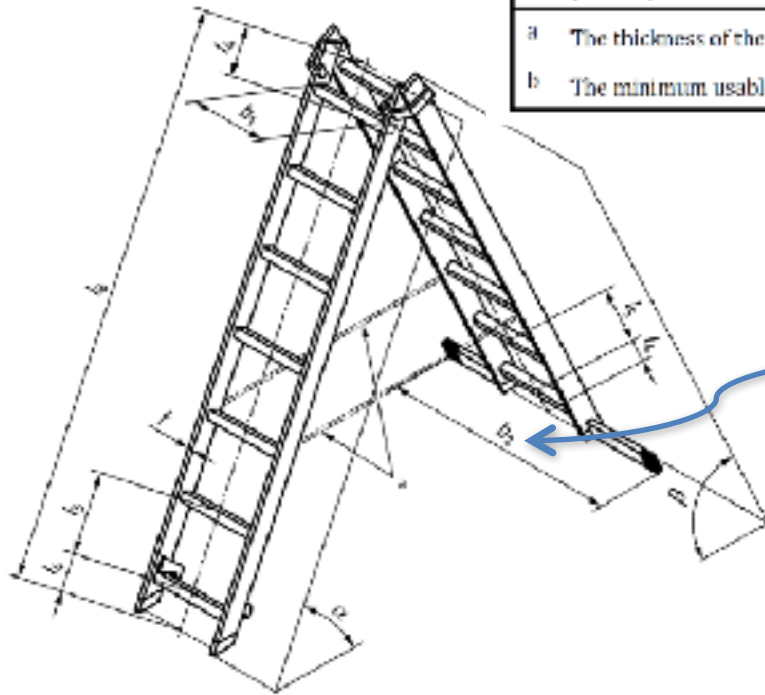
Table 4 — Functional sizes of two-piece combination ladders

Dimensions in millimetres

	$b_1$	$b_2$	$l_3$	$l_4$	$l_5$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
min.	280	$b_1 + 0,15 l_3 + 2 t^a$	$0,5 l_5$	$0,5 l_5$	250	$65^\circ$	$65^\circ$
max.	—	—	$l_3 + 15$	$l_5 + 15$	300	$75^\circ$	$75^\circ$

If separate parts of the ladder can be used as a leaning ladder refer to Table 2.

<sup>a</sup> The thickness of the stile  $t$  is the outside dimension of the stile.  
<sup>b</sup> The minimum usable distance between the inner sides of the stiles at any point shall be 280 mm.



