

Fall Prevention Scenario 1:

Larry was an experienced carpet installer and had own his carpet business for 20 years. One morning Larry and his crew planned to deliver 6 rolls of carpet to an apartment building under construction. The elevator was not approved for use yet so Larry decided to use a forklift to elevate a skip box to an open window on the third floor. It is common practice to stand rolls upright in the skip box, but on this day employees laid carpet rolls flat which extended about 2 feet outside the skip box. The forklift operator elevated the skip box to the third floor. Because the carpet rolls were extended, the forklift operator had to position the box a few feet away from the window. Larry then took the guardrails out so he could have a better reach. Larry and the employee began unloading the carpet rolls. On the last roll Larry was having a difficult time gripping the last roll so he decided to put one foot outside the window on the skip box. Larry's body was outside the window. As he was gripping the carpet roll with both hands Larry lost control of the carpet roll and fell 3 stories down to the ground. He later died because of his injuries. What Fall preventions could have Larry used to secure his safety and saved his life?



Fall Prevention Scenario 2:

A young construction employee was working on laying concrete on the fourth floor of a five floor parking garage. It was time for his lunch so he removed his personal fall arrest system. The employee sat next to a pillar near an open-sided edge. The open sided edge had wooden sticks with string tied to the ends which indicated there was a fall hazard nearby. After the young worker finished his lunch he was sending a text while he walked back to his jobsite. He went back to work and forgot to put his personal fall arrest system back on. He was very close to the open sided edge, and was not paying attention to where he was walking. He lost his balance and fell, snapping the rope and wooden sticks. He fell to the first floor and died due to his injuries. What fall prevention measures could he have used to secure his safety and this saved his life?



Fall Prevention Scenario 3:

A few construction workers were finishing up their day working on the second floor of a two story residential home. It was getting dark outside, so one of the employees figured it would be advantageous to take the guardrails off of a floor opening so that he could drop his supplies down quickly instead of taking several trips down the stairs. He was in a hurry to get home, and left the floor opening unguarded. Another employee forgot a tool on the second floor and walked back upstairs to retrieve it. Upon returning, the employee could not see the floor opening and fell straight down to the first floor. The employee suffered serious injuries. What fall prevention methods should the employees have used to prevent this situation?



Fall Prevention Scenario 4:

A maintenance worker was cleaning the debris off of the roof of a warehouse building. This building had many skylights, and the roof was covered with rocks and gravel. None of the skylights were protected. The worker was walking backwards, tripped over a hose, and fell through the skylight. He fell more than 25 feet from the roof and died due to his injuries. What fall prevention methods should the employee and employer have taken to prevent this situation?



ANSWER SHEET

SCENARIO 1 ANSWER:

Larry should have never taken the guardrails down, He should have worn a personal fall arrest system, or should have requested a temporary elevator permit.

SCENARIO 2 ANSWER:

Employee should have never taken off his personal fall arrest system as he was still in an area where he was exposed to fall hazards. He also should have put his phone down to avoid distraction. Employer should have also provide proper guardrails systems to ensure employees are safe while on jobsite.

SCENARIO 3 ANSWER:

The employee should have put on his personal fall arrest system when going back up stairs. The other employee should have never removed the guardrails, and walked his tools downstairs. Since he did remove the guardrails, he should have taken the extra time to put them back in place and ensure they were properly installed around the floor opening.

SCENARIO 4 ANSWER:

As a best practice the employer should have ensured that the skylights were properly guarded with skylight covers or guardrails. The employee should have worn a personal fall arrest system to arrest his fall or should have evaluated the skylight to determine if it was safe to be around. The personal fall arrest system should be used as a secondary prevention measure and as a last resort.

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