



Policy

Saskatoon & Area - Occupational Health & Safety

Number: 53-014

Title: Physical Hazard: Fall Protection

Saskatchewan Employment Act:

OHS Regulation: 7-15 to 7-21, 9-2

Date: January 1, 2017

Date Revised/Reaffirmed: December 20, 2021

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Purpose

To ensure that all contractors and workers are protected from falling and will be safe in the event of an accidental fall

Roles and Responsibilities

Employer must ensure:

- That if a lifeline is used all conditions in 7-15(1)(2)(3)(4) of the OHS regulations are followed
- That all components of the fall arrest system are approved and maintained
- That the fall arrest system prevents:
 - A worker from falling more than 1.2m without a shock absorber
 - A fall no more 2 meters when a shock absorber is used or the limit specified in the manufacturers specifications, whichever is less
 - Applies a peak fall arrest force of no more than 8 kilonewtons to the worker
 - Is fastened to a lifeline or secure anchor point that has a breaking strength of 22.2 kilonewtons

Manager/Supervisor must ensure:

- That roles and responsibilities of all workers are being met, as well as applicable legislation and/or standards
- Safe work procedures are written and followed
- The full body harness and linkage are approved and maintained
- That the full body harness is a proper fit to the worker
- Worker has been trained in the use of all components of the fall arrest system
- That a protective thimble is used to protect ropes and straps from chafing when a rope or strap is used
- That any snap hooks that are a part of the fall arrest system are self locking
- That a lanyard is as short as conditions permit
- The lanyard is constructed of the proper materials and has the suitable snap hooks
- The lanyard is approved and maintained

Worker must ensure:

- They are trained in and follow the safe work procedures
- They are trained in and use any PPE required (selection, use, care and handling)

- They inspect a lanyard or lifeline and the components of the fall arrest system and harness and ensure that it is free from all obstructions in Regulation 7-20(1-4), 7-21(2) of the OHS Regulations prior to use
- They report to their supervisor and the Safety Alert System/Incident Report Line any incidents or near misses involving fall protection

Orientation & Training

- Fall Protection training course
- Training in the inspection care and use of all parts of the personal fall arrest system

Materials

- Appropriate fall arrest system

Non-Compliance/Breach:

Non-compliance with this policy will result in a review of the incident. A review for non-compliance may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment or privileges; fines and /or prosecution of individuals under the Saskatchewan Employment Act and OHS Regulations.

References

- This policy is used in conjunction with Policy 53-028 Working at Heights

Review Dates:

January 1, 2017

June 5, 2018

December 30, 2021