Tailgate/Toolbox Safety Training

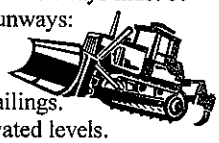
Safety Services Company-Safety Meeting Division, PO Box 6408 Yuma, AZ 85366-6408 Toll Free (866) 204-4786

Company Name: _____ Job Site Location: _____

Date: _____ Start Time: _____ Finish Time: _____ Foreman/Supervisor: _____

Topic 4: Ramps and Runways

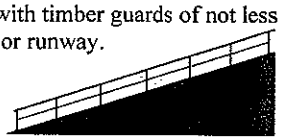
Introduction: Ramps are inclined structures used for the purpose of moving personnel, vehicles, materials, or equipment from one level to another. A runway is a passageway, elevated above the floor or ground level, such as a footwalk along shafting or between buildings. Ramps and runways must be substantially constructed, and maintained in a safe condition. Following are guidelines for safe construction and use of ramps and runways:



Ramps and Runways:

- ☒ **Ramps and runways** must be of adequate width for their intended or actual use, and should be no less than 22 inches wide.
- ☒ **Ramps and runways** which are elevated more than 4 feet above the ground or floor level must be provided with standard railings.
- ☒ **Ramps or runways** equipped with standard handrails must be provided for workers who are regularly required to go to elevated levels.
- ☒ **Fixed ramps must be** equipped with handrails on each open side, inclined at no greater angle than 24°, securely fastened at the top and bottom to prevent shifting, and braced to prevent bouncing.
- ☒ **Moveable ramps** which extend to floats or floating equipment (except to vessels under Federal jurisdiction) must not be less than 20 inches wide, and secured at the upper end only, with clear space allowed for the lower end to adjust automatically with the changing heights of water.
- ☒ **An adequate anti-slip surface** must be applied to ramps whenever the slope warrants it. Adequate cleats secured at uniform intervals not to exceed 18 inches, and extending the full width of the walkway when practical, may be used for this purpose.
- ☒ **Wherever tools, machine parts, or materials** are to be used on the ramp or runway, a toeboard must be provided on each exposed side.
- ☒ **Runways used exclusively** for special purposes (such as oiling, shafting, or filling tank cars) may have the railing on one side omitted where operating conditions require it, providing the falling hazard is minimized by using a runway not less than 18 inches wide.
- ☒ **Regardless of height**, open-sided floors, platforms, ramps, or runways above or adjacent to dangerous equipment, pickling or galvanizing tanks, degreasing units, and similar hazards must be guarded with a standard railing and toe board.

Ramps and runways for vehicles must have adequate width and evenness for safe operation of equipment and be provided with timber guards of not less than 6-inch by 6-inch material set on 3 inch blocks, or the equivalent, placed parallel to and secured to the sides of the ramp or runway.



Ramps for excavation operations:

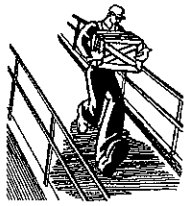
- ☒ **Structural ramps** used for employee access or egress must be designed by a competent person.
- ☒ **If the ramps** are used by vehicles, they must be designed by a competent person qualified in structural design. Also, structural members used for ramps or runways must be uniform in thickness and joined in a manner to prevent tripping or displacement.

Material handling ramps:

- ☒ **Means for slowing** material being moved down ramps must be provided whenever excessive speed might create a hazard to workers.
- ☒ **Where the person** putting material down a ramp does not have a clear view of a lower landing on which workers are employed, a horn, bell or other warning device which is automatic in operation must be provided and maintained in good condition at all times.
- ☒ **The underside** of all material handling ramps or landings must be fenced off and marked with appropriate warning signs unless provided with other adequate means of protecting workers from falling material.

Standard railings for use with ramps or runways:

- ☒ **For wood** - posts must be of at least 2-inch by 4-inch stock spaced 6 feet or less; the top and intermediate rails must be at least 2 by 4-inch stock.
- ☒ **For pipe** - posts, top, and intermediate railings must be at least 1 ½ inches nominal diameter with posts spaced not more than 8 feet on centers.
- ☒ **For structural steel** - posts, top, and intermediate rails must be of 2-inch by 2-inch by 3/8 -inch angles or other metal shapes of equivalent bending strength with posts spaced not more than 8 feet on centers.



- ☒ **The anchoring of** posts and framing of members for railings of all types must be of such construction that the completed structure will be capable of withstanding a load of at least 200 pounds applied in any direction at any point on the top rail.
- ☒ **Other types,** sizes, and arrangements of railing construction are acceptable provided they meet all of the following conditions:
  - ✱ A smooth-surfaced top rail at a height above floor, platform, runway, or ramp level of 42 inches nominal.
  - ✱ A strength to withstand at least the minimum requirement of 200 pounds top rail pressure.
  - ✱ Protection between top rail and working surface or stair treads, equivalent to that afforded by a standard intermediate rail.
- ☒ **A standard toeboard** must be 4 inches minimum in height from its top edge to the level of the working surface, and securely fastened in place.
- ☒ **Where material is piled** to a height that a toeboard does not provide protection, paneling from floor to intermediate or top rail must be provided.

Conclusion: Ramps and runways will typically sustain heavy traffic and must be designed and built to handle it. An inadequately designed or poorly built structure, even for very temporary use, may cause injuries, or damage to equipment, and cost more in time and money than a properly built one.

Work Site Review

Specific Work-Site Hazards and Safety Suggestions: _____

Employee Signatures: *(My signature attests and verifies my understanding of and agreement to comply with, all company safety policies and regulations, and that I have not suffered, experienced, or sustained any recent job-related injury or illness.)*

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Foreman/Supervisor's Signature: _____

These guidelines do not supercede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.