

TOOLBOX TALK #44

ELEVATOR-RELATED FATALITIES IN CONSTRUCTION

A total of 145 construction workers were killed in elevator-related incidents from 2011 through 2016 (a 6 year period) – more than twice the combined total for all other industries, according to a recent report from the Center for Construction Research and Training, also known as CPWR.

Falls to a lower level were the leading cause of elevator-related construction deaths, accounting for 53.5 per cent of the fatalities. Nearly half of the fatal falls – 47.9 per cent – were from heights of 30 feet or more.

Other findings:

- Workers installing or repairing elevators had the highest fatality rate, at 14.9 per 100,000 full-time equivalent workers. Laborers experienced most fatalities, with 31.
- 35.2 per cent of the fatally injured workers were younger than 35 years old.
- Workers in organizations with 10 or fewer employees comprised 33.8 per cent of the fatalities.

The report included injury prevention strategy recommendations from CPWR, OSHA, and NIOSH, including guidance for fall protection systems, personal protective equipment and safety training and management.

