



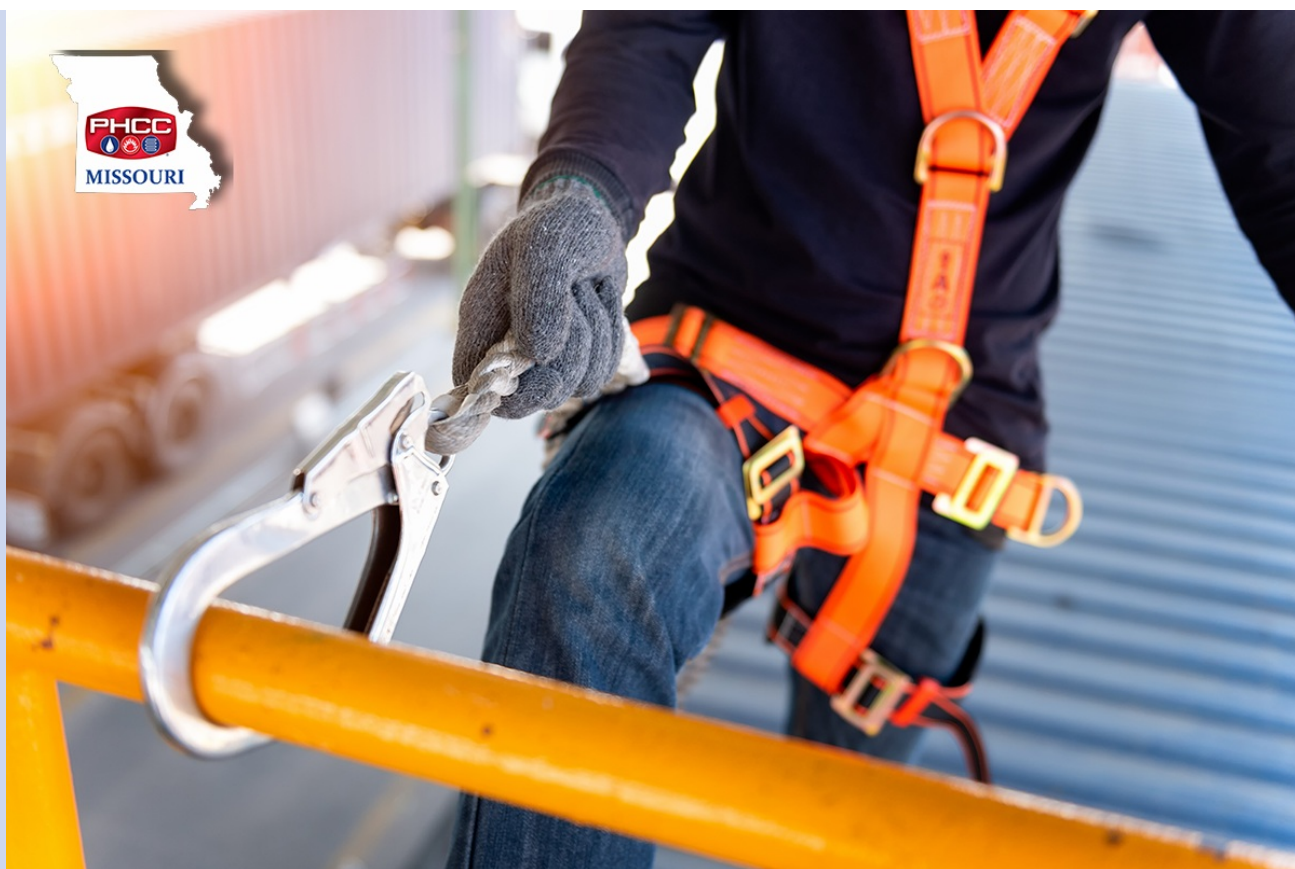
SAFETY CORNER



SAFETY DISCUSSION

[View as Webpage](#)

PFAS INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE



As we all discuss topics related to Fall Protection, let us ensure we maintain our personal fall protection equipment. Over time this equipment may deteriorate with use and various exposures such as sunlight, precipitation and even perspiration. To ensure that inevitable deterioration doesn't leave us with a harness not capable or maybe questionable as to whether or not it will work if we need it due to a fall, we must inspect it each and every day. Here are a few quick reminders for a thorough inspection of our fall protection systems. Refer to the manufacturer's inspection protocols for a more detailed list of inspection requirements.

OSHA states that personal fall arrest systems shall be inspected prior to use for mildew, wear, damage and deterioration. Defective components **SHALL** be removed from service if their strength or function are affected.

Inspection of harnesses, lanyards and self-retracting lifeline components include the webbing, D-rings, attachment/stitching areas, tongue buckles and grommets. If any significant product defects are noticed (tears, cuts, abrasions, mold, burns, undue stretching) the harness or lanyard must be removed from service in a manner that prevents inadvertent use. Tag it, remove it from the jobsite or render it unable to be used.

Some additional issues to note may include:

- Damage due to deterioration
- Contact with fire, acids, or other corrosives
- Distorted hooks or faulty hook springs
- Tongues unfitted to the shoulder of buckles
- Rust or corrosion on any of the metal components
- Loose or damaged mountings
- Non-functioning parts
- Wearing or internal deterioration in the ropes

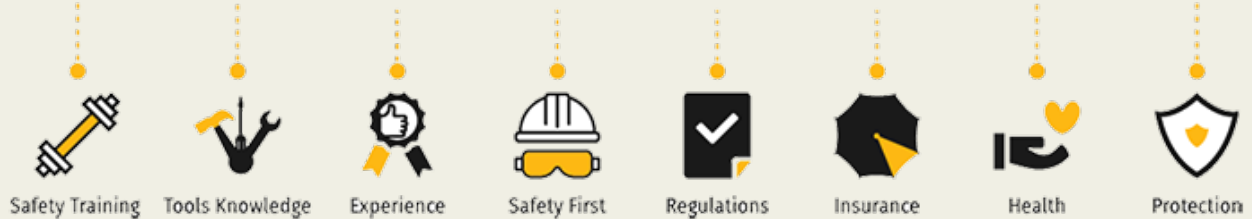
Cleaning and Storage - remove all surface dirt with a damp cloth or sponge and mild soap and hang to dry away from excessive heat. Equipment should be stored/hung away from heat sources and sunlight in such a manner that it will not get crushed, bent or torn by other objects. The bottom of a job box, the corner of an equipment trailer, hanging on the guardrail of an aerial lift are a few of the places that we **should not** be storing our harnesses. Harnesses and lanyards should be stored in areas that are free of chemicals, dust, high heat, or direct sunlight. Take care of your harness and if called upon it will take care of you!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



1. When is the last time you took a harness out of service due to an inspection?
2. What failure during a harness inspection do you notice most often?
3. Discuss your Why and your considerations for the next time you use fall protection?

WORK SAFETY



Visit the Missouri PHCC Safety Corner on the Website to read current topics.

Visit the MO PHCC website

Missouri Plumbing, Heating, Cooling, Contractors Association | www.mophcc.com

