Performing Arts Division - Technical Support Unit

LCSD PERFORMING ARTS VENUES PRACTISE – STABILITY OF MOVING SCENIC STRUCTURES

Issue. 5

These notes are provided as a guide to the LCSD performing arts venue policy in respect of moving scenic structures on stage as part of a public performance.

Where an element of scenery is moved on stage during a public performance it is important that the structure is safe in construction and stable in movement.

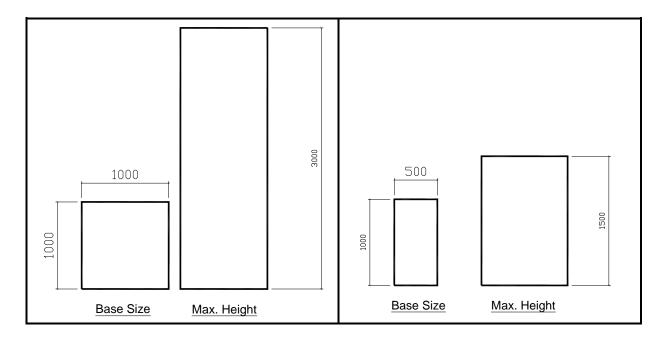
Stability

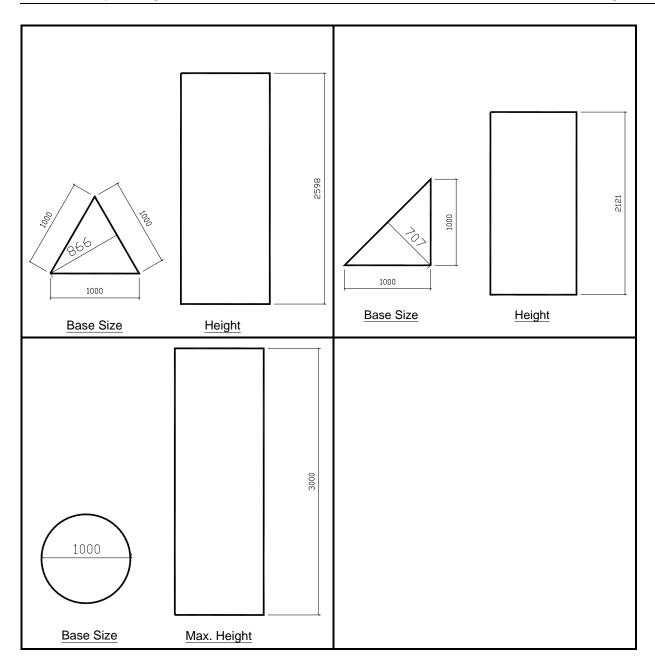
Stability is primarily achieved by having a safe base to height ratio. The size of the base affects the safe maximum height of the structure.

In general, the 1: 3 ratio is applied as a starting point for consideration.

The minimum base size of the structure is measured and multiplied by three to obtain the safe maximum height of the structure.

Where the base is a rectangle then the smaller dimension is used as the basis of calculation, where a triangular or other geometric shaped base is proposed the smallest dimension from a corner to the mid-point of the opposite side is used as the basis of calculation.





N.B. Where the structure exceeds the calculated safe maximum height, it may still be acceptable subject to other considerations of construction or additional support.

In such cases the Technical Director's advice should be sought on a case by case basis.

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