



## **Safety Alert: Near Miss (PSIF) Incident**

### **Alert Type:**

Near Miss – PSIF Incident

### **Description:**

While on a building roof, an associate followed a contractor back to the access point and stepped on a weak point and fell through, resulting in a Near Miss (PSIF) Incident.

### **What Happened:**

At approximately 11:15 AM, on September 8, 2023, an associate ascended a ladder to access the job site where a roofing contractor worked. The associate observed the crew for approximately 10 minutes, and then followed a contractor back towards the access point. The associate stepped on an unmarked soft spot, which did not support the associate's weight, and the associate fell through the roof. The associate extended both arms which prevented the associate from falling to the ground below. The contractors assisted the SMG associate out of the hole and back to the surface of the roof.

### **What Resulted:**

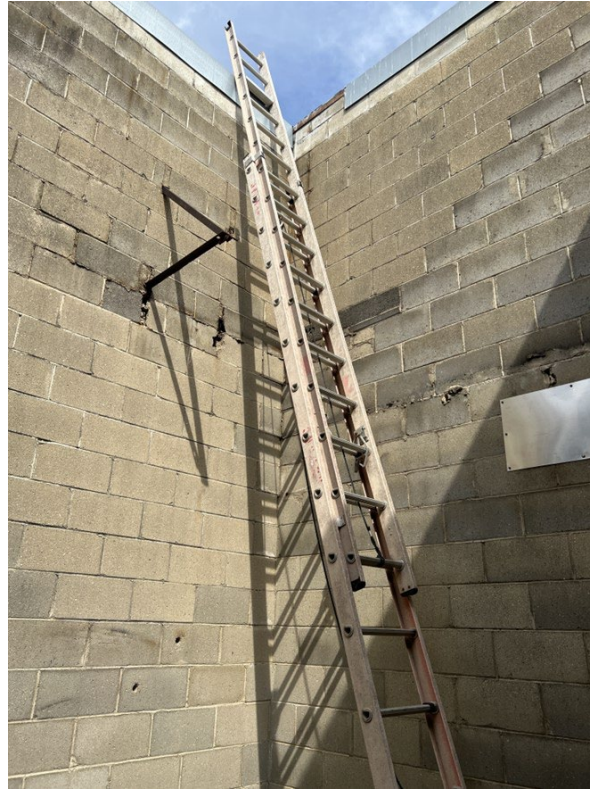
The associate did not sustain any injuries, received no medical treatment, and had no days away from work or restrictions.

### **What lessons were learned and what are some key takeaways:**

1. The roofing contractor did not provide a Controlled Access Zone per 29 CFR Subpart M, Fall Protection, 1926.502(g). There was no warning-line system used and no fall protection system was available for use [Low-slope Roofs – 1926.501(b)(10)].
2. The client left a door open which led to a fiberglass ladder used to access the roof. The side rails had exposed fibers and the ladder should have been extended at least three (3) feet above the structure. It is recommended the door remains closed and locked. The ladder should be inspected and if deemed unserviceable, the ladder should be red-tagged and removed from use.
3. A designated walking path and the working areas should be clearly marked. Any identified potentially weak roof areas should be marked and barricaded.
4. It is highly recommended a Fall Protection Plan & a Rescue Plan are created and approved as required.



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Ladder used to access roof.



Roof before the incident occurred.



Weak area of roof where associate fell through. The view is from inside of the client's shop. The approximate height from the floor to roof is 15-20 feet.