

(i) All pulpers having the top or any other opening of a vessel less than 42 inches (1.06 m) from the floor or work platform shall have such openings guarded by guardrail systems meeting the requirements of subpart D of this part or other equivalent enclosures. For manual changing, openings shall be sufficient only to permit the entry of stock, and shall be provided with at least two permanently secured crossrails, or other fall protection systems meeting the requirements of subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(k) \* \* \*

(6) Steps. Steps of uniform rise and tread with nonslip surfaces shall be provided at each press, conforming to subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(13) \* \* \*

(i) A guardrail complying with subpart D of this part shall be provided at broke holes.

\* \* \* \* \*

(15) Steps. Steps or ladders complying with subpart D of this part and tread with nonslip surfaces shall be provided at each calendar stack. Handrails and hand grips complying with subpart D of this part shall be provided at each calendar stack.

\* \* \* \* \*

8. In § 1910.265, paragraphs (c)(3)(i), (c)(4)(v), (c)(5)(i), (c)(10), (d)(2)(ii)(g) and (f)(6) would be revised to read as follows:

#### § 1910.265 Sawmills.

\* \* \* \* \*

(c) \* \* \*

(3) \* \* \*

(i) Floor and wall openings. All floor and wall openings shall be protected as prescribed in subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(4) \* \* \*

(v) Elevated platforms. Where elevated platforms are used routinely on a daily basis, they shall be equipped with stairways or fixed ladders, conforming to subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(5) \* \* \*

(i) Construction. Stairways shall be constructed in accordance with subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(10) Ladders. Ladders shall be installed and maintained as specified in subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(d) \* \* \*

(2) \* \* \*

(ii) \* \* \*

(g) Guardrails, walkways, and standard handrails shall be installed in accordance with subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

(f) \* \* \*

(6) Ladders. A fixed ladder complying with the requirements of subpart D of this part or other adequate means shall be provided to permit access to the roof. Where controls and machinery are mounted on the roof, a permanent stairway with standard handrail

shall be installed in accordance with the requirements of subpart D of this part.

\* \* \* \* \*

9. In § 1910.268, paragraph (g)(1) would be revised, paragraph (g)(2) would be removed, and paragraph (h) would be revised to read as follows:

#### § 1910.268 Telecommunications.

\* \* \* \* \*

(g) Personal climbing equipment. (1) General. Body belts and pole straps shall be provided and the employer shall ensure their use when work is performed at positions more than four feet (1.2 m) above the ground, on poles, and on towers, except as provided in paragraph (n)(7) and (n)(8) of this section. Personal fall protection systems shall meet the applicable requirements set forth in subpart I of this part. The employer shall ensure that all climbing equipment is inspected prior to each day's use to determine that it is in safe working condition. Production samples of personal fall protection systems shall be certified by the manufacturer or a qualified person as having been tested in accordance with and as meeting the requirements of subpart I of this part as applicable.

\* \* \* \* \*

(h) Ladders. Ladders, step bolts, and manhole steps shall meet the applicable requirements of subpart D of this part with the following exceptions:

(1) Portable wood ladders shall not be painted, but may be coated with a translucent non-conductive coating.

(2) Rolling ladders used in telecommunication centers shall have a minimum inside width between siderails of at least eight inches (20.3 cm).

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#### PART 1910—OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS

1. The authority citation for subpart I of part 1910 is proposed to be amended as follows:

**Authority:** Sec. 6 and 8 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 653, 655, 657), Secretary of Labor's Order No. 12-71 (36 FR 8754), 8-76 (41 FR 25059), and 9-83 (48 FR 35736), or 1-90 (55 FR 9033), as applicable. Subpart I is also issued under 29 CFR part 1911.

2. Sections 1910.128, 1910.129, 1910.130 and 1910.131, and Appendices A, B, and C are proposed to be added to subpart I to read as follows:

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Subpart I—Personal Protective Equipment

Sec.

1910.128 Definitions and general requirements for personal fall protection systems.

1910.129 Personal fall arrest systems.

1910.130 Positioning device systems.

1910.131 Personal fall protection systems for climbing activities.

\* \* \* \* \*

Appendix A to Subpart I—Personal Fall Protection Systems

Appendix B to Subpart I—References for Further Information

Appendix C to Subpart I—Test Methods and Procedures for Personal Protective Systems

#### § 1910.128 Definitions and general requirements for personal fall protection systems.

(a) Scope and application. (1) This section establishes definitions and general performance criteria for all personal fall protection systems. Additional requirements for the different types of personal fall protection systems are contained in §§ 1910.129, 1910.130, and 1910.131 of this subpart.

(2) This section applies only where referenced by a specific OSHA standard.

##### (b) Definitions

Anchorage means a secure point of attachment for lifelines, lanyards, or deceleration devices, and which is independent of the means of supporting or suspending the employee.

Belt terminal means an end attachment of a window cleaner's positioning system used for securing the belt or harness to single or double-headed anchors.

Body belt means a strap with means both for securing about the waist and for attaching to a lanyard, lifeline, or deceleration device.

Body harness means a design of straps which may be secured about the employee in a manner to distribute the fall arrest forces over at least the thighs, pelvis, waist, chest, and shoulders with means for attaching it to other components of a personal fall arrest system.

Buckle means any device for holding the body belt or body harness closed around the employee's body.

Carrier means the track of a ladder safety device consisting of a flexible cable or rigid rail which is secured to the ladder or structure by mountings.

Competent person means a person who is capable of identifying hazardous or dangerous conditions in any personal fall arrest system or any component thereof, as well as in their application and use with related equipment.

Connector means a device which is used to couple (connect) parts of the system together. It may be an independent component of the system, such as a carabiner, or it may be an integral component of part of the system (such as a buckle or dee-ring sewn into a body belt or body harness, or a snaphook spliced or sewn to a lanyard or self retracting lanyard.).

Deceleration device means any mechanism, such as rope grabs, ripstitch lanyards, specially-woven lanyards, tearing or deforming lanyards, automatic self retracting lifelines/lanyards, etc., which serve to dissipate a substantial amount of energy during a fall arrest, or otherwise limit the energy imposed on an employee during fall arrest.

Deceleration distance means the additional vertical distance a falling employee travels, excluding lifeline elongation and free fall distance, before stopping, from the point at