Falls from high places frequently cause serious injury or death. Fortunately, personal fall protection equipment can prevent these injuries. Unfortunately, workers often fail to use the equipment they have or some workers use the proper equipment but use it incorrectly. OSHA estimates that these mistakes kill 300 people each year. These deaths can be avoided – but only if you, the individual worker, do your part. You are the one who must tie off whenever there is any danger of a fall.

There are two major types of personal fall protection systems that are used by the company:

1. **Personal Fall Arrest**
   Personal fall-arrest systems catch workers after they have fallen. Equipment typically used in this fall protection system includes:
   - Anchorages(s);
   - Body harness;
   - Lifelines (both vertical & horizontal);
   - Shock Absorbing Lanyard(s).

   When used this system must be attached to anchorage capable of supporting 5,000 lbs. per worker attached, unless system is designed, installed and used under the supervision of a qualified person.

2. **Positioning Device**
   Positioning device systems help prevent falls by supporting the employee in a vertical working position. This fall protection system typically includes:
   - Anchorage;
   - Body harness with dual positioning D-rings;
   - Special position device assembly.

   Examples of positioning devices used during company operations include:
   - Work on column or wall rebar.

   When used this system must be attached to an anchorage capable of supporting 3,000 lbs.

### NAME | SIGN NAME
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Through the OSHA and Houston Fall Prevention Alliance, this Toolbox Talk was developed for informational purposes only. It does not necessarily reflect the official views of OSHA or the U.S. Department of Labor. July 2016.

The Houston Fall Prevention Alliance was formed by the below organizations to provide their members, and others, with information, guidance and access to training resources that will help them protect the health and safety of workers, particularly by reducing and preventing exposure to fall hazards in the construction industries and addressing fall related issues and understand the rights of workers and the responsibilities of employers under the Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSH Act). In developing this alliance, these organizations recognize that OSHA’s State Plan and On-site Consultation Project partners are an integral part of the OSHA national effort.
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