

CoolTimes

Hot Topics Happening at CoolSys

Ladder Safety

Often, we share statistics to report on our company’s performance. Today, the concerning topic we are measuring is employee safety.

In 2020, twelve of our employees suffered ladder-related injuries.

Four of these occurred in the month of July alone. Several of these incidents were serious enough that our technicians had to spend multiple nights in the hospital, and some required surgery.

The old saying “It’s as easy as falling off a ladder” is sadly, too true. Falling from a ladder is no joke – the height and resulting power of impact can result in lasting physical impairment and chronic pain.

Ladder safety, which includes being up to date on protocols, should always be practiced. Operating portable ladders with moving parts demands your respect and full attention.

If you’re not sure you are using the ladders correctly or have any question – please stop immediately and ask for help.

Call your manager or Safety for assistance. We want everyone to be able to their jobs safely.

Watch out for your co-workers as well. If you see your teammate using a ladder incorrectly, point it out and show them the proper procedure. If they continue to work unsafely, contact your manager. It’s better to be careful than to lose a friend.

In July all techs were sent a Safety Alert by EHS, Director Michael Lyman. This is valuable reference material to review. Your managers are available if you have additional questions. Below you will also find information from OSHA on portable ladder use.

Please read this carefully and ask yourself if you are doing all you can to protect yourself and your co-workers. If you find areas you can improve, make those changes today. Your family, co-workers, and community are counting on you.



Portable Ladder Safety



Falls from portable ladders (step, straight, combination and extension) are one of the leading causes of occupational fatalities and injuries.

- Read and follow all labels/markings on the ladder.
- Avoid electrical hazards! – Look for overhead power lines before handling a ladder. Avoid using a metal ladder near power lines or exposed energized electrical equipment.
- Always inspect the ladder prior to using it. If the ladder is damaged, it must be removed from service and tagged until repaired or discarded.

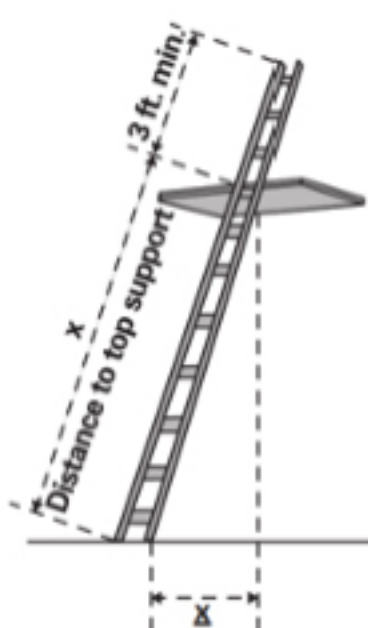


3-Point Contact

- Always maintain a 3-point (two hands and a foot, or two feet and a hand) contact on the ladder when climbing. Keep your body near the middle of the step and always face the ladder while climbing (see diagram).
- Only use ladders and appropriate accessories (ladder levelers, jacks or hooks) for their designed purposes.
- Ladders must be free of any slippery material on the rungs, steps or feet.

- Do not use a self-supporting ladder (e.g., step ladder) as a single ladder or in a partially closed position.
- Do not use the top step/rung of a ladder as a step/rung unless it was designed for that purpose.

- Use a ladder only on a stable and level surface, unless it has been secured (top or bottom) to prevent displacement.
- Do not place a ladder on boxes, barrels or other unstable bases to obtain additional height.
- Do not move or shift a ladder while a person or equipment is on the ladder.
- An extension or straight ladder used to access an elevated surface must extend at least 3 feet above the point of support (see diagram). Do not stand on the three top rungs of a straight, single or extension ladder.
- The proper angle for setting up a ladder is to place its base a quarter of the working length of the ladder from the wall or other vertical surface (see diagram).
- A ladder placed in any location where it can be displaced by other work activities must be secured to prevent displacement or a barricade must be erected to keep traffic away from the ladder.
- Be sure that all locks on an extension ladder are properly engaged.
- Do not exceed the maximum load rating of a ladder. Be aware of the ladder’s load rating and of the weight it is supporting, including the weight of any tools or equipment.



For more information:



13246-106-05

ARCHIVES

- > October 2020
- > September 2020
- > August 2020
- > July 2020
- > June 2020
- > May 2020
- > April 2020
- > March 2020
- > February 2020
- > January 2020
- > December 2019
- > November 2019
- > October 2019
- > September 2019
- > August 2019
- > July 2019
- > June 2019
- > May 2019
- > April 2019
- > March 2019
- > February 2019
- > January 2019

< Home

Back

OUR COMPANIES

OUR CUSTOMERS

CAREERS

BECOME A COOLSYS BRAND

ABOUT US NEWS CONTACT US

© 2020 COOLSYS | ALL RIGHTS RESERVED
TERMS | PRIVACY | RESOURCES | LICENSES | SITEMAP