TOOL BOX TALKS

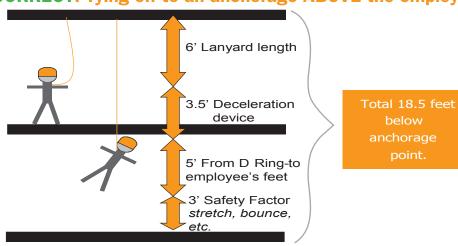
Minimizing Fall Distance

Slip, Trip and Fall Prevention



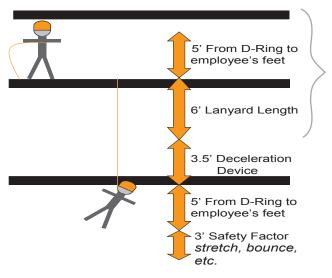
Users of a personal fall arrest system must anchor the lanyard above their head, minimizing total fall distance. Total fall distance is length of the lanyard + deceleration distance + distance from D-ring to feet and stretch factor added together. OSHA allows no more than six feet of freefall.

CORRECT: Tying off to an anchorage ABOVE the employee.



Survey total fall distance before assembling, designing or connecting to an anchorage.

INCORRECT: Tying off to an anchorage BELOW the employee.



Total 11 feet travel distance of D-ring before fall arrest takes effect. This potential impact force exceeds many lanyard capacities (and OSHA standards).

When added to total fall distance, anchoring at the feet can become problematic.

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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