

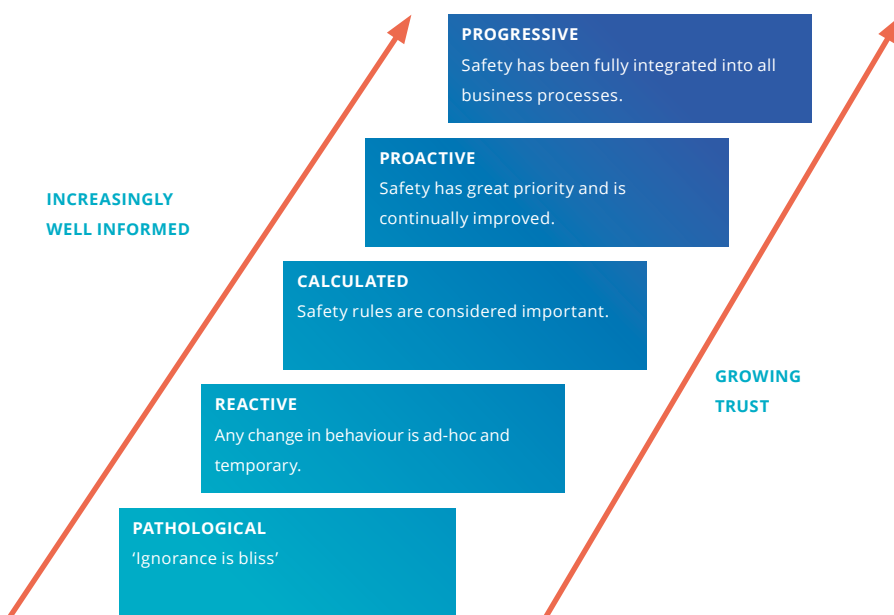
FACTSHEET

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Safety in Tendering (VIA)

Signatories to the Governance Code Building Safety (GCVB) have now adopted safety awareness as an obligation in tendering procedures and contracts.

Many serious accidents still occur in the building industry. The behaviour of employees is often a determining factor in the failure of safety policy. According to the SZW inspectorate, improved safety awareness and a solid safety culture have a positive effect on precisely those elements. We are therefore convinced that safety in tendering procedures and contracts will result in fewer accidents at the construction site.



The Safety Culture Ladder

To make safety awareness measurable, visible and comparable, from 2022 onwards, we will be employing the Safety Culture Ladder (SCL). You can only reach the next step on the ladder if you demonstrate more awareness of safety.

During the certification process, actual safety behaviour is audited, a process of a completely different kind to a system audit. An audit for safety behaviour is carried out at company level, but also at project level. It is an investment in the safety of your employees and the safety of our sector.

Application

Principals are free to employ the Safety Culture Ladder as:

a) suitability criterion

In the selection phase, to be admitted to the next stage of the process, the company must present a company certificate.

b) contract requirement

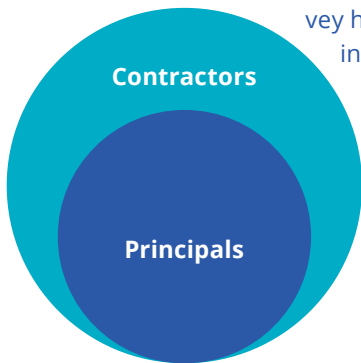
At the start of the actual implementation, the contractor demonstrates compliance with the requirements of step X of the Safety Culture Ladder. This is achieved by submitting a project certificate within not more than 3 months following the awarding of the order, including presentation of a company certificate.

Note: In case of rail related activities ProRail uses the Safety Culture Ladder as a minimum requirement in recognition schemes and as an awarding criterion in tendering procedures.

Together for a safe sector

To raise safety awareness in the chain, not only must contractors be certified, but also the principals. The result is a joint and coherent approach for the entire sector.

The initiative behind this measure comes from the GCVB. A support survey has been carried out among various sector organisations and in particular SME enterprises. On the basis of the results, additional measures have been taken in order to guarantee proportionality and a level playing field. Businesses with up to 5 employees are for example exempted from audits and businesses are also exempted from audits when contract value is less than €100.000. Following these additional measures, Safety in Tendering Procedures has received broader support within the sector.



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Planning



How do you demonstrate your safety awareness?

The burden of proof required in the tendering procedure depends on the risk profile:

	IMPACT		
RISK	Low	Medium	High
Contract value	Earthworks (e.g. earthmoving, dike reinforcement) / Installations Finishing & Maintenance	Non-residential building <i>low-rise</i> / Housing / Road building / Foundations / Underground cables & pipelines / Demolition	Non-residential building <i>high-rise</i> / Tunnel building / Rail building / Marine-Civil construction
High > €5 million	Blue	Orange	Orange
Medium €1 to €5 million	Orange	Blue	Orange
Low < €1 million	Orange	Orange	Blue

Required evidence per risk:

Orange: Certification
Blue: SCL Light audit
Cyan: Self Assessment

No audit when:

Contract value up to € 100.000 no audit
Companies up to 5 employees no audit