

HBACA SAFETY COMMITTEE

Fall Protection Safety

Initiative & Stand Down Kit

September 14th through 18th 2020

Suggested Discussion Materials, Action Items and Event Schedule

Fatal Four

Out of 4,779 worker fatalities in private industry in calendar year 2018, 1,008 or 21.1% were in construction — that is, one in five worker deaths last year were in construction. The leading causes of private sector worker deaths (excluding highway collisions) in the construction industry were falls, followed by struck by object, electrocution, and caught-in/between. These "Fatal Four" were responsible for more than half (58.6%) the construction worker deaths in 2018, BLS reports. Eliminating the Fatal Four would save 591 workers' lives in America every year.

- Falls – 338 out of 1,008 total deaths in construction in CY 2018 (33.5%)
- Struck by Object – 112 (11.1%)
- Electrocutions – 86 (8.5%)
- Caught-in/between* – 55 (5.5%)

Fact Sheet – Fall Protection in Residential Construction

Toolbox #1: Fall protection requirements

Toolbox #2: Fall Distance and Swing fall

Toolbox #3: Fall Protection Serviceability



OSHA® FactSheet

Fall Protection in Residential Construction

The United States Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued a directive rescinding the Interim Fall Protection Compliance Guidelines for Residential Construction (STD 03-00-001).

Before issuance of this new directive, STD 03-00-001 allowed employers engaged in certain residential construction activities to use specified alternative methods of fall protection (e.g., slide guards or safety monitor systems) rather than the conventional fall protection (guardrails, safety nets, or personal fall arrest systems) required by the residential construction fall protection standard (29 CFR 1926.501(b)(13)). Employers could use the alternative measures described in STD 03-00-001 without first proving that the use of conventional fall protection was infeasible or created a greater hazard and without a written fall protection plan.

With the issuance of the new directive, all residential construction employers must comply with 29 CFR 1926.501(b)(13).

- Residential construction employers generally must ensure that employees working six feet or more above lower levels use guardrails, safety nets, or personal fall arrest systems. A personal fall arrest system may consist of a full body harness, a deceleration device, a lanyard, and an anchor point. (See the definition of "personal fall arrest system" in 29 CFR 1926.500.)
- Other fall protection measures may be used to the extent allowed under other provisions of 29 CFR 1926.501(b) addressing specific types of work. For example, 1926.501(b)(10) permits the use of warning lines and safety monitoring systems during the performance of roofing work on low-sloped roofs.
- OSHA allows the use of an effective fall restraint system in lieu of a personal fall arrest system. To be effective, a fall restraint system must be rigged to prevent a worker from reaching a fall hazard and falling over

the edge. A fall restraint system may consist of a full body harness or body belt that is connected to an anchor point at the center of a roof by a lanyard of a length that will not allow a worker to physically reach the edge of the roof.

- If the employer can demonstrate that use of conventional fall protection methods is infeasible or creates a greater hazard, it must ensure that a qualified person:
 - Creates a written, site-specific fall protection plan in compliance with 29 CFR 1926.502(k); and
 - Documents, in that plan, the reasons why conventional fall protection systems are infeasible or why their use would create a greater hazard.

The new directive interprets "residential construction" as construction work that satisfies both of the following elements:

- The end-use of the structure being built must be as a home, i.e., a dwelling.
- The structure being built must be constructed using traditional wood frame construction materials and methods. The limited use of structural steel in a predominantly wood-framed home, such as a steel I-beam to help support wood framing does not disqualify a structure from being considered residential construction.
 - Traditional wood frame construction materials and methods will be characterized by:
 - *Framing materials:* Wood (or equivalent cold-formed sheet metal stud) framing, not steel or concrete; wooden floor joists and roof structures.
 - *Exterior wall structure:* Wood (or equivalent cold-formed sheet metal stud) framing or masonry brick or block.
 - *Methods:* Traditional wood frame construction techniques.

This is one in a series of informational fact sheets highlighting OSHA programs, policies or standards. It does not impose any new compliance requirements. For a comprehensive list of compliance requirements of OSHA standards or regulations, refer to Title 29 of the Code of Federal Regulations. This information will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. The voice phone is (202) 693-1999; teletypewriter (TTY) number: (877) 889-5627.

