

ADDENDUM: HIGHLIGHTS FROM SUBPART M: OSHA'S FALL PROTECTION RULE

- 1) **Responsibility for Jobsite Safety:** General contractor will be held responsible for ensuring overall jobsite safety.
 - a) OSHA will cite the general contractor as well as the sub-contractor when a sub-contractor is found to be non-compliant.
- 2) **Maximum Fall Hazard:** Any fall hazard of more than 6 ft. requires one of three conventional methods of fall protection. You must use either, a Personal Fall Arrest System, a Guardrail system, or a catch platform/safety netting type of system.
- 3) **Maximum Fall Arrest Force:** A Personal Fall Arrest System must limit maximum arresting force on a worker to 1,800 lbs. with a body harness.
- 4) **Horizontal Lifeline System:** A horizontal lifeline system must be designed, installed and used under the supervision of a qualified person as part of a complete personal fall arrest system which maintains a safety factor of at least two (twice the dynamic loading force of a potential fall). **A Qualified person** is defined by OSHA as a person with a recognized degree or professional certificate, extensive knowledge and experience in controlling fall hazards.
- 5) **Employee Training:** Employers must provide training for all workers exposed to fall hazards. The training must be provide by a competent person should ensure that workers can:
 - a) Recognize fall hazards in their work area.
 - b) Use appropriate procedures to minimize their exposure to fall hazards.**A Competent Person** is someone who can identify appropriate applications for a given fall protection system or method as well as the hazardous conditions that may affect the applications. He must be able to teach workers who use a personal fall arrest system, the following skills:
 - a) How to wear the equipment
 - b) The proper hook-up and attachment methods for the equipment.
 - c) Appropriate anchoring and tie-off techniques for their work.
 - d) How to estimate free fall distances
 - e) Inspection and storage procedures for the equipment
 - f) Self-rescue procedures and techniques
- 6) **Rescue Procedures:** Employers must establish procedures to ensure that workers who do fall, or are injured as the result of a fall, receive immediate attention. Emergency response procedures should be fully documented through the fall protection process before workers install or use any arrest/restraint system.

To obtain a copy of Subpart M, contact U.S. Dept. of Labor, OSHA, Division of Construction Compliance, (202) 219-8124.

Nearest U.S. government bookstore. Request Federal Register of August 9, 1994.

If all else fails, contact **SUPER ANCHOR SAFETY** (425) 488-8868 Fax (360) 668-1717