

LADDER SAFETY



Portable ladders are used in a wide variety of settings. Misuse of portable ladders can result in serious injuries from falls or, in the case of metal ladders, electrical shock.

Portable ladders must be maintained in good condition at all times and inspected at regular, frequent intervals.

Training is also an important aspect of portable ladder safety and accident prevention.

To use ladders safely and effectively, you must:

1. Know the rules of ladder safety.
2. Observe these rules at all times.

Remember that practically all falls from ladders can be traced to using them in an unsafe manner. When a fall occurs, the person who falls usually gets hurt. This means that you must observe ladder safety rules because you are the one who will get hurt if you don't. Others may be injured as well.

SKY LIGHTS

The OSHA General Industry Standard requires that every skylight floor opening and hole shall be guarded by a standard skylight screen or a fixed standard railing on all exposed sides.

DEFINITIONS

Authorized person - a person approved or assigned by the employer to perform a specific type of duty or duties or to be at a specific location or locations at the jobsite.

Competent person - one who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

Qualified person - one who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated their ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.



FALL PROTECTION



This brochure is a supplement to the Fall Protection Training Program. For more information, contact the Manager of Environmental Health and Safety, (330) 672-1950, dbaden@kent.edu, (330) 672-9565 or dehead@kent.edu

**Environmental Health
and Safety**

WHY IS FALL PROTECTION NECESSARY?

Falls are the leading cause of worker fatalities in the U.S. construction industry. Each year between 150 and 200 workers are killed and more than 100,000 injured as a result of falls at construction sites.

Can a job be done with 100% fall protection?

Based on studies, the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA) believes that virtually all deaths that occur as a result of a fall could be prevented by using some type of fall protection.

FALL PROTECTION SYSTEMS

There are a variety of systems used in fall protection including:

- Guardrail systems
- Safety net systems
- Personal fall arrest systems
- Positioning device systems
- Warning line systems
- Controlled access zones
- Safety monitoring systems
- Covers
- Protection from falling objects
- Fall Protection Plan

OSHA REQUIREMENTS

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) published the Fall Protection Standard 29 CFR 1926, Subpart M, to prevent injuries associated with falls.

The OSHA Fall Protection Standard requires that employees be trained in the following:

- The nature of fall hazards in the work area.
- Correct procedures for erecting, maintaining, disassembling, and inspection of the fall protection systems to be used.
- Use and operation of fall protection systems.
- The role of each employee in the safety monitoring system when this system is used.
- The limitations on the use of mechanical equipment during the performance of roofing work on low-sloped roofs.
- The correct procedures for the handling and storage of equipment and materials and the erection of overhead protection.
- The role of employees in fall protection plans.

RECOGNIZING FALL HAZARDS

The OSHA Fall Protection Standard is designed to protect anyone who works on, over or around:

- unprotected elevated edges
- leading edges
- hoist areas
- holes
- formwork and reinforcing steel
- ramps
- runways and walkways
- excavations
- dangerous equipment
- wall openings
- low slope and steep roofs
- overhand bricklaying and related work
- precast concrete erection
- residential construction

COMMON HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH SCAFFOLDS

- Falls from elevation, due to lack of fall protection;
- Collapse of the scaffold, caused by instability or overloading;
- Being struck by falling tools, work materials, or debris; and
- Electrocution, principally due to proximity of the scaffold to overhead power lines.