For more complete
information:



www.osha.gov

(800) 321-OSHA

12/2010

Safety Committee September 2020 Toolbox Talk # 1

Fall Protection Requirements

1926.501(b)(1) - Unprotected sides and edges

Each employee on a walking/working surface (horizontal and vertical surface) with an unprotected side or edge which is 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above a lower level shall be protected from falling by the use of guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems.

1926.501(b)(13) - Residential construction

Each employee engaged in residential construction activities 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above lower levels shall be protected by guardrail systems, safety net system, or personal fall arrest system unless another provision in paragraph (b) of this section provides for an alternative fall protection measure.

1926.502(a)(2)

Employers shall provide and install all fall protection systems required by this subpart for an employee and shall comply with all other pertinent requirements of this subpart before that employee begins the work that necessitates the fall protection.

1926.502(b)(1) – Guardrail Systems

Top edge height of top rails, or equivalent guardrail system members, shall be 42 inches (1.1 m) plus or minus 3 inches (8 cm) above the walking/working level. When conditions warrant, the height of the top edge may exceed the 45-inch height, provided the guardrail system meets all other criteria of this paragraph.

1926.502(d) - Personal fall arrest systems

Personal fall arrest systems and their use shall comply with the provisions set forth below. Effective January 1, 1998, body belts are not acceptable as part of a personal fall arrest system. Note: The use of a body belt in a positioning device system is acceptable and is regulated under paragraph (e) of this section.

Safety Committee September 2020 Toolbox Talk # 1 Spanish

Requisitos de protección contra

1926.501(b)(1) - lados y bordes no protegidos

Cada empleado en una superficie de paso / (superficie horizontal y vertical) de trabajo con un lado o borde no protegido que es quedará protegido contra caídas mediante el uso de sistemas de barandas, sistemas de redes de seguridad 6 pies (1,8 m) o más por encima de un nivel inferior, o sistemas de detención de caídas.

1926.501(b)(13) - Construcción residencial

Cada empleado participa en actividades de construcción de viviendas de 6 pies (1,8 m) o más por encima de los niveles más bajos estarán protegidos por sistemas de barandas, sistema de red de seguridad, o sistema de detención de caídas a menos que otra disposición del párrafo (b) de esta sección proporciona una caída alternativa medida de protección.

1926.502(a)(2)

Los empleadores deberán proveer e instalar todos los sistemas de protección contra caídas requeridos por esta subparte para un empleado, y deberán cumplir con todos los demás requisitos pertinentes de esta subparte antes de que el empleado comience el trabajo que requiere la protección contra caídas.

1926.502(b)(1) – Los sistemas de barandas

Altura del borde superior de los largueros superiores, o los miembros del sistema de barrera de protección equivalente, se 42 pulgadas (1,1 m) más o menos 3 pulgadas (8 cm) por encima del nivel de caminar / trabajar. Cuando las condiciones lo justifican, la altura del borde superior puede exceder la altura de 45 pulgadas, siempre que el sistema de barandas cumple con todos los otros criterios de este párrafo.

1926.502(d) - sistemas de detención de caídas

Los sistemas de detención de caídas y su uso deberán cumplir con las disposiciones establecidas a continuación. A partir de enero 1 de 1998, correas para el cuerpo no son aceptables como parte de un sistema de detención de caídas. Nota: El uso de un cinturón de cuerpo en un sistema de dispositivo de posicionamiento es aceptable y está regulado en el párrafo (e) de esta sección.

Safety Committee September 2020 Toolbox Talk # 2

Fall Distance and Swing Fall Considerations

An important factor of utilization of a personal fall arrest or restrain system is the distance required to stop a fall and prevent impact with the ground or lower levels of a structure.

Freefall Distance. This is the distance the worker falls before the system begins to arrest/slow the fall. When using self-retracting lifelines, the typical free fall distance is 2 feet. An accounting for the lanyard length, location of anchorage relative to D-ring (anchorage overhead, level with or below D-ring) and potential for swing.

