

🔍 Regulations (Standards - 29 CFR) - Table of Contents

- **Part Number:** 1910
- **Part Title:** Occupational Safety and Health Standards
- **Subpart:** D
- **Subpart Title:** Walking-Working Surfaces
- **Standard Number:** 1910.27
- **Title:** Scaffolds and rope descent systems.
- **GPO Source:** e-CFR

1910.27(a)

Scaffolds. Scaffolds used in general industry must meet the requirements in 29 CFR part 1926, subpart L (Scaffolds).

1910.27(b)

Rope descent systems-

1910.27(b)(1)

Anchorage-

1910.27(b)(1)(i)

Before any rope descent system is used, the building owner must inform the employer, in writing that the building owner has identified, tested, certified, and maintained each anchorage so it is capable of supporting at least 5,000 pounds (268 kg), in any direction, for each employee attached. The information must be based on an annual inspection by a qualified person and certification of each anchorage by a qualified person, as necessary, and at least every 10 years.

1910.27(b)(1)(ii)

The employer must ensure that no employee uses any anchorage before the employer has obtained written information from the building owner that each anchorage meets the requirements of paragraph (b)(1)(i) of this section. The employer must keep the information for the duration of the job.

1910.27(b)(1)(iii)

The requirements in paragraphs (b)(1)(i) and (ii) of this section must be implemented no later than November 20, 2017.

1910.27(b)(2)

Use of rope descent systems. The employer must ensure:

1910.27(b)(2)(i)

No rope descent system is used for heights greater than 300 feet (91 m) above grade unless the employer demonstrates that it is not feasible to access such heights by any other means or that those means pose a greater hazard than using a rope descent system;

1910.27(b)(2)(ii)

The rope descent system is used in accordance with instructions, warnings, and design limitations set by the manufacturer or under the direction of a qualified person;

1910.27(b)(2)(iii)

Each employee who uses the rope descent system is trained in accordance with § 1910.30;

1910.27(b)(2)(iv)

The rope descent system is inspected at the start of each workshift that it is to be used. The employer must ensure damaged or defective equipment is removed from service immediately and replaced;

1910.27(b)(2)(v)

The rope descent system has proper rigging, including anchorages and tiebacks, with particular emphasis on providing tiebacks when counterweights, cornice hooks, or similar non-permanent anchorages are used;

1910.27(b)(2)(vi)

Each employee uses a separate, independent personal fall arrest system that meets the requirements of subpart I of this part;

1910.27(b)(2)(vii)

All components of each rope descent system, except seat boards, are capable of sustaining a minimum rated load of 5,000 pounds (22.2 kN). Seat boards must be capable of supporting a live load of 300 pounds (136 kg);

1910.27(b)(2)(viii)

Prompt rescue of each employee is provided in the event of a fall;

1910.27(b)(2)(ix)

The ropes of each rope descent system are effectively padded or otherwise protected, where they can contact edges of the building, anchorage, obstructions, or other surfaces, to prevent them from being cut or weakened;

1910.27(b)(2)(x)

Stabilization is provided at the specific work location when descents are greater than 130 feet (39.6 m);

1910.27(b)(2)(xi)

No employee uses a rope descent system when hazardous weather conditions, such as storms or gusty or excessive wind, are present;

1910.27(b)(2)(xii)

Equipment, such as tools, squeegees, or buckets, is secured by a tool lanyard or similar method to prevent it from falling; and

1910.27(b)(2)(xiii)

The ropes of each rope descent system are protected from exposure to open flames, hot work, corrosive chemicals, and other destructive conditions.

[81 FR 82990-82991, Nov. 18, 2016]

[Next Standard \(1910.28\)](#)

[Regulations \(Standards - 29 CFR\) - Table of Contents](#)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Occupational Safety and Health Administration
200 Constitution Ave., NW,
Washington, DC 20210
☎ 800-321-6742 (OSHA)
TTY
www.OSHA.gov

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

White House
Affordable Care Act
Disaster Recovery Assistance
USA.gov
Disability.gov
Plain Writing Act
Recovery Act
No Fear Act
U.S. Office of Special Counsel

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

Frequently Asked Questions
A - Z Index
Freedom of Information Act
Read the OSHA Newsletter
Subscribe to the OSHA Newsletter
OSHA Publications
Office of Inspector General

ABOUT THE SITE

Freedom of Information Act
Privacy & Security Statement
Disclaimers
Important Web Site Notices
Plug-ins Used by DOL
RSS Feeds from DOL
Accessibility Statement