









Safe Work Practice LADDERS

Potential Hazards (Risk Priority MEDIUM)

- Slips, trips and falls
- Reaching
- Ladder Placement
- Standing on the top rung or step
- All personnel must ensure they have been appropriately trained by their supervisor.

Required Personal Protective Equipment and Devices

Foot Protection	Hearing Protection	High Visibility	Head Protection	Eye Protection	Face Protection	Hand Protection	Protective Clothing
							

Safe Work Practice

- Make certain that ladders and step ladders are in good condition before using them
- Rungs and steps must be kept free of oil and grease and other slippery substances
- Ladders and step ladders should be sound and free by visual inspection of shake, wane and compression failures – all wooden parts shall be kept free from sharp edges, splinters and decay

NOTE: Portable wood ladders used should be type 1 which is designated for heavy industrial use.

- Metal ladders shall be free from structural defects or accident hazards such as sharp edges and burrs
- Rungs and steps shall be corrugated, dimpled, coated with skid resistant material or otherwise treated to minimize the possibility of slipping
- Metal ladders are not be used when working around electrical hazards
- Portable wooden ladders with reinforced rails shall be used only with metal reinforcement on the underside – ladders of this type should be used with great care near electrical conductors, since the reinforcement itself is a conductor
- All portable straight or extension ladders must be tied, or otherwise made secure at the top or must be held at the bottom while in use
- Set straight ladders so that the bottom is out from the vertical about one-fourth of the distance from the upper support to the bottom
- Ensure that the upper support of the ladder is placed against a stable point
- No ladders shall be used to gain access to a roof unless the top of the ladder extends at least 3 feet above the upper support point
- When climbing, face the ladder and keep both hands free for climbing
- Tools and equipment must not be carried when climbing (up or down)
- Where practicable, grasp the ladder by the side rails, rather than the rungs
- Employees must not step on the top step or rung of the ladder

Created by: Dean Neuburger

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If an emergency situation occurs while conducting this task, or there is an equipment malfunction, shut the equipment off immediately and follow the lock out procedure.

REPORT ANY HAZARDOUS SITUATION TO YOUR SUPERVISOR IMMEDIATELY

This must be reviewed any time the task, equipment, or materials change and at minimum, every three years.