

# Worker Fall from Adjustable Work Platform

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EFCOG Enforcement Coordination Working Group

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Las Vegas, NV – Desert Research Institute – Rogers Auditorium

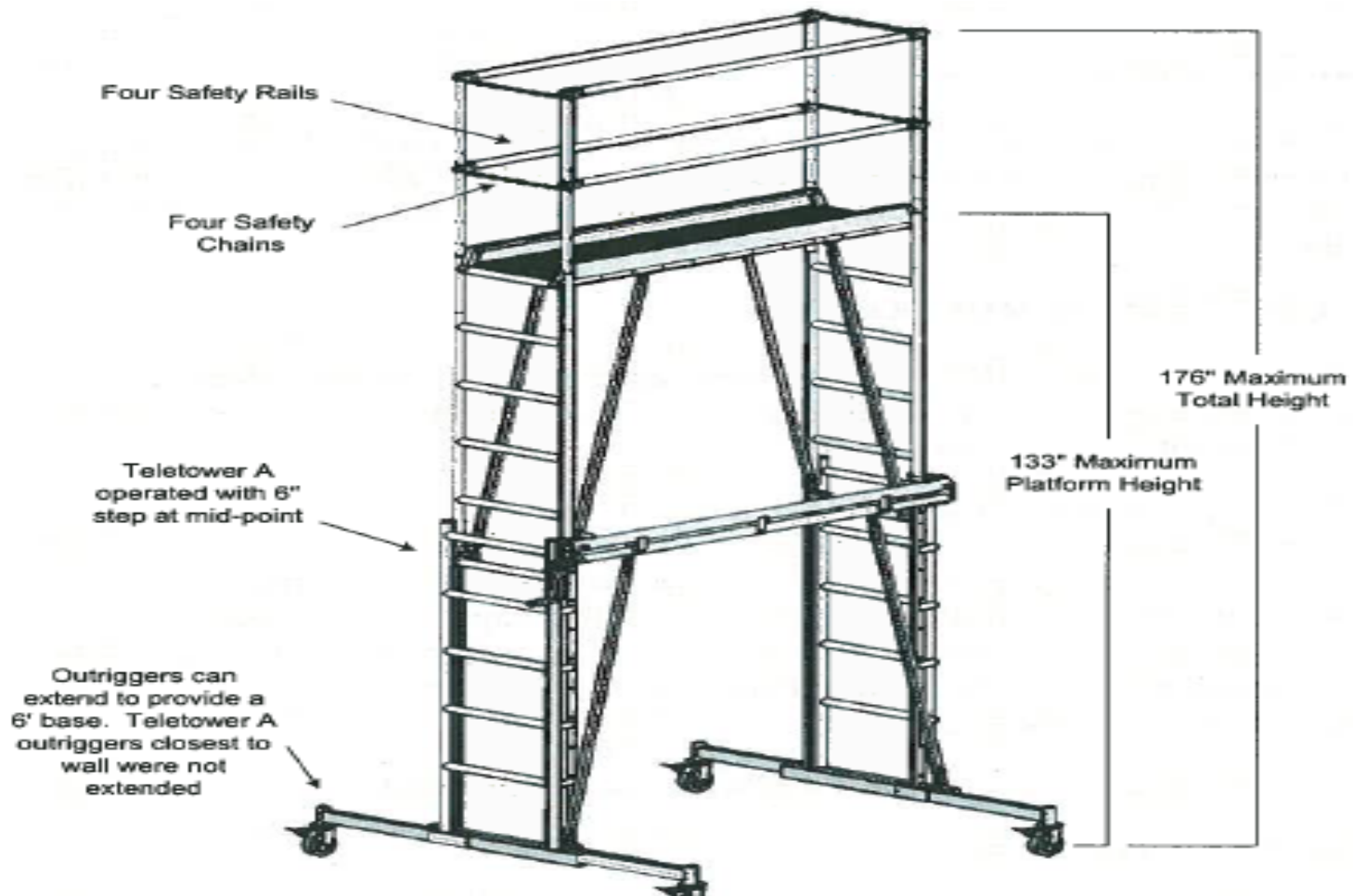
# Worker Fall from Adjustable Work Platform

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PNOV WEA-2012-04, November 9, 2012

- On July 1, 2011, a worker fell approximately 12' from portable scaffolding during facility construction activities. (inspecting the work site for removing dry wall board)
- The worker required hospitalization due to sustained head injury and numerous broken ribs.

