

**STANDARDS PRESENTATION  
TO  
CALIFORNIA OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STANDARDS BOARD**

PROPOSED STATE STANDARD,  
TITLE 8, DIVISION 1, CHAPTER 4

Amend Section 3212 to read:

§3212. Floor Openings, Floor Holes and Roofs.

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(b) Floor and roof opening covers shall be designed by a qualified person and be capable of safely supporting the greater of 400 pounds or twice the weight of the employees, equipment and materials that may be imposed on any one square foot area of the cover at any time. Covers shall be secured in place to prevent accidental removal or displacement, and shall bear a pressure sensitized, painted, or stenciled sign with legible letters not less than one inch high, stating: "Opening--Do Not Remove." Markings of chalk or keel shall not be used.

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(e) Any employee approaching within 6 feet of any skylight shall be protected from falling through the skylight or skylight opening by any one of the following methods:

(1) Skylight screens. The design, construction, and installation of skylight screens shall meet the strength requirements equivalent to that of covers specified in subsection (b) above. The screen may be above, below or within the waterproof covering of the skylight opening. They shall also be of such design, construction and mounting that under design loads or impacts, they will not deflect downward sufficiently to break the glass below them. The construction shall be of grillwork, with openings not more than 4 inches by 4 inches or of slatwork with openings not more than 2 inches wide with length unrestricted, or of other material of equal strength and similar configuration, or

**[NOTE TO COMMITTEE – The proposed text in subsection (e)(2), below, is taken from ANSI A10.11-2010 Safety Requirements for Personnel and Debris Nets]**

(2) Skylight nets.

(A) Materials. Materials used for skylight nets shall be of natural or synthetic fiber of sufficient size, strength, and number to absorb a 300 pound load dropped from 36 inches above the surface of the net. The hardware holding the net shall be drop-forged, pressed, or formed steel, or material of equal or better quality. The maximum size of mesh shall not exceed 36 square inches or be longer than 6 inches on any side, measured center-to-center of mesh ropes or webbing. No

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mesh member shall exceed 6 inches in length measured center-to-center of mesh crossings. All mesh crossings shall be anchored to eliminate frictional wear and prevent enlargement of mesh openings.

(B) Inspection. Personnel nets shall be inspected by a competent person utilizing any inspection instructions supplied by the manufacturer. The inspections shall be conducted each day before the net is employed for fall protection.

(C) Training. When personnel nets are used, the employer shall provide appropriate training for the employees so that they will recognize the hazards of falling into nets, and shall instruct them in the procedures to be followed in order to limit the potential injury. The training program shall include, at a minimum:

- a. The tested limits of the net
- b. Avoiding falls
- c. Recording and reporting of training
- d. Location of inspection records and the person responsible

(D) Care, Maintenance, and Storage. The care, maintenance, and storage of nets shall be in accordance with the net manufacturer's recommendations. Due attention shall be given to factors affecting net life, including, but not limited to, sunlight, abrasion, dirt/sand, rust, and airborne contaminants. Nets shall be protected from sparks, hot slag, or other materials which could compromise the strength of the net. Nets shall be capable of a minimum service life of two years under normal on-the-job exposure to weather, sunlight, and handling, excluding damage from misuse, mishandling, and exposure to chemicals and airborne contaminants, or

(23) Guardrails meeting the requirements of Section 3209, or

(34) The use of a personal fall protection system meeting the requirements of Section 1670 of the Construction Safety Orders when the skylight is not constructed of glass, or

(45) Covers, including the skylight itself, meeting the requirements of subsection (b) installed over the skylights, or skylight openings, or

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(56) A fall protection plan as prescribed in Section 1671.1 of the Construction Safety Orders when it can be demonstrated that the use of fall protection methods as contained in subsections (e)(1-4) of this Section is impractical or creates a greater hazard.

Exception: When the work is of short duration and limited exposure such as measuring, roof inspection, electrical/mechanical equipment inspection, etc., and the time involved in rigging and installing the safety devices required in subsections (e)(1) through (e)(4) equal or exceed the performance of the designated tasks of measuring, roof inspection, electrical/mechanical equipment inspection, etc.; these provisions may be temporarily suspended provided that adequate risk control is recognized and maintained.

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NOTE: Authority cited: Section 142.3, Labor Code. Reference: Section 142.3, Labor Code.