

# ArcFlash



**SAFETY COMMITTEE NEWS BULLETIN** IN PARTNERSHIP WITH **CONSTRUCTION SAFETY COUNCIL**

## **POWERFORWARD DUPAGE SAFETY COMMITTEE MISSION**

**“To pursue a ‘Safety Always’ work environment for all working craftsmen and women through education and training”**



## **National Safety Stand-Down**

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Fatalities caused by falls from elevation continue to be a leading cause of death for construction workers, accounting for 291 of the 828 construction fatalities recorded in 2013. So far through March 2015, 44 workers have fallen to their death (all industries). These deaths are preventable!

Fall prevention safety standards were also among the top 10 most frequently cited OSHA standards. During fiscal year 2014, more than \$21 million dollars of fines were issued under the “Duty to have Fall Protection” standard. Many more millions of dollars’ worth of fines was issued for scaffolding violations and improper use of ladders. What’s more disturbing is that failure to provide fall protection training was also one of the most frequently cited OSHA standards. Employers who have employees work at height must show certification of training for fall protection, no exception.

To help contractors with their fall prevention programs, OSHA and its training and education institute centers (Ed Centers) throughout the country are partnering to “Stand-Down” for safety.

### **What is a Safety Stand-Down?**

A Safety Stand-Down is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about safety. This Stand-Down focuses on “Fall Hazards” and reinforcing the importance of “Fall Prevention.”

### **How to Conduct a Safety Stand-Down**

Companies can conduct a Safety Stand-Down by taking a break to have a toolbox talk or another safety activity such as conducting safety equipment inspections, developing rescue plans, or discussing job specific hazards. Managers are encouraged to plan a stand-down that works best for their workplace anytime during the weeks of May 4-15, 2015. OSHA offers suggestions for a successful “Stand-Down” on their website at [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov). Or, contact the Construction Safety Council and register to participate on May 15 from 12:00 (noon) to 2:00 PM at the CSC training center. Visit [www.buildsafe.org](http://www.buildsafe.org) for details.

### **Who Can Participate?**

Anyone who wants to prevent falls in the workplace can participate in the Stand-Down. Go to [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) and follow the links to the “National Safety Stand-Down.” There, you will be able to download training materials and register your own event to get recognized and receive a certificate of completion. Or Register on line at [www.buildsafe.org](http://www.buildsafe.org) for the May 15, 2015 event in Hillside, IL.

### **When & Where?**

May 15, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM at The Construction Safety Council, 4415 West Harrison Street, Suite 404. Hillside, IL 60162. To plan your own “Stand-Down,” contact me at [psatti@buildsafe.org](mailto:psatti@buildsafe.org) or call me at (708) 449-8600, ext. 213.



**The Construction Safety Council in partnership with PowerForward DuPage (NECA-IBEW 701 LMCC) would like to remind you to *Work Smart, Build Safe!***

