Practical Example

Each and every year accidents happen during the maintenance of roofs*. Workers often times get (severely) injured during these activities. A practical example. Peter and Carl have to renovate a roof. They have applied protection on the edge of the roof. This way, they and their colleagues can go to work on the roof safely. Carl is working on a piece around the skylight. He cannot reach easily and leans with his hand on the skylight. The skylight breaks and Carl falls down through the hole. Carl becomes unconscious and is rushed to the hospital.

* The same applies for mezzanines and stationary platforms. This applies to all components of this infographic where roofs are mentioned.

Facts and Figures

What was the victim doing?

- 34% Working on a roof
- 32% Standing on or walking over a roof
- 30% Constructing a roof
- 4% Other

Where did it go wrong??

- (A part of) the roof was not bearable/not walkable: 58%
- The roof was in bad shape: 40%
- The fall protection was not in order: 37%
- The edge protection was not in order: 7%
- The victim lost its balance: 6%

Effects

- 50% Temporary injury
- 27% Unknown
- 16% Permanent injury
- 7% Diseased

Kind of Injuries??

- Fractures: 62%
- Concussion and/or internal injury: 30%
- Wounds: 15%
- Sprains or stains: 12%
- Other: 7%

Safety Checks

Check on which parts of the roof you can stand

Only stand or walk on parts of the roof that are bearing and walkable. Avoid walking on skylights, gutters, ventilation grills, etcetera.

Make sure you can stand stable on the roof

The roof should be stable, dry and not slippery. Check if the construction is in a good shape as well.

Use fall protection

Check if the security is complete and in good shape.

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