Base width increases by 0.15 times the height increase

# Increased Stability required (EN131-1:2015).

European standards (EN131-1:2015) now require extra stability

Table 5 — Functional sizes of three-piece combination ladders

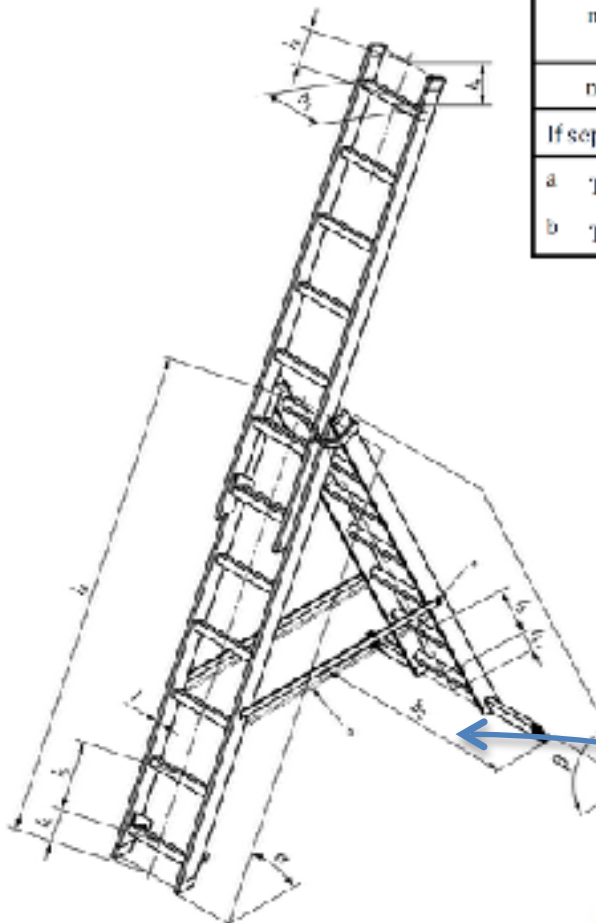
Dimensions in millimetres

	$b_1 b$	$b_2$	$l_3$	$l_1$	$l_2$	$\alpha$	$\beta$
min.	280	$b_1 + 0,175 l_3$ $l_3 + 2 t^a$	$0,5 l_3$	$0,5 l_3$	250	$65^\circ$	$65^\circ$
max.	—	—	$l_3 + 15$	$l_3 + 15$	300	$75^\circ$	$75^\circ$

If separate parts of the ladder can be used as a leaning ladder refer to Table 2.

a The thickness of stile  $t$  is the outside dimension of the stile.

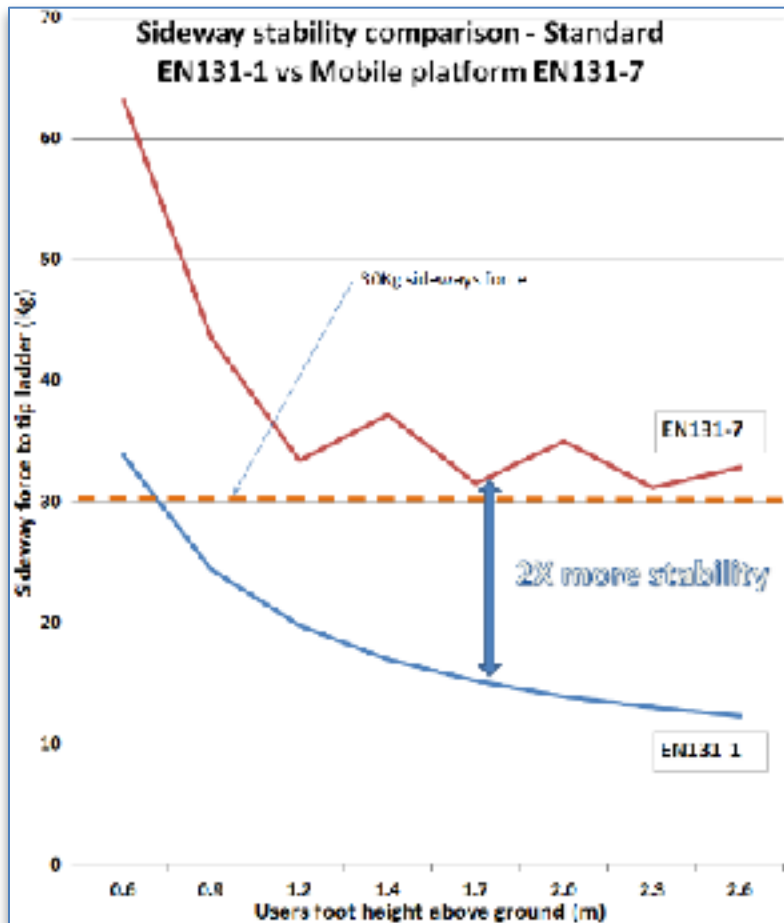
b The minimum usable distance between the inner sides of the stiles at any point shall be 280 mm.



