

Company Name: _____ Dept: _____ Location: _____ Date: _____

#027

TRENCHING & EXCAVATING: UNSAFE ACCESS/EGRESS

To avoid fall injuries during normal entry and exit of a trench or excavation at your jobsite, ladders, stairways, or ramps are required. In some circumstances, when conditions in a trench or excavation become hazardous, survival may even depend on how quickly you can climb out.

Avoid hazards by following these guidelines:

- Provide stairways, ladders, ramps, or other safe means of egress in all trenches that are 4 feet deep or more.
- Position means of egress within 25 lateral feet of workers.
- Structural ramps that are used solely for access or egress from excavations must be designed by a competent person.
- When two or more components form a ramp or runway, they must be connected to prevent displacement, and be of uniform thickness.
- Cleats or other means of connecting runway components must be attached in a way that would not cause tripping (e.g., to the bottom of the structure).
- Structural ramps used in place of steps must have a non-slip surface.
- Use earthen ramps as a means of egress only if a worker can walk them in an upright position, and only if they have been evaluated by a competent person.
- Walkways or bridges with standard guardrails must be installed when employees or equipment are required or permitted to cross over excavations that are at least 6 feet deep and wider than 30 inches.
- Shored, braced, or underpinned structures must be inspected daily when stability is in danger.
- Employees must be protected from excavated or other material by keeping such material 2 feet from the excavation edge or by using barrier devices.

Meeting Conducted By:

Print Name

Signature

Meeting Attended By:

Notes & Suggestions

Document Filing Reference