

Is Online Training Changing How Facilities Managers Build Competence?

3 hours ago



Online learning has become part of everyday professional development, allowing people to gain new skills whenever and wherever it suits them.

For facilities managers responsible for buildings with suspended access systems, it also presents an opportunity to strengthen one of the most important aspects of building safety: competence.

While practical experience remains essential, today's digital learning platforms can provide a robust foundation in legal responsibilities, risk management and safe working practices before anyone steps onto site.

As buildings become more complex and safety expectations continue to evolve, online training is playing an increasingly important role in helping duty holders and operatives understand their responsibilities and work more safely.

Understanding your responsibilities

Suspended access systems are critical to the safe inspection, maintenance and cleaning of modern buildings. They also require careful management throughout their lifecycle.

Those responsible for these systems need to understand not only how they operate, but also the legal duties surrounding inspection, maintenance, record-keeping and safe use.

Having access to the right equipment is only part of the picture. Knowing how to manage it safely is equally important.

Making specialist knowledge more accessible

Recognising this need, [SAEMA](#) has developed a new online training platform that enables facilities managers and other duty holders to build their understanding of suspended access systems in a flexible, accessible format.

Its dedicated Duty Holder Training course covers the fundamentals of suspended access, legal responsibilities, inspection regimes, risk management and documentation, helping participants gain a clearer understanding of their role in supporting safe operation.

Completed entirely online in around an hour, the course provides a practical introduction for those responsible for managing buildings with façade access systems.

Supporting competence across the industry

Alongside duty holder training, the platform also provides online learning for operatives using permanent and temporary suspended access equipment. Interactive modules, animated scenarios and secure online assessments help establish the theoretical knowledge required before practical training takes place.

Rather than replacing hands-on training, online learning complements it by ensuring participants arrive with a sound understanding of the principles, legislation and risks associated with suspended access.

Together, the courses support a common goal: improving competence across everyone involved in suspended access, from those managing systems to those operating them.

For facilities managers, investing a small amount of time in understanding these specialist systems can make a significant difference to safety, compliance and confidence.

Find out more about SAEMA's online training at training.saema.org.