

Rescue Plans - Elevated Work Platform

During working at heights training and confined space training we always discuss rescue plans, we review on site procedures and we know that if it is not practiced it is not a plan, it's paper-work.



Rescue plans should also include and emphasize elevated work platform (EWP) used in the workplace. Some workers might scoff at this idea but they are wrong.

If the only person that knows how to lower a platform in an emergency is the operator having a medical emergency 10m in the air by the time potential rescuers read the decals to learn how to lower a machine to the ground - it may be too late. An operator having a heart attack has minutes for rescuers to start medical intervention e.g. CPR & AED.

Every worker, or designated rescuer, should know how to lower an EWP in an emergency. EWP's can be the same make and model but a different year and they can have a totally different lowering procedure.

Employers should ensure that when new equipment or workers are brought onsite, **rescue procedures should be reviewed and rehearsed (practiced).**

Harness Suspension: A Working at Heights Organizational Analysis

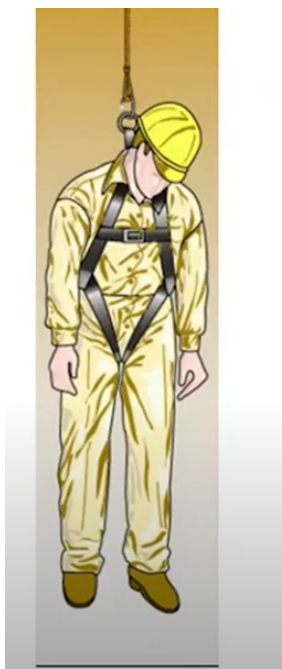
How to manage and treat a worker falling from heights into harness is of much debate and there has been no consensus to date on the clear definition, treatment, and management of suspension trauma in the industrial sector.

[Click on the link](#) to view a Centre for Research in Occupational Safety & Health presentation on a research project by George Flagler which gives an overview of an analysis of the current Working at Heights (WAH) training programs in Ontario, and the knowledge transfer to workers on the topic of suspension trauma.

The presentation reviews research that was conducted in 2020 by CROSH exploring this topic with clear recommendations for WAH training providers and Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development on language as well as treatment and management.

This presentation covers

- What is harness suspension
- Incidence rates of harness suspension
- Current treatment and management
- Positioning and why it is important
- Harness compliance



Test Yourself

A worker is removing some bolts from an overhead piece of equipment located 0.20 meters adjacent to a walkway 25 meters high. Some piping is located 10 meters above the ground beneath the equipment.

Approximately what size of exclusion zone is needed to have the capacity to handle most, but not all deflected bolts?

10m, 20m, 25m, 28m

Send your answer by email to: newsletter@safetyscope.net

This Months Tip: 3M Warning

3M cautions against using disinfectants on porous, synthetic components of fall-arrest equipment.

[Click Here](#) for more information

Think about it.

Safetyscope Upcoming courses

Working @ Heights	Mar 12 & 26
W@H refresher	Mar 5
Confined Space Entrant Course	Mar 8 - 9
Confined Space Rescue	May 25 - 28
Competent Supervisor	Mar 29
First Aid	
JHSC Part 1 & 2	
JHAC Refresher Training	

Contact Us with your training needs training@safetyscope.net

What Organizations have the MLTSD Been Visiting?

Ontario's provincial offences officers have visited more than 2,308 big-box stores and other essential retail businesses across the province in 2021. Reasons most cited for tickets being issued are for non-compliance were failure to properly screen staff and workplaces not having COVID-19 workplace safety plans.



In addition to inspecting retail stores, H&S inspectors and employment standards officers from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development have launched an inspections blitz in the warehousing and distribution sector in Peel Region, which has been particularly hard hit by COVID-19.

The warehouse and distribution blitz is focusing on adherence to COVID-19 safety requirements, including physical distancing, screening, masking and the need to have a safety plan.

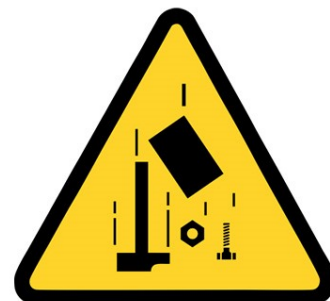
Future inspection blitzes are planned in , Wellington-Dufferin-Guelph and Eastern Ontario.

Corporations can be fined \$1,000 for failing to comply with the orders under the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act and the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act. Individuals, including employees and patrons, can also be fined \$750 for failing to comply with orders under the acts.

For more serious offences under either the Reopening Ontario (A Flexible Response to COVID-19) Act and/or the Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act, a person can be charged under Part III of the Provincial Offences Act. If convicted, the court can impose fines as high as \$100,000 for individuals, and directors and officers of a corporation can be fined up to \$500,000. Both could also receive terms of imprisonment of up to one year. The maximum fine for a corporation on conviction of an offence is up to \$10,000,000.

