



**EUROPEAN ARENAS ASSOCIATION**

**GUIDANCE FOR  
RIGGING  
IN EUROPEAN ARENAS**

Version 2.1

**External short version**

2009-01-01

**This external short version is intended for individuals who are working at the Globe Arenas and will be affected by rigging and work at height, but are not involved in the actual work itself. This includes for instance stage-hands, cleaning crew, catering crew Etc.**

### FOREWORD

This document has been produced with the input of many individuals within the venue operation and rigging industries. Contributors have included house riggers, rigging contractors, health and safety managers and operations managers with responsibility for rigging in their venues. Some of the content is taken or adapted from existing venue rigging codes/rules.

During the many meetings that have taken place, there have been a number of subjects that have created lengthy discussion; however, the one subject that invariably raises emotion in everyone is the need for timely and appropriate information. This is mentioned in Section 11 of the guidance but is also mentioned here because lack of good quality information submitted within a reasonable period before an event is the one complaint that consistently arises from venues. It is the key to forward planning and an efficient and safe operation on site. There are many events for which accurate rigging plots, detailed method statements and risk assessments are forwarded to venues well in advance of an event, however there are also many where inadequate or inaccurate information is produced and is not made available until very close to the event and sometimes on the day of the event. **It cannot be over-stressed that accurate, timely information is a major factor in improving safety and reducing conflict on site.**

### INTRODUCTION

This rigging guidance has been produced by members of the European Arenas Association (EAA) for use in EAA venues.

Its purpose is to provide:

- Guidance to venue operators on a wide range of safety matters relating to rigging, in order to ensure the health, safety and welfare of anyone working in or visiting EAA venues.
- Advice to riggers and rigging companies on general venue requirements relating to rigging and associated activities.
- Advice and guidance on the use of personal protective equipment (PPE) and commonly used rigging equipment.

This document is NOT intended to be a technical manual for riggers; however it should be regarded as setting minimum operational standards expected of riggers.

The guidance is structured such that it can be applied in any venue and it is therefore general in nature. It should be used in conjunction with any venue specific and national rules and regulations.

### 4. GENERAL SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

#### 4.1. Working underneath rigging operations

Where possible, all personnel should be excluded from beneath areas where overhead rigging or lifting operations are taking place.

The exclusion zone should be clearly identified and appropriate signs should be in place to close off the area entirely. When this is not possible, the area shall be designated a "Hard-Hat" area and a designated individual e.g. a ground rigger shall prevent others from entering the exclusion zone.

When designating a hard-hat area, this is more easily managed if an entire space, hall or room is designated as such, rather than specific areas within the space. Clear and unambiguous signage must be put in place.

The person or persons responsible for designating exclusion zones, hard-hat areas and for issuing hard-hats must be defined. This person must also determine when the area ceases to be an exclusion zone or hard-hat area.



**Venue specific instructions at the Stockholm Globe Arenas**

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Chapters in italics are removed from this short version

## 1 Definitions

- 1.1 A working place is considered as working from height when there is a risk of injury by falling, even at ground level.
- 1.2 Duty holders shall:
- Avoid working at height
  - Use work equipment or other measures to prevent falls where they cannot avoid working at height.
  - Where they cannot eliminate the risk of a fall, use work equipment or other measures to minimise the distance and consequences of a fall should one occur.
- 1.3 This Code of Practice shall govern all work at the Globe Arenas:
- The Globe Arena
  - Annexet
  - Hovet
  - Söderstadion
- and also outside on our premises.
- 1.4 The Globe Arenas reserves the right to inspect all rigging, working methods and/or equipment and to refuse to allow its use if considered to be unsafe, unstable, unfit for use or not complying with this Code of Practice.
- 1.5 A responsible individual, i.e. a headrigger, must supervise all rigging taking place. He/she, must be competent with practical and theoretical knowledge and experience and have the qualities to be capable of predicting potential hazards and have the authority to take action to eliminate such hazards.

## 2 General Safety

- 2.1 There are three different levels of securing the arenas from the risk of crew and others entering a potential danger zone whilst rigging and working at a height:
- **Close off the entire arena.**
  - **Close off part of the arena.**
  - **One designated crew member (ground rigger) at ground level, wearing hardhat and a hi-viz vest, must prevent people from entering a potential danger zone.**
- Stroboscop light will be turned on when hard hat is mandatory.
- 2.2 When entering the arena while rigging or similar work overhead is in progress the person entering the arena must be aware of the consequences it involves. He/she, must obey and respect the order of management and staff in charge of the production, e.g. the headrigger, groundriggers or the Globe Arenas Event technician.
- 2.3 Hard hats must be worn at all times when rigging and dismantling or whenever there is a risk of being hit by falling objects. This applies to every person that is situated in the arena. Hard hat must be worn until all rigging is completed and the trusses are on trim height.

The Globe Arenas Event technician determines when rigging/dismantling has started and when it has ended.

Stroboscop light will be turned on when hard hat is mandatory.

- 2.4 No person should walk or work under a suspended load whilst it is being installed or is moving up or down.
- 2.5 When working at a high level no person must work alone or unsupervised.
- 2.6 It is important that rigging is completed within its designated time frame, in order not to hinder other operations in the arena.

3 *Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)*

4 *Suspension Points*

5 *Lifting Equipment*

6 *Truss systems*

7 *Rope Access*

### 8 **Technical Levels & Technical Bridges**

- 8.1 In order to gain access to The Globe Arena and Hovet technical levels & technical bridges we require that you read, sign and follow the guidelines in the complete original version of Guidance to rigging in European Arenas 2.1