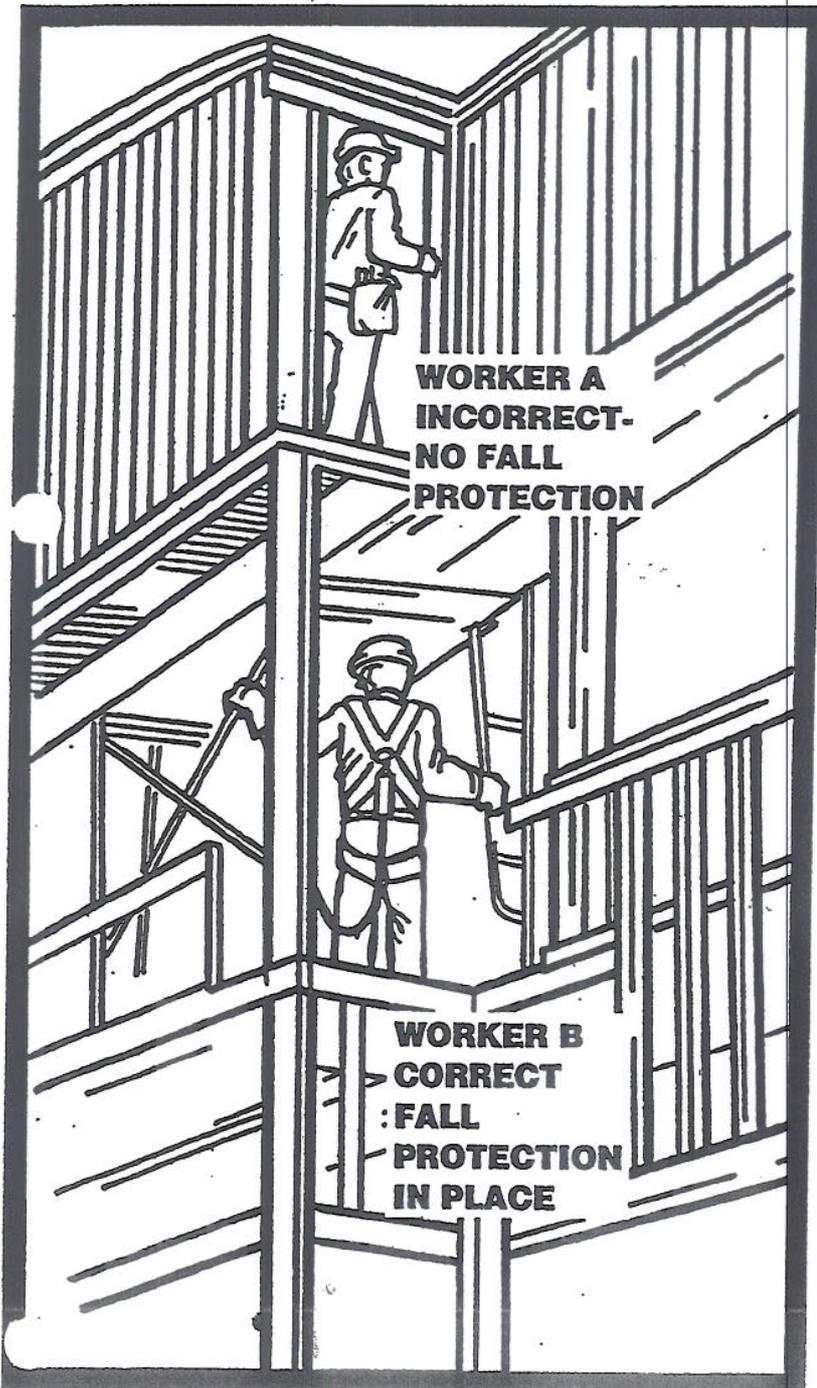


# TOOLBOX TOPICS

## FALL PROTECTION



Getting workers to cooperate with OSHA's fall protection requirements can be difficult at times, but important none the less. The safety standards require that an employee wear a body harness and lanyard when he / she works beyond the protection of the guardrail if there is no safety net in place.

Worker A in the drawing needs his safety harness on even if he is going to be exposed for only one minute to make one more weld. OSHA does not make exceptions because "you will be out there for a short time". Worker A could easily fall because his mind is distracted by the work he is doing. Plan your days work in advance then include safety decisions as part of your planning just like worker B did.

Always wear your safety harness and lanyard when exposed to a fall. It just makes good sense.

**CFR 1926.501 Duty to have fall protection. (b)(1) Unprotected sides and edges.** Each employee on a walking / working surface (horizontal and vertical surface) with an unprotected side or edge which is 6 feet or more above a lower level shall be protected from falling by use of guardrail systems, safety net systems, or personal fall arrest systems.