



## Research & Education

by John Barnhard  
Director of Research & Education



### Safety Pays, Falls Cost

On April 27th, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and CPWR—The Center for Construction Research and Training launched a national campaign to prevent deadly falls in construction.

Titled **Safety Pays, Falls Cost**, this national initiative aims to provide small contractors and their employees with information and materials about working safely from roofs, ladders and scaffolds.

### The Need for a Campaign to Prevent Falls

Falls kill—they are the top cause of construction fatalities and account for one-third of on-the-job injury deaths in the industry. Each year in the U.S. more than 200 construction workers are killed and over 10,000 are seriously injured by falls.

Falls account for approximately one-third (32%) of all work-related injury deaths in construction. Falls from roofs make up one-third of these fatal falls, and falls from ladders and scaffolds together make up another third.<sup>1</sup> Falls from heights cause the second-highest rate of nonfatal injuries and illnesses resulting in days away from work.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>US Bureau of Labor Statistics Census of Fatal Occupational Injury 1992-2008.

<sup>2</sup>US Bureau of Labor Statistics Survey of Occupational Injury and Illness 2008. (private sector workers only)

## About the Campaign

The goal of this national campaign is to prevent fatal falls from roofs, ladders and scaffolds by encouraging residential construction contractors to:

- ▶ PLAN ahead to get the job done safely.
- ▶ PROVIDE the right equipment.
- ▶ TRAIN everyone to use the equipment safely.

Promoting the use of the right equipment and fall-prevention practices will reduce the number of fall-related fatalities and injuries in the construction industry. As such, the campaign will focus on the need to plan ahead for safety before every job; provide the right equipment for the job; train workers to use the right equipment; and to otherwise work safely at heights.

This national campaign to prevent falls in construction is a government-labor-management partnership including CPWR, NIOSH, OSHA, state government, private industry, trade associations, academia, professional and labor organizations.

## To Learn More

To learn more about the campaign and to get important information that will help prevent falls, go to the web pages that were created just for this campaign:

- ▶ CPWR web page: [www.stopconstructionfalls.com](http://www.stopconstructionfalls.com)
- ▶ NIOSH web page: [www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/stopfalls.html](http://www.cdc.gov/niosh/construction/stopfalls.html)
- ▶ OSHA web page: [www.osha.gov/stopfalls](http://www.osha.gov/stopfalls) ■

## Asbestos Certified

Members of Roofers & Waterproofers Local 154, Long Island, NY, were recently certified in asbestos abatement. Certification requires that students know the hazards of asbestos, as well as how to properly handle asbestos material and correctly wear protective clothing and respirators.



*Pictured are Local 154 members who successfully completed the asbestos abatement certification class.*

**I worked construction for 10 years  
before my fall. It shattered my body  
and my livelihood.**

**Work safely. Use the right equipment.**



**Safety Pays. Falls Cost.**

**FALLS FROM LADDERS, SCAFFOLDS AND ROOFS CAN BE PREVENTED!**



U.S. Department of Labor

**PLAN** ahead to get the job done safely.

**PROVIDE** the right equipment.

**TRAIN** everyone to use the equipment safely.

**[www.osha.gov/stopfalls/](http://www.osha.gov/stopfalls/)**

**1-800-321-OSHA (6742) • TTY 1-877-889-5627**

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