

# Ladder-Related Incidents

## OR-OSHA Reports [2010 - Present]

- 12/28/11 The 38 year-old employee was installing exterior drywall from a six foot stepladder on a fourth story deck. The ladder shook and he reached for a nearby guardrail to steady himself. The **guardrail gave way** and he **fell** approximately 26 feet to the ground below. He fell on his knees and cracked/broke four teeth. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 10/14/11 The 37 year-old employee was harvesting pears from a ladder and **fell** approximately six feet to the ground. He sustained serious back injuries. *Reported by Bend office.*
- 9/27/11 **FATAL** The 79 year-old employee was attempting to access the cab of a front end loader using the loader's three-rung fixed ladder. He climbed up the left side of the loader (which was tilted slightly downhill on a trailer) and when he opened the cab door, it swung towards him and **knocked him off** the loader. He struck his head on the gravel below. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 8/25/11 The 49 year-old employee was spray painting a two story apartment complex from an extension ladder. The employee leaned to the right and the ladder **slid** to the left causing the employee to **fall** approximately 12 feet to the rocky ground below. The employee suffered serious multiple injuries. *Reported by Bend office.*
- 7/30/11 The 46 year-old employee was operating a chain saw from an extension ladder placed on the bed of a pickup truck. The ladder **shifted** and he **fell** to the ground. He lost consciousness and suffered a broken arm. *Reported by Salem office.*
- 7/19/11 Two gutter installers (39 and 28 years-old) were approximately 18 feet up on aluminum extension ladders attempting to install a 53 foot-long gutter. **Contact with a high voltage power line** was made and the employees **fell** from the ladders when shocked. They both sustained serious shock and fall-related injuries. *Reported by Portland office.*

- 7/12/11 The 33 year-old employee was in the process of securing a weather-proof wrap on a building when the extension **ladder** he was working from **slipped** out from under him. His left leg slid between two of the ladder rungs as he was falling. He suffered a compound fracture to his left leg below the knee joint. *Reported by Salem office.*
- 6/11/11 The 37 year-old employee was working from an extension ladder when he leaned slightly to the left attempting to cover an exterior light. The **ladder slipped** in the opposite direction and the employee **jumped** approximately eight feet to the concrete driveway. He suffered fractures to his foot. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 6/9/11 The 58 year-old employee was working from a ladder marking retail items when she **fell** to the floor. She sustained a fracture to her hip. *Reported by Salem office.*
- 5/16/11 The 33 year-old employee **fell** from a ladder to a lower level fracturing both ankles. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 5/3/11 The 31 year-old employee was ascending a ladder carrying a vacuum when he lost his balance and **fell** approximately six feet to a lower level. He sustained serious injuries to his back. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 2/22/11 The 50 year-old truck driver was in the process of loading his trailer with wood chips from a wood chip bunker. He was climbing a fixed ladder attached to the bunker in order to access a valve when he **fell** from the ladder (< 10 feet) fracturing his ankle, pelvis and L-5 vertebrae. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 1/25/11 The 42 year-old HVAC technician placed a 32 foot extension ladder against a metal awning that was part of a roof structure. The technician was ascending the ladder to secure it when the **ladder slipped** and fell to the pavement. The technician fell approximately six feet and sustained fractures. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 12/17/10 The 37 year-old employee was using a six foot stepladder to remove ceiling tiles in order to locate a water leak. After removing insulation from a water pipe, it suddenly burst spraying water over him and the entire breakroom area. The employee **slipped** from the ladder and fractured his elbow. *Reported by Portland office.*

