



## ***SAFETY ALERT # 5***



*Week of September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005*

*In the interest of keeping everyone safe CAMSAFETY will be sharing injury information with preliminary root cause analysis. This information is intended to make you think not assess blame. If you have an incident that you would like to share send us the information and we will pass it along.*

Rather than concentrate on a single accident this Alert will discuss several fatalities that have occurred in Michigan this year. Specifically, nine deaths due to falls in construction. They are:

- September 16 – The victim was working on a board 15 feet above the ground that collapsed.
- August 19 – The victim was standing on a folding chair; the chair collapsed and he struck his head.
- August 10 – Employees were erecting wooden trusses that collapsed, causing the victim to fall 14 feet.
- July 19 – The victim was working on a pitched roof. He slipped, falling approximately 19 feet.
- June 6 – Two workers were cutting holes in a roof deck. The deck broke and the victim fell 20 feet.
- May 31 – The victim was traveling on a roof purlin with no fall protection, lost his balance and fell 25 feet.
- May 11 – A gust of wind blew over the ladder the victim was working from. He fell about 30 feet.
- February 12 – Two employees were using a tubular welded scaffold. The victim fell 10 feet off the scaffold.
- January 18 – Three workers were installing roof shingles on a house. The victim fell approximately 40 feet.

It is interesting to note that the average fall distance for these accidents is 21.6 feet with one victim just falling off of a chair. When we think of falls we tend to think big, these data show that even the little ones are deadly.

The Michigan Occupational Safety and Health Administration (MIOSHA) is launching an extensive awareness campaign to alert construction employers that they must provide appropriate fall protection and training for employees exposed to fall hazards.

For more information on the MIOSHA Initiative or this topic in general contact Joe Forgue at CAMSAFETY or go to: [www.michigan.gov/documents/cis\\_wsh\\_fallprot\\_aware\\_137924\\_7.doc](http://www.michigan.gov/documents/cis_wsh_fallprot_aware_137924_7.doc)

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