ICW Ladder Elimination Challenge

Empower your team with this dynamic Safety Talk!
Dive into the real dangers of ladder use, cover a real-life accident example, and equip workers with proven strategies to stay safe and confident on the job.

Take on the challenge of ladder safety month:

- View the webinar
- Complete the challenge – Earn points through process improvement, building awareness and better decision making.
- Earn your certificate and social media badge
- Empower your team to make better decisions when working from heights.

Need to view the webinar? Click here.

Download Pre-Job Assessment

Ladder Safety:
Environmental Hazards


SAFETY MEETING GUIDE

Incident Summary

Key Contributing Factors

Discussion Points

Prevention Methods

Ladder Safety:

Ladder Failure


SAFETY MEETING GUIDE
Ladder Safety: Ladder Failure

Incident Summary

Key Contributing Factors

Discussion Points

Prevention Methods

[Download Score Sheet]

Ladder Safety:
Extension Ladder Incident


SAFETY MEETING GUIDE
Ladder Safety: Extension Ladder Incident

Introduction

What Happened?

Why Did It Happen?

How Can You Prevent This?

Ladder Safety:
Ladder Selection



SAFETY MEETING GUIDE
Ladder Safety: Ladder Selection

Real Life Accident: Lessons Learned

An employee was installing drywall in a high-rise building lobby. The worker positioned an aluminum A-frame ladder below the install point, and found it was the wrong size for the job while standing securely on the ladder, the employee could not reach the location for the hanging bar without exceeding safe working limits. To compensate, the worker could step the top step of both sides — an extremely unsafe practice — and then had to lean far out to reach the work area. This caused the ladder to begin to tip over, at which point the worker fell 10 feet, landing atop the ladder and hitting their head on the marble floor. The impact knocked them unconscious, and they remained unconscious for two days in the hospital. The injuries sustained included a traumatic brain injury, fractured skull, jaw, and ribs. The workers' compensation claim cost was $1.1 million.

Key Mistakes and Risk Factors

- Selected the wrong ladder for the job
- Standing on the top step of both sides — never allowed or safe.
- No helper stabilizing or holding the ladder base.
- Leaning excessively from ladder, shifting center of gravity.

How To Prevent Ladder Accidents

1. Use the right equipment for the job: Consider alternatives like a scissor lift for high or hard-to-reach places.
2. Choose the correct ladder type and height: Never use a ladder that cannot safely reach your work area.
3. NEVER stand on the top step or top cap of the ladder.
4. **Make sure someone is available to hold or steady the base if needed, especially on slippery surfaces.**
5. Place ladder on a stable, level surface.
6. Avoid leaning, over reaching, or shifting your weight when on a ladder.

Discussion Points

- Have you ever seen unsafe ladder use or nearly fallen yourself?
- Are there tasks within our operations that could feasibly be performed using a scissor lift instead of a ladder?
- **What can you do if you find you have the wrong ladder for the job?**
- What steps can we take at our company to ensure ladders are used safely?

Incident Impact

- **Life-long disability for injured worker.**
- **Work Comp Claim Cost: $1.7 million.**

email your score card to rmreports@icwgroup.com by April 30, 2026