Fall Protection – Picture This




2009 FALLS = +212,760 Workers Seriously Injured 605 Workers Killed
302 FATAL FALLS to Lower Level
828 Total Fatalities in construction
2013
2014
Out of 874 Total Construction Fatalities
337 were falls
Fall Protection
NUMBER ONE OSHA Violation
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
FALLS Leading Cause OF DEATH IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY
OSHA Rules on Fall Protection
Employers must provide
SAFE, SECURE FALL PROTECTION
where workers are exposed to falls from the following heights:
4' in General Industry Workplaces
5' in Shipyards
6' in the Construction Industry
8' in Longshore Operations
Employees working on a surface with an Unprotected Side/Edge that's SIX FEET or more above a lower level must use fall protection
6'+
Guardrails
Safety nets
Personal fall arrest systems
Vertical Lifelines or lanyards must have:
5k
a minimum breaking strength of 5,000 pounds
be protected against being cut or abraded.
Each employee MUST be attached to:
• a separate vertical lifeline
• anchor points capable of supporting at least 5,000 lbs per employee attached
Other Key Numbers
Guardrails & Handrails
Handrails must be: 30"-34" Above the Surface
Securely Fastened to or mounted on a wall or partition
Guardrails must include:
Top Rails
Posts
42" High
Midrails
Toe Boards
Toe boards must be:
No more than ½" Clearance the above floor level
Be Securely Fastened in place
At Least 4" HIGH
Proper Scaffolding
Scaffolds must be at least 10 FEET from electrical power lines at all times.
Scaffolds must be structurally sufficient to support its own weight, plus
4X MAXIMUM INTENDED LOAD
without settling or displacement
Height should be no more than 4X its minimum base dimension
at that point, it should be restrained by guys, ties, or braces to prevent tipping
Safety Net
May be used up to a distance of
25 FEET BELOW the working surface
Fixed Ladders
Cages, Safety Devices, or Self-Retracting Lifelines must be used when climb is less than 24', if the top of the ladder is more than 24' above lower levels.
Fall protection must be used when the employee's climb is
24 FEET OR GREATER
SUPPORTED SCAFFOLDS:
Fall protection can be either a personal fall-arrest system or a guardrail system.
10'+
Fall protection must be used on any scaffold 10 feet or more above a lower level.
18"
Platforms & walkways should be at least 18 inches wide.
SUSPENDED SCAFFOLDS:
OSHA requires both a personal fall arrest system & a guardrail system.
18"
Platforms & walkways should be at least 18 inches wide.
<14"
No more than a 14" gap between scaffold platform & the structure being worked on.