



HAZARD ALERT

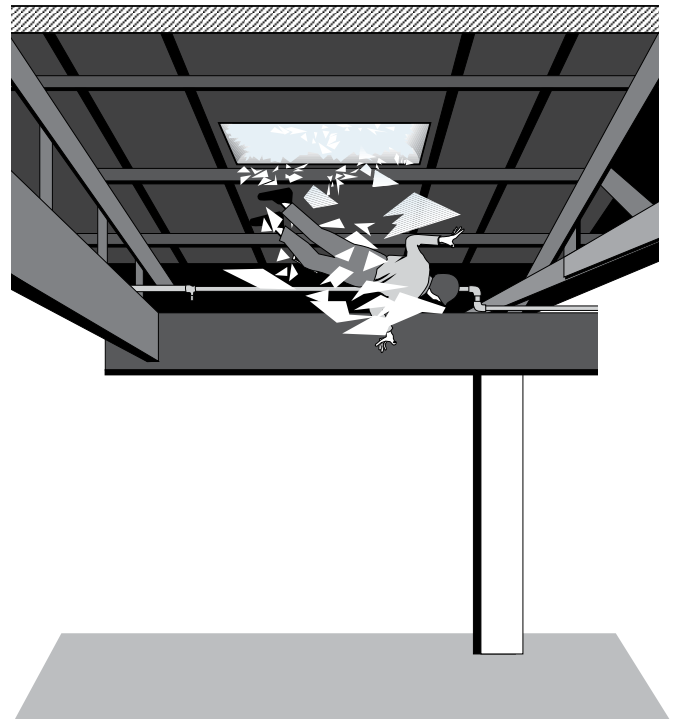
Roof Skylights

In Oregon, a roofing worker tripped and fell onto a domed plastic skylight that was manufactured from a material which had deteriorated as a result of exposure to sunlight. The material shattered and the worker fell 20 feet to concrete, sustaining serious injuries.

For general industry activities where workers need to walk on a roof, 1910.23(a)(4) requires every skylight floor opening and hole to be guarded by a standard skylight screen or a fixed standard railing on all exposed sides. In addition 1910.23(e)(8) requires those guards to be constructed so that they are capable of withstanding a load of at least 200 pounds.

For construction activities, OAR 437-003-1501(1)(a) requires employees on walking working surfaces to be protected from falling more than 6 feet through holes (including skylights) by personal fall arrest systems, covers, or guardrail systems erected around such holes.

Employers who may have workers engaged in activities where they are potentially exposed to fall hazards created by roof skylights need to ensure that those workers will be protected from falling through the skylights.



Protection can take the form of:

- Ensuring that the skylight itself will withstand a load of 200 pounds **regardless of age, including checking older skylights for deterioration**
- Providing standard guardrails
- Installing skylight screens or covers
- Requiring workers to wear personal fall arrest equipment

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