

# SAFE WORK PRACTICES

## FLOOR & WALL OPENINGS

*\*This information does not take precedence over OH&S. All employees should be familiar with the Saskatchewan Employment Act and the OH&S Regulations.*

### Refer to OH&S Regulation 124

1. Any opening or hole in a floor, roof or other work surface into which a worker could step or fall must be adequately guarded.
2. All floor openings with a drop of more than 4 feet must be guarded with standard railing and toe board. Do not use covers for floor openings unless it is absolutely necessary to perform the job.
3. Where a floor covering is necessary, the covering must be securely installed, and built to withstand a load of 360 kg per square meter. A warning sign or permanent marking clearly indicating the nature of the hazard must be posted.
4. Where the covering or guardrail and toe board mentioned in items 2 and 3 or any part of the guardrail and toe board is removed for any reason, an effective alternative means of protection must be provided immediately.
5. All open-sided floors, walkways, platforms, ramps and runways with a drop of more than 4 feet must be guarded with standard railing and toe board as outlined above.
6. Wall openings with a drop of more than 4 feet must be guarded as required.
7. All stairs with four or more risers must be provided with railings.
8. Railings, posts and wall opening barriers must be constructed to withstand force of at least 200 lbs.
9. Screens must be used between toe board and top rail where needed to prevent material from falling.