Base width increases  
by 0.175 times the

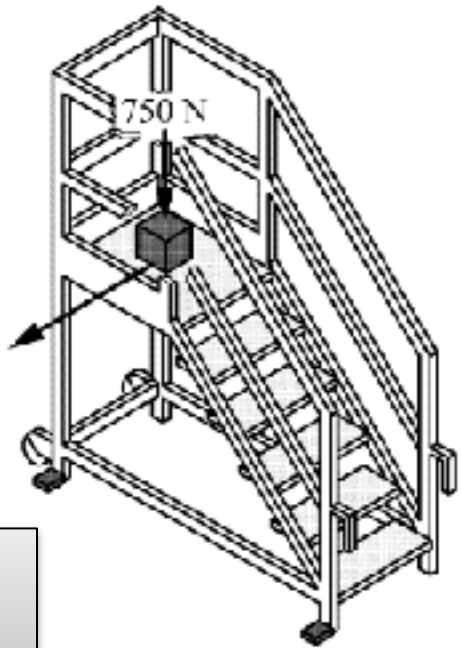


# Introduction of EN 131-7:2013 Mobile Ladders with platform



Standard allows for **30Kg** side force before tipping ladder.

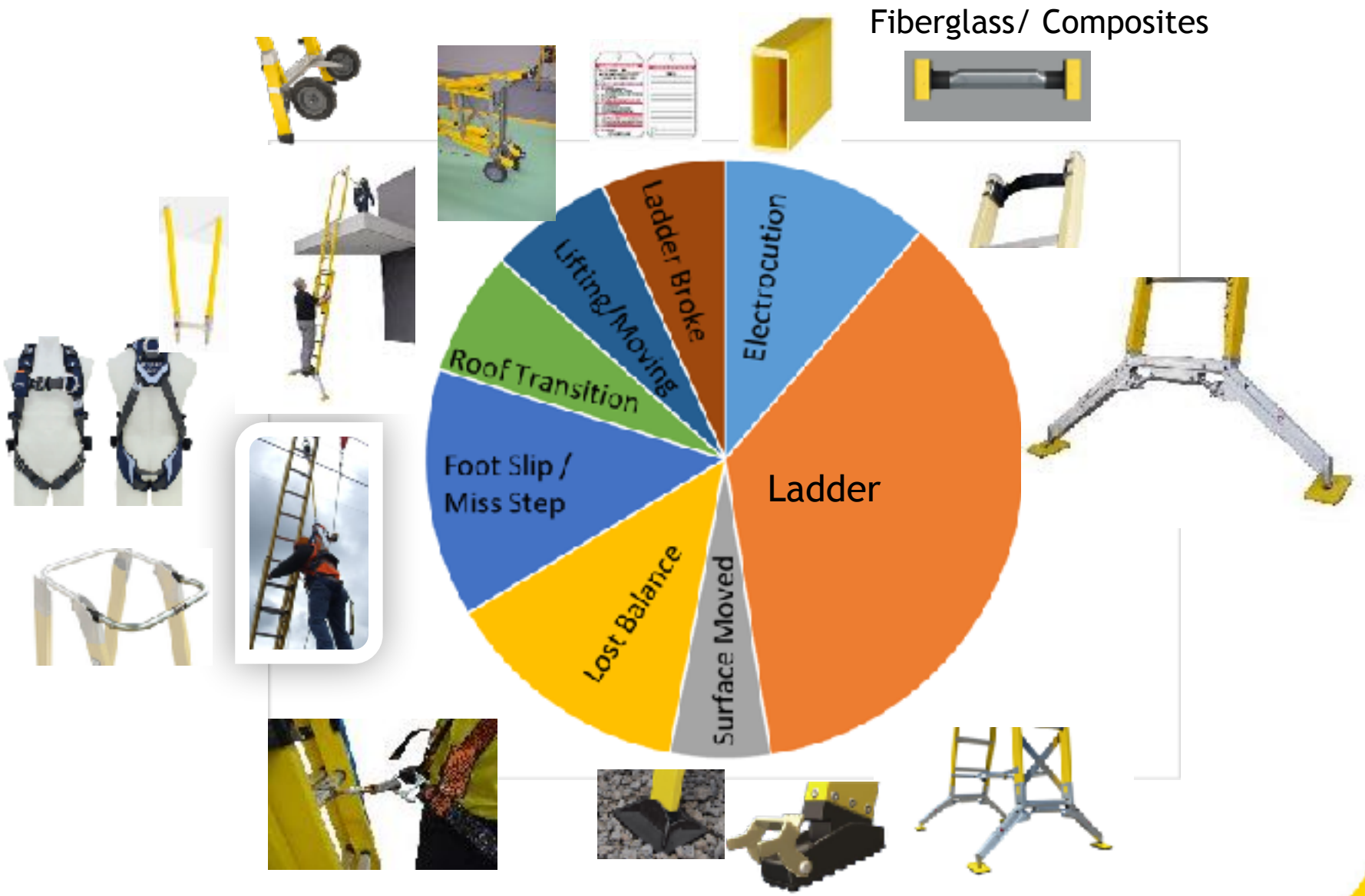
$F = 300\text{ N}$



## EN131 (2007 + A1:2011) changing to EN131 (2015)

1. The stabiliser arrangement will add cost to ladder
2. While the product can be delivered without the stabiliser attached it must be permanently fitted before it can be used
3. Flat stabiliser bars are more suited to flat surfaces and will present challenges in uneven or inconsistent terrain
4. For longer ladders this will add significant width and additional weight to the product making transport and manual handling more difficult.
5. Standard is a minimum. Need to look to see how you can provide better solutions than the minimum standard. Zero Harm mentality and culture.

# At Branach we start with risks and engineer to reduce or eliminate the cause



# Portable Ladder Safety Levels

A new way to manage ladder risk

## Level 1

- Compliance as per AS/ NZS 1892.3
- Independently certified to standard.
- A statement of method and frequency of inspection.
- Suitable for:
  - Access / egress
  - Application loads less than 5Kg



## Level 2

- Base of support providing stability for higher loads up to 20Kg.
- Provides for ladder stability but not user separation from ladder.

*Follows from BS EN 131-1:2015*



## Level 3

- Portable Fall protection system providing:
- Strength required to arrest user. (*6kN offset static loading*)
- Stability required to remain upright during fall event. (*140Kg dynamic fall*).
