

### WALKING & STANDING ON ROOFS

Where it is necessary to walk or stand on areas where GRP sheeting is installed, you must comply with one or more of the following:

- Provide roof ladders or walkboards as temporary crossings over the GRP sheeting.
- Provide properly constructed walkways or walkboards over the GRP sheeting where they are located in an area used as an access way.
- In any case, provide notices, in conspicuous locations at access points in accordance with statutory regulations warning persons not to step onto the plastic roofing material.

### SAFETY MESH REQUIREMENTS

Where required, safety mesh should be fitted to protect persons accidentally falling onto and through GRP sheeting. Mesh must be fitted under all sheets in accordance with AS/NZS 1562.3:1996, unless exempted by clause 2.4.3.2.

**For your convenience clause 2.4.3.2. of AS/NSZ 1562.3:1996 reads: -**

**2.4.3.2. Provision of safety mesh.** Safety mesh shall be used in roof construction, subject to local statutory or national building code regulations.

In Australia, safety mesh is not required where one or more of the following conditions prevail:

- a) The roof makes an angle to the horizontal of -
  - i) For Class 2 to 9 buildings, as defined by the Building Code of Australia, 40 degrees or more; and
  - ii) For Class 1 and 10 buildings, as defined by the Building Code of Australia, 30 degrees or more.
- b) There is a substantial and closely boarded floor or similar structure below the roof at a vertical distance of not more than 3 m measured from the highest point of the plastic sheet incorporated into the roof.  
**Note:** This means that safety mesh may only be applicable to those parts of the roof that are over 3 m above a closely boarded floor or similar structure (i.e. only part of the roof may require safety mesh).
- c) There is a raised single arch profile of overall height not less than 100mm from the base support line or both female side lapping ribs are fixed over the supporting male underlapping ribs on either side for the entire length of the sheet and the resultant effective cover width shall be not greater than 450mm.
- d) The roof sheet has an effective cover width not greater than 300mm and a matching metal sheet is located on either side to support the plastic sheet throughout its entire length.
- e) The rafters supporting the roof sheeting are not more than 300mm apart.
- f) For Class 1 and 10 buildings, as defined in the Building Code of Australia, where a roof or a model of the roof passes the resistance to impact test (sand bag test) specified in Clause 5.3 and the plastic roofing material is not being used as an insert surrounded by the main roofing material with each insert being less than 60% of the length of the adjacent main roofing material.  
**Note:** Failure of the resistance to an impact test adjacent to the edge purlin requires safety mesh to be used only for the end spans provided a pass is obtained adjacent to the intermediate purlin in the centre span.
- g) For Class 2 to 9 buildings, as defined in the Building Code of Australia, where a specific roof lifetime is defined and the roof sheet durability against the resistance to impact as claimed in Clause 5.3 has been demonstrated for the same period of time.  
**Note:** Failure of the resistance to an impact test adjacent to the edge purlin requires safety mesh to be used only for the end spans provided a pass is obtained adjacent to the immediate purlin in the centre span.