# Work Platform



# Work Platforms A,B,C

# Platform A



# Enforcement Process Timeline

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**07/01/11 - Event Occurs, Fact Finding Held**

07/08/11 - DOE Accident Investigation Board appointed

07/11/11 - SRNS Preliminary Investigation Report Issued

07/13/11 - SRNS Scaffolding Assessment Report Issued

07/27/11 - SRNS Independent Subcontractor Accident Investigation Report Issued

**08/01/11 - NTS Report Submitted**

08/08/11 - DOE Accident Investigation Report Issued

09/14/11 - SRNS Root Cause Analysis Report Issued

**10/03/11 - Office of Enforcement letter notification of intent to investigate**

**11/15/11 - Office of Enforcement onsite investigation**

**05/08/12 - Office of Enforcement Investigation Report Issued**

**06/27/12 - Office of Enforcement and SRNS Onsite Enforcement Conference**

**08/02/12 - Teleconference follow-up to discuss Occupational Medicine from 06/27/12**

**11/09/12 - Office of Enforcement issues PNOV (WEA-2012-04)**

**12/21/12 - Office of Enforcement letter PNOV constitutes a Final Order**



# Event Response

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- **Effective Immediate Response**
  - Immediately attended by co-workers who phoned for help
  - First Responders arrived within minutes
  - Transported to hospital via helicopter
  - Immediate stand down of all scaffold work
- **Thorough Event Investigation:**
  - SRNS Preliminary Accident Investigation
  - SRNS Independent Accident Investigation
  - SRNS Extent of Condition Review
  - SRNS Root Cause Analysis
  - DOE Accident Investigation
- **Robust Corrective Actions:**
  - 41 NTS and 23 Non-NTS Corrective Actions identified

## PNOV WEA-2012-04

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- **Two Severity Level I Violations**
  - Hazard Identification, Assessment, Prevention, and Abatement
    - *Base Civil Penalty \$75,000, adjusted to \$37,500 (50%)*
  - Scaffold Safety
    - *Base Civil Penalty \$75,000, adjusted to \$56,250 (25%)*
- **Two Severity Level II Violations**
  - Training and Information
    - *Base Civil Penalty \$37,500, adjusted to \$28,125 (25%)*
  - Occupational Medicine
    - *Base Civil Penalty \$37,500, no adjustment*
- **Total Civil Penalty \$225,000, adjusted to \$159,375**

# Lessons Learned

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1. Plan for a broad review scope when a direct cause is not confirmed by preliminary investigation.
  - No Direct Cause Confirmed
    - *No eye witnesses to the event*
    - *Worker doesn't remember*
    - *The physical evidence was inconclusive*
  
  - Broad Review Encompassing
    - *Safety programs*
    - *Training programs*
    - *Work environment*
    - *Work practices*
    - *Medical Surveillance programs*



## Lessons Learned

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2. Recommend an Enforcement Conference to confirm understanding of the Investigation Report and follow up discussions to ensure accuracy in the report.
  - Occupational medicine issue was not fully understood by SRNS prior to receiving the investigation report
  - Discussed with OE who was receptive to feedback
  - After discussion, provided additional information to be considered
  - Learned that investigation report would not be updated, but instead the comments would be maintained for the record
  - Comments in the investigation report were carried forward to the PNOV notice

## Lessons Learned

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3. Thorough and timely investigations along with robust corrective actions will be considered to mitigate civil penalties.
  - \$225K adjusted to \$159K
  
4. Maintain open and frequent communication with your local DOE Enforcement counterparts
  - They can be your advocate and help influence civil penalty mitigation considerations
  - They will help ensure timely and accurate communications with the Office of Enforcement