- User does not separate from the structure and is arrested before striking the ground or other objects.





# Ladder Usage Work Risk Matrix

Stage	Risks	Failure Mode	Controls				Key
			Level 1	Level 2	Level 3		
			Conventional Ladder	Letterbox Telescopic Ladder	Ladder (W/O): Aligned at top + wall to	Ladder System With line + wall to	
Access/Egress	Uneven ground	Side slip	✗▲	●	●	●	● Risk addressed
	Soft ground	Side slip	✗	●	●	●	✗ No control
	Wrong setup/ine. line	Slip back	✗▲	●	●	●	▲ Admin control needed
	Slippery surface	Slip back	✗▲	▲	●	●	1 2nd Ladder set off
	Carrying tools up ladder	Slip off	✗	✗	✗	●	● Personal Equipment
	Fall during climb	Slip off	✗	✗	✗	●	2 Climbing Helmet
Work from ladder	Apply force to structure	Slip back	✗▲	●	●	●	3 Pole/ladder top not on bit
	Two hand operation	Fall off	✗▲	▲	●	●	4 Lone worker with down system
	Over reaching	Side fall	✗	✗	●	●	
	Over reaching	Ladder tips	✗	●	●	●	
	Slip	Fall off	✗	✗	✗	●	
	Legs get tangled in fall	Side slip	✗	✗	▲	▲	
	Head injury from slip	Fall off	✗	2	2	2	
	Blow/Striking/Obstruction	Fall off	✗	✗	●	●	
	Dropping Tools		●	●	●	●	
Rescue	No rescue equipment	Suspension (8.1m)	✗	✗	3	●	
	Wait to be rescued	Suspension (8.1m)	✗	✗	▲4	▲4	
	Rescue accident on ladder	Ladder falls	✗	✗	▲	●	
	Ladder system damaged		✗	✗	✗	✗	
	Injured from fall	Unconscious	✗	✗	✗	✗	

If you look beyond basic compliance zero harm of workers is a possibility.



**Video of TerrainMaster System testing**

# Time to bring ladders and safe work platforms into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.





**Thank you for your time today**

**We would love to hear your thoughts on safety at heights and how we can help you with your challenges**

**[www.branacheurope.com](http://www.branacheurope.com)**