ESC SAFETY CONSULTANTS
TOOLBOX SAFETY TRAINING

Company _____ Location _____ Date _____

Vol 30 - No 38

LADDER SAFETY

In addition to the well known rules on ladder safety, the issue of clearance is often overlooked. As the pictures show, the hazards are obvious.

In Picture A there is no platform onto which an individual may step. Having to balance oneself on a single beam to get to the work area is completely unnecessary and presents a dangerous fall hazard.

In Picture B the entrance point is blocked by a pallet full of materials. The pallet is being used to secure the ladder which is the wrong way to secure it. In addition, the blocking of the ladder makes it difficult for an individual to access the ladder as well as it makes it hazardous for someone to come down the ladder safely.

To prevent falls and trips a clearance of at least three feet should be maintained. This area should be free of debris or any trip hazard. This rule applies to the exit zone at the top of the ladder as well as the entry point at the bottom of the ladder.

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