



## eSafetyLine

### **10 Facts about Safety Net Systems**

#### **Fall Protection**

Whenever workers on a construction site are going to be exposed to any vertical drop of over 6 feet, OSHA mandates that fall protection be provided. There are three acceptable types: guardrails placed around any fall hazard, personal fall arrest systems are to be provided for each employee or the installation of safety net systems. The following are facts about the use of a safety net system that bear repeating for the safety of any employee using one.

1. Safety nets need to be installed as close as possible under the working surface, but **no more than** 30 feet below this surface.
2. A drop test must be performed. A drop test consists of a sand bag measuring 28 to 32 inches in diameter and weighing 400 pounds being dropped into the net from a height of at least 42 inches or the highest surface at which workers will be exposed to fall hazards.
3. Safety nets and their installations are to be drop-tested
  - a. After initial installation and before being used
  - b. Whenever they are relocated
  - c. After any major repair
  - d. Every six months if left in on location
4. Safety nets need to be inspected for any signs of wear, damage or deterioration at least once a week and after any event that could affect the integrity of the system.
5. Any connections between the panels of the safety net must to as strong as the individual parts, and not be spaced more than 6 inches apart.

6. Every safety net or panel of safety net is required to have a border rope for webbing that can withstand 5,000 pounds before breaking.
7. Anything that has fallen into the safety net, like scrap pieces, equipment and tools should be removed from the net as soon as possible and at least before the next work shift.
8. Any nets or netting components that are found to be defective are not to be used and must be removed from service.
9. The maximum mesh size allowable is 6 inches by 6 inches. All mesh crossings must be secured to prevent the mesh openings from getting larger during use.
10. The most recent certification record for each safety net and its installation needs to be available at the jobsite for inspection.

# MEETING / TRAINING ATTENDANCE ROSTER

COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SAFETY MEETING

JOB/DEPT: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ SAFETY TRAINING

DATE: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_

TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

TOPICS ADDRESSED: \_\_\_\_\_

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## EMPLOYEE'S SIGNATURES

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EMPLOYEE SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: \_\_\_\_\_

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ACTION TAKEN: \_\_\_\_\_

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Supervisor's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Safety Coordinator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Date