



FALL PROTECTION

Falls are among the most common reasons for workplace injuries and fatalities in California. Falls generally occur when employees are working at an elevated height and are not adequately protected. Some examples include employees working on elevated work surfaces, ladders, stairs, scaffolds, aerial devices, roofs, bridges, trusses, beams, purlins, plates, suspended staging, catwalks and walkways.

Falls in construction frequently involve slippery, cluttered, or unstable walking/working surfaces, unprotected edges, floor holes or wall openings, unsafely positioned ladders, and misuse of fall protection devices.

Key CalOSHA Requirements

Title 8 of California Code of Regulations (T8 CCR) specifies many requirements for fall protection in construction. Below are selected regulations that contain fall protection requirements. Refer to T8 CCR for the complete set of requirements.

Helpful Safety Information

Fall Protection trigger heights must be observed at all times:

- 2 stories or 30' whichever is less:** Connecting structural steel (Iron workers)
- 20':** Most roofing work
- 15':** Panelized roof systems, residential framing and roofing activities, work on 4" nominal or wider structural members and other than connecting steel (iron workers)
- 7 ½':** Work on unprotected platforms, scaffolds, or edges of structures (within 6')
- 6':** Work with rebar/ or similar projections (rod busters)

Selected T8 CCR Sections

1541	Fall protection in excavation work
1610.7	Fall protection in cranes and derricks in construction
1620	Design and construction of guard rails
1669	General fall protection
1670	Personal fall arrest systems, personal fall restraint systems and positioning devices
1671	Safety nets
1671.1	Fall protection plan
1671.2	Controlled access zones and safety monitoring systems
1710	Fall protection for erection of steel structures
1711	Fall protection for reinforcing steel operations in concrete construction
1712	Fall protection for impalement hazards
1716.1	Fall protection in structural wood framing systems
1716.2	Fall protection in wood and light gage steel frame construction in residential/light commercial work
1724	Fall protection in general roofing operations
1730	Fall protection in roofing operations
1731	Fall protection for roofing work on new tract homes with roof slopes 3:12 or greater

Fall Protection Systems

There are 2 basic fall protection systems:

- Passive Systems – Fall Prevention – Guardrails, safety nets, floor covers, catch platforms, etc.
- Active Systems- Personal Fall Protection – Safety belts & body harness

Passive systems, such as guardrails, are the preferred system of fall protection. If passive systems cannot be utilized, then personal fall protection is required.

Contacting Cal/OSHA Consultation Services

Publications: www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/PubOrder.asp
Consultation Programs: www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/consultation.html
Toll-free Number: 1-800-963-9424
Onsite Assistance Program Area Offices:
 Central Valley: 559-445-6800 San Diego/Imperial: 619-767-2060
 No. California: 916 263-0704 San Bernardino: 909-383-4567
 SF/Bay Area: 510-622-2891 San Fernando Valley: 818-901-5754
 La Palma/LA/Orange: 714-562-5525

**TOOLBOX TALKS
FALL PROTECTION**

Meeting Conducted By: _____ Date: _____

Comments: _____

Attendees:

Print	Signature	Print	Signature
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2.		17.	
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