Safety net fans provide a level of protection from hazards such as falling objects or debris and are often used in inner city construction works and areas where segregation below or adequate control of dropped objects or debris cannot be guaranteed.

A safety net fan is not considered as compliant edge protection and should never be used as an alternative to standard edge protection as required by BS EN 13374: 2013+A1: 2018 Temporary edge protection systems - Product specification - Test methods. They do however serve as a complimentary product to many edge protection installations.

There are some safety net fan products which have manufacturer approval to BS EN 1263-1 and BS EN 1263-2 Temporary works equipment - Safety nets - Safety requirements, test methods/for the positioning limits, and when properly installed, can act as a collective man safe (fall arrest) system. These systems fall outside of the remit of the Edge Protection Federation and further guidance should be obtained from the manufacturer and/or Fall Arrest Safety Equipment Training (FASET).