

TOOL BOX TALKS

Anchorage Points

Falls from elevations are the leading cause of fatal injuries in the construction industry. In fact, half of all work-related fatal falls in the United States occur in the construction industry. Buildings, structures, scaffolds and ladders are the primary locations from which fatal falls occur. Did you know that one out of every five-workplace fatalities is a construction employee? Review the following information with employees.

WORKSAFE TIPS

FALL FACTS

The average cost per fall injury is \$89,793.

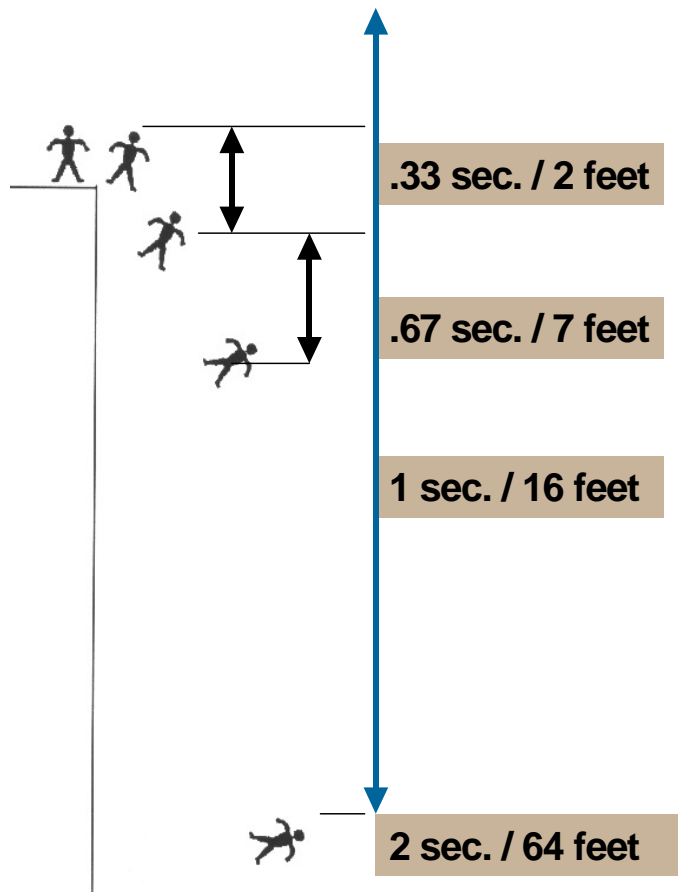
Falls off roofs are 3% of injuries seen by MEM.

Average cost of a fall from a roof is \$63,733.

Ladder falls are 9% of injuries submitted to MEM.

The average cost of a fall from a ladder is \$27,977.

ANATOMY OF A FALL



ANCHORAGE POINTS: Inspection

- Inspected by a competent person before use
- Replace anchorage points with excessive wear
- Never use damaged anchorage points
- Never use rusted or corroded anchorage points
- Never use frayed or cut strap anchorages
- Protect strap anchorages from abrasions/cuts

ANCHORAGE POINTS: Residential

- Anchorage must support 5,000 lbs. **per user**
- Must be independent of any tool, swing stage or platform anchorage
- Must be installed per manufacturer guidelines
- Affix anchorage as high on the roof as possible
- Never tie off from attic or sewer vents
- Never tie off from chimneys or vehicles
- Limit free fall distance to less than 6 feet
- After a fall arrest, inspect the anchorage

ROPE GRABS: Residential

- Rope grabs must be used with lifeline specified in the user manual.
- Rope grabs used for fall arrest must have an anchorage that supports 5,000 lbs.
- Rope grabs used for fall restraint must have an anchorage that supports 3,000 lbs.

RESCUE

If workers are wearing a personal fall protection system a rescue plan must be in place.

Make the following tools available for rescue of a fallen worker:

- Ladders
- Scissor or platform lift
- Supplemental rope
- Rescue-trained personnel