Harness Stretch. This is the distance a properly sized and worn harness stretches in the event of a fall. 1-foot is generally used for potential harness stretch.

Height of Worker. 6 feet is typically used.

Deceleration Distance. This is the elongation of the arresting device when deployed after the Freefall Distance. Most devices have a Deceleration Distance of 3.5 feet.

Safety Factor. This is added to ensure a buffer is provided from the lower level obstruction after a fall. A 2-foot safety factor is a minimum.

Total Fall Clearance Distance

Swing Falls

It is seen often that workers install anchor points on the roof and then go about their work whether it be roofing or framing while tied off. These workers use lifelines and self-retracting lifelines to prevent falls but at times, they forget to install additional anchorage when moving and create a new hazard.



"The swing fall hazard is created by the pendulum effect, which can swing a fallen worker into a nearby surface, such as a wall or protruding beam. In addition to calculating the total fall clearance distance before beginning work on an elevated level, it is important to evaluate the swing fall hazard at the edges where a worker might fall. A worker who falls while connected to an anchor (unless it is directly overhead) will swing back and forth like a pendulum. Workers can be seriously injured if they strike objects during a swing fall. Installing the anchorage point directly above the work area (i.e., connected to an overhead attachment point with sufficient strength) will help prevent injury" ("OSHA Technical Manual (OTM) | Section V: Chapter 4 - Fall Protection in Construction", 2020).

Safety Committee September 2020 Toolbox Talk # 2 Spanish

Consideraciones sobre la distancia de caída y caída de oscilación

Un factor importante de utilización de un sistema personal de detención o prevención de caídas es la distancia necesaria para detener una caída y evitar el impacto con el suelo o los niveles inferiores de una estructura.

Distancia de caída libre. Esta es la distancia que el trabajador cae antes de que el sistema arreste/retrase la caída. Cuando se utilizan líneas de vida autorretráctiles, la distancia típica de caída libre es de 2 pies. Una contabilidad de la longitud del cordón, la ubicación del anclaje en relación con la argolla D (instalado en alto, a nivel o por debajo de la argolla D) y el potencial de oscilación.

Estiramiento del arnés. Esta es la distancia que un arnés de tamaño adecuado y bien ajustado se extiende en caso de caída. 1 pie se utiliza generalmente para el posible estiramiento del arnés.

Altura del trabajador. 6 pies se utiliza típicamente.

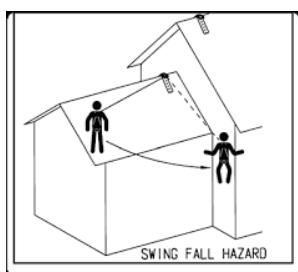
Distancia de desaceleración. Este es el alargamiento del dispositivo de detención cuando se despliega después de la distancia de caída libre. La mayoría de los dispositivos tienen una distancia de desaceleración de 3,5 pies.

Factor de seguridad. Esto se agrega para asegurarse que se proporciona un búfer de la obstrucción de nivel inferior después de una caída. Un factor de seguridad de 2 pies es un mínimo.

Distancia total de distancia total de caída

columpio cae

A menudo se ve que los trabajadores instalan puntos de anclaje y siguen con su trabajo, sea de techar o enmarcar. Estos trabajadores utilizan líneas de vida y líneas autoretractiles para prevenir caídas, pero en veces se les olvida instalar puntos de anclaje adicionales al moverse y crean un peligro nuevo.



El riesgo de caída oscilación es creado por el efecto de péndulo, que puede pivotar a un trabajador caído en una superficie cercana, tal como una pared o una viga que sobresale. Además de calcular la distancia total de espacio libre de caída antes de comenzar a trabajar en un nivel elevado, es importante evaluar el riesgo de caída swing en los bordes donde un trabajador puede caer. Un trabajador que cae mientras está conectado a un ancla (a menos que sea directamente sobre la cabeza) se moverá hacia atrás y adelante como un péndulo. Los trabajadores pueden sufrir lesiones graves en caso de que ataquen objetos durante una caída pendular. Instalación del punto de anclaje directamente encima de la zona de trabajo (es decir, conectado a un punto de fijación de arriba con la fuerza suficiente) ayudará a prevenir lesiones.