Dropped Objects and Exclusion Zones

Dropped objects don't sound very dangerous but they have been a long-standing concern, particularly in the construction sector, where people and equipment often work at various levels and on top of each other. There are various controls physical and procedural controls to prevent objects from hurting workers.



Physical controls include:

- Guardrails with toe boards or screening
- Covers on open grating
- Barricades and overhead protective structures
- Tool lanyards and tethers

Procedural controls include:

- Proper load securement and hoisting practices
- Housekeeping practices
- Proper storage and stacking of materials

The hierarchy of controls must always be considered when establishing hazard controls, with elimination or engineering being the preferred control, rather than relying solely on PPE or administrative controls such as signage.

[Drops Online](#) is an additional resource providing a number of free tools to assist your planning.

One of a number of tools, the [DROPS Calculator](#) is endorsed by the DROPS Workgroup and recognized by HSE Organizations. While other 'calculators' exist, they all follow the same principle – plotting the mass of a dropped object against the distance it falls to determine its possible consequences.

The [interactive Exclusion Zone Calculator](#) is also available for download.

Energy Safety Canada has developed a best practice which can be downloaded here: [Dropped Objects Prevention Best Practice](#) Edition 1 January 2021

In the Courts

Review the lists below and click on the link to know more if these hazards could occur in your workplace.



Jan 19, 2020 Guarding Injuries - [SMC \(Canada\) Ltd., fined \\$75,000](#)

A worker suffered a critical injury after becoming entangled in machinery. The machinery should have had a guard to prevent workers from coming into contact with moving parts. The defendant failed to have a means to safely apply belt dressing while the conveyor was in motion as required by subsection 196(2) of 854.

Jan 29, 2021 Critical Injury - [Lorik Tool & Automation Inc., fined \\$50,000](#)

Two workers were injured when a heavy electrical panel fell over while it was being moved. The employer failed to ensure that there was a procedure in place to prevent material from tipping or falling.

The defendant failed as an employer to ensure the measures and procedures prescribed by S 46 of the Reg 851 were complied with. This is an offence contrary to S 66(1) of the act.

Feb 8, 2021 Critical Injury - [Rafat General Contracting Inc., fined \\$50,000](#)

A steel structure assembly collapsed, injuring a worker who was doing work in an existing vacant building.

S 31(1)(b) of Reg 213 states that "every part of a project, including a temporary structure, shall be adequately braced to prevent any movement that may affect stability or cause its failure or collapse." Under the OHSA, employers are required to ensure that the measures and procedures prescribed by the legislation are carried out.

Feb 9, 2021 Crush Injury - [Norbord Inc., fined \\$65,000](#)

A worker was injured when a machine activated unexpectedly. The machine was not equipped with a guard or other device in place to prevent access by a worker to hazardous moving parts.

The MLTSD found that there were no guards or other devices in place to prevent access by a worker to the hazardous moving parts of the strapping machine. This was contrary to S 24 of Reg 851.

Feb 10, 2021 Crush Injury - [Cogent Power Inc., fined 90,000](#)

A worker was injured after becoming caught in moving machinery which had not been equipped with a guard or other device to prevent access to a pinch point, as required by law.

The MLTSD concluded the west side of the four-piston hydraulic table press, where workers had access, was not equipped with a guard or device to prevent a worker from being caught or pinched between moving parts. The defendant failed to comply with S 25 of Reg 851 and thereby did violate section 25(1)(c) of the OHSA

Feb 12, 2021 Fatality - [McNally Construction Inc., fined \\$200,000](#)

A worker was fatally injured when a mini-excavator being operated in a pipe tipped over. The mini-excavator did not have the required cab or screen, which might have protected the worker. The tip over protection system (TOPS) of the mini-excavator had been removed prior to it being lowered down and into the pipe.

S 99 of the Reg 213 requires that a cab or screen be provided to protect a worker who is exposed to an overhead hazard while operating a vehicle. The defendant failed to ensure that the equipment, materials and protective devices provided were used as prescribed, contrary to S 25(1)(d) of the OHSA

Feb 19, 2021 Fall from Heights - [Robert C. Nearing Holdings Inc., fined \\$60,000](#)

A worker fell from a second-storey walkway through an opening that should have had a guardrail to protect workers from injury.

The inspector from the Ministry of Labour, Training and Skills Development investigating the incident ordered that a guardrail complying with the requirements of S 14 of the Reg 851 be installed on the walkway, and that workers be protected from falls when that guardrail is removed.

New and Improved: CSA Z462 2021 Edition – Workplace Electrical Safety



Z462-18
National Standard of Canada



2021 Edition

Workplace electrical safety

This Standard specifies requirements for workplace electrical safety necessary for the practical safeguarding of workers during activities such as the installation, removal, inspection, operation, maintenance, and demolition of electric conductors and electric equipment, as well as work in proximity of energized electrical equipment.

