

**Body belt (safety belt)** means a strap with means for securing it about the waist and for attaching it to a lanyard, lifeline or deceleration device.

**Body harness (safety harness)** means straps which may be secured about the employee in a manner that will distribute the fall arrest forces over at least the thighs, pelvis, waist, chest and shoulders with means for attaching it to other components of a personal fall arrest system.

**Competent Person** means an individual who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the surroundings or working conditions which are unsanitary, hazardous, or dangerous to employees, and who has authorization to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

**Connector** means a device which is used to couple (connect) parts of the personal fall arrest system and positioning device systems together. It may be an independent component of the system, such as a carabineer, or it may be an integral component of part of the system (such as a buckle or D-ring sewn into a body belt or body harness, or a snap-hook spliced or sewn to a lanyard or self-retracting lanyard).

**Dangerous equipment** means equipment (such as pickling or galvanizing tanks, degreasing units, machinery, electrical equipment, and other units) which, as a result of form or function, may be hazardous to employees who fall onto or into such equipment.

**Deceleration device** means any mechanism, such as a rope grab, rip-stitch lanyard, specially-woven lanyard, tearing or deforming lanyards, automatic self-retracting lifeline/lanyards etc., which serves to dissipate a substantial amount of energy during a fall arrest, or otherwise limit the energy imposed on an employee during fall arrest.

**Equivalent** means alternative designs, materials, or methods to protect against a hazard which the employer can demonstrate will provide an equal or greater degree of safety for employees than the methods, materials, or designs specified in the standard.

**Free fall** means the act of falling before a personal fall arrest system begins to apply force to arrest the fall.

**Guardrail system** means a barrier erected to prevent employees from falling to lower levels.

**Hole** means a gap or void 2 inches or more in its least dimension, in a floor, roof, or other walking/working surface.

**Infeasible** means that it is impossible to perform the construction work using a conventional fall protection system (i.e., guardrail system, safety net system, or personal fall arrest system) or that it is technologically impossible to use any one of these systems to provide fall protection.

**Lanyard** means a flexible line of rope, wire rope or strap which generally has a connector at each end for connecting the body belt or body harness to a deceleration device, lifeline or anchorage.

**Leading edge** means the edge of a floor, roof or formwork for a floor or other walking/working surface (such as the deck) which changes location as additional floor, roof, decking, or formwork section are placed, formed, or constructed. A leading edge is considered to be an “unprotected side and edge” during when it is not actively and continuously under construction.

**Lifeline** means a component consisting of a flexible line for connection to an anchorage at one end to hang vertically (vertical lifeline), or for connection to anchorages at both ends to stretch horizontally (horizontal lifeline), and which serves as a means for connecting other components of a personal fall arrest system to the anchorage.

**Lower level** means those areas or surfaces to which an employee can fall without danger of falling farther. Such areas or surfaces include, but are not limited to, ground levels, floors, platforms, ramps, runways, excavations, pits, tanks, material, water, equipment, structures, or portions thereof.

**Opening** means a gap or void 30 inches or more high and 18 inches or more wide in a wall or partition through which an employee can fall to a lower level.

**Personal arrest system** means a system used to arrest an employee in a fall from working level. It consists of an anchorage, connectors, a body belt, or body harness, and may include a lanyard, deceleration device, lifeline, or suitable combinations of these. Use of a body belt for fall arrest is prohibited.

**Qualified Person** means an individual who by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, has successfully demonstrated his ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.

**Rope grab** means a deceleration device which travels on a lifeline and automatically, by friction, engages the lifeline and locks so as to arrest the fall of an employee. A rope grab usually employs the principal of inertial locking, cam/level locking, or both.

**Roof** means an exterior surface on the top of a building. This does not include floors or formwork which, because a building has not been completed, temporarily become the top surface of a building.

**Roofing work** means hoisting, storage, application, and removal of roofing materials and equipment, including related insulation, sheet metal, and vapor barrier work, but not including the construction of the roof deck.

**Safety-monitoring system** means a safety system in which a competent person is responsible for recognizing and warning employees of fall hazards.

**Self-retracting lifeline/lanyard** means a deceleration device containing a drum-wound line which can be slowly extracted from, or retracted onto, the drum under slight tension during normal employee movement, and which, after onset of a fall, automatically locks the drum and arrests the fall.

**Snap-hook** means a connector comprised of a hook-shaped member with a normally closed keeper, or similar arrangement, which may be opened to permit the hook to receive an object and, when released, automatically closes to retain the object. Snap-hooks are generally one of two types:

- The locking type with a self-closing, self-locking keeper which remains closed and locked until unlocked and pressed open for connection or disconnection; or
- The non-locking type with a self-closing keeper which remains closed until pressed open for connection or disconnection. Use of a non-locking snap-hook as part of personal fall arrest systems and positioning device systems is prohibited.

**Steep roof** means a roof having a slope greater than 4 in 12 (vertical to horizontal).

**Toe-board** means a low protective barrier that will prevent the fall of materials and equipment to lower levels and provide protection from falls for personnel.

**Unprotected sides and edges** means any side or edge (except at entrances to points of access) of a walking/working surface, e.g., floor, roof, or ramp runway where there is no wall or guardrail system at least 39 inches high.

**Walking/working surface** means any surface, whether horizontal or vertical on which an employee walks or works, including, but not limited to floors, roofs, ramps, bridges, runways, formwork and concrete reinforcing steel but not including ladders, vehicles, or trailers, on which employees must be located in order to perform their job duties.

**Warning line system** means a barrier erected on a roof to warn employees that they are approaching an unprotected roof side or edge, and which designates an area in which roofing work may take place without the use of guardrail, body belt, or safety net systems to protect employees in the area.

**Work area** means that portion of a walking/working surface where job duties are being performed.