

Overview of proposed amendments to

Part 13: Ladders, Scaffolds and Temporary Work Platforms Section 13.33, Fall Protection

Part 13 was redrafted in 2004 and proclaimed in force on January 1, 2005.

It is proposed that section 13.33 (1) be amended and new section 13.33 (1.1) be added to confirm that workers on self-propelled elevating work platforms must wear a personal fall arrest system. Workers on a scissor lift or similar self-propelled elevating work platform are not required to wear a personal fall arrest system provided that the platform is operating on a firm level surface with no irregularities to cause the platform to tip or expel the worker and all manufacturer's guardrails and chains remain in place.

These provisions were inadvertently omitted in 2004. Although the standards that apply to this equipment deal with fall protection, the requirements vary. This has resulted in confusion.

It is proposed that section 13.33 (4) be amended to clarify that a worker on a work platform suspended from a crane or hoist may anchor their personal fall arrest system to an anchorage on the work platform designated by the manufacturer or a professional engineer, provided the work platform has a safety strap to prevent it from falling more than 15 cm (6 in).

PART 13: LADDERS, SCAFFOLDS AND TEMPORARY WORK PLATFORMS

DIVISION 5 – MOVABLE WORK PLATFORMS

- Fall protection** **13.33**
- (1) A worker on a boom-supported **or self-propelled** elevating work platform must wear a personal fall arrest system secured to an anchor meeting the requirements of Part 11 (Fall Protection).
- (1.1) Despite subsection (1), a worker on a scissor lift or on an elevating work platform with similar characteristics to a scissor lift, that is on a firm, level surface with no irregularities to cause platform instability, is exempt from wearing a personal fall arrest system, provided that all manufacturer's guardrails and chains are in place.**
- (2) If a worker is supported on a work platform suspended by fewer than four suspension lines, the worker must use a personal fall arrest system secured to an anchor meeting the requirements of Part 11 (Fall Protection) and independent of the work platform and its suspension system.
- (3) If a worker is supported on a work platform suspended by four or more suspension lines, the worker must use a personal fall arrest system secured to an anchor on the platform or to an anchor meeting the requirements of Part 11 (Fall Protection) and independent of the work platform and its suspension system.
- (4) Each person on a work platform suspended from a crane or hoist must use a personal fall arrest system with a shock absorbing lanyard, secured to
- (a) an anchor above the load hook, or
 - (b) ~~if the failure of any component does not allow the platform to drop more than 15 cm (6 in),~~ an anchor **attached to** on the platform **and designated for that purpose** by the manufacturer or a professional engineer, **provided that the platform has a safety strap that will prevent the platform from falling more than 15 cm (6 in) if the platform becomes dislodged from the hook.**
- (5) Each person on a work platform attached to a crane boom must use a personal fall arrest system secured to an anchor on the boom or on the platform.
- (6) The personal fall arrest system referred to in subsection (5) must be secured on the boom or on the platform to an anchor that is designated by
- (a) the manufacturer, or
 - (b) a professional engineer.

Explanatory Note

New section 13.33 (1.1) is proposed to correct an inadvertent omission when Part 13 of the *Occupational Health and Safety Regulation* ("OHSR") was redrafted, and which came into effect on January 1, 2005. Although the standards which apply to self-propelled elevating work platforms specify fall protection provisions, the requirements in the standards vary. Without clear language in the *OHSR*, there has been much confusion about whether workers on scissor lifts and similar equipment are required to wear a personal fall arrest system. This proposed new provision clarifies that the only time workers on scissor

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS FOR PART 13: LADDERS, SCAFFOLDS AND TEMPORARY WORK PLATFORMS
IN THE OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY REGULATION**

lifts and self-propelled elevating work platforms with characteristics similar to scissor lifts are not required to wear a personal fall arrest system is when guardrails and chains are in place and the equipment is operating on a firm level surface with no irregularities to cause the platform to tip or expel the worker. If these conditions are not met, subsection (1) now clearly states that workers on scissor lifts or similar self-propelled elevating work platforms must comply with Part 11.

Section 13.33 (4) is proposed to clarify that a worker on a work platform suspended from a crane or hoist may anchor their personal fall arrest system to an anchorage on the work platform designated by the manufacturer or a professional engineer provided the work platform has a safety strap to prevent it from falling more than 15 cm (6 in).

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