

REGULATORY UPDATE

November 20, 2017

PERTAINING TO: All Industries, Building Owners

REGULATORY AGENCY: Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA)

REFERENCE: Subpart D – Walking-Working Surfaces §1910

UPDATE:

“ §1910.27 **Scaffolds and rope descent systems.** (b) Rope descent systems--(1) Anchorages. (i) Before any rope descent system is used, the building owner must inform the employer, in writing that the building owner has identified, tested, certified, and maintained each anchorage so it is capable of supporting at least 5,000 pounds (268 kg), in any direction, for each employee attached. The information must be based on an annual inspection by a qualified person and certification of each anchorage by a qualified person, as necessary, and at least every 10 years. ”

SUMMARY:

The new standard requires the building owner establish safe anchorage for companies and their employees working at the building for rope descent systems. The building owner must have anchorage that is tested and certified for each employee to tie off to. He/she is required to maintain those anchorages. The building owner must inform the employer of the verification in writing.