Fall Protection – Know the Gear Stats and Facts



FACTS

1. **Improper Use of Equipment:** Utilizing fall protection gear incorrectly can lead to equipment failure and increased risk of injury.
2. **Lack of Training:** Workers unfamiliar with the proper use of fall protection systems may misuse equipment, compromising safety.
3. **Inadequate Inspection:** Failing to regularly inspect fall protection gear can result in unnoticed wear or damage, leading to potential failures during use.
4. **Incorrect Anchorage Points:** Securing equipment to unsuitable anchorage points can cause the entire fall protection system to fail.
5. **Overloading Equipment:** Exceeding the weight limits of fall protection gear can compromise its structural integrity.
6. **Environmental Factors:** Exposure to extreme temperatures, chemicals, or UV radiation can degrade equipment materials over time.

STATS

- OSHA’s 2023 data reported that 30% of fall-related violations involved improper use of fall protection gear, contributing to 5,500 injuries annually in construction.
- WorkSafeBC noted in 2022 that 15% of fall injuries in British Columbia were linked to misused or damaged fall protection gear, with 20% due to incorrect harness or lanyard use.
- The CDC’s 2023 NIOSH Fall Safety Report estimated that 25% of construction workers used improperly fitted harnesses, increasing fall risk by 30%.
- Statistics Canada’s 2021 Workplace Safety Survey found that 10% of workers in high-risk industries lacked training on fall protection gear, correlating with higher fall incidents.
- A 2022 Journal of Safety Research study indicated that 40% of fall injuries were preventable with proper anchor point selection and gear inspection, per OSHA 1926.502.
- CCOHS reported in 2023 that workplaces with regular fall protection gear training and inspections reduced fall incidents by 18%, per CSA Z259 standards.