# What is a Mezzanine Floor?

The photograph to the right shows a mezzanine floor we fitted for a <u>customer in Devizes</u>.

Mezzanine Floor: There are several definitions if you look up the word on <u>google</u>. The wikipedia definition is, " an intermediate floor in a building which is partly open to the double-height ceiling floor below."

Perhaps a more useful definition is a Mezzanine is a "second floor". Although usually the mezzanine level of a building is a partial floor, located between the ground floor and first floor. Another meaning of mezzanine is the lowest of a row of balconies in a theatre or symphony hall."



#### Mezzanine floor in Offices

How does this all relate to offices and warehouses? When someone talks about a mezzanine in an office, what does that mean? If the main building is quite high, then you can introduce another intermediate floor level to split up the height of the building and

increase the usuable floor space. Often this means not having to move premises and using the height of the building to maximise either the storage capacity or increase office space.

We define a mezzanine floor as an interdependently supported steel structure that forms a floor which can be used for storage or offices.

#### Safety in the event of a fire

There are some strict laws on the design and construction of these types of floors which are covered by Building Regulations. If you think about it, people will be potentially working above or below the steel structure and the Building Regulations are designed to protect people. Most mezzanine floors are made from stressed steel sections that are formed and cut to size. When heat is applied in a fire for example, the steel becomes soft, de-stressing the steel and the whole structure can collapse very quickly. The steel would not melt (unless really hot), but would bend and distort. We have several other blog posts in relation to fire performance:

### **Building Regulations.**

Other articles or blog posts can be seen here, as well looking at the projects that we have carried out on the main project page.

- 1. Is my existing mezzanine floor fire rated (it should be)
- 2. Mezzanine floor protection.
- 3. Why do I need Building Regulations
- 4. Can I alter my existing Mezzanine Floor?
- 5. How do I create more office space?

## **Projects**

If you would like to have a look at some of our projects, please click the link to take you to the <u>mezzanine floor page</u> on this website. Below the main text will be some filtered projects with photographs of building.

Need to know more? Please contact us on 01380 7388 44 or email us at info@cre8tiveinteriors.co.uk