



May 19 — Before You Step In

<p>Client had a rep visiting and was accompanied by to people from the client . While we were pulling cages and socks the rep walked right into the baghouse no harness or warning he was entering.</p>	<p>I asked him to step back out because he needs to have a harness on before entering and let us know so we can be in compliance.</p>
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He wasn't trying to do the work. Just walking in. Checking on progress. Seeing how things were going.

But the space didn't change just because he wasn't part of the task. The exposure was still there. No harness. No tie-off. No preparation for where he was stepping. It happens fast.

You're not thinking about fall protection because you're not "doing the job." You're just stepping in for a moment. But the hazard doesn't care why you're there. It doesn't care how long you plan to stay.

If you're exposed, you're exposed. And once you're in that space, it's already too late to prepare.

The employee was stopped before entering further. The expectation was made clear.

Because fall protection isn't something you figure out after you're in position.

It has to be in place before you ever step into the hazard.

Hazards

- Fall from elevation
- Unprotected entry into hazardous area
- Lack of tie-off or anchor point
- Misjudging exposure due to "not working"
- Line of fire exposure to gravity

Stats

- Many fall incidents occur during non-routine or brief exposures
- Visitors or non-task personnel are at increased risk due to lack of preparation
- Falls from relatively low heights can still result in serious injury
- Proper planning and access control significantly reduce fall risk

Words of Wisdom

- Exposure doesn't care why you're there
- Don't step into it until you're protected
- Plan before you enter

Pause and Think

It's easy to separate "doing the work" from "just checking it."

You tell yourself you're only going in for a second.

You're not performing the task.

You'll be careful.

But that doesn't change the environment.

If the hazard is there, it applies to everyone not just the person doing the job.

- Do I prepare before entering a hazardous area?
- Do I treat short visits differently than full tasks?
- Am I relying on awareness instead of protection?
- Would I stop someone else before they stepped in?