

## Using stepladders on ice

### 1. Risks for human and environment



- Improper handling and installation of ladders may result in the user falling or slipping and the ladder falling or slipping

### 2. Protective measures and rules of conduct

- Stepladders have to conform to the DIN standard EN 131. They only have to be used for their destined purposes.
- Perform visual inspection before use. Damaged ladders must not be used.
- Stepladders have to be set only on a solid ground. Remove snow on the ice before setting. Use crossbar at the ladder heel.
- If the surface is extremely smooth, the ladder must also be secured against slipping by means of suitable measures such as ice anchors/screws, non-slip rubber mats or ladder spikes.
- Ladders are not to be used at weather conditions, which cause an additional risk (e.g. strong wind, things with great surfaces).
- Stepladders are to be used only with fully tensioned spreader guards.
- Stepladders are only to be charged with max. 150 kg.
- Stepladders are only to be used with suitable and solid shoes with firm sole, free of ice and snow.
- Stepladders, used on ice, are to be saved against slipping and falling by a second person. Stepladders must be secured against unintentional overturning (even during non-use).
- The person using the ladder should not be lean out sideward.
- The weight of carried tools / materials should not be more than 10 kg.
- No substances or devices may be used which create an additional hazard (e.g. chemicals). When transporting tools / materials, a safe contact with the conductor (holding with of one hand) to ensure.
- The ascent and descent areas must be kept free of objects.
- Cables / wires / ropes must be lead down the side of the ladder, not through the ascent or descent areas.
- Stepladders without holding device may only be entered up to the third highest step.
- Stepladders must not be used as single ladders.
- Do not exceed from stepladders, as stepladders may tip over to the side.
- Ladder transport: The best way carrying stepladders is vertical and fold along the body's side.

### 3. Behavior in the event of faults

- Damaged ladders must be removed from use and may only be used after proper repair. Damages are to be reported to the supervisor in charge / responsible person.

### 4. Behavior in the event of accidents – first aid



- Provide first aid
- Inform the command bridge / station coordinator / expedition leader by radio / satellite phone (correspondent to the emergency chain).
- Secure the area



### 5. Maintenance

- Ladders have to be checked regularly by a commissioned person in accordance with the terms of using.
- Repairs have only to be made by authorized persons.

### 6. Consequences of non-observance



- Possibility of personnel injuries or material damages
- Legal consequences