

WCFSFA March 2017

Walking/Working Surfaces & PPE OSHA standard revision

Joan Spencer, Presenter

Luke made an introduction to the WCFSFA and had attendees introduce themselves.

Joan mentioned the upcoming stand downs and she is looking for participants for these events.

As regards the revision to the walking/working surfaces - It is an exacting standard complete with measurements so you do need to use the standard. It has been updated to address outdated Sub part D as regards industry practices, to increase consistency and to add provisions for personal fall protection. It is a good standard, not especially confusing as in the past. As an example, 1910.140 fall protection had only a mention of guard rails, now there is a choice with new technology.

The revision includes:

Fall protection flexibility

Update scaffolding requirements

Phase in on ladders/fall arrest systems

Phase out of "qualified climbers" on outdoor advertising billboards

Rope descent systems

It consolidates definitions and clarifies them and applies them to all general industry workplaces.

(a few minor exemptions)

It maintains the housekeeping provisions – maintains the requirements of meeting maximum intended loads – addresses SAFE ACCESS/EGRESS - INSPECTION of - REPAIRS MADE /OVERSEEN BY COMPETANT PERSON (NEW).

For REGULAR TRAVEL – NEED A STAIR WAY, A LADDER NOT ACCEPTABLE.

1019.23 Ladders - consolidated and simplifies requirements.

There is an absolute REQUIREMENT of an INSPECTION BEFORE USE.

The revision updates and MAKES CONSISTENT W/CURRENT NATIONAL CONSENSUS STANDARDS.

After market extensions are OK.

Paragraph C – portable ladders – performance oriented

Paragraph D – fixed ladders

Mobile ladders have general design requirements and standards

1910.25 Stairways – adds design criteria updated to be consistent with national consensus standards

Shallow or taller steps where flooring added are no longer acceptable.

There are additional visual requirements for egress routes - Subpart E means of egress.

Vertical clearance at least 6'8", uniform riser heights & tread depths between landings, 30" on landings is required with the idea you should be able to turn around.

Carry 5x anticipated live load, but not less than 1000 lbs. at any point

1926.26 Dock boards also have standards – must be secured – wheels chocked – handles – weight requirements for multiple persons to move

1910.27 Scaffolds/rope descent systems

-if general industry, use construction standard

-adds provision of RDS incorporating 1991 OSHA memo on RDS

-requires certification of anchorages beginning effective 1 year after the final rule published

-requires RDS have separate fall arrest system

1910.28 Duty to Have Fall Protection & Falling Object Protection

-consolidates gen industry into 1 section

-requirements are consistent with national consensus standards

-recognizes new technology

-flexible for employers

-Employer must ensure the protection have strength/structural integrity BEFORE employees are permitted on it

-hardhats, toe boards, canopies, barricade areas

-4' or more above a lower level

-skylights must have covers, guardrails, travel restraints, personal fall systems

Fall Protection Criteria covers dock chains

-if buying this, the manufacturer should be compliant

-openings 4' guardrail, designated area, safety net

1910.30 Training

-must provide training on where fall hazards are to include how the protection works.

1910.140 new PPE Personal Fall Protection Systems

-you are making the determination what is the best PPE for that task/purpose

Effective 1/17/17

Training within six months for your employees

Inspection certifications within one year for anchorages

Installation of systems on fixed ladders within two years

www.osha.gov/walking-working-surfaces/index.html