- 11/22/10 The 36 year-old employee was standing on the upper rung of a 12 foot stepladder nailing sheet rock to a wall. He over-extended his body and the ladder **tipped** causing him to **fall** to the concrete floor below. He sustained fractures to his ankles. *Reported by Portland office.*
- 11/18/10 The 30 year-old employee was standing on the top step of a four foot ladder placing stickers between layers of dimensional lumber on a stacker. He reached to steady himself and placed his hand below an open pinion gear. The gear rolled down the gear rack amputating his fingers on his right hand. *Reported by Medford office.*
- 9/14/10 The 21 year-old employee was painting the exterior of a residence using a ladder. The **ladder's feet slipped** on a wood deck and the employee fell approximately six feet to the deck suffering abdominal injuries. *Reported by Eugene office*
- 8/18/10 The 26 year-old employee was on the ground moving an aluminum extension ladder from the side of a house to the front. The ladder **made contact with a 12,000 Volt overhead line.** Emergency responders arrived within minutes and detected a pulse after CPR and a defibrillator were administered. The employee recovered. *Reported by Eugene office*
- 8/8/10 The 51 year-old firefighter attempted to place his foot onto the roof of a deck from an extension ladder approximately eight feet from the ground. His **foot missed** the wood support and he broke through the plastic roof material landing on his back (while wearing an SCBA) on the deck below. *Reported by Eugene office*
- 7/13/10 The 48 year-old employee was working from an extension ladder removing vents from a gymnasium wall approximately 15 feet from the floor. The **ladder's feet slipped** and the employee fell striking his head on the bleachers before falling onto the floor. *Reported by Portland office*
- 7/2/10 The 31 year-old employee was working from a 10 foot stepladder installing a fire sprinkler. It is believed the employee **reached too far** from the side of the ladder and fell. The employee sustained fractures and head injuries. *Reported by Portland office*

- 7/1/10 The 42 year-old employee was working from a ladder approximately seven to 13 feet above the ground covering a window with plastic when the **ladder slipped** and the worker fell suffering a concussion. *Reported by Portland office*
- 6/15/10 The 49 year-old employee was trimming a pear tree from an orchard ladder when he **fell** from either the first or second rung. The employee suffered a head injury. *Reported by Portland office*
- 5/29/10 The 19 year-old employee was washing a second story window when the base of the **ladder kicked out**. The employee fell approximately 16 feet onto a wooden deck below and suffered a concussion. *Reported by Portland office*
- 3/31/10 The 33 year-old employee was stepping from a roof onto a non-extended 32 foot extension ladder. Although three to four feet of the ladder was above the roof line, he **slipped** as he was placing his lead foot onto the ladder and as he fell the ladder slid down the roof. The employee's left arm was caught in the ladder and he fell to the ground fracturing his hip and also suffered compressed vertebrae. *Reported by Portland office*
- 2/15/10 The 63 year-old employee was diagnosed with a hematoma in his head. The employee's wife recalled him saying he **fell** from a ladder and hit his head approximately six weeks prior. *Reported by Portland office*
- 2/12/10 The 38 year-old employee was using a ladder that was placed against an eight foot tall mold. The employee stepped on a rung and as he swung his leg around to place his other foot on the rung, the **ladder slipped** and he fell to the ground. The employee sustained four fractured vertebrae and a serious laceration on his head. *Reported by Portland office*
- 2/4/10 The 60 year-old foreman was descending a ladder from a catwalk when his foot **slipped** from the rung (boot covers were worn over his boots). He lost his balance and fell approximately five feet, eight inches to the concrete floor suffering a fractured pelvic bone. *Reported by Portland office*
- 1/27/10 The 47 year-old employee was on a 10 foot stepladder fixing a light when he **fell** from the sixth rung landing on pavement. He suffered a concussion, a fractured left wrist, and a cut above his left eye. *Reported by Salem office*

- 1/12/10      The 67 year-old employee was working from a 10 foot stepladder when the **ladder tipped** sideways and the employee fell approximately eight feet sustaining a fracture. *Reported by Portland office*
- 1/11/10      The 43 year-old employee was climbing out of a newly constructed aeration basin using a 32 foot extension ladder. He was almost to the top when his left hand **slipped** from the ladder rung and he fell approximately 19 feet to the concrete below. He sustained a broken arm. *Reported by Portland office*