WCB OF BRITISH COLUMBIA, Part 11 Fall Protection Regulation (1997)

This document contains extracts from the Workers' Compensation Board of British Columbia Policy and Legislation, Part 11: Fall Protection/Occupational Health and Safety Regulation ('97). The extracts pertain to fall protection anchorages.

PARAGRAPH REFERENCE	REQUIREMENT
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS Obligation to use	11.2 (1) Unless elsewhere provided for in this Regulation, an employer must ensure that a fall protection system is used when work is being done at a place
fall protection	(a) from which a fall of 3 m (10 ft) or more may occur, or
	(b) where a fall from a lesser height involves an unusual risk of injury.
	(2) The employer must ensure that guardrails meeting the requirements of Part 4 (General Conditions) or other similar means of fall restraint are used when practicable.
	(3) If the use of guardrails or similar means of fall restraint is not practicable, the employer must ensure that another fall restraint system is used.
	(4) If the use of a fall restraint system is not practicable, the employer must ensure that a fall arrest system is used.
	11.3 (1) The employer must have a written fall protection plan for a workplace if
	(a) work is being done at a location where workers are not protected by permanent guardrails, and from which a fall of 7.5 m (25 ft) or more may occur,
	(b) the employer uses a safety monitor and control zone or other work procedures as the means fall protection, or
	(c) the board so directs, because a fall may involve an unusual risk of injury.
	(2) The fall protection plan must be available at the workplace before work with a risk of falling begins.
	(3) The plan must specify
	(a) the fall hazards expected in each work area,
	(b) the fall protection system or systems to be used in each area,
	(c) the procedures to assemble, maintain, inspect, use and disassemble the fall protection system or systems, and
	(d) the procedures for rescue of a worker who has fallen and is suspended by a personal fall protection system or safety net, but is unable to effect self rescue.
ANCHORS General Requirements	11.13 (1) A lifeline, or a lanyard used without a lifeline, must be secured to an anchor.
,	(2) An anchor plate with multiple attachment points designed to support combinations of

Fall arrest anchor	11.15	suspension lines, tie-back lines and lifelines must be certified in writing by a professional engineer.  (3) A temporary anchor must be removed upon completion of the work for which it was intended.  In a fall arrest system, an anchor for a vertical lifeline or for a lanyard used without a lifeline must  (a) have an ultimate load capacity of at least 22 kN (5 000 lbs), in any direction required to resist a fall, and,  (b) if permanent, be certified in writing by a professional engineer as having the required load capacity.
VERTICAL		течопей ючи сириспу.
LIFELINES free fall limits	11.22	(1) A personal fall arrest system without a shock absorber must limit the free fall of a worker to 1.2 m (4 ft).
		(2) A personal fall arrest system with a shock absorber may allow a free fall of up to 2 m (6.5 ft), or the limit specified in the manufacturer's instructions, whichever is less.
Swing-fall hazard	11.23	A vertical lifeline must be installed and used in a manner that minimizes the swing-fall hazard.
Independent anchorage	11.24	Each vertical lifeline used for fall arrest must be secured to an independent point of anchorage.
Number of workers	11.25	Only one worker may be attached to a vertical lifeline, unless the vertical lifeline is part of a ladder safety device.
Double line systems	11.27	A double line system, where the lifeline and equipment suspension line are rigged through a common control descent device, must not be used unless the system and procedures for its use are acceptable to the board.
Permanent systems	11.30	Before a permanent horizontal lifeline system is used the employer must ensure that a professional engineer supplies to the workplace a signed and dated drawing and instructions for the lifeline system showing
		(a) the layout in plan and elevation, including anchor locations, installation specifications, anchor design and detailing,
		(b) horizontal lifeline system specifications, including permissible free fall distance, clearance to obstructions below, and rope size, breaking strength, termination details and initial sag or tension,
		(c) the number of workers permitted to connect to the lifeline, and maximum arrest force to each worker, and
		(d) written certification that the lifeline system has been installed in accordance with the design documents.
INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE	11.31	Safety belts, harnesses, lanyards, lifelines, connecting hardware, anchors and other similar devices must be
General Requirement		(a) inspected by a qualified person before use on each workshift,

	(b) kept free from substances and conditions that could contribute to their deterioration, and
	(c) maintained in good working order.
Suspended Scaffolds	11.32 (1) A device or part that is defective in condition or function must be removed from service.
	(2) After a fall protection system has arrested the fall of a worker, it must
	(a) be removed from service, and
	(b) not be returned to service until it has been inspected and recertified as safe for use by the manufacturer or its authorized agent, or by a professional engineer.
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