



LESSONS LEARNT FALL FROM ALLOY TOWER



1

BACKGROUND

On 14 August 2026 at approximately 13:40, an apprentice electrician fell when a MiTOWER mobile access tower overturned during CCTV conduit installation in the ground-floor commercial unit.

The injured person sustained a closed fracture to his right radius. The incident was RIDDOR reportable and could have resulted in a significantly more serious injury.

2

INCIDENT

The injured person was working from the tower platform at approximately **1.8 metres** while a second apprentice remained at ground level.

As an SDS drill was passed down, the tower lifted onto two wheels/legs and overturned. The injured person fell onto the solid slab below.

3

IMMEDIATE / DIRECT CAUSE

Loss of tower stability and overturning during the task.

All four stabilisers/outriggers required by the manufacturer's instructions were not fitted.

The missing stabilisers materially reduced the tower's effective base and resistance to overturning.

4

CONTRIBUTORY FACTORS

No traceable record confirmed who erected or checked the tower.

No completed tower-specific inspection or visible tag was evidenced before use.

The available **PASMA-trained manager** did not verify the tower configuration before use.

The Daily Activity Briefing did not provide a sufficiently task-specific check of the access equipment.

Written controls were not converted into a positively verified working arrangement.

5

KEY LESSONS

Mobile towers must be erected and used by competent persons in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

Every required stabiliser must be fitted and all castors locked before use.

A current tower tag and recorded pre-use inspection must be in place before anyone works from the platform.

Supervisors must positively verify access equipment, competence and the work-at-height arrangement before work starts.

Task-specific briefings must identify the selected access equipment and required controls before work starts.

6

MANAGEMENT LEARNING

The Site Manager had three opportunities to check the tower - at the start of the shift, during the work and before completion - but did not identify the missing stabilisers.

The trained Site Manager did not verify that the tower had been erected in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions before work started.

Available PASMA competence was not used to positively verify the tower configuration before use.

