



OSHA's Final Rule Walking-Working Surfaces & Fall Protection

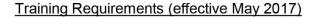
Effective in General Industry as of January 2017

Summary of Key Points

Portable Ladders

Employers must ensure that:

- Rungs and steps are slip-resistant
- Portable ladders used on slippery surfaces are secured and stabilized
- Portable ladders are not moved, shifted, or extended while a worker is on them
- Top steps and caps of stepladders are not used as steps
- Ladders are not fastened together to provide added length unless designed for such use
- Ladders are not placed on boxes, barrels, or other unstable bases to obtain added height



Each employee who uses personal fall protection systems must be trained by a qualified person on:

- The nature of the fall hazards in the work area and how to recognize them
- The procedures to be followed to minimize those hazards
- The correct procedures for installing, inspecting, operating, maintaining, and disassembling the personal fall protection systems that the employee uses
- The correct use of personal fall protection systems and equipment (proper hookup, anchoring, tie-off techniques, inspection and storage methods, etc.)

Fixed Ladders

- By November 2018, employers must install personal fall arrest or ladder safety systems on new fixed ladders over 24 feet and on replacement ladders/ladder sections
- By November 2018, employers must ensure existing fixed ladders over 24 feet are equipped with a cage, well, personal fall arrest system, or ladder safety system
- By November 2036, employers must replace cages and wells (used as fall protection) with ladder safety or personal fall arrest systems on all fixed ladders over 24 feet