There is now a requirement for employers to create and document an electrical safety policy has been added (Clause 4.1.5). More changes are listed below.

- In Clause 3 definitions "normal operation", "policy", "procedure", "process", and "program" have been added.
- There has been organizational changes, additions, and modifications through out Clause 4 of the standard create a more logical flow and clarification.
- Table 4A has been added and provides voltage ratings for various classes of rubber insulating gloves. The previous Table 4 is now Table 4B;
- Table 6A has been modified with several changes to the equipment categories and a change to the associated arc flash PPE category for 600 V switchgear;
- Table 6C has been modified with additions of high-visibility apparel and hand protection methods and a new arc flash PPE category 5 has been added for arc-rated clothing up to 75 cal/cm²;
- Clause 5 has been completely rewritten;
- Table A.1 has been completely rewritten;
- An example of a job safety planning checklist has been added in Annex I (Figure I.2);
- Annex O has been largely rewritten to increase clarity, provide more methods to reduce incident energy, and provide further options for safety by design;
- Annex P has been added to provide guidance on electrical switching and isolation; and
- Annex T has been added to provide guidance on temporary protective grounding.

[For more details Click Here](#)

Working Safely in Confined Spaces during the Pandemic

First you need to identify all confined spaces, conduct a comprehensive risk assessments and develop appropriate hazard management plans but now you need to add these COVID-19 considerations to your preparations

- Assess workers' health before they enter the space (e.g. temperature test, self-assessment, rapid COVID-19 test if available).
- Minimize the number of workers in the space so long as the work can be performed safely.
- Increase ventilation if appropriate.
- Implement ways to maintain physical distancing if atmospheric conditions do not call for respiratory protection; if possible, mark off 2-metre work spaces and employ a one-way traffic system.
- If physical distancing is not possible, ensure workers wear masks or face coverings; provide eyewear to protect against aerosols.
- Avoid sharing equipment, especially PPE. Deep clean any respiratory protection equipment before reuse.
- Disinfect tools and equipment after the work has finished. Refer to Health Canada's list of [approved disinfectants](#).



Labour inspectors coming with “education first” enforcement plan

Starting this week, provincial offences officers will visit stores, gyms, and personal care businesses in regions opening into Grey, Red and Orange zones. The officers will conduct inspections, but their focus will be on educating business owners about their health and safety obligations as businesses reopen to in-store customers.

- [Free webinars on how to operate a business safely](#), and comply with health and safety requirements during COVID-19.
- A [free 30-minute online course on infection prevention and control](#).
- Provincial [Employment Standards Call Centre](#) and [Occupational Health and Safety Contact Centre](#) to answer health and safety questions.
- A [workplace safety plan template and checklist](#).

CEBA application deadline on the horizon

The deadline for CEBA and the CEBA extension is March 31, 2021. If your business could use up to \$60,000 (with up to \$20,000 as a forgivable grant) now is the time to apply. [Find out more](#)

What Should You be Keeping Your Eyes On?

- **Pre-Start Health and Review Requirements for Factories**
The MLTSD is proposing to amend S 7 and the table to that section in Reg 851 which requires that a pre-start health and safety review (PSR) be carried out on certain machinery, protective elements, structures and processes in factories before they are put into service for the first time or if modifications are needed.
- **First Aid Modernization Proposal**
The MLTSD is proposing new first aid training and enforcement of by MLTSD.
- **Part VII - Notices under the Occupational Health and Safety Act**
To assist employers in meeting their obligations under Part VII - Notices of the OHSA, the MLTSD is proposing to streamline the prescribed written reporting requirements into a single regulation that would apply to all workplaces covered under the OHSA.

Safetyscope’s Public Training Sessions

With our COVID-19 procedures in place, Safetyscope is now holding regular public training sessions in Working at Heights, Working at Heights Refresher and Confined Space Awareness.

If your organization requires any additional courses, please with your training needs at training@safetyscope.net.

Safetyscope Continuing to Maintaining Registration as an OWWCO Training Provider

These courses meet the criteria in subsection 29(4) of O.Reg. 128, Certification of Drinking Water System Operators and Water Quality Analysts. On Completion of training all participants will receive a certificate of completion with corresponding CEU Value.

1. Working at Heights	.7 CEU
2. WHMIS 2015	.4 CEU
3. TDG	.4 CEU
4. Working in Confined Spaces Rescue Level	2.8 CEU
5. Confined Spaces Attendant Non Entry	1.3 CEU
6. Confined Spaces Advanced Entrant	.7 CEU
7. Confined Spaces Attendant Refresher	.7 CEU
8. Confined Spaces Rescue Refresher	.7 CEU
9. Standard First Aid	1.4 CEU
10. Self Contained Breathing Apparatus	.4 CEU
11. Spill Response	.7 CEU
12. Trenching Hazards	.4 CEU



Safetyscope is a TSSA Approved Training Provider

Safetyscope is an approved provider for