

Suspended Ceilings

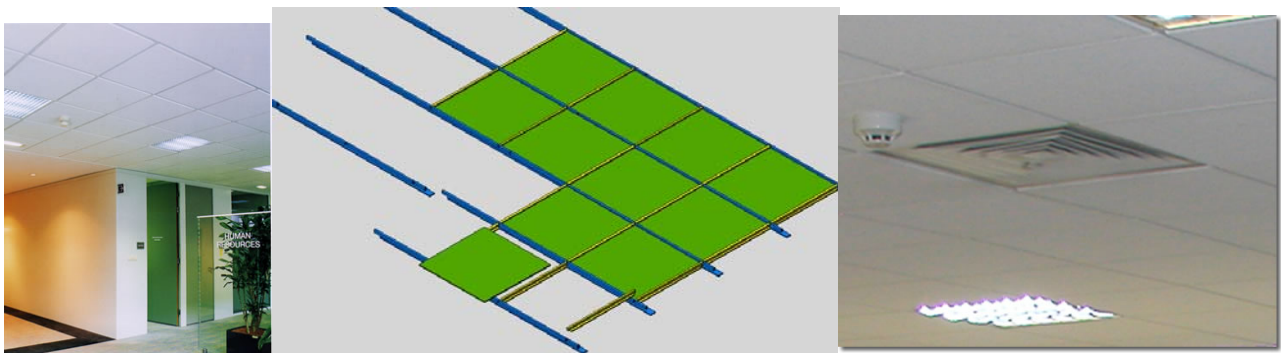
Completed suspended ceiling installations are often damaged during the latter stages of building construction. This is often due to follow on contractors requiring access to services once the ceiling works are complete, causing damage to tiles and grids. This damage often results in further work at height and reduced time and cost efficiency

‘On a recent project it was identified that only one commissioning engineer was needed to go above the ceiling whilst in reality 18 different contracting firms actually went above the ceiling. It needs to be understood why this has happened and how it can be prevented.’

Generation of a site wide technique to limit and train key operatives in order to carefully remove ceiling tiles can be beneficial

Some areas for consideration are

- Production of posters highlighting problems and techniques in removal of tiles
- Fix ceiling grid and tiles as late as possible, integrate programme dates to clarify why and when tiles need to be installed
- Adopt and agree ‘ceiling closure notice’ to be signed by ALL contractors, agree what is classed as ‘above ceiling’ as different contractors have different perspectives
- Closure sheet principle to be owned and championed by the Main Contractor/ Client
- Main Contractor to run a ‘permit to work system’ for entry into the ceiling void – this will help clearly identify reasons for access



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