

Beyond No Falls Week: Building a Year-Round Safety Culture

1 year ago



As No Falls Week 2025 draws to a close, we look at how [Premier Technical Services Group Limited](#) (PTSG) makes height safety an ongoing priority...

PTSG has taken a leading role in promoting height safety awareness this week – No Falls Week (12-16 May 2025) – serving as a main sponsor of the No Falls Foundation. This initiative aligns perfectly with PTSG’s founding principles and ongoing commitment to safety excellence since the company was formed in 2007.

As a British multinational, multidisciplinary building compliance business specialising in access and safety, electrical services, building access specialisms (façade maintenance and cleaning), fire solutions and water treatment, PTSG brings unique expertise to this crucial safety campaign. With over 3,000 specialists serving more than 30,000 customers and caring for over 300,000 buildings UK-wide and overseas, PTSG’s influence on industry safety standards is substantial.

No Falls Week 2025: A Critical Time for Height Safety

No Falls Week comes at a crucial moment for the industry. According to the latest figures from the Health and Safety Executive, 50 people lost their lives due to falls from height in 2023-24, accounting for 36% of all workplace deaths in Great Britain – a significant increase from 25% in 2021-22 and 30% in 2022-23.

“Fifty people. That’s how many workers never made it home last year due to falls from height. Fifty colleagues, parents, partners and friends whose lives ended because of preventable workplace accidents,” says Heath Ralphson, Health and Safety Director at PTSG. “These aren’t just statistics from the HSE, they’re a gut-wrenching reality check about what’s truly at stake when working at height.”

For PTSG, these aren't just statistics. The harsh reality drives PTSG's intensive approach to safety and No Falls Week, which coincidentally aligns with Mental Health Awareness Week highlighting the company's recognition that "clear minds make safer decisions, especially when you're 50 feet off the ground."

PTSG's Safety Leadership

Mark Davison, Director of PTSG's Access Maintenance Division and past chair of the Suspended Access Engineering & Maintenance Association (SAEMA), works in an area of the business where there can be no margin for error from a health and safety perspective: "The important thing for everyone who works at PTSG is that if they're not happy, they just say no, and they'll always have our support with that," states Davison, emphasising the company's unwavering commitment to worker empowerment in safety decisions.

This philosophy is echoed throughout the organisation. "The safe way is the only way, it's our licence to operate," is a core belief that drives PTSG's approach to all aspects of its operations, particularly when it comes to height safety.

Setting Industry Standards Through Active Participation

PTSG's commitment to height safety extends beyond its operational practices. The company plays a key role in shaping industry standards through active participation in national and international committees. Davison, who currently serves as the Past Chair of SAEMA, Chair of the British Standard Committee for suspended access equipment, and Convener of the European standard committee, exemplifies PTSG's dedication to improving safety standards at all levels. This extensive involvement allows PTSG to influence safety standards from the ground up.

Beyond No Falls Week: Building a Year-Round Safety Culture

This year PTSG is using No Falls Week as a launchpad for something much more significant creating a dedicated Working at Height group that will fundamentally transform how height safety is approached across every division of PTSG. What makes this initiative different is PTSG's commitment to putting the people who actually do the job – engineers and technicians – at the heart of developing safety solutions. "These are the men and women who know exactly what it's like to be harnessed up on a windy day, trying to complete complex technical work while managing height risks. Their insights aren't just valuable, they're absolutely essential," continues Ralphson.

Shared Responsibility and Team Empowerment

A central theme of PTSG's No Falls Week initiatives is promoting the understanding that height safety isn't solely the responsibility of maintenance engineers or workers – it requires coordination between all stakeholders, particularly building managers and duty holders. This knowledge gap between site-specific awareness and visiting contractors creates a critical safety challenge that PTSG seeks to address through education and collaboration. The company highlights examples where suspended platforms might require coordination with local authorities and facility management – details that maintenance engineers and

window cleaners can't control without proper coordination with the onsite team.

"If They're Not Happy, They Just Say No": PTSG's Safety Culture in Action

Perhaps most telling about PTSG's approach to height safety is the unequivocal support for team members when they decide conditions aren't safe to proceed with work. Ralphson continues: "When we think about height safety, it's easy to focus on the obvious – harnesses, lanyards, edge protection. But some of our most powerful safety tools are invisible. Clear communication. Pre-job mental preparation. The confidence to speak up when something feels off."

No Falls Week Activities and Beyond

As part of No Falls Week, PTSG is building on its strong safety culture with practical training sessions focusing on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), ladder safety, and Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) safety. "As the figures prove, the moment we get complacent is the moment risk creeps in," Davison reflects. "We talk about first line and last line of defence with PPE and safety checked equipment. The first line is to make sure you're happy that what you are doing is necessary and safe – that's absolutely fundamental."

The company's participation in yesterday's No Falls Conference and Charity Dinner, further demonstrates its commitment to industry-wide safety improvement. As a main sponsor of the No Falls Foundation, PTSG is investing not just in its own safety practices but in elevating standards across the entire sector.

Looking beyond No Falls Week, PTSG is implementing a new HSE reporting system that will fundamentally change how the company identifies and addresses safety concerns, because transparency builds trust, and trust builds safety.

The dedication to setting industry standards isn't just about compliance – it's about leadership. When people see a PTSG engineer at work, they should immediately recognise what gold-standard height safety looks like in practice.

Key Safety Messages

As No Falls Week 2025 concludes, PTSG's message to the Facilities Management industry focuses on practical approaches to height safety:

- **Leadership matters**
Create a culture where team members feel confident saying "no" to unsafe conditions without fear of repercussions.
- **Shared responsibility**
Height safety isn't just the contractor's concern – duty holders must take ownership of site-specific risks and planning.
- **Design for safety**
The most effective fall prevention happens at the design stage – specify equipment that minimises the need to work at height.

- Standardisation drives improvement
Active involvement in standards development helps shape industry best practices.
- Mental health affects physical safety
Clear minds make better decisions at height – recognise the connection between psychological and physical wellbeing.
- Proactive planning saves lives
Consider what could go wrong before work starts, especially in complex environments like busy urban areas.
- No blame, just solutions
When safety concerns arise, focus on addressing them collaboratively rather than assigning fault.
- Trust
Customers can trust that PTSG will always deliver the best solution for building compliance, maintenance and safety needs.