

According to recent fatal injury statistics (BLS.gov), there are more than 800 deadly falls per year. OSHA states that falls from heights and on the same level (a working surface) are among the leading causes of serious work-related injuries, as well as deaths.

OSHA Standard 1910.30(a)(1) states that *Before any employee is exposed to a fall hazard, the employer must provide training for each employee...*

- Worksites should be regularly assessed for structural integrity.
- Employers should evaluate and make changes to procedures to prevent exposing employees to hazards.
- Railing systems or fall protection always be used when working on roofs.
- New employees should be trained on the proper use of fall protection with annual refresher training.

OSHA Standard 1910.28(a)(1) states that *[OSHA] requires employers to provide protection for each employee exposed to fall and falling object hazards.*

- Never work near unprotected skylights, sides, or edges. Supervisors and workers should perform a walk-around inspection of their site before starting work to find any possible fall hazards.
- Never stand on the top step of a step ladder. Always face the ladder when climbing up or down the ladder and working.

OSHA Standard 1910.23(b)(11) states that the employer must ensure that *each employee faces the ladder when climbing up or down it.*

- When operating an elevating platform forklift, a personal fall arrest system should be worn at all times, which consists of an anchorage, connectors, body harness and retractable lanyard connected to appropriate anchor point.