HBACA Safety Committee September 2020 Toolbox Talk # 3

Fall Protection Serviceability

Proper inspection of your personal fall arrest/restraint system can and will save your life in the event that you fall. All components of a PFAS are crucial to the function of fall protection and should be inspected before every use to ensure proper serviceability of the equipment.

Tears, cuts, frays or abrasions to any part of a body harness or safety restraint lifeline or lanyard will make them unserviceable and should be removed from service.

The body harness and lanyards should be free of oils and solvents. Substances of this nature can be corrosive and breakdown the material that comprises both harness and lanyard.

Plastic components on the harness such as dorsal Dee-ring pad and loose strap retention sleeves are intact and free from cracks and cuts.

Stitching and fall indicators should be intact and not cut, frayed or ripped apart.

Metal components such as the Dee-ring on the harness and all double action snap hooks are free of deformities and cuts that could weaken the integrity. All double action hooks must be functional to prevent roll out of anchorage.

Self-retracting cable lifelines should be carefully inspected for frayed, split wires or bird caging that might indicate a likeliness of internal damage to the cable. Cable should also be free from rust.

The housing of a self-retracting lifeline should be intact and manufacturers labels present. If housing has external screws or bolts, ensure they are present and not loose.

Inspect cable components such as the cable thimble and wire clamp sleeve should not be bent or cracked.

Self-retracting lifeline, whether cable or other material should pull out and retract fully without hesitation or creating a slack line.

Ensure that the self-retracting lifeline locks up when the lifeline is jerked sharply.

On the double action snap hook there is a fall indicator that shows as red if a fall has occurred. Remove the lifeline if the red indicator is visible.

Safety Committee September 2020 Toolbox Talk # 3

Una inspección adecuada de su sistema personal de detención/prevención de caídas puede y de hecho le salvará la vida en caso de que caiga. Todos los componentes de un PFAS son cruciales para la función de la protección contra caídas y deben ser inspeccionados antes de cada uso para garantizar la correcta capacidad de servicio del equipo.

Las rasgadas, cortes, deshilachados o abrasiones en cualquier parte de un arnés corporal o de una línea de vida de sujeción de seguridad o cordón los harán inservible y deben ser retirados del servicio.

El arnés del cuerpo y los cordones deben estar libres de aceites y disolventes. Sustancias de esta naturaleza pueden ser corrosivas y descomponer el material del arnés tanto como del cordón.

Componentes plásticos en el arnés como la almohadilla dorsal de la argolla D y mangas de retención de correa sueltas están intactas y libres de grietas y cortes.

Las costuras e indicadores de caída deben estar intactos y no cortados, deshilachados o desgarrados.

Los componentes metálicos, como la argolla D del arnés y todos los ganchos de doble acción, están libres de deformidades y cortes que podrían debilitar la integridad. Todos los ganchos de doble acción deben ser funcionales para evitar el despliegue del anclaje

Los cables salvavidas autorretráctiles deben ser cuidadosamente inspeccionados en busca de cables deshilachados, divididos o deshiladura tipo jaula de pájaros que puedan indicar una similitud de daño interno al cable. El cable también debe estar libre de óxido.

La carcasa de una línea de vida autorretráctil debe estar intacta y las etiquetas de los fabricantes estar presentes. Si la carcasa tiene tornillos o pernos externos, asegúrese de que estén presentes y no sueltos.

Inspeccionar los componentes del cable, como el dedal del cable y el manguito de la abrazadera de alambre, no deben doblarse ni agrietarse

Línea de vida autorretráctil, ya sea de cable u otro material debe salir y retraerse completamente sin vacilar o crear una línea holgada

Asegúrese de que el salvavidas autorretráctil se bloquee cuando el salvavidas se sacude bruscamente

El gancho de ajuste de doble acción tiene un indicador de caída que se muestra como rojo si se ha producido una caída. Retire la línea de vida si el indicador rojo está visible

References

OSHA Technical Manual (OTM) | Section V: Chapter 4 - Fall Protection in Construction. (2020). Retrieved 11 March 2020, from https://www.osha.gov/dts/osta/otm/otm_v/otm_v_4.html#how