

TOOL BOX TALKS

Leading Edge Hazards

Construction Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention



Flat roofs and leading edges can expose employees to falls. Review these safety tips with your employees.

Tool Box Tips

1. Fall protection measures must be put in place any time an employee is exposed to a fall hazard of six or more feet in height.
2. Follow site specific fall protection plans that address hazards as projects develop.
3. Make sure employees are trained to recognize fall hazards and work safely.
4. Use guardrails to protect employees from leading edges.
5. Use a personal fall arrest system to prevent leading edge falls.
6. Lifelines and rope grabs are an acceptable fall protection connecting device. Employees need to be trained to reduce or eliminate slack in lifeline systems.
7. If parapets are too low to be considered a guardrail (at least 39 inches) then fall protection measures must be put in place.
8. When setting up and using fall arrest systems, remember “Dog on a Leash.” Adjust the equipment so it won’t let you near the edge of the roof.
9. Make sure ladders are extended three feet above the support edge.
10. Tie off or secure ladders to prevent tip over or kick out.
11. Make sure door, window and skylight openings are guarded.



This flat roof can expose roofers and HVAC employees to a leading edge fall hazard.



The second floor of this structure exposes employees to a leading edge fall.



Correct: This employee is using a personal fall arrest system for protection from a leading edge fall.

These advisory materials have been developed from national standards and sources believed to be reliable, however, no guarantee is made as to the sufficiency of the information contained in the material and Missouri Employers Mutual Insurance Company assumes no liability for its use. Advice about specific situations should be obtained from a safety professional.

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