

# The Hidden Cost of Working at Height in Facilities Management



Working at height is a routine activity in facilities management. But just because it is routine doesn't mean it is without risk. Working at height includes tasks such as window cleaning, roof cleaning and repairs, HVAC maintenance, and high-reach cleaning of beams and ledges.

Organisations often focus on the visible costs of such endeavours, such as training, equipment, and insurance. However, hidden costs can significantly affect daily operations, budgets, productivity, and safety.

Fortunately, skyVac can help address many of these hidden expenses.

## High Accident and Injury Risk

To this day, falling from height is still one of the leading causes of workplace injuries and fatalities. Even with proper training and equipment, human error and unexpected hazards can lead to accidents.

This can lead to

- ▶ Lost productivity
- ▶ Potential legal fees and fines
- ▶ Increased insurance premiums
- ▶ Reputational damage affecting future contracts

skyVac's high-reach cleaning systems allow operators to complete cleaning tasks such as gutter cleaning, roof cleaning, and Internal high-level cleaning from the safety of the ground. This dramatically reduces the risk of falls and protects staff, as well as minimising any costs related to workplace accidents.

## Downtime and Disruption

When incidents occur or even during routine work at height, areas may need to be cordoned off. This can disrupt normal operations, leading to:

- ▶ Reduced access to key facilities
- ▶ Delays in maintenance schedules
- ▶ Impact on occupant satisfaction

By using skyVac cleaning systems, maintenance schedules can run more efficiently, taking less time and causing less disruption for building occupants.



## Administrative and Compliance Burdens

Ensuring regulatory compliance requires continuous documentation, training, and inspections, which can increase both time and resources, as well as lead to indirect costs. This includes time spent on:

- ▶ Risk Assessments
- ▶ Permit-to-work systems.
- ▶ Equipment inspections and certifications
- ▶ Training for staff

Using a skyVac system eliminates the need to work at heights, simplifying health and safety requirements and reducing the time needed for administrative compliance tasks.

Additionally, operators of a skyVac vacuum need only be trained to use the equipment from the safety of the ground, rather than undergoing regular, often costly, training to work at height. This reduces both training expenses and staff downtime.

skyVac can help facilities managers avoid the risk of non-compliance with health and safety regulations by reducing the need to work at height. This, in turn, reduces the potential for fines, stop-work orders and reputational damage.

## Equipment and Maintenance

Specialist access equipment, such as scaffolding, cherry pickers, ladders, and harnesses, not only costs money, but they also require ongoing maintenance, safety checks, and storage requirements that often exceed initial estimates.

skyVac vacuums are more cost-effective in terms of initial investment and maintenance costs. Furthermore, they are easier to store and transport than traditional high-access equipment, preventing a logistical headache in the making.

The hidden costs of working at height can add up quickly, impacting budgets, productivity, and staff welfare. skyVac can help facilities managers mitigate these costs by improving safety, streamlining operations, and providing a safer, more efficient way to keep facilities clean and well-maintained. It is a smart investment in your facilities management services.