



**Buckingham**

**MANUFACTURING CO., INC.**

1-11 Travis Ave.  
PO Box 1690  
Binghamton, NY 13902

**Equipment For People  
Working In High Locations**

## **Fall Protection Questions**

- ***What are the different types of fall protection equipment the standard requires?***

- Depending on the circumstances, the standard requires one of three types of fall protection (Page 329 – 330 of preamble):
- *Personal fall arrest system.* A system used to arrest an employee in a fall from a working level.
- *Fall restraint system.* A fall protection system that prevents the user from falling any distance.
- *Work-positioning equipment.* A body belt or body harness system rigged to allow an employee to be supported on an elevated vertical surface, such as a utility pole or tower leg, and work with both hands free while leaning.

- ***What forms of fall protection must employers use to protect employees working from aerial lifts?***

The standard requires employers to protect an employee working from an aerial lift using one of the following (Page 1236 of final rule):

- A personal fall arrest system or
- A fall restraint system.

- ***What forms of fall protection must employers use to protect employees working from a pole, tower, or similar structure?***

The standard requires employers to protect an employee working at heights of more than 1.2 meters (4 feet) on a pole, tower, or similar structure using one of the following, as appropriate (Page 1236 of final rule):

- A personal fall arrest system,
- Work-positioning equipment,
- A fall restraint system, or
- Other fall protection meeting Subpart D of OSHA's general industry standards or Subpart M of OSHA's construction standards, as applicable. A guardrail system meeting one of those standards is an example.

- ***Must qualified employees climbing or changing location on poles, towers, or similar structures use fall protection?*** (Page 1236 of final rule)

Generally yes. Starting April 1, 2015, the standards require qualified employees climbing or changing location on poles, towers, or similar structures to use fall protection, unless the employer can demonstrate that climbing or changing location with fall protection is infeasible or would create a greater hazard than climbing or changing location without it. (Note that "climbing" includes going up or down the pole, tower, or other structure.)

- ***What are the deadlines for compliance with the arc-flash protection requirements?*** (Page 1471 of final rule)

Finally, the employer must provide protective clothing and other protective equipment meeting the arc-flash protection requirements of the final rule by April 1, 2015.


- ***Must employers pay for the flame-resistant and arc-rated clothing and other arc-flash protective equipment required by the standard?*** (Page 693 of preamble)

Yes. As required by OSHA's general rules on employer payment for personal protective equipment (29 CFR 1910.132(h) and 29 CFR 1926.95(d)), employers must pay for the flame-resistant and arc-rated clothing and other arc-flash protective equipment that the electric power generation, transmission and distribution standards require.

- ***Who has to follow the final requirements?***

Employers that operate or maintain electric power generation, transmission, or distribution lines or equipment must follow §1910.269. Employers with employees who perform construction work on electric power transmission or distribution lines or equipment must follow Subpart V. Note that "construction work" includes the erection of new electric transmission and distribution lines and equipment, and the alteration, conversion, and improvement of existing transmission and distribution lines and equipment.

Listed below are key questions you may receive from customers currently in Buckingham WPFR and Fall Arrest Equipment:

- *Do existing models of Buckingham's BuckSqueeze, SuperSqueeze, Buck-Adjuster and web secondary lanyards meet applicable requirements under "Anchorages" and "Positioning Straps" on page 3 and 4 of the OSHA Final Rule Summary?*
  - Yes, Buckingham's equipment outlined above meet the applicable criteria of the requirements outlined by the OSHA Regulations.
- *Do existing models of full body harnesses and energy absorbing lanyards manufactured by Buckingham meet the requirements under "Personal Fall Arrest Systems" on page 3 of the OSHA Final Rule Summary?*
  - Yes, as long as they contain the arc flash symbol  on the product tag.

