



## *Safety Position Paper No. 29, May 1, 2014*

### **OSHA's National Safety Stand-Down to Prevent Falls in Construction**

The National Academy of Construction (NAC) supports the OSHA Fall Prevention Safety Stand-Down scheduled for June 2-6, 2014. Falls in construction accounted for 269 lives out of 775 lost in 2012, or 35% of all fatalities. This OSHA effort grows from the fact that fall prevention standards were among the top 10 most frequently cited OSHA violations during fiscal year 2012.

In support of a safer industry, NAC offers, at no charge, our Safety White Paper Position Series to all Participants to support the Safety Stand-Down. For additional detail on the NAC Safety Position Papers visit this website: <http://www.naocon.org>

OSHA details the stand-down here: <https://www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown/index.html#certificate>  
The NAC excerpts it below for the convenience of the reader.

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

A Safety Stand-Down is a voluntary event for employers to talk directly to employees about "Fall Hazards" and to reinforce the importance of "Fall Prevention."

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

Construction companies conduct a Safety Stand-Down by stopping work and providing a focused toolbox talk on a safety topic such as ladder safety, fall protection equipment, or scaffolds safety. The meeting provides information to workers about hazards, protective methods, and the company's safety policies, goals and expectations. Managers are encouraged to plan a stand-down that works best for their workplace anytime during the week of June 2-6, 2014. The goal is to have over 25,000 employers and 500,000 workers to hold a Stand-Down and if we meet this goal, we will have touched almost 1 out of 10 construction workers in the country.

#### **Who Can Participate?**

Participants may include trade associations, employers, federal, state and local governmental agencies, professional societies, institutes, and consumer/labor-management interest organizations, sub- and independent contractors.

#### **Partners**

OSHA is partnering with key groups to assist with this effort, including the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), OSHA approved State Plans, State consultation programs, the Center for Construction Research and Training (CPWR), the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), the National Safety Council, and the OSHA Training Institute (OTI) Education Centers.

#### **Certificate of Participation**

The OSHA Certificate page will become active on June 2nd on the above OSHA web site. Employers will be able to provide feedback and download "Certificates of Participation" of their experience June 2 to July 15, 2014 following their stand-down.

#### ***NAC position paper provided by the NAC Safety Committee: Emmitt J. Nelson, PE, Chair***

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