

CASE 7. 31-year old male died after falling 30 feet during a roof descent.

On January 25, 2002, a 31-year old male died when he fell 30 feet while descending from a roof. The victim was a member of a log home roofing crew. He had just finished decking the northeast valley of the north-south double log ridge using 2x6 tongue and groove material. To descend from the roof, the workers climbed down the north gable from the west side from the top purlin log to the next purlin log, then onto the cap of an 8-foot stepladder, down to a temporarily decked loft perimeter, then onto the top on another 8-foot stepladder, then down to the first floor. The victim had traveled to the point where the single log ridge and double log intersect with the southwest valley log of the double log ridge. He fell 30 feet from the valley log through the open loft area onto the first floor.

MIOSHA issued the following serious and "other" citations to the employer:

Serious:

1. Employer failed to instruct their employees regarding the operating procedures, hazards and safeguards of the tools and equipment necessary to perform their duties, failed to conduct worksite and equipment inspections, provide employee instruction in the recognition and avoidance of hazards. (General Rules, Part 1, Rule R408.40114(2))
2. The top step and cap of 8-foot step ladder were used to access and egress heights at site. (Fixed and Potable Ladders, Part 11, Rule R408.41126(2))
3. There was not guardrail system on a tubular welded frame scaffold. (Scaffolds and Scaffold Platforms, Part 12, Rule R408.41213(1))
4. Employees were exposed to fall hazards up to 30 feet during work operations: no fall protection used by employees walking and working on the roof deck, wall openings unguarded, guardrails missing. (Fall Protection, Part 45, Rule 408.44502, Ref OSHA 1926.501(b)(13))
5. No roofing brackets were used; employees were nailing wooden 2x4 on the flat for a working plank when installing 2x6 tongue and groove roof deck to finish valleys. Roof slope was 10/12 and 12/12. (Scaffolds and Scaffold Platforms, Part 12, Rule R408.41253(3))

Other:

1. The employer did not keep copies of the accident prevention program at the worksite for employee review and/or training. (General Rules, Part 1, Rule R408.40114(1))
2. There were no employees present at the work site with a current certificate in CPR and First Aid. (General Rules, Part 1, Rule R408.40132(3))
3. Employees exposed to possible falling tools and/or materials did not wear head protection. (Personal Protective Equipment, Part 6, Rule 408.40622(1))
4. Employees used a Type III aluminum extension ladder for access to and egress from the first floor. (Fixed and Potable Ladders, Part 11, Rule R408.41123)
6. A plywood scaffold platform was constructed using 3 3x4 for support under a 5/8-inch sheet of OSB sheathing. (Scaffolds and Scaffold Platforms, Part 12, Rule R408.41213(1))
7. Employees exposed to potential fall hazards did not receive the minimum training required of Part 45 Fall protection and the procedures to be followed to minimize

these fall hazards. (Fall Protection, Part 45, Rule 408.44502, Ref OSHA 1926.503(a)(1))

8. The employer failed to notify MIOSHA within allotted 8-hour time period. (Administrative Rule R408.22139, Reporting to MIOSHA, Rule 1139(1))