

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Instructor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date/Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## TOPIC C055: STAIRWAYS

**Introduction:** Stairways are used to travel from level to level on jobsites and in the workplace, and every year hundreds of injuries, even deaths, occur from stairway accidents. Always use caution on stairways, especially when carrying loads, and keep stairways clean and free of clutter.

### **Hazard Mitigation:**

#### **Safety Guidelines:**

If you climb stairs frequently, wear comfortable shoes. Avoid wearing high heels or sandals. Ensure your shoes stay tied. Stay to the right on the stairs, especially if your view of your pathway is obstructed. Avoid carrying awkward loads on stairs. Don't use dollies on stairways unless the load is secured. Never run up or down stairs. Take one stair tread at a time, never two. Keep stairways clear of obstructions and trip hazards.

#### **Workplace Stairway Requirements:**

**Stair Strength:** Fixed stairways must be designed and built to carry a load of five times greater than the normal expected load, and be, at minimum, strong enough to safely hold a moving, concentrated load of 1,000 pounds.

Note: Fixed stairs must be provided for access from one level of a structure to another, where operations require regular travel between levels and where access to operating platforms having equipment requiring routine attention during operations.

Fixed stairs are also required where daily access to elevations is required for gauging, inspection or regular maintenance purposes, where work at elevated surfaces may expose employees to hazards from harmful substances, or where the carrying of tools or equipment by hand is required.

**Stair Width:** Fixed stairways must be at least 22 inches wide.

**Angle of Stairway Rise:** The incline angle of fixed stairs must be between 30° and 50°. The rise and tread dimensions of the stairs must be uniform and result in a stairway within the acceptable incline angle.

Vertical clearance above any stair tread to an overhead obstruction must be at least 6 ½ feet measured from the leading edge of the tread.

Stairway platforms must be as wide as the stairs and must be at least 30 inches long measured in the direction of travel.

Railings and handrails must be provided on the open sides of all exposed stairways and stair platforms. Handrails must be provided on at least one side of closed stairways preferably on the right side when descending. A standard stair-rail has a top rail, midrail and posts, and is 30 to 36 inches high. The midrail is halfway between the top rail and stair tread.

Stairways must be adequately lit day and night, and marked appropriately if they are a route to an emergency exit.

### **Employee Attendance:**(Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____