

# REGULAR SPONSORSHIP - 6 PAGES

Each edition of the magazine contains a number of different editorial features. Each contains an in-depth spotlight on an area of interest and importance to the industry. Sponsorship of a regular feature (six pages) offers a great opportunity for your company to be seen as the champion in this particular field. You can invite partner companies to contribute to the feature.

Double page editorial opening the feature

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# SAFETY FIRST

"Your safety is our concern" says industrial tools expert

Wind turbine engineers and technicians working at height, often in challenging workplaces and weather conditions, should be well aware of the potential consequences of hand tools or equipment falling or being dropped.

As well as creating a major risk to anyone working below, or just passing by, plunging hand tools can also cause serious damage and expensive downtime to vital systems and machinery.

**OBJECTIVE**  
According to Government figures, more than one million British businesses and 10 million workers carry out jobs requiring some form of work at height every year. The primary objective of the UK Health & Safety Executive's requirements for working at height will always be to prevent deaths or injuries.

Employers and anyone in control of any work at height activity must by law ensure that work is properly planned, supervised and carried out by competent people. A hand tool such as a torque wrench or spanner falling, say 100m, will accelerate to a speed of 80mph before it hits the ground, with a force of impact similar to that of a domestic washing machine being dropped from the same height.

**DROPS**  
Within the tool manufacturing sector, 200 industry organisations address this problem through their support for a global work programme called DROPS (the Dropped Object Prevention Scheme).

Its members consider all aspects of how measures to prevent objects falling or being dropped can be improved, sharing their findings across the industry by building awareness



design, manufacturing, testing and operating procedures covering safety and dropped object prevention.

"Our objective is always to be an unfailing company, professional above all else, contributing to people's wellbeing by offering the finest safety and productivity solutions in the world."

**ANTI-DROP SOLUTIONS**  
Tethering tools to their users is one of the many vital precautions which companies require of those working at height. Bahco, who pioneered anti-drop solutions, developed its latest Tools at Height range in consultation with the most demanding users, including wind turbine technicians and industrial climbers, to understand exactly what functionality is required.

The result is a wide selection of tools which incorporate fixings to enable hand and power tools to be securely tethered to lanyards, tool bags, pouches and belts. This is not only ideal when using tools but also provides secure tool transportation to the workplace.

Fixings include safety chucks, Kevlar strings or Dyneema strings for screwdrivers, spring connections for wrenches, loops, eye bolts, shackles and safety pins for pliers, hammers and other tools.

**LANYARDS**  
Retractable lanyards should be certified as meeting international safety and quality standards. They must be quality tested in both static and dynamic tests in conditions more rigorous and demanding than any likely to be encountered. For the dynamic test a security coefficient 2, factor 2 test should be performed.



They should have universal attachments for tethering tools which do not have any integrated attachment point. All lanyards need individual tracking numbers, maximum tool weight sew-in warning tags and user manuals. I.T.N. labels must be permanently attached to the products and give full traceability.

Several types of lanyard are available, including carabiner, fixed loop, exchangeable loop, retractable and wrist lanyards. Carabiner lanyards, manufactured in high tenacity polyester, fully extendable to 120cm, will hold up to 3kg maximum tool weight (3 daN). Its carabiners are non-removable and high strength webbing and self-retracting inner coil jointly absorb shock.

A wrist lanyard should extend to 60cm, hold up to 1kg weight and feature an exchangeable loop with barrel lock. Additional quick release connections are available but, for safety reasons, locking systems must be compatible only with the specific lanyard they are intended to be used with.

**BACKPACKS**  
Any climbing operation is safer using both hands. Backpacks allow users to move freely without carrying their tools or tool box by hand. Adjustable length shoulder straps and quick release attachments add security. Multiple inner compartments provide four or six hooks for loose connectors, with a maximum tool weight of 3kg per hook.

**POUCHES AND BELTS**  
Designed to make life easier, as well as safer, tool pouches and belts are made from hardwearing 600x6000d polyester to resist heavy duty wear and tear. They provide flexible safety solutions, with rings to attach lanyards and hooks to hold tools.

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