

WHAT DOES LADDERS LAST MEAN?

The idea is simple: We are required to use a safer alternative in place of using a ladder!

This is prevention rather than protection. We will identify other means of access that provide better protection from falls.

Devices like scissor lifts, portable stair platforms, mobile scaffold towers, or aerial lifts should be our first option.

This policy is to save lives and reduce injuries on our worksites.

WHEN CAN WE USE A LADDER?

Using ladders to reach work or as a work platform is only allowed if:

Determined no other feasible method to perform elevated work.

Approved by supervision on case-by-case basis.

Written permission for the ladder use documented on the JHA and signed by Manger, Superintendent, or Safety.

While working on/from the ladder, 3 points of contact must be maintained at all times, 100% tie off must be utilized when above a 4' working height.

Standard lanyards will not be part of the acceptable fall protection while working from a ladder. Self-Retracting Lanyards (SRL) will be used when working from a ladder.

We often turn to ladders out of convenience. Maybe the task is quick, or a safer alternative doesn't seem readily available. Remember **A-Lert has adopted a Ladders Last policy**. We must think twice before assuming a job requires a ladder and turn to ladders only as a last resort.

Ladders Last

130,000 emergency room visits related to ladder use annually

More than 300 ladder-related deaths each year

Ladders are meant for climbing not a work platform

Safer Alternatives

Scaffolds

Aerial or Scissor Lifts

Portable Stair Platforms