



## Remember to comply with the OSHA residential construction regulation!

Windy season is coming and we automatically cringe just with the thought. Allergies are the least of the worries, roofs being damaged by the wind is the concern. But what about the roofers out on the job replacing a roof? What are their worries? Well according to OSHA, wind shouldn't be one of them because they should be protected to prevent fall related injuries.

Commercial roof contractors have previously been following the mandatory fall protection, but for a while now residential roof contractors should have been doing the same. Before, employers for residential construction were permitted to use alternate approaches of fall protection versus the traditional fall protection. As it has been in effect, OSHA regulation states the residential construction employees must comply with the Federal Regulation and may no longer use alternate safety methods when working at heights over six feet.

Under the OSHA page cited in the United States Department of Labor website, Titled Duty to have fall protection; "1926.501(b) (13) ***"Residential construction." Each employee engaged in residential construction activities 6 feet (1.8 m) or more above lower levels shall be protected by guardrail systems, safety net system, or personal fall arrest system unless another provision in paragraph (b) of this section provides for an alternative fall protection measure. Exception: When the employer can demonstrate that it is infeasible or creates a greater hazard to use these systems, the employer shall develop and implement a fall protection plan which meets the requirements of paragraph (k) of 1926.502.***

Make sure that you are in compliance. If not, implement the fall protection plan immediately to not only avoid a fine, but most importantly protect your workers to reduce the number of injuries and deaths.

You can go to: [http://www.osha.gov/doc/residential\\_fall\\_protection.html](http://www.osha.gov/doc/residential_fall_protection.html) to learn more.