Vol 17 - No 23 FLOOR OPENINGS & FALL PREVENTION

Falls cause more injuries in the construction industry than almost any other hazard. Good protection of floor openings is one way to prevent falls. This protection is a responsibility of management, but also a responsibility of the trades. If you remove guardrails or covers to work, you must put the protection back in place when done and/or secure the area.

Recommendations

- Holes should be covered securely with a cover large enough and rigid enough to prevent failure and should be strong enough to support at least twice the weight of the employees, materials and equipment.
- 2. Should be marked with danger warning "Open Hole" in both English & Spanish.
- 3. Every employee should be warned about the hazard.
- Never leave an opening uncovered or un-protected. If covering a hole is not practical a guardrail shall be installed with a toe board.

1926.502(i)(2)

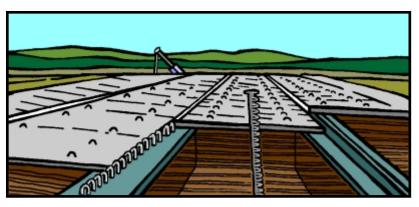
All covers shall be capable of supporting, without failure, at least twice the weight of the employees, equipment and materials that may be imposed on the cover at any one time.

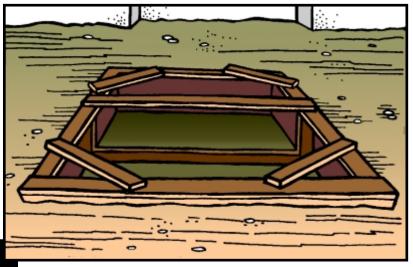
1926.502(i)(3)

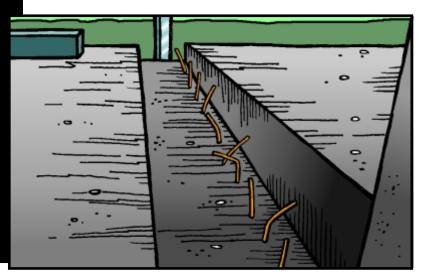
All covers shall be secured when installed so as to prevent accidental displacement by the wind, equipment or employees.

1926.502(i)(4)

All covers shall be color coded or they shall be marked with the word "HOLE" or "COVER" to provide a warning of the hazard.







TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company ______ Date _____

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