



# COMPLIANCE TIP

## Ladder Safety

Ladders are the most universally used equipment in any work place. Almost every employee in every type of industry uses ladders on a regular basis. Workers must be trained in the selection, inspection and use of ladders. Ladder safety attracts a great deal of attention from OSHA. Citations for violations of the applicable standards are ranked in the top ten for all industries. Employers must provide equipment which is safe to use, establish safety rules regarding use, inspect and maintain ladders and stairways, and train affected employees. Employees must be supervised to ensure compliance with safety related work rules. Damaged equipment must be removed from service and repaired (if possible) or replaced.

### Construction Industry Regulations

Regulations that apply to the Construction Industry can be found in 29CFR 1926 Subpart X (Stairways and Ladders). Additional information can be found in Subpart L (Scaffolding) and Subpart M (Fall Protection).

### General Industry Regulations

Regulations that apply to General Industry are addressed in 29CFR 1910 Subpart D (Working Surfaces). Additional General Industry regulations can be found in 1910.28 (Safety Requirements for Scaffolds).

### ACTIONS

- Develop and implement company safety rules that address the selection, inspection, use and maintenance of ladders. Your Basic Safety Program should contain rules that address the inspection and use of all tools and equipment. Inspections should be conducted by workers and supervisors.
- Develop inspection checklists for the ladders in your workplace.
- Inspect all ladders and remove damaged ladders from service (tag out).
- Train workers in the selection, inspection and use of ladders. Upon completion of the training, workers should be able to identify the hazards associated with ladders, use the equipment safely and understand the regulations governing their use.

*Materials to assist you in addressing these requirements can be found in the [eSafetyLine](#) software. The application provides compliance guides, training guides, checklists, model documents and training materials. The software also provides a data base and report generator to assist you in recordkeeping and reporting.*